

# Tests for Higher Standards

## READING/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



**GRADE LEVEL TEST**  
FOR THE MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

### Grade 5

Part I

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**The School Boy**  
William Blake

I love to rise in a summer morn,  
When the birds sing on every tree;  
The distant huntsman blows his horn,  
And the skylark sings with me.  
O! what sweet company.

But to go to school in a summer morn,  
O! it drives all joy away;  
Under a cruel eye outworn,  
The little ones spend the day,  
In sighing and dismay.

5-3.A.4.a

**1. A good description of the poem is that**

- A** it has two verses and the ends of lines rhyme.
- B** it has one verse and no rhyme.
- C** it has three verses, and it rhymes.
- D** it is free verse and does not rhyme.

5-1.E.4.f

**2. Which sentence is the best paraphrase of the speaker's words?**

- A** I like getting up in the summer, but dislike getting up for school.
- B** I like hunting with bows and arrows.
- C** I wish I were a better marksman.
- D** I dislike getting out of bed for anything.

5-3.A.4.b

**3. The skylark in line 4 is probably a**

- A** young girl.
- B** bird.
- C** plane.
- D** musician.

5-3.A.4.b

**4. In line 8, the poet uses cruel eye to indicate that the speaker**

- A** is sleepy while at school.
- B** thinks the sunshine is too hot.
- C** believes his teacher is strict.
- D** is tearful because the hunter hit the animal.

5-3.A.4.b

**5. The image of a child sighing in dismay makes school seem**

- A wonderful.
- B happy.
- C tasty.
- D terrible.

5-1.C.3.b

**6. Which of the following words uses -man in the same way as hunter in line 3 of the poem?**

- A Roman
- B woman
- C human
- D showman

5-3.A.4.c

**7. What is the rhyme scheme of this poem?**

- A ABABB ACACC
- B ABCDE ABCDE
- C ABCBA ABCBA
- D ABCAB CABCA

5-3.A.4.g

**8. Write a sentence or two describing how you know that the author of the poem is using a first-person narrator.**

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5-3.A.3.c

**9. What natural sense does the narrator explore in the morning?**

- A sight
- B hearing
- C smell
- D touch

### **Who Has the Right?** adapted from media sources

Who has rights to Canada's North Woods? If you think there's an easy answer, you are wrong.

#### **Native Canadians**

Native Canadians—such as the Inuit whose ancestors lived on the land long before Europeans came—say they have the right to say who cuts the trees, how many are cut, and when they are cut.

#### **Big Business**

But businesses in the U.S. and Canada want that lumber. They say it is needed for building and construction.

#### **What's the Problem?**

Both groups are upset. Winter is long, so the growing season is short in the Canadian woods. It takes a long time to grow new trees to replace those that are cut.

#### **Who Says What?**

The business people say they must put a handle on cutting and replanting. That way, there will always be trees to harvest. The Native Canadians say they have treaties that are three hundred years old. The treaties give them the right to harvest any natural resource. So, they argue, they have the right to ignore rules about cutting and replanting.

5-2.A.4.a

#### **10. The author of the selection wants**

- A** to explain a conflict.
- B** to persuade readers to agree with First Nations people.
- C** to present scientific evidence for replanting forests.
- D** to entertain with stories about Native people.

5-1.E.3.f

**11. In a sentence or two, write a good summary of the passage.**

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5-1.E.3.d

**12. To skim this passage for its main ideas, you should read**

- A the bold headings.
- B the first sentence of each paragraph.
- C the last sentence of each paragraph.
- D the title of the selection.

5-2.A.6.d

**13. What is the author's opinion presented in the passage?**

- A The author favors the Native Canadians.
- B The author favors the businesses of Canada.
- C The author favors the businesses of the United States
- D The author does not voice an opinion.

5-2.A.5.a

**14. The idiom put a handle on most likely means**

- A to control.
- B to encourage.
- C to stop.
- D to open.

### We're Running Out Of Wood!!!

Consider this! Two of our biggest American construction companies say they will run out of cheap lumber within one year. Other companies agree on at least two points:

1. Wood is in short supply.
2. This will cause American home prices to skyrocket.

What is the cause of the problem? Builders blame Canadian Indian tribes. These tribes want to cut timber whenever and wherever they want.

The Native Canadians' fight with the Canadian government (and logging companies) has caused at least two major problems:

1. Logging equipment has been wrecked.
2. United States builders aren't getting any wood.

The result? 50,000 workers may be out of work soon.

5-2.A.4.a

**15. This author's style forces readers to**

- A** consider both sides of the conflict.
- B** see the problems Native people are causing for workers.
- C** see the problems businesses are causing for Native peoples.
- D** see how the amount of wood imported from Canada is growing.

5-2.A.4.g

**16. According to this author, who—or what—is responsible for the shortage of wood?**

- A** American construction companies
- B** the low price of lumber
- C** Canadian Indian tribes
- D** United States builders

5-2.A.6.d

**17. In a sentence or two, what is the author's opinion as presented in the passage?**

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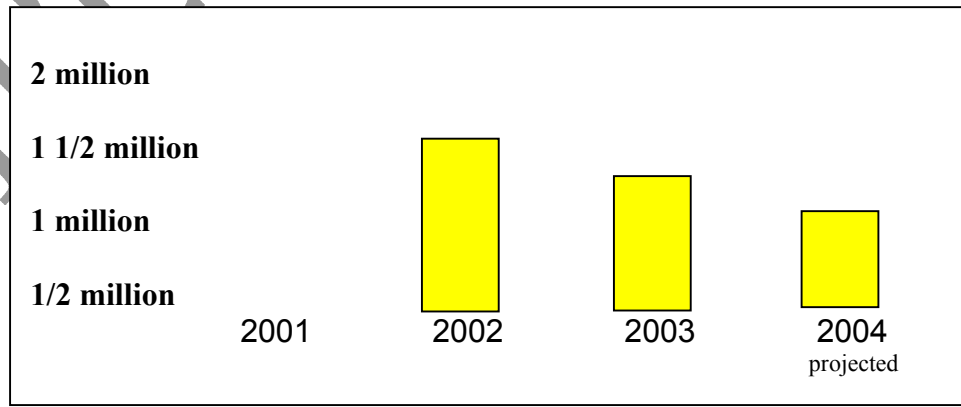
5-2.A.5.a

**18. The idiom to skyrocket most likely means**

- A to fizzle.
- B to arch.
- C to soar.
- D to waver.

Use this graph to answer the following questions.

**Number of board feet of lumber shipped from Canada to the U.S.**



5-2.A.2.b

**19. According to the graph, the amount of wood shipped from Canada to the U.S.**

- A has increased each year since 2001.
- B has decreased each year since 2001.
- C increased in 2001 and 2003 but decreased in the other years.
- D stayed the same in all four years.

5-1.E.4.d

**20. The person most likely to use this graph in an article about Canadian woods, Native rights, and American builders would be the author of**

- A "Who Has the Right?"
- B "We're Running Out of Wood!!!"
- C an encyclopedia article about the rights of Native people.
- D an article about logging before 1990.

5-2.A.4.g

**21. Using the chart, what can you most likely predict will happen in 2005?**

- A** The two sides will probably come to an agreement and the product of lumber shipped to the U.S. will increase.
- B** The amount of lumber shipped to the U.S. will probably follow the same downward trend.
- C** The amount of lumber shipped to the U.S. will probably level off and remain constant with 2004.
- D** A tremendous wet season will demolish lumber production in 2005.

**You want to write a paper to convince readers that the United States should plant more forests. Think about the previous passages you just read as you answer these questions.**

5-1.E.4.b

**22. Which statement could you use to support your belief that the U.S. should plant more forests?**

- A** Canadians aren't fair to their native people.
- B** Americans want too many things.
- C** Protesters have hurt logging equipment.
- D** Wood is in short supply in the U.S.

5-2.A.1.a

**23. The two best reference sources for more research for your paper are**

- (1) encyclopedia entries on forestry
- (2) an atlas
- (3) a dictionary
- (4) a history of native peoples in North America
- (5) a thesaurus
- (6) a glossary of logging terms
- (7) the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature*

- A** (1) and (5)
- B** (2) and (6)
- C** (1) and (6)
- D** (4) and (5)

5-2.A.1.a

**24. If you want to use an electronic database such as Yahoo or Google for additional research, which keywords will be most useful to you?**

- A** forests and replacement
- B** seeds and plants
- C** logging and carpentry
- D** construction and lumber

**Read this information from an article in a magazine published by GIANT LUMBER COMPANY. Then answer questions 25 and 26.**

The United States has been willing to cut trees down, but seldom is it ready to replant. Without reforestation programs established by GIANT LUMBER COMPANY and others, the forests would simply disappear.

5-1.C.3.b

**25. If you break reforestation into its parts, you have re + forest + ation. Therefore it probably means**

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5-4.A.7.c

**26. Your teacher wants you to record information on note cards. What will you write about the Giant Lumber Company article?**

- A** Giant Lumber Company plants trees. Says U.S. government doesn't. May be biased since article is from company magazine.
- B** U.S. cuts trees down. Replants for Giant Lumber Company.
- C** Forests are disappearing due to no new trees. This article must not be right.
- D** U.S. government should be responsible for all new trees. This is the opinion of Giant Lumber Company.



5-4.A.7.e

**27. In addition to your notes about the content of the article, you will also want to record**

- A** the title and author of the article, the page number on which you found it, and the name of publication and date it was published.
- B** the title and the author of the article.
- C** a detailed account of how you found the article.
- D** the page number and the paragraph number of the information, along with the name of the library in which you found it.

5-4.A.7.e

**28. If you use information from one of the articles, the graph, or a new source, you should**

- A** put the information in your table of contents and in an index.
- B** write note cards and pass them out to all readers of your paper.
- C** include information about the author, title, and source of your information in your paper.
- D** act as if all ideas in your paper are yours.

**from *Tom Swift and his Motor-Cycle or Fun and Adventures on the Road***  
by Victor Appleton

"Whoop her up, Andy!" said the lad on the seat beside the driver. "This is immense!"

"I rather thought you'd like it," remarked Andy Foger, as he turned the car to avoid a stone in the road. "I'll make things hum around Shopton!"

"You have made them hum already, Andy," commented the lad beside him. "My ears are ringing. Wow! There goes my cap!"

As the boy spoke, the breeze, created by the speed at which the car was traveling, lifted off his cap, and sent it whirling to the rear.

Andy Foger turned for an instant's glance behind. Then he opened the throttle still wider, and exclaimed: "Let it go, Sam. We can get another. I want to see what time I can make to Mansburg! I want to break a record, if I can."

"Look out, or you'll break something else!" cried a lad on the rear seat.

"There's a fellow on a bicycle just ahead of us. Take care, Andy!"

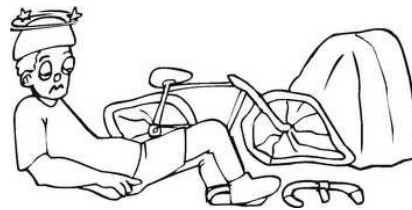
"Let him look out for himself," retorted Foger, as he bent lower over the steering wheel, for the car was now going at a terrific rate. The youth on the bicycle was riding slowly along, and did not see the approaching automobile until it was nearly upon him. Then, with a mean grin, Andy Foger pressed the rubber bulb of the horn with sudden energy, sending out a series of alarming blasts.

"It's Tom Swift!" cried Sam Snedecker. "Look out, or you'll run him down!"

"Let him keep out of my way," retorted Andy savagely.

5-1.E.2.b

**29. This part of the story suggests that the author wants to**



- A** teach a lesson about safe driving.
- B** entertain readers with a story full of high speed, bad guys, and danger.
- C** persuade readers to travel at high speeds.
- D** encourage readers to take a trip somewhere far away.

5-3.A.3.a

**30. This passage is an example of**

- A realistic fiction.
- B science fiction.
- C historical fiction.
- D biography.

5-3.A.7.a

**31. Readers get to know the characters quickly because the author**

- A uses many adjectives to describe them.
- B tells you what they are thinking.
- C lets you hear their speech and see the action.
- D gives a brief biography for each character.

5-3.A.8.c

**32. You can tell that this story was written long ago because**

- A some of the characters are driving too quickly.
- B the characters are wearing old-fashioned clothes.
- C a boy on a bicycle is in danger.
- D the car horn is a rubber bulb which must be pressed.

5-3.A.3.d

**33. Which sentence shows us something of Andy's personality?**

- A "There's a fellow on a bicycle just ahead of us. Take care, Andy!"
- B "You have made them hum already, Andy."
- C "Let him keep out of my way," retorted Andy savagely.
- D Andy Foger turned for an instant's glance behind.

5-1.D.2.b

**34. To show you something about the way the characters speak, the author uses synonyms for said or replied.****In paragraphs 8 and 10, for example, Andy retorted. This is effective because the verb retort means**

- A to speak calmly.
- B to cry out in alarm.
- C to speak sharply, or angrily.
- D to whisper.

5-3.A.3.e

**35. It can be assumed that the guys in the car view Tom Swift as a/an**

- A friend.
- B misfit.
- C bully.
- D equal.

5-1.E.4.e

**36. The question you can expect the author to answer in the next section of the story is**

- A Will Andy break a record for speed?
- B Will Andy hit Tom or have some other kind of accident?
- C Will Andy and Tom become very good friends?
- D Will the author write more books about Andy and Tom?

5-1.D.2.b

**37. Which of the following words is closely related to terrific as it is used in paragraph 8?**

- A terrace
- B terrier
- C terrifying
- D terrapin

5-3.A.7.c

**38. The character who speaks in paragraph 1 says, "This is immense." Immense means huge or large, but the character seems to be using the word as a way to say**

- A This is okay. Haven't you got anything bigger?
- B This is scary. Don't go so fast.
- C This is fantastic. Wow! Step on it.
- D This is a big car. Very roomy.

## What Began as a Trick Has Turned into Art

It's no wonder that Hollywood, California is the "Movie Capital of the World," or that Nashville, Tennessee is the "Country Music Capital of the World." But, did you know that the small city of Havre de Grace, Maryland is the "Decoy Capital of the World"?

The word "decoy" comes from Holland and roughly means "the duck cage." The very first decoys used to hunt waterfowl were actually large cages set up near the shore. Men in boats would force the birds toward the cages. Men on shore would wade through the weeds and drive the birds toward the cage. Some of the larger birds would be able to fly away, but the younger birds would normally get caught.

The first settlers along the Chesapeake Bay did not hunt waterfowl. They focused on deer, turkey, and other animals. Also, the guns of the time would not allow them to point the gun in the air without spilling all of the gunpowder. However, as the deer, turkey, and other animals became scarce and the quality of the guns improved, more and more settlers began hunting the large flocks of migrating birds. Quickly, the demand for waterfowl as food grew and the population decreased as a result.



Hunting waterfowl for sale continued until 1918 when Congress passed the Migratory Bird Treaty\* of 1918. This treaty placed heavy regulations on waterfowl hunting. Now, hunters needed licenses, were limited to the number of birds that could be hunted, and they had to change the way they could hunt. This treaty and the decreasing population of waterfowl forced hunters to use skill to hunt these birds.

Suddenly, decoys became popular, but they were far different than the originals from Holland. People began to take pride in carving decoys from blocks of wood—the more lifelike, the better. Hunters would float the decoys in the water or place them along the shore to try and lure the birds to them. As time passed, businesses have replaced the wood-carved decoys with plastic replicas. The plastic decoys are not only faster and easier to make, they cost a lot less. The move from wood to plastic has allowed the wooden decoys to take on a different role—artwork.

The Decoy Museum in Havre de Grace has not forgotten this lost art. Currently, the museum houses over 1200 unique decoys by many famous artists. So, if you're in the area, stop by and check out one of the famous "Capitals of the World."




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\*treaty- an agreement between two sides.

5-2.A.4.a

**39. The author most likely wrote this passage to**

- A gain support for saving waterfowl.
- B follow the history of decoys.
- C inform readers about the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1918.
- D raise money for the Decoy Museum.

5-1.D.2.b

**40. Which of the following words means the same as scarce?**

- A plentiful
- B scared
- C few
- D tame

5-1.D.2.b

**41. If the Latin root *migra* means “to wander,” then a migrating bird most likely**

- A travels from place to place.
- B remains in one certain area.
- C lives in areas with lots of humans.
- D lives on land.

5-1.D.3.a

**42. Read these lines from the passage to answer the next two questions.**

Hunting waterfowl for sale continued until 1918 when the Congress passed the Migratory Bird Treaty\* of 1918. This treaty placed heavy regulations on waterfowl hunting.

**The underlined word regulation most likely means**

- A a fine.
- B freedom.
- C a period of time.
- D a rule.

5-2.A.4.h

**43. Which of the following lines from the passage is an opinion?**

- A** The first settlers along the Chesapeake Bay did not hunt waterfowl.
- B** Suddenly, decoys became popular, but they were far different than the originals from Holland.
- C** As time passed, businesses have replaced the art form of wood-carved decoys with plastic replicas.
- D** These are all facts.

5-2.E.4.e

**44. What do think would have happened to the waterfowl population if Congress had not passed the Migratory Bird Treaty of 1918?**

- A** The waterfowl would have traveled to a safer area.
- B** Eventually, hunters would have grown tired of hunting waterfowl, so the population would have grown.
- C** The waterfowl population would have continued to decrease.
- D** The waterfowl population would have recovered regardless.