

2016 NYS ELA Test Sample Released Questions (Gr. 3-5)

Literary Texts

- What is the theme of the story? What lesson did the characters learn? Use two details from the story to support your answer.
- What other stories or movies teach this lesson? How does this lesson apply in your own life?
- Which best describes the main idea of the story?
- Why is the setting important to the story?
- What does the writer mean by “xxxxxxx?” (word or phrase)
- Which best describes the meaning of “XXXX” (word) as it was used in sentence/story?
- What does XXXXXXXX tell you about the character?
- Why is XXXX (event) important to the story?
- Why does the author use the word “XXXXXX” to describe “XXXXXX?” Use 2 details from the passage to explain your response.
- How do paragraphs X to Y show a change in the story/character?
(What sentence should be included in a summary of the story?- or Write a summary of the story.
- How does XXXX feel? Use 2 details to from the passage to explain your response.
- How does paragraph X relate to paragraph Y?
- How are the characters related?
- How did XXXXXX affect XXXXX? Use two details from the story to support your answer.

Informational Texts

- Why did the author write this passage?
- What text structure did the author use to explain XXXX? Why does the author use this text structure to explain this information? Use two details from the article to explain your response.
- Based on the passage, what do X and Y have in common? What is the same or different about X and Y?
- What is this passage mostly about? What is the author teaching us about on this page? What is the main idea of this passage. Use two details from the article to support your response.
- What is the (a) main idea and what sentences support that main idea?
- Describe what “xxxx” means in the passage.
- Create a sentence to summarize the main idea of the article.
- What information contributes to the organization of the passage?
- Describe the structure of the passage and why it is important.
- Why was XXXXXX an important event (specific event in passage)? Use two details from the article to support your answer.
- According to the passage, why did XXXXX happen? Use two details from the passage to support your answer.
- How does paragraph X relate to paragraph Y?
- MC__What detail would be important to include in a summary of the passage? ---Write a summary!!!
- Provide a main idea of the passage or a section of the passage. As students to provide the supporting details for that particular main idea.
- What is the most likely reason that XXXXXXXX happened? Use two details from the article to support your answer.
- How did XXXXXX affect XXXXX? Use two details from the article to support your answer.