



# ***New York State Testing Program***

**English**

**Language Arts Test**

**Book 1**

Grade

**3**

**January 7–11, 2008**

**Name \_\_\_\_\_**

## TIPS FOR TAKING THE TEST

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

- Be sure to read carefully all the directions in the test book.
- Plan your time.
- Read each question carefully and think about the answer before choosing or writing your response.

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**Reading*****D*irections**

In this part of the test, you are going to do some reading. Then you will answer questions about what you have read.

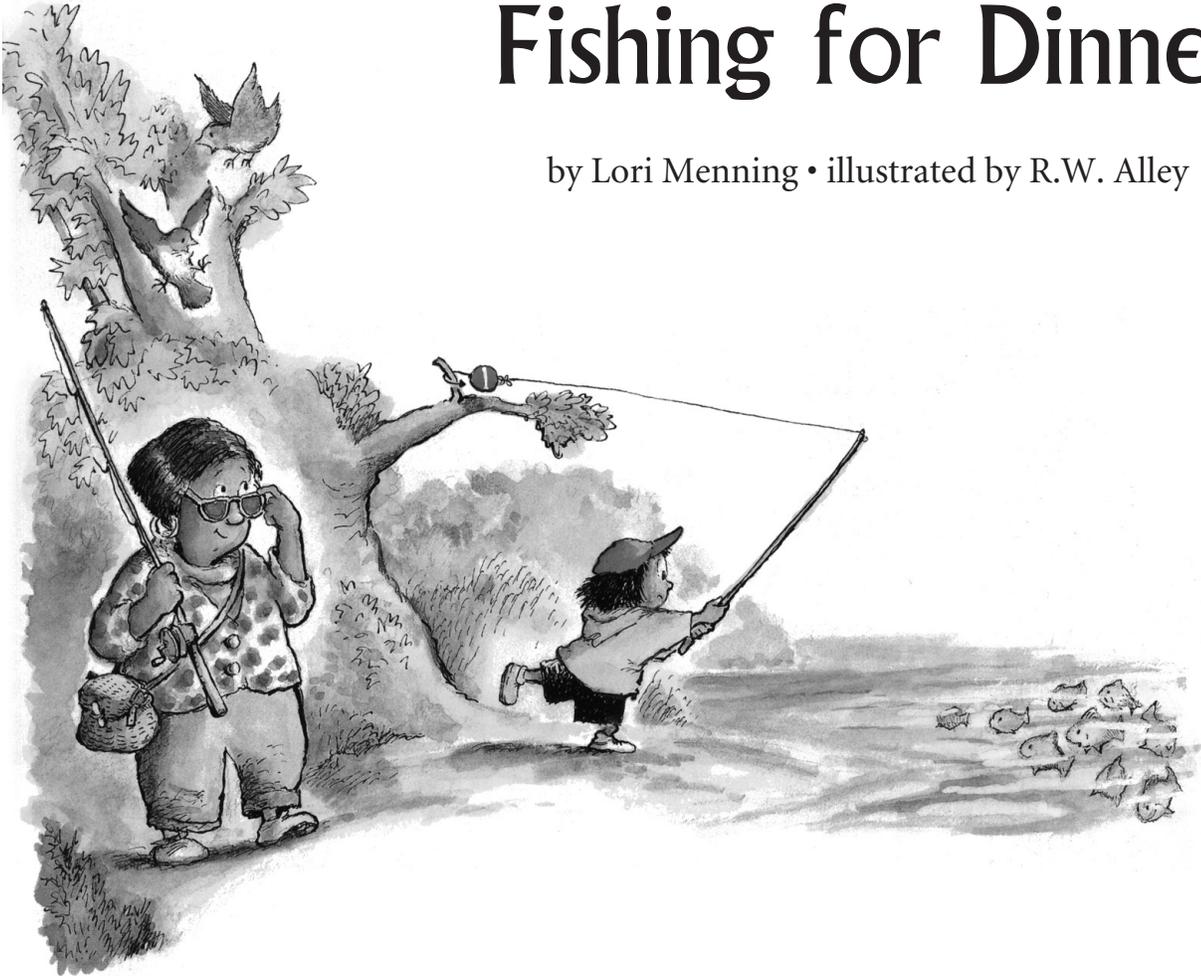
***Go On***

# Directions

Read this story. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

## Fishing for Dinner

by Lori Menning • illustrated by R.W. Alley



Grandma took Abby fishing at the lake. “I’m going to catch a big fish for dinner,” Abby said. She swung her fishing pole, but her line didn’t drop into the water. “Where did it go?” Abby asked.

Grandma pointed to a tree. “If you want to catch dinner for us,” Grandma said, “you have to get your line in the lake first.”

Abby giggled while Grandma untangled her hook from the tree. Abby swung her fishing pole again. She smiled when her hook hit the water.

Grandma shook her head. “If you want to catch dinner for us,” Grandma said, “you have to bait your hook next time.” A worm wiggled between Grandma’s fingers, and Abby giggled.

“I caught a fish!” shouted Abby. She reeled in her line, but her hook was full of grass from the bottom of the lake.

**Go On**

Grandma removed the grass and put a worm on the hook. Abby swung her fishing pole again and cheered when her hook dropped into the lake.

“If you want to catch dinner for us,” Grandma said, “you have to be quiet so you don’t scare the fish away.”

Abby covered her mouth and giggled into her hand.

“I caught a fish!” Abby shouted. This time when she reeled in her line, an old tin can hung from her hook.

Grandma removed the tin can and put another worm on the hook. Abby swung her fishing pole again. She didn’t say a word when her hook hit the water.

“Now you’re going to catch dinner for us,” Grandma said, winking at Abby.

“I caught a fish! A BIG fish!” Abby shouted. She struggled to pull in someone’s muddy sneaker.

“We can’t eat grass, a tin can, or a sneaker for dinner,” Abby said.

Grandma laughed. “If you want to catch dinner for us . . .” she began.

Abby exclaimed, “You’ll have to take me to the nearest grocery store!”

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**1** What is probably **most** important for Abby to have while she is fishing?

- A** grass
- B** a hook
- C** a tree
- D** sneakers

**2** At the end of the story, what does Abby **most likely** want to buy from the store?

- A** fish for dinner
- B** more worms for bait
- C** new line for her fishing pole
- D** bags to carry what she caught

***Go On***

**3** Which sentence about Abby is **most likely** true?

- A** Fish is Abby’s favorite food.
- B** It is Abby’s first time fishing.
- C** Abby thinks fishing is easy.
- D** Abby likes to buy fish for dinner.

**4** Read this sentence from the story.

**This time when she reeled in her line, an old tin can hung from her hook.**

The word “reeled” **most likely** means Abby

- A** cut her line
- B** found her line
- C** pulled in her line
- D** fell on her line

**5** Which sentence tells something that could **not** really happen?

- A** Somebody fishes in a lake.
- B** Somebody hooks a tin can.
- C** Somebody goes to a grocery store.
- D** Somebody eats a sneaker for dinner.

**STOP**

## Directions

Here is a passage from a book about George Washington. Read the passage. Then answer questions 6 through 10.

# George Washington

## Our First President

by Garnet Jackson

illustrated by Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu

It was a cold winter morning on February 22, 1732. This was more than 200 years ago.

Inside a Virginia farmhouse where it was warm and cozy, a special baby boy was born. The baby's name was George Washington.

As little George grew up, he loved the farm and all of the animals. He loved his horse best of all.

George had two older brothers who lived away. He lived with a younger sister and three younger brothers. They followed George's every move.

"Let's play *Follow the Leader*," said Betty.

"George is the leader," said John.

Samuel and Charles agreed.

George went to a small country school. He worked very hard. He was one of the smartest students. George was also the most honest boy in school.

He grew up very fast. He was bigger and taller than all of the other boys. Everyone looked up to George. Sometimes George would choose games for his classmates to play.



**Go On**

“George is a natural-born leader,” his schoolmaster would say.

In school George liked to read and to write. He liked numbers. But he liked to make maps and measure land best of all. This is called surveying.

George practiced by measuring the vegetable gardens on his farm.

Many farmers wanted George to survey their land. It would help them to know how much seed to buy when it was time to plant their crops.

George was only a boy of sixteen. But the farmers trusted him. They knew George was very smart and honest.

“He will do a perfect job,” one farmer said to another.

George’s big brother, Lawrence, took him on a surveying trip in the Virginia wilderness. They stayed many cold and rainy days and nights. There were many wild animals. George learned how to take care of himself in the woods.

Living in the wilderness helped George to become an even greater leader.

\* \* \*

Americans will never forget the first president of their land.

- 6** What is this passage **mostly** about?
- A** George Washington’s home
  - B** George Washington’s early days
  - C** George Washington’s family
  - D** George Washington’s schoolmaster

- 7** According to the passage, what did George Washington love **best** of all when he was growing up?
- A** his horse
  - B** his school
  - C** his teacher
  - D** his farm

**Go On**

**8** Which of these facts about George Washington is included in this passage?

- A** the year he became president
- B** the date he was born
- C** the name of his wife
- D** the time he spent in the army

**9** What is another good title for this passage?

- A** “George Washington, the Leader”
- B** “George Washington’s Hobbies”
- C** “George Washington, the Writer”
- D** “George Washington’s Teacher”

**10** Read these sentences from the passage.

**In school George liked to read and to write. He liked numbers. But he liked to make maps and measure land best of all. This is called surveying.**

Which words from the sentences above tell what “surveying” means?

- A** “to read”
- B** “to write”
- C** “liked numbers”
- D** “measure land”

**STOP**

# *Directions*

Read this poem. Then answer questions 11 through 15.

## How Shall We Go to Grandma's House?

*by Verna Safran*

How shall we go to Grandma's house?  
Shall we jump on a bike?  
Shall we take a train,  
or go there by bus,  
or maybe by plane?

If we lived a long time ago, of course,  
we'd go to see Grandma  
by donkey or horse.

If we lived in the future,  
we'd go there by rocket  
and bring Grandma a star  
in our space-suit pocket.

How shall we go to Grandma's house?  
We could take the car,  
but let's use our feet.  
Grandma just lives  
a block down  
the street!



**Go On**

- 11** What is this poem **mostly** about?
- A** spending time at Grandma’s house
  - B** packing for a trip to Grandma’s house
  - C** choosing how to travel to Grandma’s house
  - D** remembering different trips to Grandma’s house

- 12** Which way of travel is included in the poem?
- A** flying by plane
  - B** running through a park
  - C** climbing over a fence
  - D** sailing by boat

- 13** Read the chart below.

| <b>Possible Ways to Get to Grandma’s House</b> |            |
|--|------------|
| A long time ago                                | by horse   |
| In the future                                  | ?          |
| Today  | by walking |

Which phrase **best** fits in the empty box?

- A** by car
- B** by rocket
- C** by plane
- D** by donkey

**Go On**

**14** What is the surprise at the end of the poem?

- A** Grandma lives down the street.
- B** The children have a new car.
- C** Grandma has a new house.
- D** The children live by the train.

**15** Which idea from the poem could **not** really happen?

- A** riding a donkey
- B** wearing a space-suit
- C** putting a star in a pocket
- D** jumping on a bike

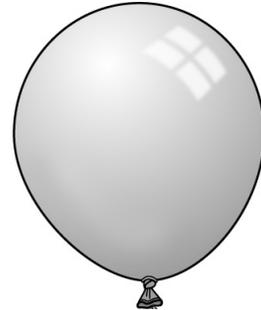
**STOP**

## *D*irections

Read this article. Then answer questions 16 through 21.

# Balloon Volleyball

by Wendy Toy



It's a rainy, gloomy day again and there's nothing to do. You don't feel like sitting quietly but you're not allowed to make a lot of noise. What can you do for fun? Try balloon volleyball.

### Items needed for this game:

- a balloon (or two, in case the first one bursts)
- some string or yarn
- two chairs
- at least two people and a room

Set up the room. If you're in the living room, or a family room, be sure to move all the furniture out of the way. Get two chairs and set them in the middle, outer edges of the room. They should be at the same place you would put a volleyball net. Turn them so that the seat is facing the wall, not the "playing" space. Tie the string or yarn onto the top of one chair, and run the rest of the string to the other chair. Now tie it on this chair at the same place as the first chair. You can decide the "out-of-bounds" lines, if you want to have them, but they really are not necessary in this game.

**Go On**

Blow up the balloon. Choose sides. You will play this game on your knees (at least until they start hurting and you want to stand). Each side must get the balloon over the string in three hits. If it does not get over, the other side gets the balloon and a point. This game becomes more difficult because you must play without talking.

You can also add other rules to make it more difficult; for example, you can only use your left hand or only your right hand to hit the balloon.

Continue playing until one side gets 10 points. You can make your game longer or shorter by changing the number of points it takes to win.

This is a fun way to get your energy out, have fun, and not make too much noise on a rainy, stay-in-the-house day!

- 16** What is the purpose of the chairs in this game?
- A** to mark the out-of-bounds area
  - B** to hold the string up as the net
  - C** so the players can rest during breaks
  - D** so people can sit and watch the game

- 17** If the balloon does **not** go over the net, the other side
- A** gets a point
  - B** wins the game
  - C** must stop talking
  - D** pops the balloon

- 18** Which rule of balloon volleyball is **most** important to win the game?
- A** Both sides play on their knees.
  - B** Decide which areas are out-of-bounds.
  - C** Have two balloons in case one bursts.
  - D** Get the balloon over the string in three hits.

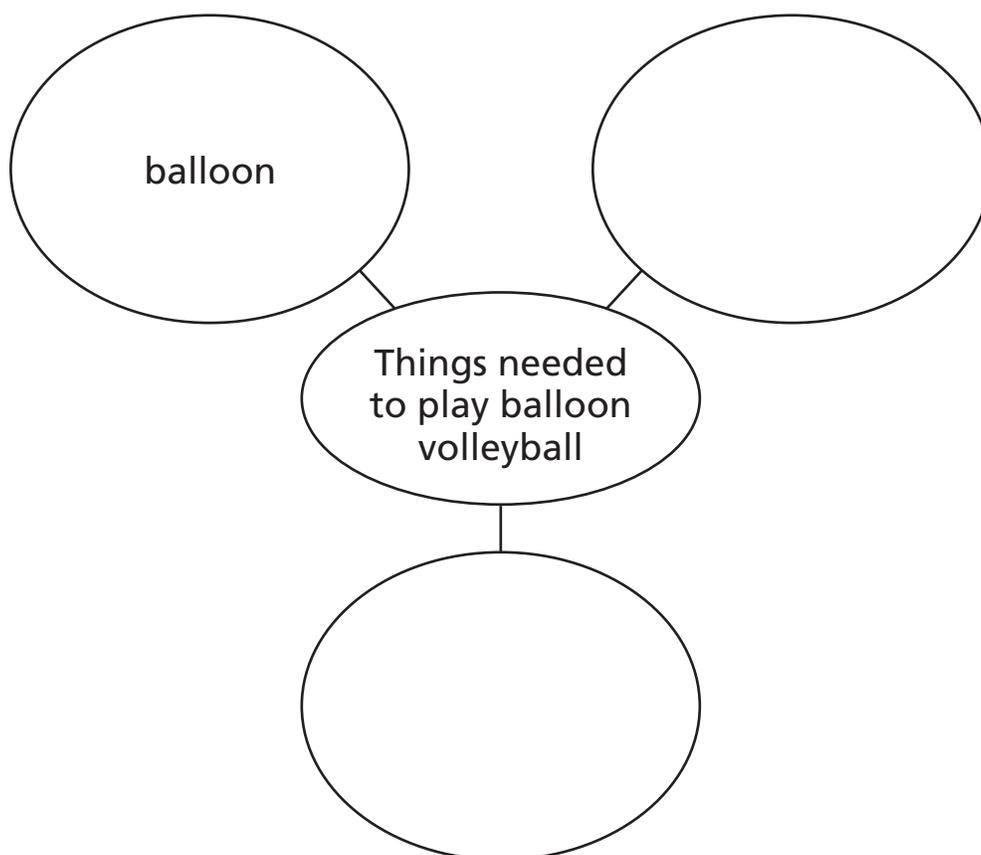
- 19** What is the **most likely** reason for using a balloon in this game?
- A** It does not break things.
  - B** It can be filled with air easily.
  - C** It does not take up much room.
  - D** It can be hit a lot before it bursts.

**Go On**

**20** The article says that balloon volleyball is a good way “to get your energy out.” This phrase **most likely** means that the game is

- A** boring
- B** lively
- C** noisy
- D** silly

**21** Complete the web below with **two** things you need to play balloon volleyball. One oval has been filled in for you.



**STOP**

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Place Student Label Here



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