



WESTEST Prep Grade 3 Reading Comprehension

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To the Students

Tips for Answering Multiple-Choice Questions

Multiple-choice questions have a **stem**, which is a question or incomplete sentence, followed by four answer choices. You should select only one answer choice. The following are some tips to help you correctly answer multiple-choice questions on the Grade 3 West Virginia Reading Assessment:

- Read each passage carefully.
- Read each question and think about the answer. You may look back to the reading passage as often as necessary.
- Answer all questions on your answer sheet. Do not mark any answers to questions in your test booklet.
- For each question, choose the best answer and completely fill in the circle in the space provided on your answer sheet.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to it later if you have time.
- If you finish the section of the test that you are working on early, you may review your answers in that section only. Don't go on to the next section of the test.

Tips for Answering Short-Answer and Constructed-Response Questions

Remember to:

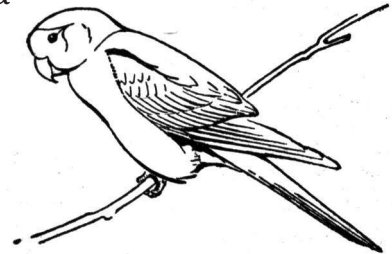
- Read the question carefully. Be sure you understand it before you begin writing.
- Be sure your essay has a main idea. This should be in your introduction.
- Support your main idea with details, explanations, and examples.
- State your ideas in a clear sequence.
- Include an opening and a closing.
- Use a variety of words and vary your sentence structure.
- Check your spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- Write neatly.

BIRD CALLS

Do you ever think about getting a bird for a pet? If so, you might want to consider the parakeet. Parakeets make terrific pets. They don't cost a lot of money, they're easy to take care of, and they're fun to have around.

Most parakeets sell for just a few dollars. What a bargain! When you buy a parakeet, you will definitely get your money's worth.

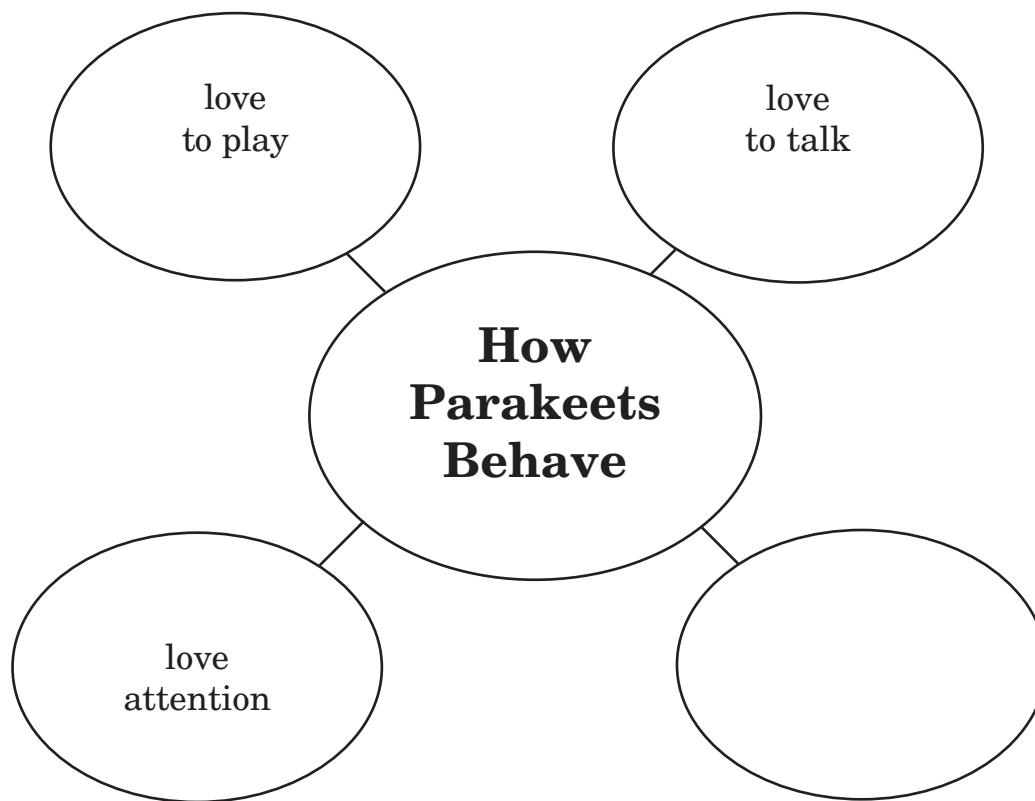
A parakeet needs only a clean cage, birdseed, fresh water, and some toys. (However, it wouldn't turn down a tasty treat as well!)



These little birds love to play and they love to talk. Many become completely tame and can be let outside their cages. Most parakeets love their owners and are thrilled to have attention. They also love sound. They will sing along with anything—the radio, the television, your voice—and they'll chime right in when they hear other birds.

If they are well cared for, parakeets can live from five to ten years. A parakeet owner will not be disappointed.

1. Choose the fact about how parakeets behave that completes the web below.



- A. love to get into trouble
- B. love to stay in their cages
- C. love to get lots of sleep
- D. love to make sounds

2. Read this sentence from the passage.

A parakeet owner will not be disappointed.

Which means the same as disappointed?

- A. left alone
B. asleep
C. let down
D. amazed

3. How do parakeets learn to talk? Use details from the passage to explain your answer.

[illegible]

“TREES”

by Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

1. What does the author compare to a tree?
 - A. the sky
 - B. a poem
 - C. the spring
 - D. a rainy day

2. What is the main topic of this poem?
 - A. The most beautiful things are found in nature.
 - B. Trees need a lot of rain and sunshine to live.
 - C. Poems are not the most beautiful kind of art.
 - D. Snow can make trees even more wonderful to see.

3. What does a tree wear in its hair in the summer?
 - A. snow
 - B. rain
 - C. flowers
 - D. robins

4. Do you think this is a good poem? Why or why not? Use details from the poem to explain your answer.

[illegible]

from “THE RAILWAY CHILDREN” – Part I

by Edith Nesbit

“Look what a great mound it’s made!” said Bobbie.

“Yes,” said Peter, slowly. He was still leaning on the fence. “Yes,” he said again, still more slowly.

Then he stood upright.

“The 11:29 down hasn’t gone by yet. We must let them know at the station, or there’ll be a most frightful accident.”

“Let’s run,” said Bobbie, and began.

But Peter cried, “Come back!” and looked at Mother’s watch. He was very prompt and businesslike, and his face looked whiter than they had ever seen it.

“No time,” he said; “it’s two miles away, and it’s past eleven.”

“Couldn’t we,” suggested Phyllis, breathlessly, “couldn’t we climb up a telegraph post and do something to the wires?”

“We don’t know how,” said Peter.

“They do it in war,” said Phyllis; “I know I’ve heard of it.”

“They only cut them, silly,” said Peter, “and that doesn’t do any good. And we couldn’t cut them even if we got up, and we couldn’t get up. If we had anything red, we could get down on the line and wave it.”

“But the train wouldn’t see us till it got round the corner, and then it could see the mound just as well as us,” said Phyllis; “better, because it’s much bigger than us.”

“If we only had something red,” Peter repeated, “we could go round the corner and wave to the train.”

“We might wave, anyway.”

“They’d only think it was just us, as usual. We’ve waved so often before. Anyway, let’s get down.”

They got down the steep stairs. Bobbie was pale and shivering. Peter’s face looked thinner than usual. Phyllis was red-faced and damp with anxiety.

“Oh, how hot I am!” she said; “and I thought it was going to be cold; I wish we hadn’t put on our—” she stopped short, and then ended in quite a different tone—“our flannel petticoats.”

Bobbie turned at the bottom of the stairs.

“Oh, yes,” she cried; “they’re red! Let’s take them off.”

1. What do you think the children will **probably** do next?
- A. use the petticoats to get the driver to stop the train
 - B. climb up the pole and cut the wires
 - C. run quickly to the train station
 - D. wave to the driver of the train as he passes by

2. What did Phyllis find?
- A. something red
 - B. warmer coats
 - C. a way to get home
 - D. the correct time

3. Read this sentence from the passage.

Bobbie was pale and shivering. Peter's face looked thinner than usual. Phyllis was red-faced and damp with anxiety.

Which word means the same as anxiety?

- A. sickness
 - B. water
 - C. worry
 - D. sleepiness
4. Why wouldn't waving at the train **probably** force it to stop?
- A. Too much smoke would hide the children from sight.
 - B. Many people waved to the train as it passed.
 - C. The conductor would not see because he was blind.
 - D. The train was going much too fast to see them.