



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items  
Support Materials  
2011**

**Grade 6  
Reading**

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

**5.3.1 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships by identifying synonyms, antonyms, homonyms/homophones, or shades of meaning**

- 1 An **antonym** (opposite meaning) for the word chaos is
- A. hurry.
  - B. calm.
  - C. trust.
  - D. concern.

**5.2.1 Students identify the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by using strategies to unlock meaning (e.g., knowledge of word structure, including prefixes/suffixes and base words; or context clues; or other resources, such as dictionaries, glossaries; or prior knowledge)**

*Use the definitions below to answer the question.*

**position** *n* **1.** a rank **2.** an opinion **3.** the correct place **4.** a role on a team

- 2 Which is the **best** definition of the word position as it is used in this sentence?
- The parents wondered what the principal's position was on making the school day longer.
- A. definition 1
  - B. definition 2
  - C. definition 3
  - D. definition 4

## Necessity Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.4.1 Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts by identifying or describing character(s), setting, problem/solution, major events, or plot, as appropriate to text; or identifying any significant changes in character(s) over time**

- 3 What happens when the father gives Petr all the jobs that can go wrong?
- A. The father's plan fails.
  - B. Petr looks for help.
  - C. The father feels sorry for Petr.
  - D. Petr refuses to work.

**5.5.2 Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by Describing characters' physical characteristics, personality traits, or interactions; or providing examples of thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' personality traits or their changes over time**

- 4 How does Petr react when his father asks him to find necessity?
- A. He does not want to go into the forest.
  - B. He enjoys the idea of going on an adventure.
  - C. He hopes he can leave right away.
  - D. He does not understand what he is looking for.

## Necessity Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.2.1** Students identify the meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary by using strategies to unlock meaning (e.g., knowledge of word structure, including prefixes/suffixes and base words; or context clues; or other resources, such as dictionaries, glossaries; or prior knowledge)

- 5 In paragraph 18, the word rickety means that the cart is
- A. large.
  - B. shaky.
  - C. expensive.
  - D. ordinary.

**5.5.2** Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by Describing characters' physical characteristics, personality traits, or interactions; or providing examples of thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' personality traits or their changes over time

- 6 In paragraph 22, when Petr “glanced around with a shiver,” it shows that he
- A. cannot see in the dark.
  - B. is cold from the night air.
  - C. is afraid of his surroundings.
  - D. does not like the oxen.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

**Necessity**  
**Literary Text**

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.4.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts by paraphrasing or summarizing key ideas/plot, with major events sequenced, as appropriate to text**

**7** Describe how Petr passes his father’s final test. Use details from the folktale to support your answer.

**Scoring Guide:**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>4</b>	Response provides a thorough description of how Petr passes his father’s final test. Response includes relevant details from the folktale.
<b>3</b>	Response provides a description of how Petr passes his father’s final test. Response includes some relevant details from the folktale.
<b>2</b>	Response provides a partial description of how Petr passes his father’s final test. Response includes limited details from the folktale.
<b>1</b>	Response is vague or minimal.
<b>0</b>	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
<b>Blank</b>	No response

**Training Notes:**

Response will describe that Petr passes his father’s final test by solving the broken cart problem. Details from the folktale should support these ideas.

7 Petr passes his father's test. The reason that Petr passes is because his father wanted him to find necessity. He did indeed find necessity. Petr thought that necessity was a man who was going to help him. Petr's father gave him a rickety old cart. The cart had a broken axle. So Petr widdled a peice of wood to replace the broken axle with. Then he made a lever so that he could hold the cart up while fixing the axle. In the end all Petr's father really wanted Petr to be able to do was be able to fix something that went wrong without any help from anyone else. When Petr came back with the cart it showed his father that he had indeed found necessity even if it wasn't the way Petr was expecting to find it.

Response provides a thorough description of how Petr passes his father's final test. Response includes relevant details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 3

7

Petr had to pass his father's final test. He used a rickety old cart that was pulled by oxen. He had to go in the forest and find necessity. He had no clue what to do. All of a sudden the cart's axel broke. He was in the forest doing nothing. Then he decided to fix the cart. He fixed it and went back home. He solved his dad's test because he solved his own problem, and got home safe. He stuck up for himself. Now his father knows that if Petr gets stuck he doesn't need his father. That's how Petr solved his dad's final test.

Response provides a description of how Petr passes his father's final test. Response includes some relevant details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 2

7 Petr passes his father's final test by fixing his oxen cart by him self. Petr does this by first whittling down a straight stick to about the same size. Second he fixed the wheels to the axle and third he rode home.

Response provides a partial description of how Petr passes his father's final test. Response includes limited details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 1

7 Petr passes his fathers test because he found "necessity" but it was really learning how to do something by himself

Response is vague or minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

7 Petr emotions are sad, he was dissapointed with himself that he didn't get what his father wanted him to get. I thought that petr was confused with his task.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

## Necessity Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.4.1 Demonstrate initial understanding of elements of literary texts by identifying or describing character(s), setting, problem/solution, major events, or plot, as appropriate to text; or identifying any significant changes in character(s) over time**

- 8 What does Petr do when he learns he cannot walk home from the forest?
- A. He waits for his father.
  - B. He decides to fix the cart.
  - C. He builds a place to sleep.
  - D. He rides back on the oxen.

**5.3.1 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings or relationships by identifying synonyms, antonyms, homonyms/homophones, or shades of meaning**

- 9 A synonym for the word braced is
- A. raised.
  - B. moved.
  - C. supported.
  - D. followed.

## Necessity Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.5.3** Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by making inferences about problem, conflict, solution, or the relationship among elements (plot, character, setting) within text (e.g., how the setting affects a character or plot development)

- 10 Why is Petr's father pacing back and forth?
- A. He is worried about Petr's safety.
  - B. He is thinking of another test for Petr.
  - C. He is waiting to use Petr's team of oxen.
  - D. He is afraid the test is too easy for Petr.

**5.5.5** Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by identifying author's message or theme (implied or stated, as in a fable)

- 11 At the end of the folktale, the **main** lesson that Petr learns is to
- A. leave early if he goes far from home.
  - B. rely on himself if he has a problem.
  - C. understand a job before he starts it.
  - D. give people time to come to see him.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

**Necessity  
Literary Text**

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 6 Reading.)

**5.5.2** Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by Describing characters’ physical characteristics, personality traits, or interactions; or providing examples of thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters’ personality traits or their changes over time

- 12 Explain how Petr’s actions show what kind of person he is. Use details from the folktale to support your answer.

**Scoring Guide:**

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how Petr’s actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes relevant details from the folktale.
3	Response provides an explanation of how Petr’s actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes some relevant details from the folktale.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how Petr’s actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes limited details from the folktale.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

**Training Notes:**

Response will explain when faced with a problem Petr is resourceful, intelligent, **and/or** determined to solve it. Details from the folktale should support these ideas.

12

Petr, from the folktale "Necessity," is a smart, hardworking, and brave boy. First of all, Petr is smart because when his oxcart broke he didn't think that there was nothing he could do. He thought of an idea of getting a stick the same size as the axle and put it in. When he tried it, it worked. Petr is also smart because he knows how to ride a horse, steer a oxcart, and take care of farm animals. Petr wasn't born knowing how to do all that, it took a lot of hardwork to learn. Petr is a very hardworking boy. He worked to get the axle fixed and when his father asked him to go into the forest to find necessity, no question he just went. Even though there were bears, coyotes, and wolves out in the forest he still went. It was brave to go into the forest knowing what kind of animals were in there then think of walking through the forest by yourself to get home. Petr is lucky to have qualities like he does because not many people are like him.

Response provides a thorough explanation of how Petr's actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes relevant details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 3

12

I am going to explain how Petr's actions shows what kind of person he is. First Petr will do anything for his father like when his father gave him difficult jobs he stuck to it and finished it. That shows Petr is very determined to his work. Also when his father told him to find Necessity he was very confused, but he went for it. That shows him he is brave going in the forest alone with a rickety cart. When his cart broke down in the forest he knew he had to fix it so he can go home. That shows he is not lazy. If he was lazy would have just waited. Now I have explained to you how Petr's action shows what kind of person he is.

Response provides an explanation of how Petr's actions show what kind of person he is.  
Response includes some relevant details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 2

EXAMPLE A

12

Petr's actions shows that he is obedient. When his father told him to do something, he does what his father tells him to do without hesitation. He's also clever because he figured out how to fix the oxcart all by himself.

Response provides a partial explanation of how Petr's actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes limited details from the folktale.

SCORE POINT 2

EXAMPLE B

12

Petr is a hard smart worker because he knew he had to get home before dark, so he used what he had to fix it. Like he used a hard straight stick for an axle. And he knew to use another thick stick and a rock to lift the cart.

Response provides a partial explanation of how Petr's actions show what kind of person he is. Response includes limited details from the folktale.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS  
GRADE 6 READING

SCORE POINT 1

12

Petr is smart because he past  
all of his fathers test.

Response is vague or minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

12

Well he is mad and that are his  
actions.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

## Grade 6 Reading Released Item Information – 2011

Released Item Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Content Strand <sup>1</sup>	WV	WV	LI	LA	WV	LA	LI	LI	WV	LA	LA	LA
GLE Code	5-3	5-2	5-4	5-5	5-2	5-5	5-4	5-4	5-3	5-5	5-5	5-5
Depth of Knowledge Code	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2
Item Type <sup>2</sup>	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR	MC	MC	MC	MC	CR
Answer Key	B	B	A	D	B	C		B	C	A	B	
Total Possible Points	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	4

<sup>1</sup>Content Strand: WV = Word ID/Vocabulary, LI = Literary/Initial Understanding, LA = Literary/Analysis & Interpretation,  
 II = Informational/Initial Understanding, IA = Informational/Analysis & Interpretation

<sup>2</sup>Item Type: MC = Multiple Choice, CR = Constructed Response