6 Virginia SOL Reading Practice Tests for Grade 5



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Grade 5 · Virginia · SOL

6 Virginia Grade 5
English Language Arts (ELA)
Practice Tests

Full-Length Practice for SOL Preparation
and Academic Confidence

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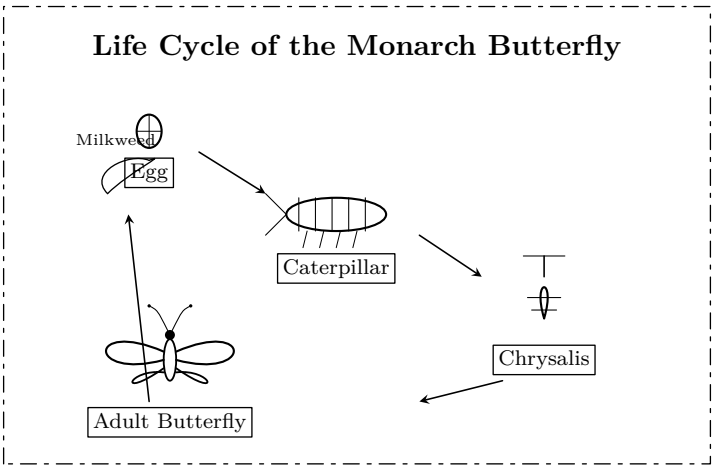
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Read the passage and the illustration below. Then answer questions 1–8.



A Monarch Butterfly resting on a milkweed leaf

The Amazing Journey of the Monarch Butterfly

1 Every autumn, something extraordinary happens across North America. Millions of monarch butterflies begin a journey of up to 3,000 miles—from the forests of Canada and the United States all the way to the mountains of central Mexico. Scientists call this journey a *migration*. No other butterfly in the world travels as far as the monarch.

2 Before a monarch can fly anywhere, it must go through one of nature's most astonishing changes. A monarch begins its life as a tiny egg on a milkweed leaf. After hatching, the caterpillar spends two weeks eating milkweed and growing. Then it forms a shell called a *chrysalis*. Inside, its body transforms completely. About ten days later, a beautiful orange-and-black butterfly emerges, ready to face the world. Scientists call this process *metamorphosis*.

Conflict? Win the read.
Scan Me

3 Monarchs are champion navigators. They use the position of the sun and a special internal clock to steer south every fall. Amazingly, the butterflies that make the journey have never been to Mexico before—they are born after their grandparents left. Yet they find the exact same forests, and sometimes even the exact same trees, year after year. Scientists are still working to fully understand how this is possible.

4 When monarchs arrive in Mexico, they crowd together by the millions on oyamel fir trees. The trees bend under their weight. The butterflies rest and survive the winter on fat stored in their bodies. In March, as days grow warmer, they begin flying north again, laying eggs on milkweed along the way. No single butterfly completes the whole trip back—it takes two or three generations to reach Canada again.

5 Monarch butterflies face serious dangers. Milkweed plants, which monarchs depend on for food and egg-laying, have been disappearing from farms and roadsides. Forests in Mexico where monarchs spend the winter have been cut down. Because of these threats, monarch populations have dropped sharply in recent decades.

6 People all over North America are fighting back. Schools and neighborhoods plant milkweed gardens to give monarchs places to lay their eggs. Volunteers track and count butterflies to help scientists study the population. When people work together, even the smallest garden can make a difference for one of nature's most remarkable travelers.

Read this dictionary entry.

emerges *verb*

1. comes out from a hidden or enclosed place
2. becomes known or noticed
3. survives a difficult situation
4. rises above the surface of water

Which meaning of *emerges* is used in paragraph 2?

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

Use the passage "The Amazing Journey of the Monarch Butterfly" to answer this question.

2) Which sentence from the article is an **opinion**?

(A) The trees bend under their weight. (paragraph 4)
(B) They use the position of the sun and a special internal clock to steer south. (paragraph 3)
(C) About ten days later, a beautiful orange-and-black butterfly emerges. (paragraph 2)
(D) No other butterfly in the world travels as far as the monarch. (paragraph 1)

Use the passage "The Amazing Journey of the Monarch Butterfly" to answer this question.

Icy start? Scan for mugs. Scan Me

Read the poem. Then answer questions 15–16.



Brisk robots?
Raise the bar.
Scan Me

Try Again

The first time that I tried to swim,
I swallowed half the pool.
I sputtered, choked, and grabbed the wall—
and felt like such a fool.

But Coach said, *"Try it once more, kid,*
the water's on your side."
So I took a breath and let it go
and learning how to glide.

The first time that I tried to skate,
I met the rink up close.
I sat there, blinking at the ice—
a clumsy little ghost.

But Coach said, *"Up you get, champ,*
the ice won't bite, I swear."
So I pushed up on my wobbling blades
and breathed the frozen air.

I've learned that *try again*
are three of the best words there are.
Because the person I am becoming
is made from every scar.

15) What does the word *sputtered* most likely mean in line 3 of the poem?

(A) called out for help in a loud voice
(B) floated quietly
(C) jumped back into the water a second time
(D) coughed and breathed in a broken, uncontrolled way

Use the poem "Try Again" to answer this question.

16) The most likely reason the poet uses the image "a clumsy little ghost" in line 12 is to show that the speaker —

(A) felt pale, dazed, and out of place after falling on the ice
(B) is invisible to everyone else on the skating rink
(C) was the youngest person on the ice that day
(D) was wearing a white skating costume that reminded people of a ghost

Use the poem "Try Again" to answer this question.

17) Which sentence **best** describes how the speaker's feelings **change** from the beginning to the end of the poem?

(A) The speaker begins proud of falling and ends afraid of the skating rink.
(B) The speaker begins angry at the coach and ends refusing to try skating again.
(C) The speaker begins embarrassed and shaken after falling but ends accepting struggle as part of growing stronger.
(D) The speaker begins bored with practice and ends wishing the poem had more rhymes.

