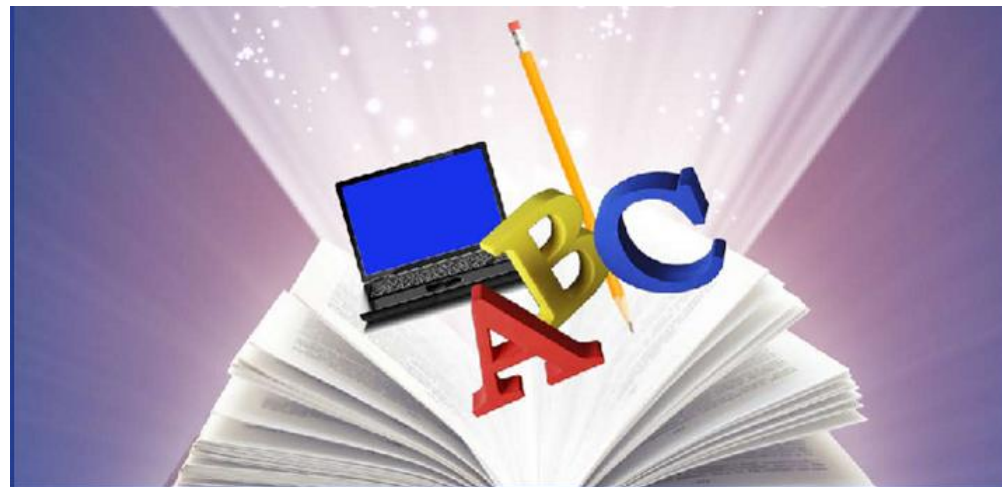


Spring 2013 Student Performance Analysis

Grade 4 Reading Standards of Learning Test



Presentation may be paused and resumed
using the arrow keys or the mouse.

Expanding Vocabulary

SOL 4.4

The student will expand vocabulary when reading.

- a) Use context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.
- b) Use knowledge of roots, affixes, synonyms, antonyms, and homophones.
- c) Use word-reference materials, including the glossary, dictionary, and thesaurus.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4a

Students need additional practice using context to clarify meanings of unfamiliar words.

Read this sentence.

Josh put on his backpack and slowly trudged along the sidewalk to school.

What is the meaning of the word trudged?

- a) hurried
- b) plodded
- c) crawled
- d) skipped

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4a

One day Sarah was drawing with her new set of colored pencils, but then she remembered that she had not finished cleaning her room. Sarah knew her mom would be disappointed, so she decided to complete the task.

In this paragraph, the word task means-

- a) a plan
- b) a job**
- c) an activity
- d) an interest

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4a

Suggestions:

- Which meaning of _____ is used in paragraph ___?
- Select the sentence that uses the word _____ in the same way as it is used in paragraph ___.
- In the “_____” section, the word _____ means –

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4b

Students need additional practice using affixes.

In which words does un- mean the same as it does in unhappy?

Josh was unhappy when his sister went to the movie without him.

uncertain

under

uniform

unite

uneasy

untidy

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4b

Suggestions:

- Select each word with a suffix that means “_____.”
- Which word sounds like the word _____ ?
- Choose the two words that sound the same but are spelled differently.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4c

Students need additional practice using dictionary guide words.

Which guide words would most likely be on the same dictionary page as the word “spark”?

- a) space – spatula
- b) spangle –spar
- c) sparrow – speaker
- d) sparse – special

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4c

Which word would appear on the same dictionary page with these two guide words?

appeal - apple

- a) appall
- b) appetite**
- c) apply
- d) appoint

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.4c

Read these guide words from a dictionary page.

learn – ledge

Which words from the list would appear on this dictionary page? Write the words in the box in the order they would appear on the page.

leash
leave
lecture

leash
lecture
leader
legal
leave

Describing Choice of Language, Setting, and Characters

SOL 4.5

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction texts, and poetry.

b) Describe how the choice of language, setting, characters, and information contributes to the author's purpose.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5b

Students need additional practice describing how language, setting and characters contribute to author's purpose.

“I knew you could do it, Beth!” Christa shouted. Beth’s eyes lit up at the encouragement from her best friend.

Complete the sentence.

The phrase “Beth’s eyes lit up” means that --

Possible answer: Beth is very happy with what Christa has said.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5b

Suggestions:

- How does the information in the paragraph help identify the setting?
- Where does the story take place?
- The author includes this information to show—
- Why does the author include paragraph ____?

Explaining Author's Purpose

SOL 4.6

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.

c) Explain the author's purpose

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.6c

Which Pet is For You?

If you want to own a pet, it is important to know which one will be the best fit for you. For example, if you have a large yard or a park nearby, you may be able to adopt a big, energetic dog. This is because your pet will be plenty of room for exercise. If you want an animal that does not need room to run around, maybe a fish is the perfect choice for you. What if a member of your family is allergic to the fur of certain animals? You would not want to adopt an animal that affects the health of someone in your home. Also, some pets may demand more time out of your day for grooming or exercising. If you already have many other activities to do, you may want to choose a pet that needs less attention. It is a good idea to think about your lifestyle before you adopt a pet. All pets require special care in order to stay healthy and happy.

The author wrote this paragraph to—

- a) entertain the reader with stories about different pets' activities
- b) inform the reader of the amount of space different pets require
- c) persuade the reader to consider a pet's needs before adopting it
- d) explain the problems with adopting the wrong type of pet

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.6c

Suggestions:

- The author uses a question in the heading to—
- The author wrote this webpage most likely to—
- What is the main reason the author wrote this flier?

Identifying Main Idea

SOL 4.5

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction texts, and poetry.

c) Identify main idea.

SOL 4.6

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.

d) Identify main idea

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5c

Students need additional practice identifying main idea.

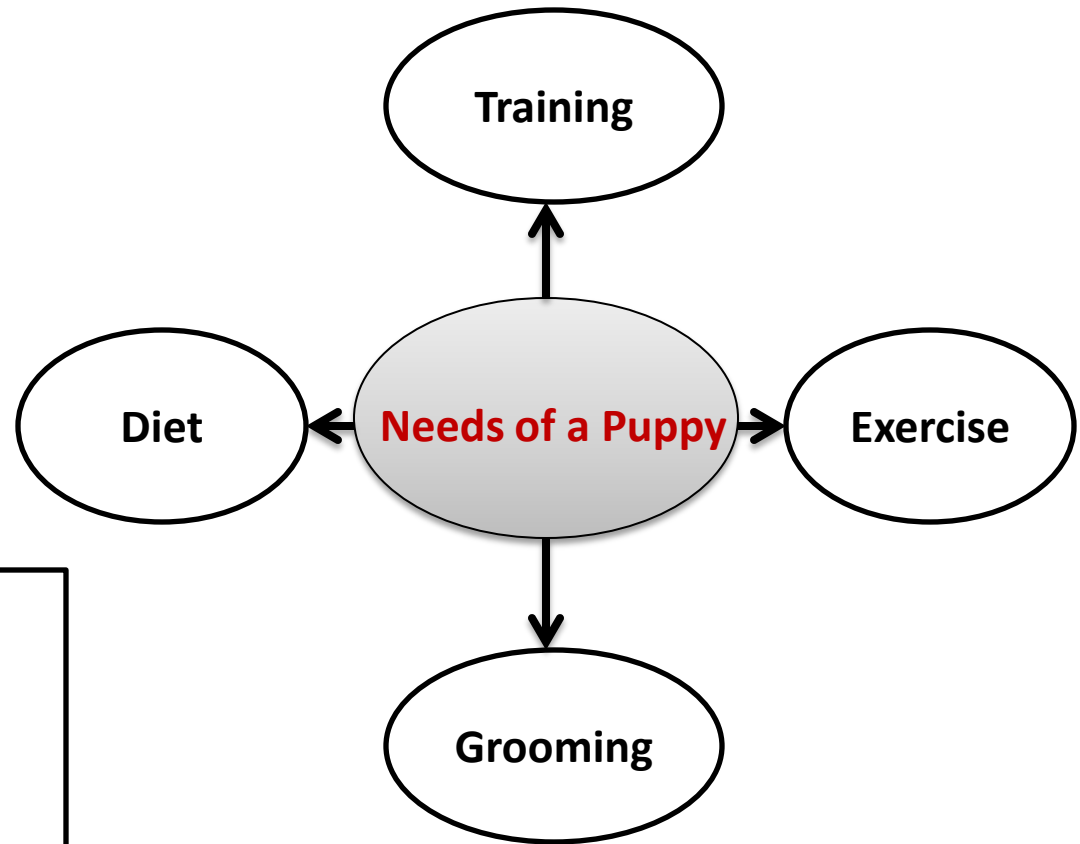
After Mom washed her hands, she took an almost empty tub of margarine from the refrigerator and rinsed out what was left into the sink. She dried the empty tub and used a kitchen knife to cut several small holes into the bottom of it. Then she lined the tub with dry paper towels. Turning to Abby and Liam, Mom exclaimed, “Ta-da! One new bed for the baby birds!”

What is this paragraph mostly about?

- a) Mom is washing her hands before cutting the tub.
- b) Mom is using the kitchen knife to cut holes in a tub.
- c) Mom is making a bird nest out of a margarine tub.**
- d) Mom is cleaning out a margarine tub.

Suggested Practice for SOL4.6d

Choose the best title to complete the web.



Needs of a Puppy
What Can the Puppy Do?
Ways to Teach a Puppy
Why Is the Puppy Happy?
How to Keep a Puppy Safe

Summarizing Supporting Details

SOL 4.5

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction texts, and poetry.

d) Summarize supporting details

SOL 4.6

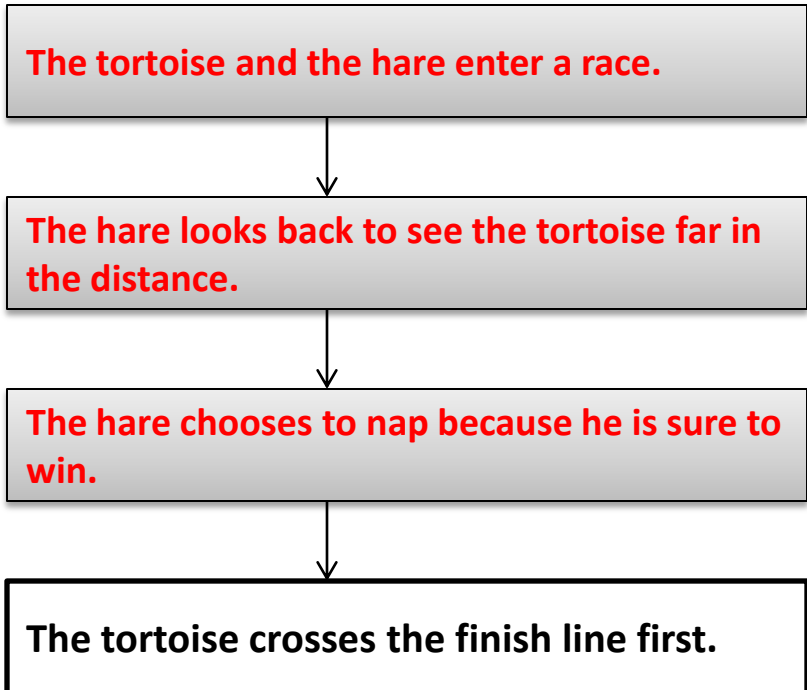
The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.

e) Summarize supporting details

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5d

Students need additional practice summarizing supporting details.

Complete the flow chart by placing the most important events of the story in the correct order.



Story Events

The tortoise and the hare enter a race.
The tortoise enjoys watching the birds and butterflies along the path.
The hare laughs and claps his hands together in delight.
The tortoise and the hare watch the parade together after the race.
The hare looks back to see the tortoise far in the distance.
The hare chooses to nap because he is sure to win.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.6e

Which Pet is For You?

If you want to own a pet, it is important to know which one will be the best fit for you. For example, if you have a large yard or a park nearby, you may be able to adopt a big, energetic dog. This is because your pet will be plenty of room for exercise....

(You may refer to the complete paragraph on slide 10.)

Use the paragraph to complete these notes.

Important Details to Consider Before Adopting a Pet

The amount of space the pet needs for exercise

The amount of time that is required for the pet's care

The activities that you are willing to give up

The family members who want to feed the pet

The allergies that a family member may have

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5d and 4.6e

Suggestions:

- Which sentence is the best summary of paragraph ____?
- Which sentence best summarizes the information in paragraphs __ and __?
- Select the statements most important to include in a summary.
- What is the best summary of the flier?
- Complete this web.

Identifying Problem – Solution

SOL 4.5

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction texts, and poetry.

e) Identify the problem and solution.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5e

Abby was wheeling her bike out of the garage when she heard some squeaking sounds coming from the front yard. Her brother, holding his skateboard, walked over to investigate.

“Hey look!” she heard Liam yell. She let go of her bike when she saw what her little brother was pointing to—three tiny baby birds huddled together on the wet grass, chirping. Abby looked around and saw that some branches had been knocked off the pear tree and were scattered all over the yard, along with leaves and twigs.

“Oh no,” she said, stepping closer to the baby birds. They were just starting to get their feathers, and they looked cold and wet. “Their nest must have fallen out of the tree in the thunderstorm!”

“Poor birds,” Liam said, kneeling down by the birds and reaching out his hand to touch one.

“No!” shouted Abby. “You can’t touch baby birds! If you do then the mother bird won’t come back to take care of them!” Liam pulled his hand back, and Abby ran back inside to get Mom.

The children first realize there is a problem when they--

- a) see a bird nest on the ground
- b) find baby birds out of the nest
- c) see tree branches on the ground
- d) hear a noise in the front yard



Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5e

Suggestions:

- What problem does _____ solve with _____'s help?
- How does _____ finally solve the problem?
- Which sentences identify the problem in the story?
- What is the main problem?
- Which question identifies the problem in the story?

Identifying Cause and Effect Relationships

SOL 4.5

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative nonfiction texts, and poetry.

j) Identify cause and effect relationships.

SOL 4.6

The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.

g) Distinguish between cause and effect.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5J

Students need additional practice identifying cause and effect relationships.

“I hope this works,” Liam said, looking questioningly at the funny margarine tub nest.

“How do you know so much about baby birds?” Abby wondered.

Mom smiled. “Because the same thing happened once when I was a little girl. It’s not that rare for baby birds to fall out of their nests. When I found some after a storm, just like you two, my parents called a wildlife rehabilitator and they told us what to do to help those babies, and it worked. I hope it works this time too.”

Why does Mom know how to help the birds?

- a) Mom is a scientist who studies birds.
- b) Mom likes to feed and watch birds.
- c) Mom found a baby bird when she was younger.**
- d) Mom worked in a wildlife preserve with her parents.

Suggested Practice for SOL 4.5J

from *Casey at the Bat**
by Ernest Lawrence Thayer

But Flynn let drive a single, to the wonderment of all,
And Blake, the much despised, tore the cover off the ball;
And when the dust had lifted, and men saw what had occurred,
There was Jimmy safe at second and Flynn a-hugging third.

Then from five thousand throats and more there rose a lusty yell;
It rumbled through the valley, it rattled in the dell;
It pounded on the mountain and recoiled upon the flat,
For Casey, mighty Casey, was advancing to the bat.

**Public Domain*

Choose the cause that correctly completes the relationship.



Blake tore the baseball.

Flynn amazed everyone.

Flynn and Jimmy are safe on base.

Casey is stepping up to bat.

The valley and mountain are rumbling.



Suggested Practice for 4.6g

Suggestions:

- According to the flier, a student must preregister for the race because—
- What causes the _____ to _____?
- What does the recipe say will happen if the chef uses _____ instead of _____?
- Based on the article, what causes the _____?

Practice Items

This concludes the student performance analysis for the 4th grade reading tests administered during the spring 2013 test administration.

There are practice items available on the Virginia Department of Education Web site which will also help students practice the skills associated with the *2010 English Standards of Learning*. The practice items are located at:

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/practice_items/index.shtml#reading

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