Released Items
Published February 2020

Grade 5
Reading
North Carolina
End-of-Grade Assessment
Sample Questions

Octopus

The octopus is a sea animal. It has an interesting body. First, it has three hearts. The heart is often seen as a symbol of love. That’s a lot of love! An octopus also has eight limbs. Some people call them arms or tentacles. Eight arms could give a lot of hugs, but the octopus is a very shy animal. If an octopus is scared, it will squirt ink and swim away.

S1 What does shy mean in the text?
A fearful
B harmful
C proud
D brave

S2 How many hearts does an octopus have?
A one
B three
C five
D eight
Excerpt from “Life without Gravity”

by Robert Zimmerman

1. What are two main ideas about weightlessness in the text?
   A. It is easy to handle and makes the room seem bigger.
   B. It makes bones heavy and causes the head to swell.
   C. It is uncomfortable for the body and upsets the stomach.
   D. It reroutes the flow of blood and puts the heart in danger.

2. Why does the author use the word NOT in paragraph 2?
   A. The author is trying to make sure the reader understands the point.
   B. The author is showing that some information is untrue.
   C. The author is using quotes from a space tourist.
   D. The author is disagreeing with the reader.

3. Which statement summarizes the author’s view on weightlessness?
   A. “In fact, everything is fun, nothing is hard.”
   B. “‘Living in space is like having a different life, living in a different world.’”
   C. “If you turn yourself upside down, the ceiling becomes the floor.”
   D. “In low gravity, you have to learn new ways to eat.”
4. What is the meaning of the word *rerouted* in paragraph 5?
   A. pumping extra blood
   B. going the same way
   C. changing the direction
   D. hanging upside down

5. How does the lack of gravity in space affect the bones?
   A. The bones stretch and bend easier.
   B. The bones break while in space.
   C. The bones become stronger.
   D. The bones become thin and spongy.

6. How might astronauts in space prepare for the return to Earth?
   A. by performing somersaults and flying around
   B. by learning how to care for themselves when feeling sick
   C. by doing exercises to strengthen bones and muscles
   D. by growing taller and getting flabby
7 What is meant by the phrase “nooks and crannies” in paragraph 12?
A outer space  
B small places  
C on the ceiling  
D out in the open

8 Which statement summarizes the text?
A After adjusting, the astronauts enjoy some of the benefits of weightlessness.  
B At first, many astronauts find weightlessness to be fun and easy.  
C Usually, astronauts take a one-year trip to Mars.  
D In space, astronauts’ bodies have to adapt to Earth’s gravity.
Making the World’s Rarest Syrup

by David Edwards

9  Which statement explains why saguaro ribs and creosote branches are important for creating saguaro syrup?

A  Saguaro fruit are peeled using saguaro ribs and creosote branches.
B  Kukuipads are created with saguaro ribs and creosote branches.
C  Fruit from creosote branches and saguaro ribs are used to make the syrup.
D  Saguaro ribs and creosote branches are ingredients needed to create the syrup.

10  Based on paragraphs 4 and 5, why are creosote branches used at the top of a kukuipad?

A  Creosote branches are straight and light, making it easy to spear fruit at the top of a saguaro cactus.
B  Creosote branches are thick and heavy, making it easy to push fruit from the top of a saguaro cactus.
C  Creosote branches are bright red and freckled, making it easy to see them at the top of a saguaro cactus.
D  Creosote branches are sturdy and durable, making it easy to prod fruit from the top of a saguaro cactus.

11  Which detail reveals how the Tohono O’odham feel about the land?

A  Gina shows the harvesters how to make kukuipad.
B  Gina and Angie add water to the saguaro fruit and boil it.
C  Gina tells the harvesters to leave the first fruit at the base of the saguaro.
D  Gina brings a square cloth to strain the syrup before boiling it again.
12 What does the word *summon* mean in paragraph 8?
   A bring forth
   B send away
   C catch
   D stop

13 Which step comes after placing the peel at the base of the saguaro?
   A Bring out a square cloth to strain the mixture.
   B Return the hot juice to the cleaned pot to boil a second time.
   C Scoop the fruit into buckets and avoid the spines that cling to the peel.
   D Nudge the saguaro fruit loose and put into buckets.

14 What does the word *flecked* mean in paragraph 9?
   A striped
   B dotted
   C disguised
   D wrapped
15  What is the meaning of *strain* as it is used in paragraph 10?
   A  pass through a filter  
   B  injure a body part  
   C  painful effort  
   D  make great demands

16  How are the harvesting of saguaro fruit and the creation of saguaro syrup similar?
   A  Both require creosote branches and boiling water to reach the desired result.
   B  Both require inexperience and good fortune to reach the desired result.
   C  Both require *kukuipads* and large pots to reach the desired result.
   D  Both require patience and persistence to reach the desired result.
The World in a Bottle

by Janeen R. Adil

17 Which two details from the text support the main ideas?

A A terrarium is easy to create, and terrariums were first named Wardian cases.

B A terrarium gets its name from the Greek word *terra*, and a terrarium is in a clear glass or plastic container.

C A terrarium is used as a home-decorating item, and Wardian cases replaced greenhouses in the Victorian era.

D A terrarium is a tiny ecosystem inside a container, and Dr. Ward accidentally discovered the terrarium.

18 Which describes a good terrarium?

A a new, clean container

B a large, clear container

C a recycled, used container

D an expensive, fancy container

19 What is the meaning of *transparent* in paragraph 5?

A unbreakable

B gigantic

C clear

D open
20. How did Dr. Ward’s study of the sphinx moth affect his decision to write a book?
   A. His studies of the sphinx moth caused his accidental discovery of the terrarium.
   B. His studies of the sphinx moth became popular during the Victorian era.
   C. His studies of the sphinx moth were published in the book.
   D. His studies of the sphinx moth were performed inside Wardian cases.

21. What happened to Dr. Ward’s experimental terrarium?
   A. It became too dry.
   B. It required much care.
   C. It lasted for years.
   D. It bloomed too often.

22. For what reason does the author include information on the origin of the terrarium in the text?
   A. to help the reader understand its history
   B. to provide directions about how to create it
   C. to show its importance in home decorating
   D. to tell the background of its inventor
23 What is the meaning of the word *exotic* in paragraph 8?
A familiar
B unusual
C local
D unsteady

24 How did terrariums help plant collectors?
A Plant collectors could learn to build greenhouses.
B Terrariums allowed plant collectors to grow gardens.
C Plant collectors could experiment with saltwater and freshwater.
D Terrariums allowed plant collectors to safely travel with plants.
Annabel Lee, P.I.

by Judy Cox

25 Which quote supports Annabel Lee’s point of view that life in her house is like a case waiting to be solved?

A “I’m working the day shift out of headquarters.”
B “Leap downstairs, taking the steps two by two, to the laundry room.”
C “I lick the tip of my pen, like they do on cop shows.”
D “I find him at the kitchen table, reading the paper and sipping coffee.”

26 How does the dialogue in paragraphs 12–19 compare Annabel Lee and her brother, John?

A It underlines the fact that Annabel Lee deeply admires her brother, John.
B It creates a sense of their relationship and shows that John and Annabel Lee think alike.
C It underlines the fact that Annabel Lee and John are incapable of getting along.
D It creates a sense of their relationship and implies that John often tolerates Annabel Lee’s behavior.
27 What can be inferred from the quote below in paragraph 17?

“‘It’s a sock, see. What do you think it looks like? An elephant?’”

A John appreciates his sister’s help.
B John thinks his sister has the sock.
C John is bothered by his sister’s help.
D John does not think he will find his sock.

28 Which statement describes how Mom feels when Annabel asks her about the missing sock?

A She is upset that the children do not help with the chores.
B She is grateful that Annabel likes to solve mysteries.
C She is dismayed that Jack is not dressed yet.
D She is worried that it will never be found.

29 Which quote suggests that the mother feels resentment?

A “‘Oh, you found it? John was looking for it. Get dressed for school, dear, or you’ll miss the bus.’”
B “‘If you and your brother would offer to help once in a while . . .’”
C “Her eyes narrow in The Mom Look.”
D “‘What’s that?’ Mom comes downstairs—every hair in place—and pours herself a cup of coffee.”
30 What is the meaning of the word *triumphantly* in paragraph 32?
A mysteriously
B successfully
C pleasantly
D harshly

31 What inference can be made from the question “Have what?” in paragraph 34?
A Annabel’s brother lost the other sock.
B Annabel’s mom lost the other sock.
C Annabel’s dad lost the other sock.
D Annabel lost the other sock.

32 How does Annabel Lee’s detective approach influence how the events in the story are told?
A It creates a methodical and orderly structure for the plot.
B It adds a sense of surprise and disappointment to the plot.
C It provides a framework of frustration for the family.
D It offers an inside look at the disorganization in the family.
Antonio Canova

by James Baldwin

A good many years ago, there lived in Italy a little boy whose name was Antonio Canova. He lived with his grandfather. . . . His grandfather was a stonecutter, and he was very poor.

Antonio was a puny lad and not strong enough to work. He did not care to play with the other boys of the town. But he liked to go with his grandfather to the stoneyard. While the old man was busy, cutting and trimming the great blocks of stone, the lad would play among the chips. Sometimes he would make a little statue of soft clay; sometimes he would take hammer and chisel and try to cut a statue from a piece of rock. He showed so much skill that his grandfather was delighted.

“The boy will be a sculptor someday,” he said.

Then when they went home in the evening, the grandmother would say, “What have you been doing today, my little sculptor?”

And she would take him upon her lap and sing to him or tell him stories that filled his mind with pictures of wonderful and beautiful things. And the next day, when he went back to the stoneyard, he would try to make some of those pictures in stone or clay.

There lived in the same town a rich man who was called the Count. Sometimes the Count would have a grand dinner, and his rich friends from other towns would come to visit him. Then Antonio’s grandfather would go up to the Count’s house to help with the work in the kitchen, for he was a fine cook as well as a good stonecutter.

It happened one day that Antonio went with his grandfather to the Count’s great house. Some people from the city were coming, and there was to be a grand feast. The boy could not cook, and he was not old enough to wait on the table; but he could wash the pans and kettles, and as he was smart and quick, he could help in many other ways.

All went well until it was time to spread the table for dinner. Then there was a crash in the dining room, and a man rushed into the kitchen with some pieces of marble in his hands. He was pale, and trembling with fright.

“What shall I do? What shall I do?” he cried. “I have broken the statue that was to stand at the center of the table. I cannot make the table look pretty without the statue. What will the Count say?”
And now all the other servants were in trouble. Was the dinner to be a failure after all? For everything depended on having the table nicely arranged. The Count would be very angry.

“Ah, what shall we do?” they all asked.

Then little Antonio Canova left his pans and kettles and went up to the man who had caused the trouble.

“If you had another statue, could you arrange the table?” he asked.

“Certainly,” said the man, “that is, if the statue were of the right length and height.”

“Will you let me try to make one?” asked Antonio. “Perhaps I can make something that will do.”

The man laughed.

“Nonsense!” he cried. “Who are you, that you talk of making statues on an hour’s notice?”

“I am Antonio Canova,” said the lad.

“Let the boy try what he can do,” said the servants, who knew him.

And so, since nothing else could be done, the man allowed him to try.

On the kitchen table there was a large square lump of yellow butter. Two hundred pounds the lump weighed, and it had just come in, fresh and clean, from the dairy on the mountain. With a kitchen knife in his hand, Antonio began to cut and carve this butter. In a few minutes, he had molded it into the shape of a crouching lion; and all the servants crowded around to see it.

“How beautiful!” they cried. “It is a great deal prettier than the statue that was broken.”

When it was finished, the man carried it to its place.

“The table will be handsomer by half than I ever hoped to make it,” he said.

When the Count and his friends came in to dinner, the first thing they saw was the yellow lion.

“What a beautiful work of art!” they cried. “None but a very great artist could ever carve such a figure; and how odd that he should choose to make it of butter!” And then they asked the Count to tell them the name of the artist.
“Truly, my friends,” he said, “this is as much of a surprise to me as to you.” And then he
called to his head servant and asked him where he had found so wonderful a statue.

“It was carved only an hour ago by a little boy in the kitchen,” said the servant.

This made the Count’s friends wonder still more; and the Count bade the servant call the
boy into the room.

“My lad,” he said, “you have done a piece of work of which the greatest artists would be
proud. What is your name, and who is your teacher?”

“My name is Antonio Canova,” said the boy, “and I have had no teacher but my
grandfather the stonecutter.”

By this time, all the guests had crowded around Antonio. There were famous artists
among them, and they knew that the lad was a genius. They could not say enough in
praise of his work; and when at last they sat down at the table, nothing would please
them but that Antonio should have a seat with them; and the dinner was made a feast
in his honor.

The very next day, the Count sent for Antonio to come and live with him. The best
artists in the land were employed to teach him the art in which he had shown so
much skill; but now, instead of carving butter, he chiseled marble. In a few years,
Antonio Canova became known as one of the greatest sculptors in the world.

33 Which theme do key details in the selection support?

A Generosity is rewarded.
B Do not judge a book by its cover.
C People should overcome their fear.
D Family is most important.
34 Where did Antonio get ideas for his “pictures” as a little boy?
   A from rich people
   B from other famous artists
   C from stories his grandmother told him
   D from what he saw his grandfather doing

35 What does the phrase “spread the table” mean in paragraph 8?
   A to separate the table
   B to make the table cleaner
   C to make the table larger
   D to decorate the table

36 Which event caused Antonio to create the sculpture?
   A The stonecutter could not fix the sculpture.
   B The servants dared him to make the sculpture.
   C The Count paid him to make the sculpture.
   D The servant broke the original sculpture.
37 Which event allowed Antonio to sit at the Count’s table?
A The statue on the center of the table was stolen.
B Antonio’s grandfather was friends with the Count.
C The statue to be used for the table centerpiece was broken.
D Antonio won a contest and sitting with the Count was the prize.

38 What is the reason why “the Count sent for Antonio to come and live with him” the very next day?
A He needed to protect Antonio from other artists who were jealous of his skills.
B He wanted to provide Antonio with great art teachers to develop his talent.
C He hoped to guarantee that Antonio would create sculptures only for him.
D He wanted to raise Antonio to be a stonecutter like his grandfather.

39 Which sentence supports the idea that Antonio achieved success?
A “‘What a beautiful work of art!’ they cried.”
B “‘Truly, my friends,’ he said, ‘this is as much of a surprise to me as to you.’”
C “‘My name is Antonio Canova,’ said the boy, ‘and I have had no teacher but my grandfather the stonecutter.’”
D “In a few years, Antonio Canova became known as one of the greatest sculptors in the world.”
40 What is the narrator’s point of view on the servant breaking the sculpture before the Count’s dinner?

A It caused Antonio to show his great talent.
B It caused Antonio’s grandfather to lose his job.
C It caused the Count to cancel the dinner.
D It caused the head servant to get fired.
This is the end of the Reading test.

Directions:

1. Look back over your answers for the test questions.

2. Make sure all your answers are entered on the answer sheet. Only what is entered on the answer sheet will be scored.


4. Stay quietly in your seat until your teacher tells you that testing is finished.

5. Remember, teachers are not allowed to discuss questions from the test with you, and you are not allowed to discuss with others any of the test questions or information in the test.
## Grade 5 Reading

**RELEASED Items**

**2020**

**Answer Key**

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*DOK:
1 = Recall
2 = Skill/Concept
3 = Strategic Thinking
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