New York State Testing Program

English Language Arts Test
Listening/Writing

Grade 7

2009 Scoring Guide
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Introduction:

Shaquille O’Neal, a superstar in the National Basketball Association, grew up in a military family. Moving to new places and attending new schools was a part of his childhood. In this excerpt from the book On the Court . . . with Shaquille O’Neal, the family has moved from their home in Germany to the United States.

Growing Up . . . and Up

by Glenn Stout

When Shaquille walked into Cole High School in San Antonio, Texas, for his first day of school, everyone looked up to him—but only because of his size. Shaquille was determined that before long, they’d look up to him because he was a leader.

Although it was too late in the year for Shaquille to join the basketball team, Coach Dave Madura heard about him just moments after he stepped into the school for the first time. Cole was a small school, and most athletes were far more interested in playing football than basketball. Those students who preferred basketball were nowhere near as big as Shaquille.

Many students at Cole were from military families and transferred in and out of the school midyear. Madura rarely knew which players he would have from one year to the next. But because Shaquille was already in tenth grade, he knew there was a good chance that Shaquille would stay at Cole until he graduated, but there was no guarantee.

Even after Madura learned that Shaquille had been an emerging star in Germany, he was still a little skeptical. He had coached many players from military families who had played in Germany, but few of them had managed to adjust to the much more competitive game played in American high schools. He reserved judgment until he had a chance to see the new tenth-grader play.
When he did, he was pleasantly surprised. Although Shaquille was still sort of clumsy and slow, he was huge. More important, however, Madura also noticed that Shaquille was eager to learn and worked very hard. He knew that if Shaquille worked hard enough, he had the potential to be a star. Coach Madura kept a close eye on him for the rest of the year and during the summer. The more he saw, the better he felt about Shaquille’s prospects.

Shaquille, meanwhile, was adjusting well to life in Texas. Before school started the following fall, he told the Cole football coach he wanted to try out for the football team. To his surprise, the coach replied, “Absolutely not.” It turned out that Coach Madura had already spoken to the football coach about Shaquille’s potential, and the two men agreed that Shaquille’s athletic future was in basketball. There was simply too much risk of an injury if he played football. As the football coach recalled later, “We all knew he’d be an NBA player.”
Listening/Writing Rubric Key Points

Listening Task: “Growing Up ... and Up”

Question 33
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

Possible Exemplary Responses:
- hard worker/dedicated
- eager [to learn]/interested
- emerging star
- determined [to be a leader]/focused
- [sort of] clumsy
- [sort of] slow
- huge/big
- good basketball player
- from a military family
- well adjusted
- other relevant text-based response

Rubric:
2 points The response is accurate, complete, and fulfills all the requirements of the task. Necessary support and/or examples are included, and the information given is clearly text-based. Any extensions beyond the text are relevant to the task.
1 point The response includes some correct information, but may be too general or overly specific. Some of the support and/or examples may be incomplete or omitted.
0 points The response is inaccurate, confused, and/or irrelevant, or the student failed to respond to the task.

NOTE: If the item is left blank, apply Condition Code A.
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

This graphic organizer is accurate and complete, and it fulfills all the requirements of the task. The student has provided three correct text-based details ("Clumsy"; "Good Player"; "Slow") that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

This graphic organizer includes some correct information. The student has provided one correct text-based detail (“good basket-ball Player”) that describes Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader. However, the other two answers (“skinny”; “was not that good at football”) are incorrect.
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

This graphic organizer is inaccurate. The answers provided ("cool"; "smart"; "hot") are not specifically supported by the text, which indicates that the student has not understood the prompt.

Listening Score Point 0
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2009 Practice Set
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

Shaquille In the Tenth Grade

- tall
- Good Player
- kind
- Standing out
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade

- Tall
- Grew up in a military family
- A star in Germany
- Likes basketball
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

- tall
- big
- move
- slow
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O'Neal as a tenth-grader.

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade

- tall
- nice
- liked
- friendly
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

- tall
- potential
- good
- adapted well

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O'Neal as a tenth-grader.

- tall
- dedicated
- focused
- good potential
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O’Neal as a tenth-grader.

- tall
- big
- interested
- worker

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O'Neal as a tenth-grader.

- **tall**
- **slow**
- **clumsy**
- *more interested in football than basketball*
Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O'Neal as a tenth-grader.

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade

- tall
- skeptical
- Stone
- strong
33 Using details from the passage, complete the web below with words that describe Shaquille O'Neal as a tenth-grader.

- tall
- large
- adapting (well to places)
- athletic

Shaquille in the Tenth Grade
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