

**Missouri Assessment Program
Spring 2006**

Communication Arts

Scoring Guides for Released Items

Grade 6

Missouri Assessment Program

Operational Test 2006
Scoring Guide

Grade 6

Session: 1
Item No.: 1
Page No: 6
Content Standard(s): 2
Process Standard(s): 1.7
GLE: R3C6

Item: 1

Which of these facts would best help a reader know whether the description of the sled dog race in the passage “The Prize” is accurate?

- A. The author lived in Alaska.
- B. The author competed in sled dog races.
- C. The writer read an article about training sled dogs.
- D. The writer owned a dog that was the same breed as Kenai.

Correct Response: B. The author competed in sled dog races.

Session: 1
Item No.: 2
Page No: 6
Content Standard(s): 2
Process Standard(s): 3.1
GLE: R2C5

Item: 2

Which of these best describes the main conflict in the passage?

- A. a boy's desire to win and his love for his dog
- B. the narrator's struggle to survive in challenging weather
- C. a boy's wish for success and his friendship with a competitor
- D. the narrator's belief in his dog's ability and his doubts about himself

Correct Response: A. a boy's desire to win and his love for his dog

Session: 1
Item No.: 3
Page No: 7
Content Standard(s): 2
Process Standard(s): 3.5
GLE: R2C5

Item 3

Based on what you have read in the passage, what are two things that can be concluded about the relationship between sled dogs and their owners? Use information from the passage to support your answer.

Conclusion 1: _____ 2 lines for writing

Reasoning for the conclusion: _____ 3 lines for writing

Conclusion 2: _____ 2 lines for writing

Reasoning for the conclusion: _____ 3 lines for writing

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- 2 points The response includes TWO text-based conclusions with an accurate reasoning for each conclusion.
- 1 point The response includes ONE text-based conclusion with an accurate reasoning OR TWO logical conclusions.
- 0 points other

Note: To determine whether or not a conclusion is logical, read the reasoning.

Note: Oftentimes students confuse characters, but this will not affect the score.

Some examples of 2-point responses

Any TWO of the following:

- They like each other. The boy patted Kenai, and Kenai licked him.
- Neither likes to give up. The dog wanted to keep going, and the boy thought about going on.
- They both like to race. Both of them were excited before the race began.
- Owners love their dogs. When Kenai was injured the boy wrapped him in a blanket and got help.
- Other text-based conclusions and reasoning

Session: 1
Item No.: 4
Page No: 7
Content Standard(s): 2
Process Standard(s): 3.5
GLE: R2C5

Item 4

How does the narrator's attitude toward the trophy change during the passage? Use two details or examples from the passage to support your answer.

6 lines for writing

Scoring Guide

- 2 points The response includes a text-based explanation of change and uses TWO details or examples from the passage.
- 1 point The response includes a text-based explanation of change and uses ONE detail or example from the passage.
- 0 points other

An example of a 2-point response

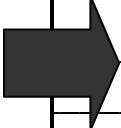
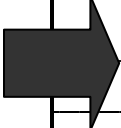
At the beginning of the passage he says the trophy is what he wants more than anything in the world. At the end he doesn't really care about the trophy. When he sees that Kenai is hurt, he realizes Kenai's life is more important to him than winning the trophy. He is sad at the end but says that he has the prize that really counts.

Session: 1
 Item No.: 5
 Page No: 8
 Content Standard(s): 2
 Process Standard(s): 3.5
 GLE: R2C5

Item 5

Complete the graphic organizer to show two character traits of a lead sled dog in the passage “The Prize.”

Character Traits of Lead Sled Dogs in “The Prize”

Important Character Trait of a Lead Sled Dog	How the Character Trait Is Shown by the Lead Sled Dog
1. _____ _____	 _____ _____
2. _____ _____	 _____ _____

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- 2 points The response gives TWO character traits for a lead dog AND a corresponding way each trait is shown in the passage.
- 1 point The response gives ONE character trait for a lead dog AND a corresponding way it is shown in the passage OR TWO appropriate text-based character traits.
- 0 points other

Some examples of 2-point responses

Any TWO of the following:

Important Character Trait of a Lead Sled Dog	How the Character Trait Is Shown by the Lead Sled Dog
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog has to be strong. 	The dog pulls a heavy sled with a person on it.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog has to want to win/is eager. 	Kenai's tail shoots up, and he races to close the gap.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog likes its owner. 	Kenai licks his owner's face.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog is well trained. 	They had trained for two years.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog obeys the commands of the driver/is loyal. 	Blake shouted to his team, and it surged forward.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A lead dog must have the ability to keep going no matter what happens/is determined. 	Kenai struggled to stand. He wanted to keep going even though he was hurt.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> other acceptable text-based response 	

Session: 1
Item No.: 6
Page No: 9
Content Standard(s): Part A: 2
Process Standard(s): Part A: 1.6
GLE Part A: R2C3
Content Standard(s): Part B: 4
Process Standard(s): Part B: 2.1
GLE Part B: W3E4

Item 6

Imagine you are Blake. Write a letter to a friend in which you explain how you won the Junior Sled Dog Championship. Use four details or examples from the passage to explain the events of the race.

Be sure your letter is a complete message to the intended audience, stays on the topic, and uses correct letter-writing format.

Whole page of lines for writing

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PART A (CA2, PS 1.6)

- 2 points The response includes an explanation of how Blake won using FOUR details and/or examples from the passage as support.
- 1 point The response includes an explanation of how Blake won using TWO OR THREE details and/or examples from the passage as support.
- 0 points other

Note: If the student thinks that Blake is the name of the narrator, then the narrator's point of view must be adopted and the explanation must be either of how the narrator lost or of how the "other guy" won. *A letter written from the narrator's point of view is a mix up in names only, i.e. that the name of the narrator is Blake.* Due to incorrect point of view, no point will be given for writing in Part B.

Part B (CA4, PS 2.1)

2 points The letter contains THREE components of letter writing format AND the body of the letter is a complete message with a controlling idea that shows awareness of the intended audience.

- heading (address and/or date)
- salutation/greeting
- indentation/appropriate paragraphing
- closing
- signature

1 point The response includes at least THREE components of letter format OR the body of the letter is a complete message with a controlling idea that shows awareness of the intended audience.

0 points other

Note: Showing awareness of the intended audience includes writing from the appropriate point of view.

An example of a 2-point response (2 points Part A, 2 points Part B)

I won the Junior Sled Dog Championship trophy today, but I don't really feel good about it. This other kid and I were racing close to each other. He jumped off and ran along side his sled. Then something happened. I think he hit a branch. His dogs went off the trail. It was sad because his lead dog was hurt.

I stopped to help, but the boy motioned me to go on. You can see now why I'm not really happy about winning.

Your friend,

Blake

A letter written from Blake's point of view may include the following:

- desire to win
- good lead sled dog
- the enemy/competitor getting ahead/racing side by side/drawing even
- having a two minute lead
- the other guy/kid turned around
- the other team hit a branch
- the other team's runners caught
- the other team went down the bank
- the dog was injured/shoulder was ripped
- the other kid waved me on

Note: Including mention of how much training one boy had or didn't have, of being first or second going into the race, or of the narrator having a one minute time lead going into the race do not constitute an event of the race or of the day and can only be accepted as details if used to explain that **in spite of** the training/position/time advantage, the outcome was that Blake won.