



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
Support Materials
2011**

**Grade 7
Reading**

**NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING**

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

❶ A **synonym** for the word scarcity is

- A. tension.
- B. boredom.
- C. fright.
- D. shortage.

6.3.2 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings and relationships by selecting appropriate words or explaining the use of words in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary

Jack's motive for arriving early was to get the best parking place.

❷ What does the word motive mean as it is used in the box?

- A. reason
- B. estimate
- C. hesitation
- D. opportunity

Molly and Me

Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.3.2 Shows breadth of vocabulary knowledge through demonstrating understanding of word meanings and relationships by selecting appropriate words or explaining the use of words in context, including content specific vocabulary, words with multiple meanings, or precise vocabulary

3 In paragraph 2, the word fished means

- A. sneaked.
- B. plucked.
- C. stretched.
- D. loosened.

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

4 Why does Molly draw the chalk line?

- A. to identify her own space
- B. to show how neatly she can draw
- C. to remind Meg of a childhood game
- D. to challenge Meg to draw her own line

Molly and Me

Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

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

- 5 What is true about both sisters' dreams for the future?
- A. Both want to raise a family.
 - B. Both want to be respected.
 - C. Both want to be famous.
 - D. Both want to have new names.

6.5.2 Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by describing characters' traits, motivation, or interactions, citing thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' traits, motivations, or their changes over time

- 6 Meg's statement that she wants "to *be* something someday" shows **mainly** that she is
- A. funny.
 - B. honest.
 - C. talented.
 - D. ambitious.

Molly and Me Literary Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.5.2 Analyze and interpret elements of literary texts, citing evidence where appropriate by describing characters' traits, motivation, or interactions, citing thoughts, words, or actions that reveal characters' traits, motivations, or their changes over time

7 Explain how the two sisters are different. Use details from the passage to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes relevant details from the passage.
3	Response provides an explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes some relevant details from the passage.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes limited details from the passage.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

The explanation may include these details:

Molly

Not usually angry

Very neat

Prettier

Wants to be a mother and wife

Content/Certain

Calm, easygoing, self-confident, smug

Meg

Messy

Smarter

Ambitious

Restless

Impatient

Determined but uncertain

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 4
(EXAMPLE A)

7

The two sisters, Molly and Meg, are different in many ways. Molly is neat with her work, but Meg is sloppy and messy with her work. This is one reason why Molly drew the line so each sister would have their own personal space. Another way that the sisters are different is that Meg is smarter than Molly, but Molly is prettier than Meg. This can be another reason why they have a line in between. The third way that shows the reader that they are distinct is that Meg wants to be something one day so she can accomplish something for her to be an important person. However, Molly wants to be something else, have a different name, and be a mother with lots of children. These are very different ambitions, indeed! Finally, the last way that describes them both as different sisters is that Meg is hasty, impetuous, sometimes angry over nothing, and often miserable over everything. She is also impatient. Nevertheless, Molly is calm, easygoing, self confident, downright smug, and patient. These are the differences between Meg and Molly Chalmers.

Response provides a thorough explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes relevant details from the passage.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 4
(EXAMPLE B)

7 The two sisters are different because you can tell right from the beginning, when Molly draws the line of chalk it was because Molly is "very neat" and Meg is "a slob". "Molly is prettier than I am, but I'm smarter than Molly." That is one way in the passage that shows they are different. Another way would be when Meg states that "someday when I'm grown up, people everywhere will know who I am, because I will have accomplished something important". When Meg told Molly that Molly said that what she wants is to have a different name when she grows up, to be "Molly Something Else", to be "Mrs. Somebody", and to have her children, lots of them, call her "Mother" with respect and that's all she cares about. At the end Meg says that she herself is "hasty, impetuous, sometimes angry over nothing," and "often misreads about everything." But it says that Molly is "calm, easygoing, self-confident," and "downright smug." That is how I know the two sisters are different.

Response provides a thorough explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes relevant details from the passage.

7

The two sisters Meg and Molly are different in many ways. One of those ways is Molly is prettier, and Meg is smarter. Molly is also very neat, and Meg is a slob. Another way Molly and Meg are different is that Molly wants to change her name and have many kids. Meg wants people to know her name for something important. Finally the sisters are unlike because Molly is calm, easy going, self-confident, and down right smug. Meg on the other hand is hasty, impetuous, angry over nothing, and often miserable. Those are some ways the two sisters are different.

Response provides an explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes some relevant details from the passage.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
GRADE 7 READING

SCORE POINT 2

7

The two sisters are different by Molly being neat and Meg being messy. Also, Meg wants to do something with her life to get her name remembered. On the other hand, Molly wants to have many children that call her "Mother" with respect. These sisters are also different by Meg being smarter. Molly is prettier than though. That is how the two sisters are different.

Response provides a partial explanation of how the two sisters are different. Response includes limited details from the passage.

SCORE POINT 1

7

Meg is someone who is not very neat but enjoys life where Molly thinks everything has to be perfect

Response is vague or minimal.

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SCORE POINT 0

7
What did she draw that
line on? She drew that
line on a old rug. She had
a string, an old battery, a
chalk, paper clips. I think
that they should of made a
contraption out of the
materials. That's what they
had on the rug they drew on.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

A Silent Army Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by using information from the text to answer questions related to main/central ideas or key details

- 8 How were the statues discovered?
- A. Local authorities found pieces of pottery.
 - B. Historians followed clues to find them.
 - C. Farmers uncovered them accidentally.
 - D. Archaeologists were studying Emperor Qin's tomb.

6.7.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by using information from the text to answer questions related to main/central ideas or key details

- 9 In the first paragraph, the phrase “like crime scene investigators” suggests the archaeologists
- A. looked for evidence of illegal activity.
 - B. uncovered objects very carefully.
 - C. were watched closely as they worked.
 - D. searched for clues, not actual objects.

A Silent Army Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.2.1 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, thesauruses; or prior knowledge)

- 10 In paragraph 5, what does the word precise mean?
- A. exact
 - B. faded
 - C. lovely
 - D. simple

6.8.4 Analyze and interpret informational text, citing evidence as appropriate by distinguishing fact from opinion, and identifying possible bias/propaganda

- 11 Which sentence from the passage contains an **opinion**?
- A. “Reaching a level 15 feet (4.6 m) below ground, they uncovered a fragment of pottery that looked like the head of a very large sculpture of a man.”
 - B. “They found many statues of soldiers made of a red clay called *terra-cotta*.”
 - C. “This would have made them seem especially strong and powerful.”
 - D. “The name of the person who built each figure was found inscribed on the warrior’s robe, leg, or armor.”

A Silent Army Informational Text

(The passage for these questions is located in Released Items 2011 – Grade 7 Reading.)

6.7.2 Demonstrate initial understanding of informational texts (expository and practical texts) by using information from the text to answer questions related to main/central ideas or key details

- 12 Explain why the “Silent Army” is considered to be “one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made.” Use details from the passage to support your answer.

Scoring Guide:

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough explanation of why the “Silent Army” is considered to be “one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made.” Response includes relevant details from the passage.
3	Response provides an explanation of why the “Silent Army” is considered to be “one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made.” Response includes some relevant details from the passage.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of why the “Silent Army” is considered to be “one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made.” Response includes limited details from the passage.
1	Response is vague or minimal.
0	Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response

Training Notes:

Response should show an understanding of the different features of the “Silent Army” that made it “one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made.” Support may include the following details:

- the size of the army
- the accurate details
- the figures depicted
- the high level of craftsmanship

12

The "Silent Army" was considered one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made due to the sheer number of terracotta warriors and horses found. Even more amazing was the high level of technical skills required to build just one of these clay figures.

Buried in underground pits archaeologists found over 8,000 terracotta warriors and horses, all with different stances, expressions, hairstyles, and clothing. Even with so many warriors being built the Chinese craftsmen of the Qin period carefully sculpted each ear, nose, hair and expression individually as well as the armor, belt, and weapon. Each sculpture was life size and even a bit taller than the average Chinese person at the time.

By studying the way the "silent warriors" were made archaeologists have concluded that the "silent warriors" were a truly amazing feat of craftsmanship.

Response provides a thorough explanation of why the "Silent Army" is considered to be "one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made." Response includes relevant details from the passage.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
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SCORE POINT 3

12

This archaeological find was probably the most amazing find because of how the soldiers were crafted. No two soldiers were alike in hair, clothing, pose, or facial expression. This fact alone makes the discovery let alone there were over 8,000 terra cotta warriors and horses. The horses were the same as the soldiers - not two of them was alike and they were all in different poses. The precise detail of these sculptures signified the the craftsman were very skilled at their work and were proud of it to as the carved their signature into the sculptures. At least I think it was a remarkable and historic discovery.

Response provides an explanation of why the "Silent Army" is considered to be "one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made." Response includes some relevant details from the passage.

NECAP 2011 RELEASED ITEMS
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SCORE POINT 2

12

The Silent Army was one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made because there was amazing lifelike detail. Also the sculptures of the terra-cotta warriors were bigger than most Chinese people at that time. Everything was exact, and all the warriors were different in some way. They are excruciatingly lifelike.

Response provides a partial explanation of why the "Silent Army" is considered to be "one of the most amazing archaeological finds ever made." Response includes limited details from the passage.

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SCORE POINT 1

12

The Silent Army is considered to be one of the most amazing archeologist finds ever made because of its detail and how big they where.

Response is vague or minimal.

SCORE POINT 0

12

Silent Army is one of the best archeologists finds because archeologists don't have any proof about the past on Japanese or Chinese history.

Response is totally incorrect or irrelevant.

Grade 7 Reading Released Item Information – 2011

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

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

²Item Type: MC = Multiple Choice, CR = Constructed Response