



New York State Testing Program

English

Language Arts Test

Book 1

Grade

3

January 8–12, 2007

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

*D*irections

Read this article. Then answer questions 1 through 6.

Robots

by Carol Greene

If someone asked you to draw a picture of a robot, how would it look? Like a person? That's how we often picture robots in our minds. But real robots look many different ways.

Some robots have TV cameras for eyes. Some have special cells that help them touch. Many have computer brains. How robots look depends on the job they have to do. Some can even have their parts changed so they can do different jobs.

Some robots look like huge bugs. NASA sent Viking Landers to Mars in 1976. They moved around on the surface, picked up soil, and did experiments.

Robots can do boring jobs. They can do dangerous jobs with fast-moving machinery. They can do messy jobs, such as spray painting. They can do jobs no person could do, such as picking up hot metal.

Robots don't get bored. They don't get tired. They don't mind getting messy.

Some people are afraid robots will take jobs away from people. But that doesn't have to happen. After all, people are in charge of robots. People must remember that robots are good at some things and humans are good at others.

Some robots go around telling people that they don't have to be afraid of robots. These robots help people understand that robots can do dull, nasty jobs so people can do better ones.

Go On

1

Read the chart below.

What "Robots" Is About
what robots can do
what robots look like
?

Which phrase **best** completes the chart?

- A** how robots eat
- B** how robots sleep
- C** why cameras are like robots
- D** why people are afraid of robots

2

According to the article, which statement is true about robots?

- A** They move quickly.
- B** They help people.
- C** They are messy.
- D** They need to sleep.

Go On

3 Read this sentence from the article.

They can do messy jobs, such as spray painting.

This sentence tells you that spray painting is

- A** not neat
- B** boring
- C** not easy
- D** dangerous

4 According to the article, why do some people **not** like robots?

- A** Some robots can talk to people.
- B** Some robots pick up hot metal.
- C** Robots might take jobs from people.
- D** Robots look like many different things.

Go On

- 5** According to the article, what is the **most** important thing to learn about robots?
- A** how they are built
 - B** what jobs they can do
 - C** what they are named
 - D** how humans talk to them

- 6** The author **most likely** wrote “Robots” to
- A** help readers think like robots
 - B** make readers laugh about robots
 - C** give readers information about robots
 - D** tell readers a story about famous robots

STOP

Directions

Read this poem about a polar bear. Then answer questions 7 through 11.

Song of the Polar Bear

by Beverly McLoughland
illustrated by Laura Rader

Is a Polar Bear happy in the North
Where blizzards blow and the sea rolls gray?
Though he may not turn cartwheels for joy,
Still—

He doesn't pack up and move away
Oh no!
He doesn't pack up and move away.

Is a Polar Bear happy in the North
Where to find his dinner may take all day?
Though he may not laugh and shout *hooray*,
Still—

He doesn't pack up and move away
Oh no!
He doesn't pack up and move away.

Is a Polar Bear happy in the North
Where the swimming is frigid in the middle of May?
Though he may not clap his furry paws,
Still—

He doesn't pack up and move away
Oh no!
He doesn't pack up and move away.

Is a Polar Bear happy in the North
Where blizzards blow and the sea rolls gray?
Though he may not turn cartwheels for joy,
Still—

He doesn't pack up and move away
Oh no!
He doesn't pack up and move away.



Go On

7 What is this poem **mostly** about?

- A what a polar bear's life is like
- B how a polar bear swims
- C how a polar bear plays
- D what a polar bear eats for dinner

8 Read the chart below.

Life in the North Is Hard
blizzards blow and the sea rolls gray
?
swimming is frigid in the middle of May

Which phrase **best** completes the chart?

- A may not turn cartwheels for joy
- B may not laugh and shout *hooray*
- C packing up and moving away
- D finding dinner may take all day

Go On

9 Read this line from the poem.

Where the swimming is frigid in the middle of May?

The word “frigid” **most likely** means

- A** cold
- B** fun
- C** easy
- D** dry

10 Which detail is **most** important to the meaning of the poem?

- A** The sea is gray.
- B** The blizzards blow.
- C** The bear does not move away.
- D** The bear does not do cartwheels.

11 The polar bear in this poem will **most likely**

- A** find a colder place
- B** learn to turn cartwheels
- C** stop swimming in May
- D** stay in the North

STOP

Directions

Read this story. Then answer questions 12 through 15.

As Cheerful as Cheerful Can Be

by Mary E. Furlong

illustrated by Mary Sullivan

Miss Dinsmore lived all alone in a little gray house with a white front door.

“It’s a nice little house,” Miss Dinsmore said. “But I wish it looked more cheerful. Maybe I should paint it a bright, pretty color. Then it will be as cheerful as cheerful can be.”

Miss Dinsmore went to the paint store. She saw lots of cheerful colors there—pink and blue and red and yellow and green. It was hard to choose.

“I know what to do,” Miss Dinsmore said at last. “I’ll paint picture after picture of my house with all of these cheerful colors. Then I’ll choose the one I like best.”

Miss Dinsmore set up her painting easel in the front yard and painted picture after picture of her little house. She painted a pink house. She painted a blue house. She painted a red one and a yellow one and a green one. She painted one with flower boxes under the windows. She painted doors and shutters in every color of the rainbow. She took each picture she painted into the house and hung it on the wall.

shutters = window covers

“All of my picture houses are pretty,” said Miss Dinsmore. “But I still can’t decide which color will make my house look as cheerful as cheerful can be.”

And she went on painting pictures.

One day, a neighbor came by while Miss Dinsmore was painting. “What a pretty picture,” the neighbor said. “I like pictures of houses.”

“You do?” said Miss Dinsmore. “I’ve painted picture after picture of my little house. Come inside and have a look at them.”

Miss Dinsmore’s neighbor liked the pictures. “I’ll tell the whole town,” she said. “Everyone will want to see your pictures.”

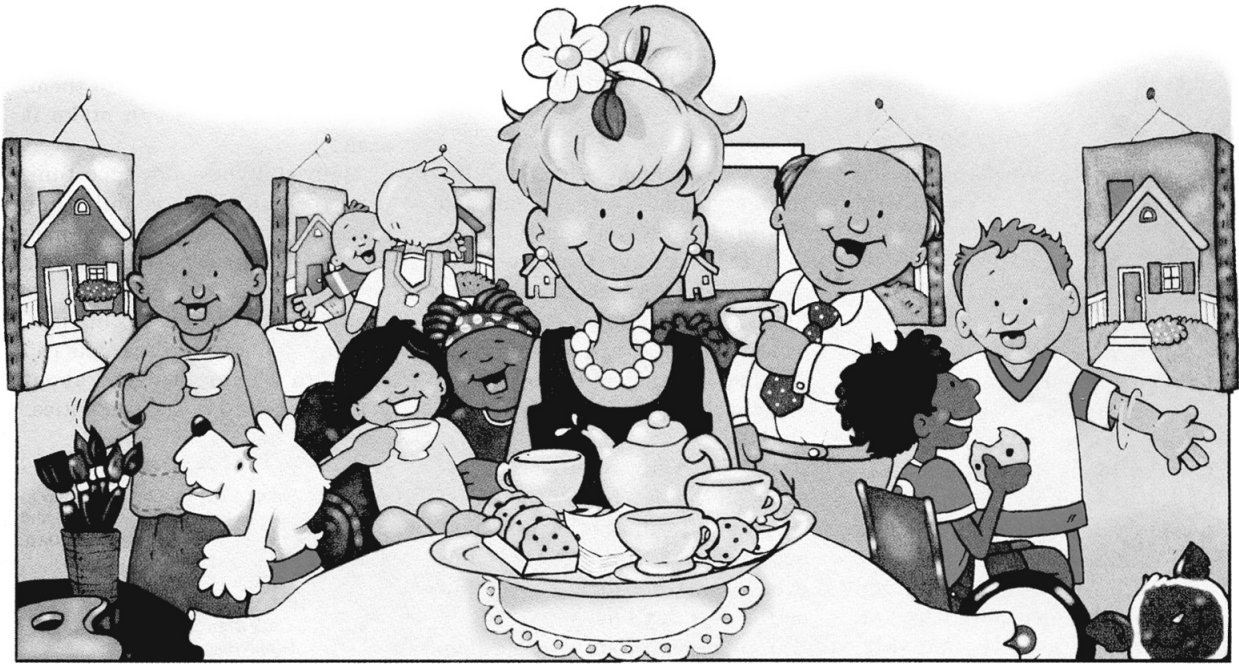
It was true. Lots of people came to the little gray house to see the pictures. Miss Dinsmore served them tea.

Go On

“What pretty pictures,” everyone said. “And what a nice little house you have.”

“It *is* a nice little house,” said Miss Dinsmore. “But I wish it looked more cheer—”

She stopped and looked around. Her little gray house was full of people looking at pictures, drinking tea, talking, laughing, and having fun. Miss Dinsmore smiled. “It’s a nice little house,” she said again. “And it’s a cheerful little house, too—especially when good friends come to visit me. It’s as cheerful as cheerful can be.”



- 12** What is Miss Dinsmore’s **main** problem in the story?
- A** She is too cheerful.
 - B** She has too many visitors.
 - C** She needs help painting her house.
 - D** She wants her house to be more cheerful.

- 13** What is **one** part of Miss Dinsmore’s plan to make her house look more cheerful?
- A** She paints her front door.
 - B** She tells the town about her pictures.
 - C** She paints pictures of her house in different colors.
 - D** She invites her neighbors to visit her house.

Go On

- 14** The chart below shows events from the story.



Which sentence belongs in the empty box?

- A** Miss Dinsmore sets up her painting easel in the yard.
- B** Miss Dinsmore’s friends come to her house.
- C** Miss Dinsmore hangs the pictures on the walls.
- D** Miss Dinsmore’s neighbor tells the town about the pictures.

- 15** At the end of the story, Miss Dinsmore says her house is cheerful. The word “cheerful” means full of

- A** color
- B** happiness
- C** courage
- D** people

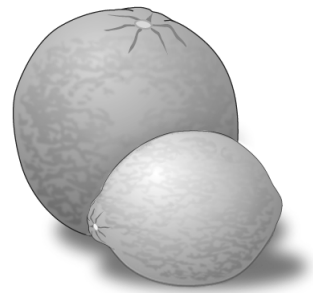
STOP

Directions

Read this article. Then answer questions 16 through 21.

Fool a Fruit

by Kathy Mandry and Joe Toto



To have a farm, you don't need tractors or plows or acres of land.

All you need are a few things you can find in your kitchen and other corners of the house. Things like jelly glasses and coffee cans and pie tins. Spoons, toothpicks, and plastic baggies. Popsicle sticks and paper cups. Pits and seeds and other leftover parts of the foods you eat. And some potting soil and sand from the supermarket.

Maybe your farm won't grow a carrot or an orange. But with enough sunlight and water and love, you should get a carrot plant or a small orange tree. And lots of other leaves, vines, and sprouts.

Now try this.

When you suck on an orange, or slurp a grapefruit, or pucker on a lemon, save the seeds. Soak them overnight in warm water.

Next stick your finger up to your knuckle in a pot of soil. Make a few holes like that and drop a seed into each hole. Be sure to plant the seeds about one inch apart or they won't have room to grow. Gently push the soil to fill up each hole. Water it all slowly until the soil is all wet and some trickles out the bottom of the pot.

You have to trick these seeds into thinking they're home in the tropics or they won't grow at all. So keep them in the sunniest window and give them a rainstorm when they feel dry.

Not every seed will believe you and sprout.

But in two weeks, you'll find out just how many fruits you can fool.

Go On

16 According to the article, when planting seeds, which step should you do **first**?

- A** Make a hole for the seed.
- B** Soak the seed in water.
- C** Drop the seed into the soil.
- D** Put the seed in a sunny spot.

17 According to the article, why should you stick your finger in the pot of soil?

- A** to make a hole for the seed
- B** to see if the soil is wet enough
- C** to make room for the water
- D** to see if there is enough soil

18 Read this sentence from the article.

So keep them in the sunniest window and give them a rainstorm when they feel dry.

To give the seeds a “rainstorm” **most likely** means to

- A** cover them quickly
- B** put them outside
- C** pour water on them
- D** shake them up and down

Go On

19 Read this sentence from the article.

Water it all slowly until the soil is all wet and some trickles out the bottom of the pot.

In this sentence, the word “trickles” **most likely** means

- A** crashes
- B** drips
- C** jumps
- D** washes

20 The author **most likely** wrote this article to

- A** get readers to eat more fruit
- B** tell readers about farmers
- C** show readers where to find soil
- D** teach readers how to make a seed grow

21 According to the article, what are the **two** ways you can “trick” a seed into thinking it is in the tropics? Use details from the article in your answer.

1. _____

2. _____

STOP

Place Student Label Here



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