

Constructed Response

Sample Questions

High School



9th Author Study – Emily Dickinson

1. What does your research reveal about Dickinson’s interest in botany? Use details from the articles to support your answer.
2. How do poems 1 and 2 support or contradict the information in the articles? Support your answer with details from the poems and articles.
3. Explain why both the articles and the poems are necessary for developing a better understanding of Dickinson. Use details from the articles and the poems to support your answer.

9th “Virtual Schools”

1. Analyze the different opinions expressed in “The Fun They Had” and the “Virtual High School Interview” video. Use detail from the story and the video to support your answer.
2. What do the statistics from “Keeping Pace with K-12 Online Learning” suggest about the current trends of virtual schools in the U.S.? Use details from the charts to support your answer.
3. Explain how the information presented in the “Virtual High School Interview” video and the article “Virtual Schools Not for Everyone” differs from the information in the research statistics. Support your answers with details from the video and the articles.

9th NASA Article

- What is the author’s main purpose for writing this text? Analyze how the author uses language and other strategies to reinforce the main purpose. Support your response using specific details from the text.

9th Civil War Poem

- The poet wrote this poem using couplets, paired rhyming lines with the same meter. Describe how this structure emphasizes what takes place in the poem. Support your answer using details from the text.

9th “Discontented Pendulum”

- During the course of this story, the pendulum undergoes a major transformation. What lesson does he learn, and how does the dial help him reach this new understanding? Use details from the story to support your response.

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9th “Mexican Gray Wolves”

1. The author of Article 1 shows support for the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolves into the wild by emphasizing the benefits over the risks. What risks does the author mention, and what evidence is there that they are less important to the author? Support your answer using details from the article.
2. Articles 1 and 2 both mention the captive breeding programs for the Mexican gray wolf. What information does Article 2 include about the success of these programs that is excluded in Article 1? Explain why this information is important in deciding whether to support or reject reintroduction plans for these wolves.
3. Does the information in Articles 1 and 2 sufficiently address the concerns raised in Article 3 about the reintroduction of the Mexican gray wolf into the wild? Support your answer with details from all sources.

10th Participatory Budgeting

1. Explain the philosophy behind the concept of “participatory budgeting.” Support your answer with details from the sources.
2. Analyze how “What Is Participatory Budgeting?” is useful for understanding the documents from the city of Auburn. Use details from the sources to support your answer.
3. Explain how both documents from the city of Auburn would help a citizen who wanted to write a proposal. Use details from the documents to support your answer.

10th Sacagawea – Fact and Fiction

1. Explain how each source contributes to the body of research needed to write a report about Sacagawea. Use details from the sources to support your answer.
2. “The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition” is a primary source and “A Brief Biography of Sacagawea” is a secondary source. What information can readers learn from the primary source that is not available in the secondary source? Use details from the sources to support your answer.
3. Explain how the information presented in the story excerpt, “The Conquest”, differs from the information presented in “A Brief Biography of Sacagawea” and “The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.” Use details from the sources to support your answer.

10th “Pride and Prejudice”

- In paragraphs 1 and 2, the narrator provides two general observations about human behavior. Explain the effect this beginning has on the reader’s interpretation of the interaction between Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. Support your answer using details from the passage.

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10th Inaugural Address

- In paragraph 5, President Kennedy states “those who foolishly sought power by riding the back of the tiger ended up inside.” Analyze what Kennedy means and how this metaphor relates to his argument. Support your response using information from the passage.

11th “The Hound of the Baskerville”

- In the passage, Dr. Mortimer speaks several times of a legend surrounding the Baskerville family. Explain how the reader can tell that the legend suggests that a frightening hound haunts the family. Support your answer using details from the text.

11th “A Cold Greeting”

- In the final paragraph, the author writes, “It had been taken a week before his death.” Explain the irony in this statement and how it relates to the events in the story. Use details from the story to support your response.

11th “Mending Wall”

- Explain what effect the repetition of the phrases “something there is that doesn’t love a wall” and “good fences make good neighbours” has on the meaning of the poem. Support your answer using details from the poem.

11th “Estuaries”

- Explain why the author most likely provided general information about estuaries **before** the “Principles and Concepts” section. Support your answer using details from the passage.