



INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE VIRGINIA ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (VAAP) AND THE VAAP SAMPLE ITEMS

The Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) is Virginia's state assessment for eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities in grades 3 - 8 and high school. This assessment gives students the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of reading, mathematics, and science. Test content is based on the Virginia Essentialized Standards of Learning (VESOL) which come from the Standards of Learning and have been reduced in depth, breadth, and complexity so that the content is relevant, accessible, and appropriate for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The VESOL are available on the [Virginia Alternate Assessment Program \(VAAP\)](#) page of the Virginia Department of Education website.

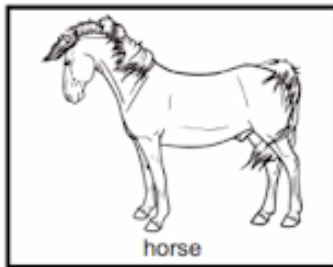
Each test consists of multiple-choice test questions with three answer choices that can be presented to the student online or in a paper format. Online test items will be presented through TestNav™, the application used by the Virginia Department of Education. The tests begin with easier items and gradually move to more difficult items throughout the assessment. Each item includes introductory text that is read to the student but is not visible on the screen or paper copy. The introductory text is designed to orient the student to the test item and set the stage for the question being asked. In most cases, test questions will be read aloud to the student by the examiner or by accessing the text-to-speech feature in TestNav. Supports are embedded in the test items and accommodations are available to meet the needs of each student. Students can respond to test questions using their preferred method of communication. If the student is unable to enter answer choices on the computer or on paper, the teacher may do this for the student in accordance with procedures provided in the test administration manuals.

THE VAAP SAMPLE ITEMS

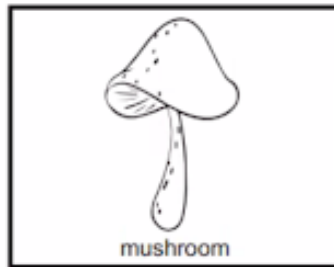
Ten sample VAAP test items are available online in TestNav and in paper in this document. These sample items are taken from the reading, mathematics, and science content areas across various grade levels. Sample items are intended to be used by teachers, other school staff, and parents to familiarize them with item formats, the supports embedded in those items, the tools available in TestNav to accompany an online presentation, and the format of the paper presentation of test items. **Sample items are not intended for student use**; however, practice items for use with students will be provided soon to familiarize them with test content and item format.

A sample science item from grade 5 follows on the next page with a description of the features available in both the online and paper presentations.

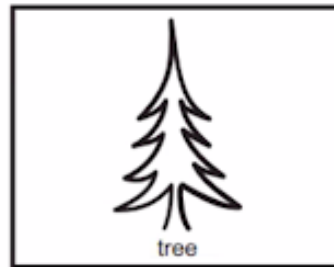
Which is an animal?



A



B



C

All VAAP test items include the following features:

- **Introductory Text** - Each item includes introductory text that is read to the student by the examiner or by text-to-speech in TestNav but is not visible to the student on the screen or paper copy. The introductory text is designed to orient the student to the test item and set the stage for the question being asked. In this sample item, the introductory text is, “Here are three living things.”
- **Test Question** - The test question appears in both the online and paper formats and, in most cases, it is read to the student by the examiner or by text-to-speech in TestNav. In this sample item, the test question is, “Which is an animal?”
- **Answer Choices** - Answer choices appear in the online and paper formats. In this sample, the answer choices, A. horse, B. mushroom, C. tree, are presented in both pictures and text. In the online format, the answer choices will be highlighted as they are read by text-to-speech. In the paper format, the examiner can point to each answer choice as it is read aloud to the student.

THE EXAMINER’S COPY AND STUDENT MATERIALS

A sample of the paper test materials that would be provided for a VAAP test are included in this document with the paper presentation of the ten VAAP sample items. The sample Examiner’s Copy represents what the Examiner would use as script when administering a VAAP test to a student.

The Student Materials represent what would be printed for presentation to the student during the test administration. Please note, **the sample items are not intended for student use**. These sample materials are to serve as an example of what the Examiner would use when administering a VAAP test to a student.



Sample Items

Examiner's Copy and Student Materials

Virginia Department of Education

Copyright © 2021 by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Department of Education, P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120. All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, this material may not be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without written permission from the copyright owner. Send all written requests to the Virginia Department of Education at the above address or by email to: Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov.

Printed in the United States of America.

<p>Item 1</p> <p>Here are three words. (Point to each.) Ty likes to do things with his father. What is another word for father?</p>	<p>Option:</p>	A	B	C	Student Response
		mom	dad	brother	

<p>Item 2</p> <p>Here are three words. (Point to each.) A birthday celebrates the day that someone was born. What is a celebration of the day you were born?</p>	<p>Option:</p>	A	B	C	Student Response
		work	birthday	candle	

<p>Item 3</p> <p>Here are three words. (Point to each.) I will read a story to you - follow along. Judy and Sara are best friends. They like to play practical jokes on each other. Joking together is great. Judy thinks Sara is “a barrel of laughs.” What does “a barrel of laughs” mean?</p>	<p>Option:</p>	A	B	C	Student Response
		sad	angry	funny	

<p>Item 4</p> <p>Here are three words. (Point to each.) I will read a story to you - follow along. Benjamin Franklin was a scientist and an inventor. He was born in 1706. He is known as “the First American” for his work with organizing the colonies. Franklin is most famously remembered for discovering electricity. He discovered that lightning was electricity by flying a kite in a storm in 1750. This experiment led to his invention of the lightning rod. Who invented the lightning rod?</p>	<p>Option:</p>	A	B	C	Student Response
		Martin	Franklin	Roosevelt	

<p>Item 5</p> <p>Here is an addition problem. (Point to student materials.) 6 plus 8 equals which number?</p>	<p>Option:</p>	A	B	C	Student Response
		8	10	14	

Item 6

Option:

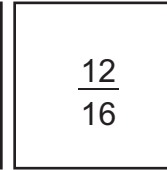
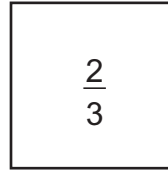
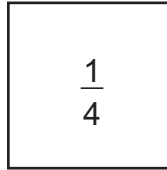
Here is the decimal zero point 7 5. (Point to student materials.) Which of these fractions is the same as zero point 7 5?

A

B

C

Student Response



Item 7

Option:

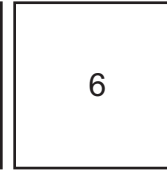
Here is a 2 yard by 3 yard rectangle made of unit squares. (Point to student materials.) What is the area of this figure?

A

B

C

Student Response



Item 8

Option:

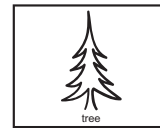
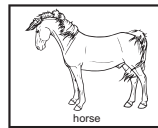
Here are three living things. (Point to answer choices.) Which is an animal?

A

B

C

Student Response



Item 9

Option:

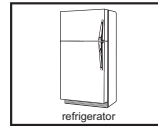
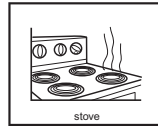
This is a pot of water. (Point to pot in prompt.) Which would transfer heat to the water?

A

B

C

Student Response



Item 10

Option:

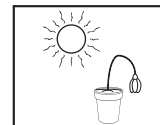
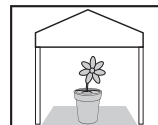
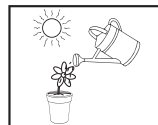
Here are three plants. (Point to answer choices.) Which plant will likely grow better?

A

B

C

Student Response



Item 1

Ty likes to do things with his father.

What is another word for father?

mom

A

dad

B

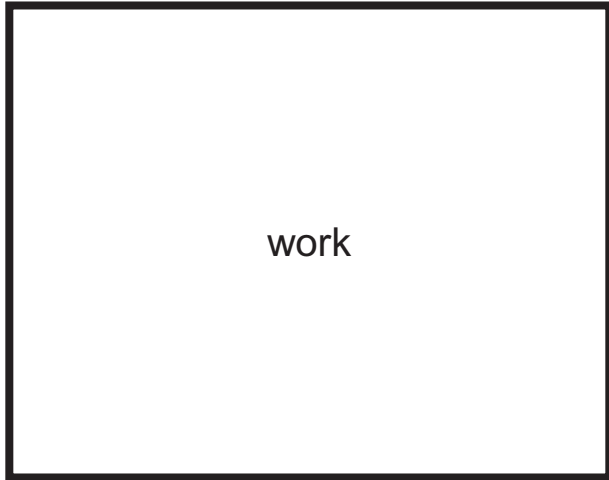
brother

C

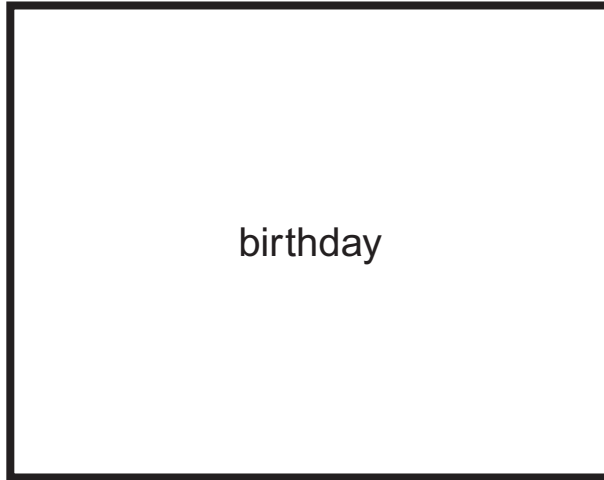
Item 2

A birthday celebrates the day that someone was born.

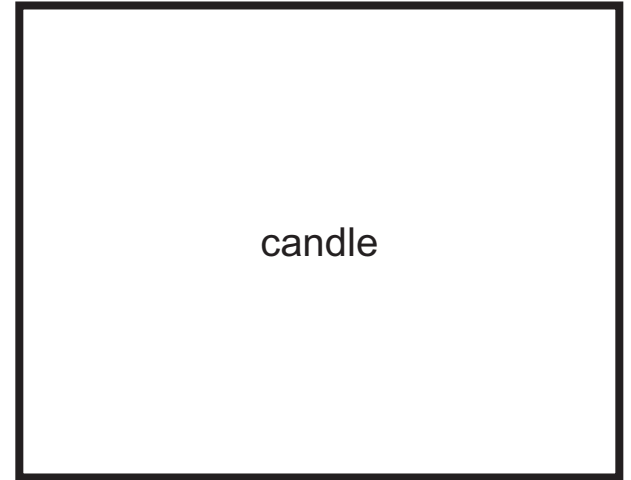
What is a celebration of the day you were born?



A



B



C

Item 3

Judy and Sara are best friends. They like to play practical jokes on each other. Joking together is great. Judy thinks Sara is “a barrel of laughs.”

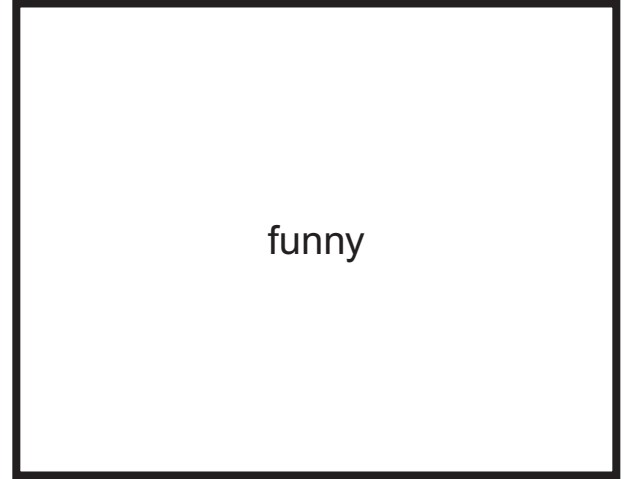
What does “a barrel of laughs” mean?



A



B



C

Item 4

Benjamin Franklin was a scientist and an inventor. He was born in 1706. He is known as “the First American” for his work with organizing the colonies.

Franklin is most famously remembered for discovering electricity. He discovered that lightning was electricity by flying a kite in a storm in 1750. This experiment led to his invention of the lightning rod.

Who invented the lightning rod?

Martin

A

Franklin

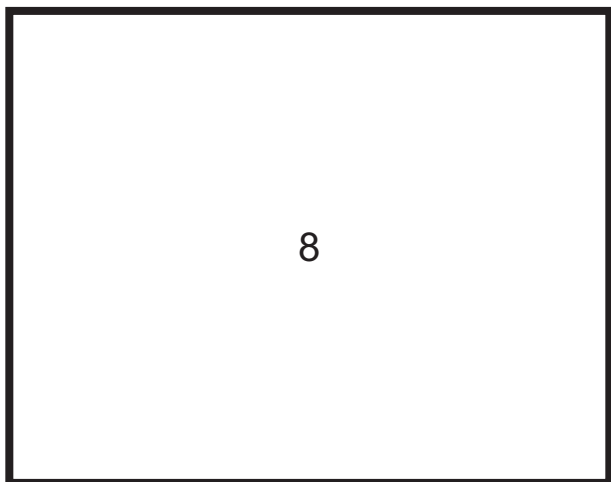
B

Roosevelt

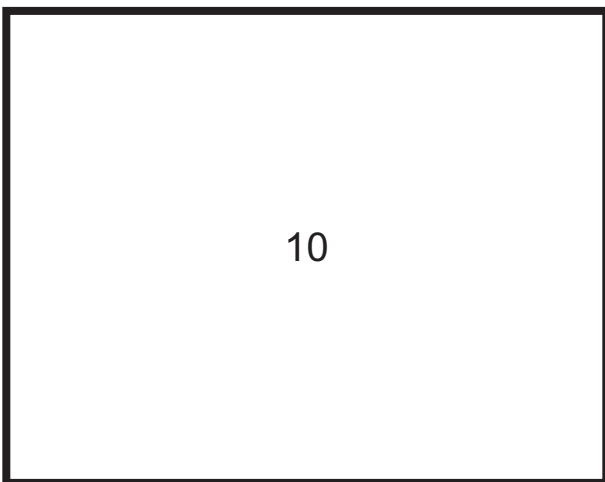
C

Item 5

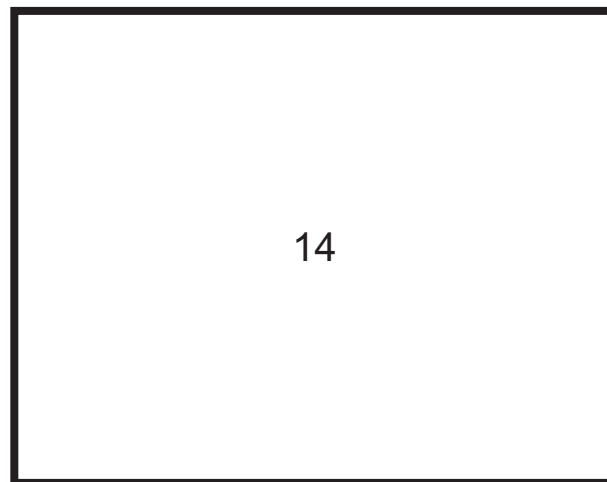
$$6 + 8 = \underline{\quad ? \quad}$$



A



B



C

Item 6

0.75

Which of these fractions is the same as 0.75 ?


$$\frac{1}{4}$$

A

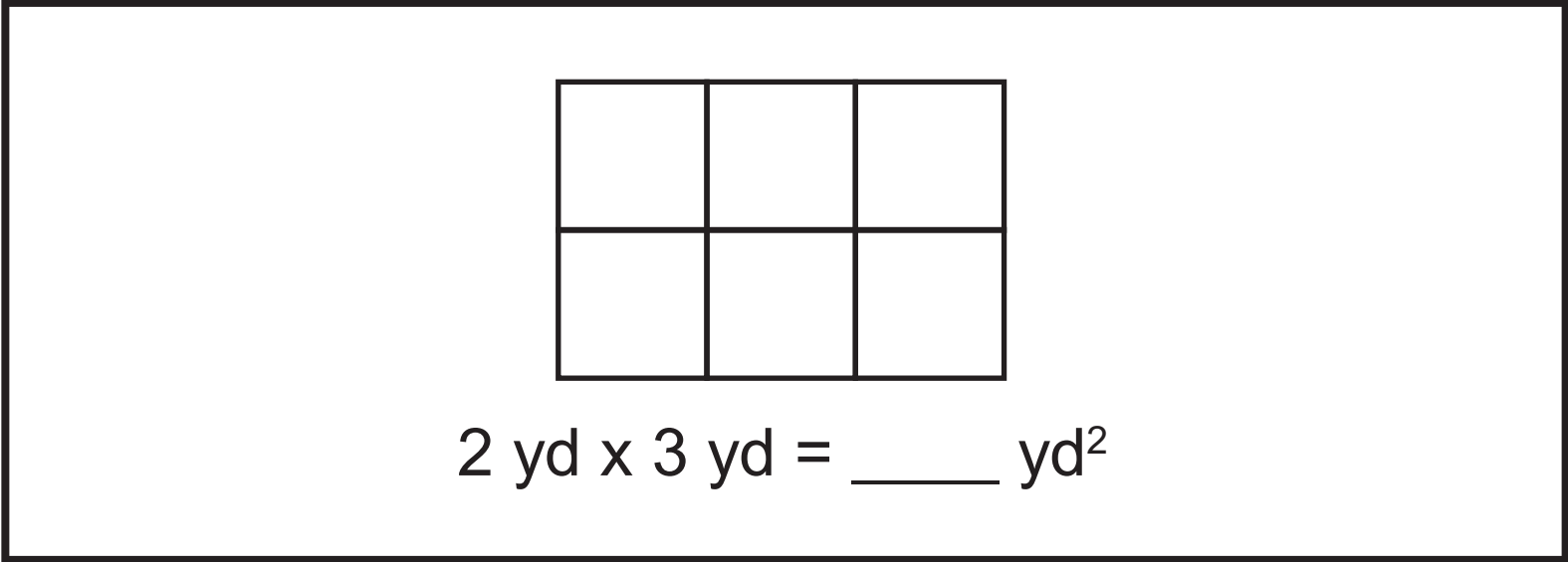

$$\frac{2}{3}$$

B

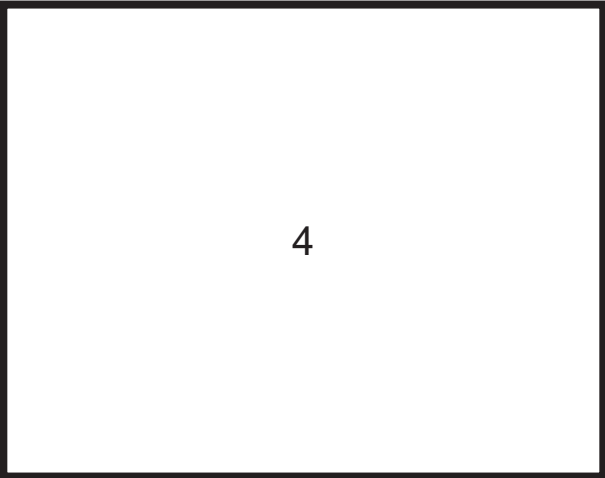

$$\frac{12}{16}$$

C

Item 7



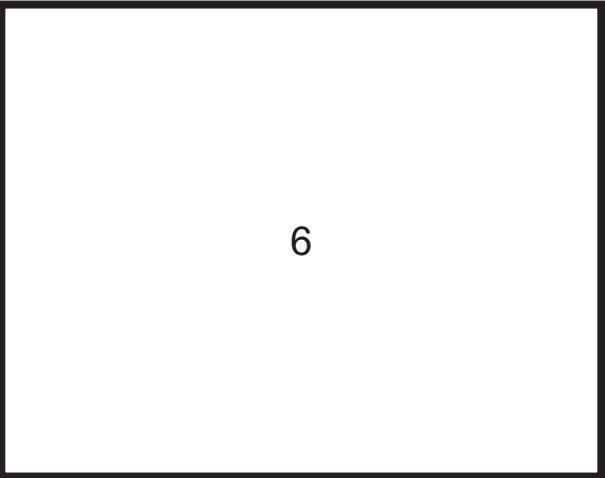
What is the area of this figure?



A



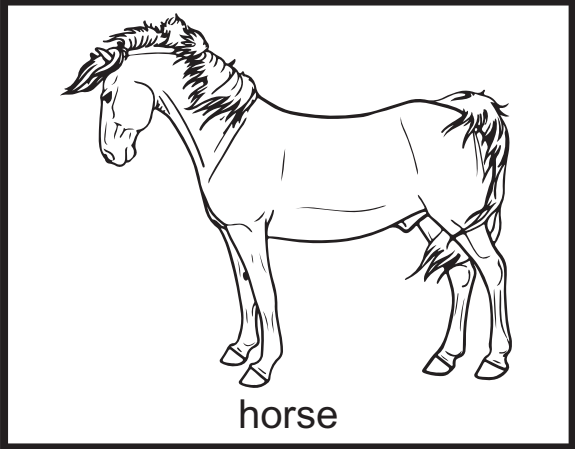
B



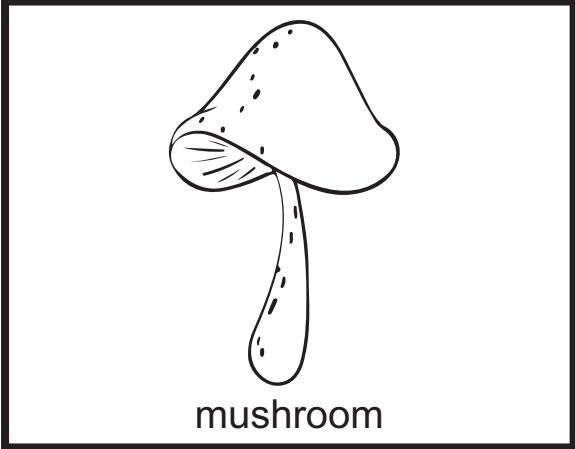
C

Item 8

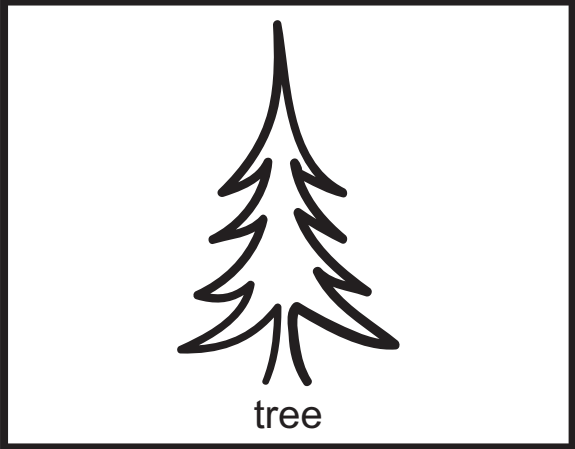
Which is an animal?



A

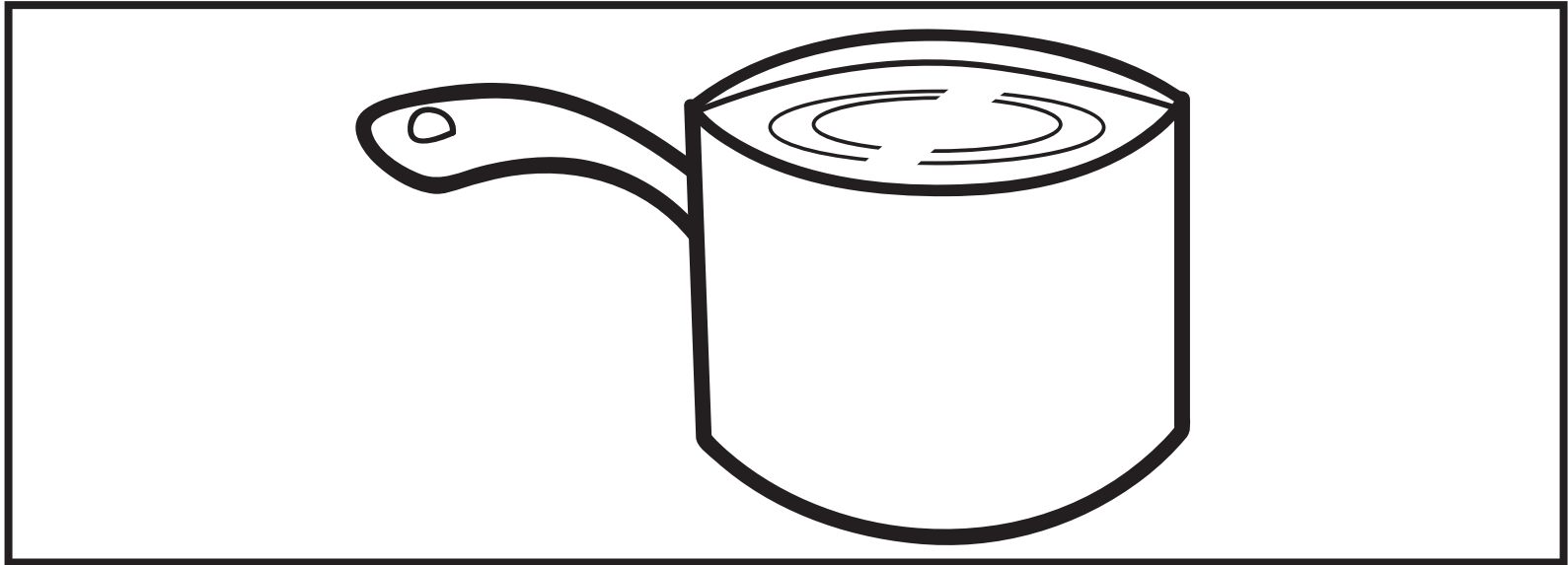


B

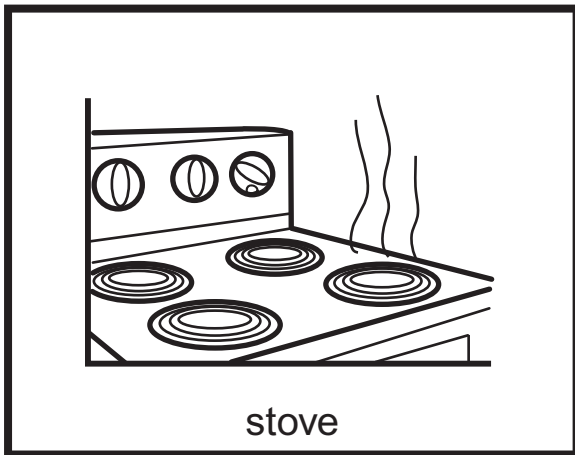


C

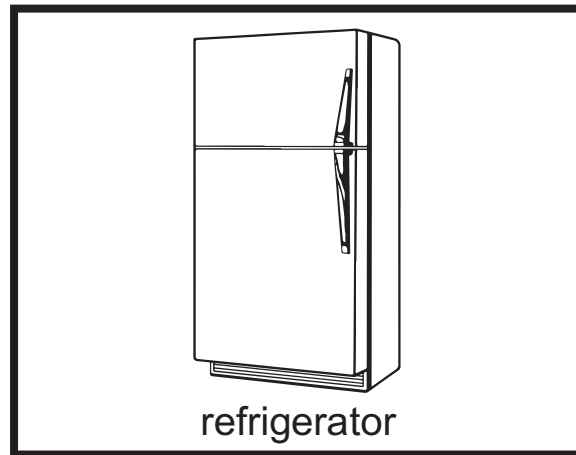
Item 9



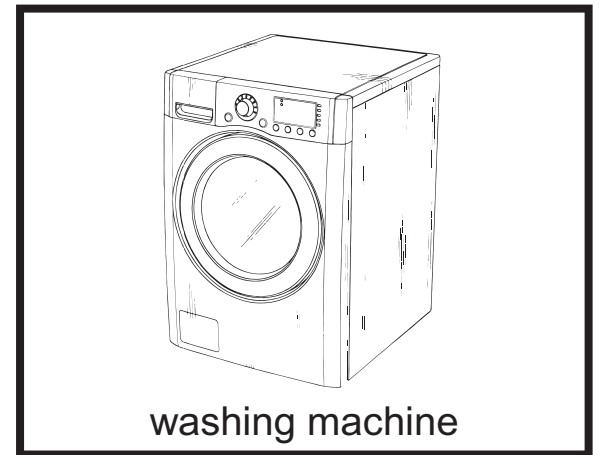
Which would transfer heat to the water?



A



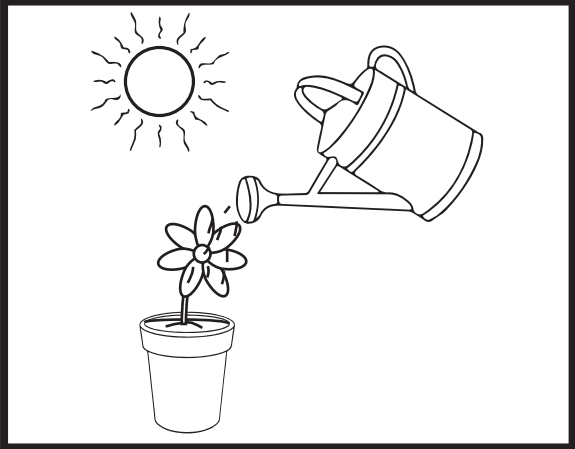
B



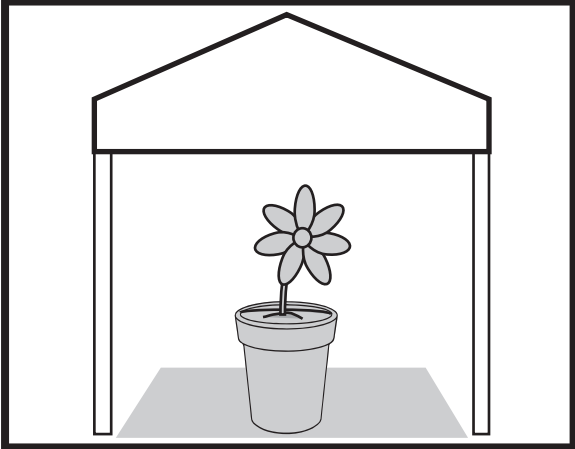
C

Item 10

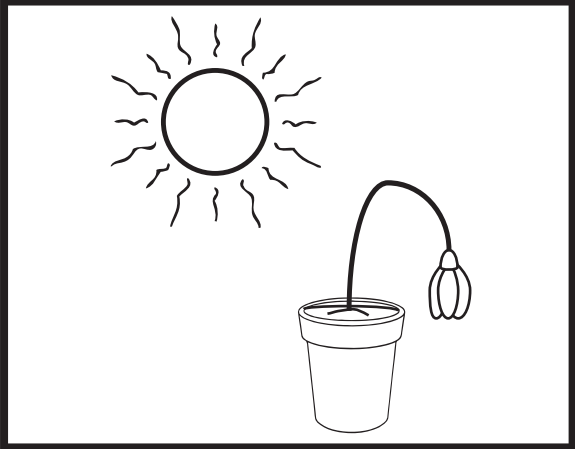
Which plant will likely grow better?



A



B



C

