5 Delaware Smarter Balanced (SBAC)

English Language Arts

Grade 3

Practice Tests



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Small Steps, Big Gains!

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Reza Nazari

Grade 3 · Delaware · Smarter Balanced

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English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for Smarter Balanced Preparation and Academic Confidence

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Grade 3 English

English Language

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Questions: Varies by section **Duration:** No time limit

Important Test Information

These practice items follow the style of third-grade English Language assessments. Formats can vary by section: you may see reading passages and graphics, different kinds of questions, or other tasks—follow the instructions on each page.

Test-Taking Tips:

- Read each question and every answer choice before you decide.
- Look back at the reading material or graphic when a question is based on them.
- Work carefully—there is no time limit on these practice tests, so use the time you need.

Remember: Take your time, stay calm, and do your best. You've prepared well for this practice—you've got this!

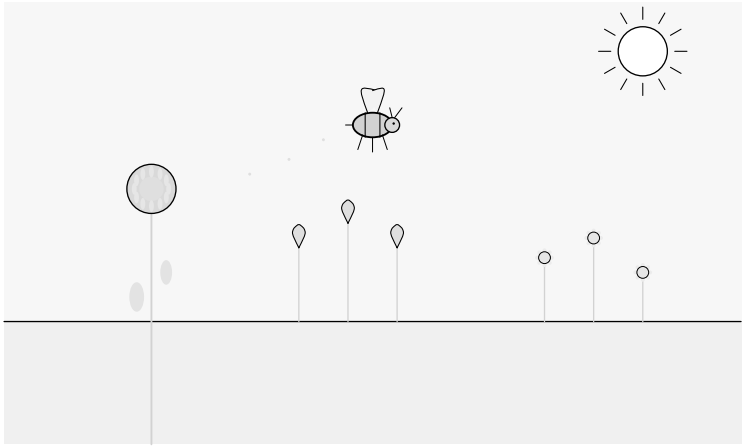


Shy bars?
Name the noun.

Scan Me

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 1–9.

The Incredible Honeybee



A magnificent honeybee hovers among sunflowers, tulips, and daisies in a bright summer meadow, carrying golden pollen to share with the world.

1 Of all the creatures buzzing through a garden, few are as important as the honeybee. Honeybees are small insects with golden-and-black striped bodies, four see-through wings, and six legs. They are found on every continent except Antarctica, where they live and work together in large groups called *colonies*.

2 A single colony can hold up to 60,000 bees inside one hive! Inside the hive, thousands of six-sided wax cells form a structure called a honeycomb. Each cell has a purpose—storing honey, holding eggs, or raising young bees. The queen bee is the only bee that lays eggs. Worker bees do everything else: they clean, guard, feed young bees, and gather food every single day.

3 Worker bees visit flowers to collect a sweet liquid called nectar. They carry the nectar back to the hive in a special honey stomach. Inside the hive, bees pass the nectar from bee to bee, adding helpful chemicals. The nectar slowly thickens and dries, turning into golden honey that can stay fresh for months—or even years.

4 While gathering nectar, bees also pick up tiny grains of powder called pollen on their fuzzy bodies. When a bee visits another flower, some of that pollen rubs off. This process is called *pollination*, and it is what helps flowers, fruits, and vegetables grow. Scientists believe that about one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of bee pollination.

5 Today, honeybees face serious threats. Some farm chemicals can harm bees, and a tiny pest called the varroa mite can weaken entire colonies. But people everywhere are taking action. Farmers are planting bee-friendly flowers, and beekeepers are carefully protecting their hives. When we help honeybees thrive, we help the entire planet.

Read this dictionary entry.

colony *noun*

1. a large group of animals or insects that live and work together
2. a soft, spongy material found on tree bark
3. a type of brightly colored flower
4. a deep tunnel carved underground



Grand tricks? Spot the mood.

Scan Me

Use the story "The Night the Stars Spoke" to answer this question.

15) What happens **right after** Maya sees the shooting star?

(A) They eat their sandwiches and set up the tent.
(B) Dad points out Orion's Belt and the Big Dipper.
(C) Dad tells her to make a wish.
(D) Maya falls asleep on the blanket near the lake.

Use the story "The Night the Stars Spoke" to answer this question.

16) What does the phrase "the stars had come down to walk beside her" most likely mean?

(A) The blinking fireflies in the grass reminded Maya of the stars she had just seen above her.
(B) Actual stars fell out of the sky and were rolling along the ground.
(C) The flashlight Dad carried looked exactly like a shooting star.
(D) Maya imagined that glowing stars were chasing her back to the tent.

Use the poem "Stargazer" to answer this question.

17) What does the phrase "A Dipper of starlight tips low toward the ground" most likely mean?

(A) The Big Dipper constellation appears to hang low and close in the night sky.
(B) The speaker is so tired that he or she is about to fall asleep under the stars.
(C) Someone is pouring water out of a large ladle onto the ground below.
(D) A cup fell off a table and spilled its contents on the floor.

Mild gags? Find the hook.
Scan Me

Use the poem "Stargazer" to answer this question.

18) Which sentence best describes how the speaker **feels** about the night sky?

(A) The speaker believes the sky is empty and refuses to look up at stars
(B) The speaker feels wonder and connection, as if thousands of stars were set out "just for me," and proudly calls himself or herself a "stargazer" in the night
(C) The speaker is angry that the Milky Way blocks the moon every night
(D) The speaker thinks only one star exists and all other lights are airplanes

Use both "The Night the Stars Spoke" and "Stargazer" to answer this question.

19) What do the story and the poem have in common?

(A) Both describe characters who are frightened of the dark and never overcome that fear.
(B) Both take place during a rainstorm inside a crowded school gymnasium.
(C) Both are mainly about learning the names of every star in the universe.
(D) Both show a person finding wonder, courage, and a sense of belonging by looking up at the night sky.

Use both "The Night the Stars Spoke" and "Stargazer" to answer this question.

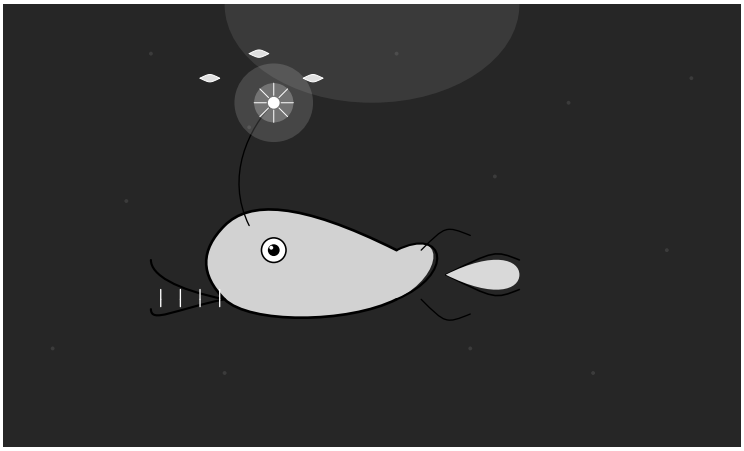
20) How are the endings of the story and the poem **most alike**?

(A) Both endings show the character or speaker feeling a strong personal connection to the beauty of the natural world.
(B) Both endings take place indoors during a very cold winter evening.
(C) Both endings describe a powerful storm arriving at the end of the night.
(D) Both endings reveal that a character has decided to become an astronaut.

Scan Me
Edits? Tame the tone.

Read the passage below. Then answer questions 21–29.

Animals That Glow



Deep in the dark ocean, an anglerfish dangles its glowing lure, while jellyfish pulse with soft blue and purple light and trails of glowing plankton sweep through the water like rivers of stars.

1 Deep in the ocean, far from any sunlight, the darkness is almost total. Yet some creatures have found a remarkable solution: they make their own light! This ability is called *bioluminescence*, which means the power of a living thing to produce and give off light. Hundreds of ocean animals glow, and scientists discover more every year.

2 The anglerfish is one of the most famous glowing animals. This deep-sea fish has a long spine on its head with a glowing lure at the tip, like a tiny lantern in the dark. Smaller fish swim toward the light, thinking it might be food—and then the anglerfish snaps them up with its enormous jaws. The light is produced by millions of tiny glowing bacteria that live inside the lure.

Firm cols? Scan to grow. Scan Me