5 New Mexico NM-MSSA English Language Arts Practice Tests

Grade 5+



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Grade 5 · New Mexico · NM-MSSA

5 New Mexico Grade 5
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for NM-MSSA Preparation
and Academic Confidence

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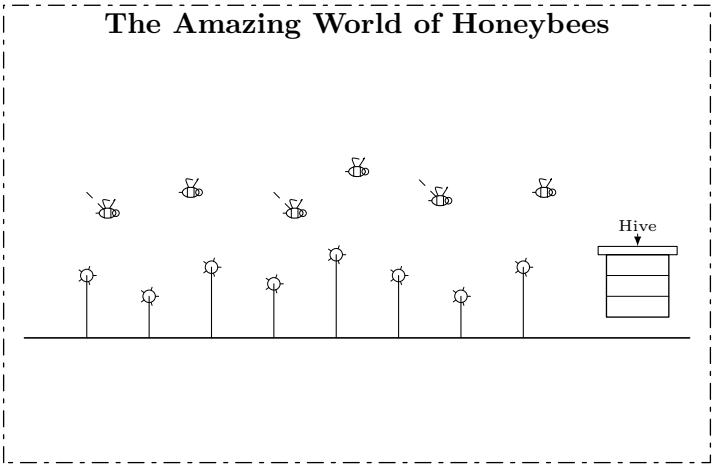
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Read the passage below. Then answer questions 1–9.

The Amazing World of Honeybees



Busy honeybees buzz above bright flowers as sunlight shines over a grassy meadow and a hanging hive.

1 On a warm spring day, a meadow can sound almost like music. If you listen closely, you may hear the gentle buzzing of honeybees as they move from flower to flower. These tiny insects do an important job that helps many plants grow.

2 Honeybees collect nectar, a sweet liquid found inside flowers. They also gather pollen, which is a dusty powder made by plants. As bees travel, some pollen sticks to their bodies and moves from one flower to another. This process helps plants make seeds, fruits, and more flowers.

3 A honeybee colony is like a busy little city. Inside the hive, each bee has work to do. Worker bees clean the hive, feed young bees, and gather food. A queen bee lays eggs, and drones help the colony grow.

4 Honeybees also have a clever way to share information. When a worker bee finds flowers full of nectar, it returns to the hive and performs a special movement called the waggle dance. This dance helps other bees know where to fly.

5 Honeybees face some dangers. Harsh chemicals, fewer wildflowers, and changing weather can make life harder for them. People can help by planting flowers, avoiding harmful sprays, and protecting places where bees can live safely.

6 The next time you see a honeybee resting on a flower, remember that it is doing more than making honey. It is helping the world bloom.

Read this dictionary entry.

collect *verb*

1. to gather things together
2. to sing in a loud voice
3. to fall suddenly to the ground
4. to hide from sight

1) Which meaning of the word *collect* is used in paragraph 2?

(A) Definition 2
(B) Definition 1
(C) Definition 3
(D) Definition 4

Use the passage "The Amazing World of Honeybees" to answer this question.

2) Which sentence is an **opinion**?

(A) The waggle dance helps bees share information.
(B) Pollen can stick to a bee's body.
(C) Honeybees are the most wonderful insects in nature.
(D) Worker bees clean the hive and gather food.

Use the passage "The Amazing World of Honeybees" to answer this question.

3) Why does the author use a **problem-and-solution** structure in paragraph 5?

(A) To compare bees with butterflies
(B) To explain what harms bees and how people can help
(C) To list steps for making honey
(D) To tell a story about a child visiting a hive

Use the passage "The Amazing World of Honeybees" to answer this question.

4) What is the central idea of this article?

(A) Meadows are useful only because they are quiet.
(B) All insects live inside hives and perform dances.
(C) Honeybees are hardworking insects that help plants and need protection.
(D) Honey is the only important product made by bees.

Use the passage "The Amazing World of Honeybees" to answer this question.



Swift wizards? Scan for words.
Scan Me

16) What does the word *sways* mean in line 6?

(A) Hides under the ground
(B) Breaks into tiny pieces
(C) Moves gently back and forth
(D) Falls with a loud crash

Use the poem "Evening Lights" to answer this question.

17) What does the phrase "the fireflies stitch the dark with sparks" most likely mean?

(A) Fireflies sew clothes in the forest
(B) Fireflies hide all the porch lamps
(C) Fireflies flash small lights through the darkness
(D) Fireflies make the sky turn orange

Use the poem "Evening Lights" to answer this question.

18) Which sentence best describes what the speaker thinks about nighttime?

(A) The speaker thinks the moon and stars disappear as soon as evening begins
(B) The speaker does not mind the night because porch lamps, lanterns, fireflies, moon, and stars make the darkness feel less empty and frightening
(C) The speaker believes nighttime is always dangerous and wants every light turned off
(D) The speaker is angry that trees move and knock over every lantern

Use both "Lanterns by the Pond" and "Evening Lights" to answer this question.



Slow answers? Scan for hats.
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19) What do the story and the poem have in common?

(A) Both show how light can make the evening feel warm and special
(B) Both are mainly about building a lamp
(C) Both describe people staying indoors all night
(D) Both take place during a thunderstorm

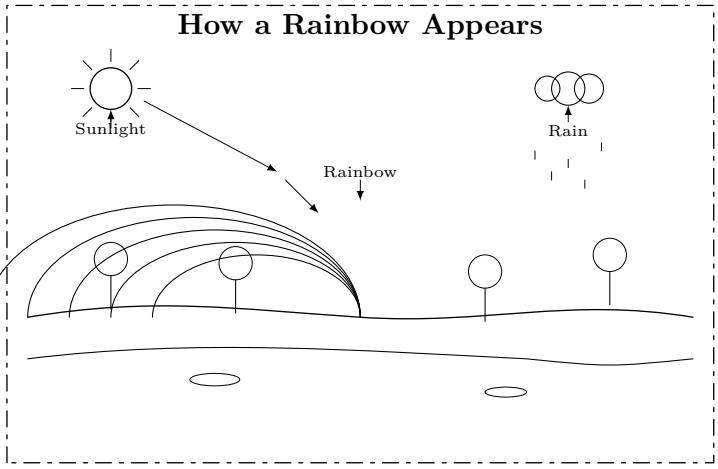
Use both "Lanterns by the Pond" and "Evening Lights" to answer this question.

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

(A) Both endings reveal that the lights go out suddenly
(B) Both endings happen early in the morning
(C) Both endings leave the reader with a feeling of comfort and brightness
(D) Both endings describe a race through the park

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

How a Rainbow Appears



Sunlight shines through raindrops, creating a bright rainbow over rolling green hills after a shower.

1 A rainbow may seem like pure magic, but it happens because of light and water. You can sometimes see one after rain, when sunlight shines through tiny drops of water still floating in the air.

2 Sunlight may look white, but it is actually made of many colors. When sunlight enters a raindrop, the light bends. Then it reflects inside the drop and bends again as it comes back out.

3 As the light bends, the colors spread apart. This is why a rainbow shows bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet. Each color leaves the raindrop at a slightly different angle.

4 To see a rainbow, the sun must be behind you and the rain must be in front of you. If the sun is too high in the sky, a rainbow may be harder to see. That is why rainbows often appear in the morning or late afternoon.



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