

Student Name: _____

Ohio Achievement Assessments



Reading Student Test Booklet Spring 2010

This test was originally administered to students in Spring 2010.

Not all items from the Spring 2010 administration will be released in this document. According to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3301.07.11:4(b) . . . not less than forty percent of the questions on the test that are used to compute a student's score shall be a public record. The department (of education) shall determine which questions will be needed for reuse on a future test and those questions shall not be public records and shall be redacted from the test prior to its release as public record.

This publicly released material is appropriate for use by Ohio teachers in instructional settings. This test is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards for English Language Arts.

Acknowledgments

Reading

Selection 1: Rodent Roadmaps

Reprinted from the November/December 2003 issue of ASK magazine. © 2003
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Selection 3: Wild Ponies

“Wild Ponies” by John Micklos, Jr., from *National Geographic for Kids*, April-May 2002.
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Selection 6: The Noblest Deed

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Directions:

Today you will be taking the Ohio Grade 5 Reading Achievement Assessment. Three different types of questions appear on this test: multiple choice, short answer and extended response.

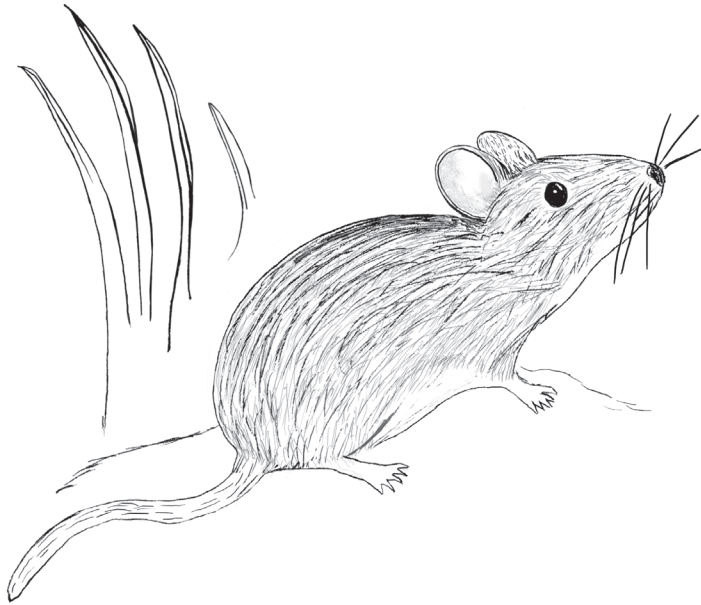
There are several important things to remember:

1. Read each reading selection carefully. You may look back at the reading selection as often as necessary. You may underline or mark parts of any selection in your Student Test Booklet.
2. Read each question carefully. Think about what is being asked. Look carefully at graphs or diagrams because they will help you understand the question. Then, choose or write the answer you think is best.
3. Use only a #2 pencil to answer questions on this test.
4. For multiple-choice questions, fill in the circle next to your answer choice. Mark only one answer for each question. If you change your answer, make sure you erase your old answer completely. Do not cross out or make any marks on the other choices.
5. For constructed-response questions, write your answer neatly, clearly and only in the space provided in your Answer Document. Answers written outside of the space provided will not be scored.
6. Short-answer questions are worth two points. Extended-response questions are worth four points. Point values are printed near each question in your Student Test Booklet. The amount of space provided for your answers is the same for all two- and four-point questions.
7. If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on to the next question. If you have time, go back to the questions you skipped and try to answer them before turning in your Student Test Booklet and Answer Document.
8. Check over your work when you are finished.
9. When you finish this section of the test, you may **NOT** go on to the mathematics or science sections in the Student Test Booklet.

Directions: Read the selection.

Rodent Roadmaps

by Jessica Tanenbaum



If you hate asking people for directions, you might consult a wood mouse instead. Scientists now know how wood mice navigate so well through open fields. When the mice go out of their holes, they can't leave behind any scent to help find their way back home (a mousy odor means dinner to foxes and other predators, who would follow the scent to mouse hiding places). So wood mice have a different strategy. They leave behind piles of leaves and twigs as signs to mark the direction they need to go.

How did scientists find out? When several laboratory mice chewed through the wall of their pen, scientists found a leaf near the escape hole. Wondering if the mice deliberately placed the leaf, the scientists set up an experiment, putting plastic disks, instead of grass and leaves, in the mouse pens. They discovered that the mice piled up the disks to mark food and other points of interest.

Using a leaf to flag a promising snack, a mouse in the wild may come back to dine at leisure. Even better, if a mouse flees from a predator in midnibble, it will know where to return. That's smart thinking: scientists thought that only humans make movable landmarks. What's next, birds with compasses?

Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 1 – 4.

1. What is the most important thing that scientists learned from the experiment described in this selection?
 - A. Mice seem to like plastic disks.
 - B. Mice make and use movable landmarks.
 - C. Wood mice do not use scent to navigate.
 - D. Laboratory mice can chew through pen walls.

2. “Using a leaf to **flag** a promising snack, a mouse in the wild may come back to dine at leisure.”

Which word is a synonym for the word **flag** as it is used in the sentence above?

- A. hide
- B. spoil
- C. crush
- D. mark



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3. The author wrote this selection mainly for what purpose?
- A. to entertain and amuse readers
 - B. to explain how mice find their way around
 - C. to inform readers about how to read maps
 - D. to persuade readers that mice are predators
4. For a mouse, why does a leaf make a better landmark than a scent?
- A. A scent is too hard to find in the wilderness.
 - B. A scent would spoil a mouse's food and appetite.
 - C. A leaf is safer because a scent might attract an enemy.
 - D. A leaf can be used first as a landmark and later as a snack.

Items 5–13 have not been slated for public release
in 2010.



Directions: Read the selection.

Wild Ponies

Assateague Island's Mane Attraction

by John Micklos, Jr.



Cheers rise as the ponies splash into the water. It's a July morning on Assateague (A suh teeg), an island located off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland. Every year at this time, local cowboys round up the wild ponies that live on the southern end of the island. At low tide, they herd the ponies across a narrow waterway called a channel to another island named Chincoteague (SHIN koh teeg). Thousands of people come to watch.

The ponies swim across the channel in about five minutes. The crowd cheers again as the animals reach the shore. Back on dry land, the ponies shake the water from their manes. Then they start to graze calmly. Some wander right up to the fence that separates them from the onlookers.

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Soon cowboys herd the ponies through town to the carnival grounds. The next day most of the young ponies, called foals, will be auctioned, or sold to the highest bidder.

History and Mystery

Assateague is a long, narrow island. It stretches between southern Maryland and northern Virginia. On one side is the Atlantic Ocean. On the other side is a quiet bay.

The ponies have been roaming free on the island for hundreds of years. They are feral animals. This means that their ancestors once were tame.

No one knows exactly how the ponies got to the island. Some people believe that long ago the first ponies were being transported by ship from Spain. They think the ship wrecked near the island in a storm, and the ponies swam ashore.

Most experts, though, think the first settlers of mainland Maryland and Virginia brought the ponies with them from England. Later they turned the animals loose to graze on Assateague Island.

Harsh Habitat

Today's ponies lead a hard life. In the summer they face hot weather and biting insects. In the winter they must grow thick coats to protect themselves from bitter winds.

Spring and fall are the best seasons. The weather on the island is mild, and there is plenty of grass for the ponies to eat. The ponies also eat leaves and twigs. They even munch on poison ivy, which doesn't seem to bother them. These island grazers may be the size of ponies (less than 58 inches tall), but they are actually horses. Experts think that the harsh habitat accounts for their small size. In fact, when some of the auctioned foals leave Assateague and receive better food and shelter, they grow to horse size. But people have been calling them ponies for years, and the name has stuck.



Pony Bands

The ponies live together in small groups called bands. Some bands may have as few as two ponies. Others may have a dozen. In most bands there are usually several mares, or adult females, some foals, and one adult male.

The adult male pony is called a stallion. It is his job to protect the band.

In the spring mares give birth. Within minutes, their foals begin to walk on wobbly legs. Soon they are running and playing.

Return to the Wild

At the auction, some people bid on ponies to take home. Others just come to watch. In 2001, 85 ponies were sold. One foal sold for \$10,500. That set a new record price for the auction. In all, that auction raised \$167,000.

The day after the auction, Chincoteague cowboys herd the ponies back to the water's edge. Crowds cheer again as the ponies swim home to Assateague Island. There they will be free to roam again for another year.

Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 14 - 21.

14. How do most of the ponies seem to react to being herded over to Chincoteague?
- A. They do not seem to be bothered.
 - B. They shake and are nervous.
 - C. They are shy and stay near the water's edge.
 - D. They are tired and return to Assateague.

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15. Explain how and why some auctioned ponies change after they leave Assateague Island. Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

16. One foal sold for \$10,500. That set a new **record** price for the auction.

What definition of **record** is used in the sentence?

record /rĕk' ərd/ *n.* **1)** a written copy. **2)** the highest or lowest mark known. **3)** history. **4)** something that holds music.

- A. definition 1
- B. definition 2
- C. definition 3
- D. definition 4

17. Some bands may have as few as **two** ponies. The adult male pony is called the stallion. It is his job **to** protect the band.

Which definition describes the word pair **two** and **to**?

- A. words that are compared by using the words like or as
- B. words that have opposite meanings
- C. words that sound the same but have different meanings
- D. words that have the same meanings



Item 18 has not been slated for public release in 2010.

19. Which subheading would you look under to find out what life on the island is like for the ponies?
- A. Harsh Habitat
 - B. History and Mystery
 - C. Pony Bands
 - D. Return to the Wild
20. What happens to the ponies that are not sold?
- A. They spend the harsh winter on Chincoteague.
 - B. They are allowed to live on the carnival grounds.
 - C. They spend the rest of the year on Assateague.
 - D. They are given to the cowboys on the island.
21. Why are the horses on Assateague Island the size of most ponies?
- A. They are feral animals.
 - B. They live in a harsh habitat.
 - C. They eat grass and twigs.
 - D. They are auctioned as foals.

On the Spring 2010 Grade 5 Reading Achievement Assessment, items 22–27 are field-test items, which are not released.

Items 28–36 have not been slated for public release in 2010.



Directions: Read the selection.

The Noblest Deed

by Grant Lyons



Once there was an old man who wanted to leave a diamond to one of his three sons. But he could not decide which one. He called the three sons into his room, and this is what he told them.

“My sons, I am not a rich man. The only thing I have that is worth much is this diamond. It has been in our family for generations, and I would not want it sold. Because it cannot be sold or divided, I can give it to only one of you. The diamond will go to whichever of you accomplishes the noblest deed in a week’s time. Go now. Return in a week to tell me what you have done.”

A week passed, and the sons returned. They found their father weak and unable to leave his bed. He asked each in turn to tell his story.

"My father," said the first son, "I thought and thought of a deed that would be worthy. Finally, this is what I did. I gathered together all of my property, divided it in half, and gave one half to the poor people of the city."

The old man shook his head, "Ah, that is a good deed," he said, "but not truly noble. After all, it is our duty to be as generous as we can to the poor."

"When I was returning home from work one day," said the second son, "I saw a little girl caught in the swift current of the river. Though I can hardly swim myself, I jumped into the river and pulled her out. The current was so swift, I almost drowned."

"That, too, is a good deed, and yet not noble," said the father. "All should be willing to risk their lives for the sake of a child."

Then the third son told his story.

"Father, a wonderful thing happened to me. I was walking high up in the mountains early one morning. There I saw a man sleeping at the very edge of a cliff! I could hardly believe my eyes. For if he turned in his sleep, the man would be certain to fall over the cliff! I crept closer, as quietly as I could, for I didn't want to startle him. And guess who the man was? Sancho, my bitterest enemy! Many times he had threatened to hurt me if he got the chance.

"I moved as close to this man as I could. Gently I put my arms around him. Suddenly his eyes opened, and I saw he was afraid. 'Do not fear,' I said. With that I pulled him toward me and rolled with him, away from the cliff.

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“We both stood up, and he said, ‘I came this way last night. It was so dark that I could not see my own feet! I was too tired to go on, so I stepped off the path to sleep. I had no idea where I was! I see now that if I had walked a little farther, or turned in my sleep, I would have become food for the vultures. You have saved my life—I, who have threatened to hurt you!’

“We threw ourselves into each other’s arms and swore to be friends forever. Each of us found a friend, where before there had been an enemy!”

“Ah, my son!” exclaimed the old man. “That is a beautiful story, and a truly noble deed. It is a rare person who will risk his life for the sake of his enemy. A *noble* person. The diamond is yours!”

Directions: Use the selection to answer questions 37 – 43.

37. What does the third son do to help Sancho?
- A. He gives Sancho half of his land.
 - B. He gives Sancho half of his money.
 - C. He rolls Sancho away from the edge of the cliff.
 - D. He saves Sancho from drowning in the current.



38. What are the two reasons the father does not want his diamond sold? Write your answer in the **Answer Booklet**. (2 points)
39. The diamond will go to whichever of you **accomplishes** the noblest deed in a week's time. Go now. Return in a week to tell me what you have done.

What words or phrases from the selection help define the word **accomplishes**?

- A. Go now.
 - B. Return in a week
 - C. noblest deed
 - D. what you have done
40. Why does the third son tell his father that his experience was wonderful?
- A. He has made an enemy into a friend.
 - B. He has risked his life and lived to tell the tale.
 - C. He has made his father proud of him.
 - D. He has earned his father's only diamond.



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41. What are two lessons the sons learn from their father? Write your answer in the **Answer Booklet**. (2 points)

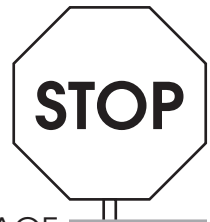
42. How does Sancho react when he first sees the third son?

- A. fearfully
- B. angrily
- C. joyfully
- D. shamefully

43. "Ah, that is a good deed," he said, "but not truly noble. After all, it is our duty to be as **generous** as we can to the poor."

Which word is a synonym for **generous**?

- A. wealthy
- B. brave
- C. giving
- D. concerned



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