

# *my*seslat

N E W Y O R K S T A T E

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE  
ACHIEVEMENT TEST

**Test Sampler**  
**5-6**

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MARCH 2004

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## 5-6 SPEAKING

### Question 1:

Look at the picture of two boys playing a game.



- Where are the children playing?
- What game are the children playing?
- What will they probably do when the game is finished?

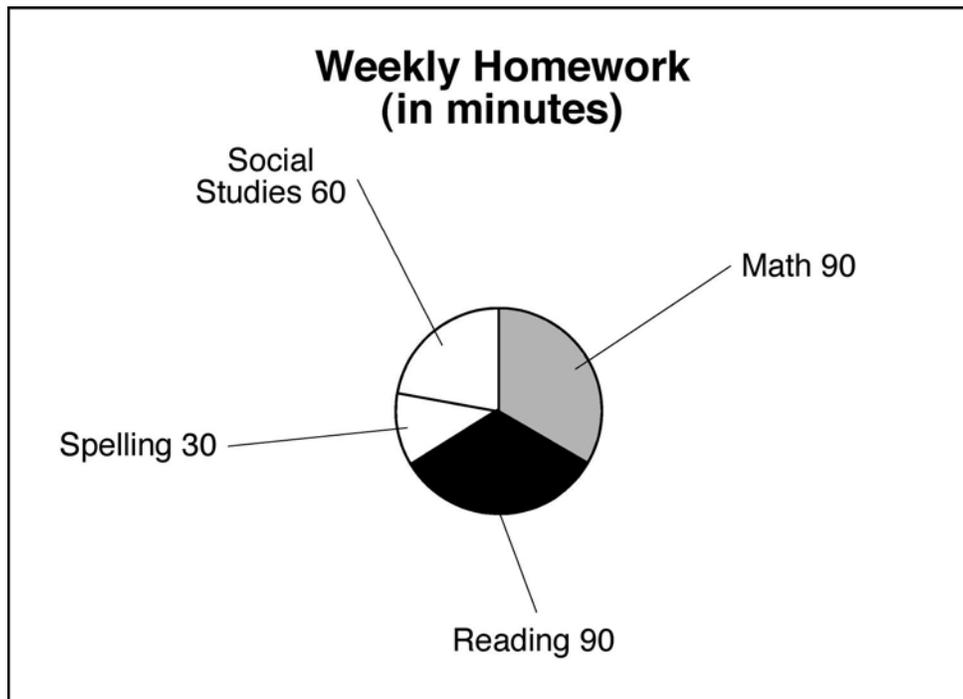
**Question 2:**

Look at this chart showing how much time a fifth grader spends doing homework.

According to the chart:

- On which subjects do students spend the most time?
- On which subjects do students spend the least time?
- What else can you tell me about this chart?

**Weekly Homework  
(in minutes)**



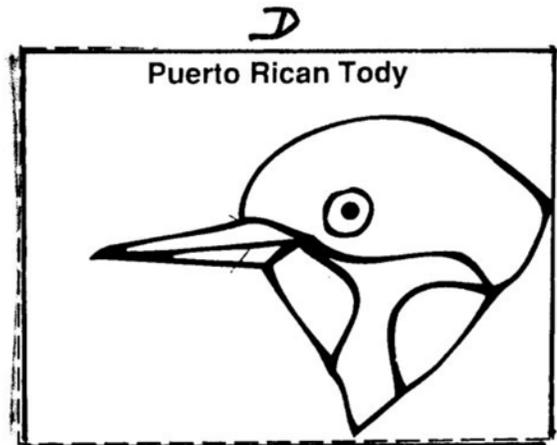
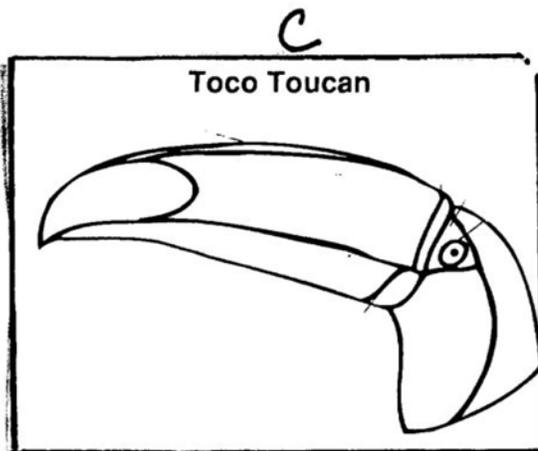
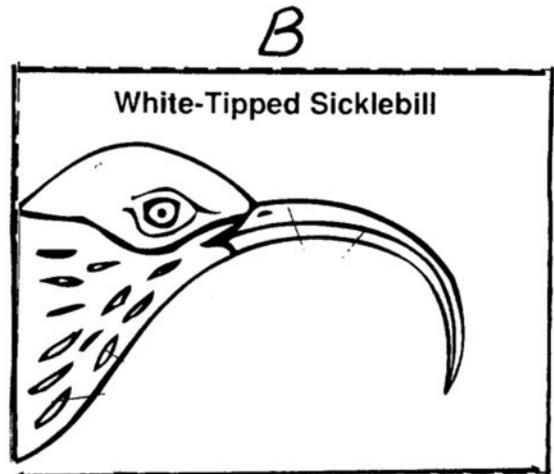
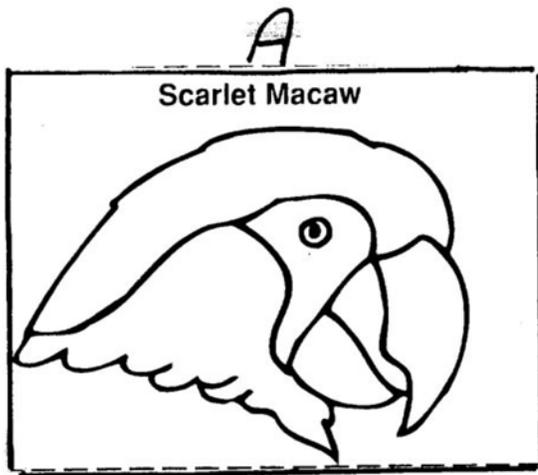
**Question 3:**

Think about a time when someone taught you how to do something that you really wanted to learn.

- Who was the person who taught you?
- What did you learn how to do?
- Why was knowing how to do this important or interesting?

**Question 4:**

Use these pictures of bird beaks to answer these questions:



- Which two birds have beaks that are similar?
- Which two birds have beaks that are different?
- Have you ever seen a bird like these? Where did you see it?
- Tell how the bird you saw used its beak.

**Question 5:**

You have a friend who is having trouble in school. She is smart, but she is getting low grades. Your friend wants to do better, but she doesn't know how. Tell your friend what she can do to get better grades in school.

- Should she study more?
- Should she talk to her teacher?
- Can she do her homework with a friend?



## 5-6 LISTENING

*Directions:* In this part of the test, you will hear someone speaking. Some questions follow each passage. Read the questions before you listen to the passage.

Ms. Garcia, a fifth grade teacher, is explaining the plans for tomorrow's class field trip.

"Children, tomorrow we will be riding the bus on our field trip to the science museum. It is January, so you will need to dress appropriately for the weather. The weather forecast tomorrow calls for temperatures in the low 20's with some precipitation.

Each of you needs to bring \$2.00 for the bus fare. If you want to buy lunch, you will need to bring \$4.00. If you do not want to purchase lunch, you should bring a bag lunch."

1. Ms. Garcia's class is going to the
  - A. library
  - B. science museum
  - C. park
  - D. apple farm
  
2. Ms. Garcia is reminding the children to bring
  - A. science books and pencils.
  - B. pencils and warm clothes.
  - C. science books and money.
  - D. money and warm clothes.
  
3. To dress warmly for tomorrow's weather, the students should wear
  - A. T-shirts, shorts and sneakers.
  - B. light jackets, long pants and rain boots.
  - C. coats, hats, gloves, and boots.
  - D. sweatshirts, long pants and sandals.

*Directions:* In this part of the test, you will hear a story and a short conversation. Some questions follow the conversation. Read the questions before you listen.

As Juan watched the clock, he tried to finish the jobs his mother had asked him to do before she got home from work. When he first got home from school, Juan had plenty of time to do the household tasks but decided to watch a television program instead. Now, he had run out of time and needed some help. He picked up the telephone and called his friend Ye.

When Mrs. Aviles walked into the kitchen Juan and Ye were playing a game of checkers. Mrs. Aviles looked at her clean kitchen sink and floor and smiled with delight as she offered the boys fresh warm cookies from the neighborhood bakery.

Mrs. Aviles said, "Thank you, Juan. The kitchen looks so clean." Juan said, "Well, I had a little help!"

4. Juan's tasks were

- A. too much work to do when he got home from school.
- B. a couple of tasks that could easily be done after school.
- C. to clean his bedroom.
- D. meant for Juan's brother.

5. Juan found he couldn't finish the jobs because

- A. his mother gave him too many tasks to do.
- B. he got home late from school.
- C. he stopped at the bakery.
- D. he spent the time watching television.

6. When Juan knew he ran out of time, he

- A. called his friend Ye to ask him to help do the work.
- B. called his mother and asked her to bring home some cookies.
- C. went to the bakery.
- D. decided to play checkers.

7. How did Mrs. Aviles feel when she walked into the kitchen?

- A. sad
- B. angry
- C. happy
- D. confused

8. When Juan said, "Well, I had a little help!" he meant

- A. that his friend Ye had helped him.
- B. he could not finish the work.
- C. Mrs. Aviles came home early.
- D. he would do the jobs tomorrow.

## 5-6 READING

Read the story about pet mice and answer the questions.

### Pet Mice

Some people like to keep mice as pets. Is it a good idea to keep mice as pets? Sure it is! Mice don't take a lot of space-just the size of a cage. If you handle them gently, they can be playful, friendly, and fun to watch.

They're also not a lot of trouble to take care of. You need to spend only about ten minutes a day feeding your mice, changing their water, and playing with them. (Much more playtime is welcome, of course). But once a week, you'll need to wash the cage and change the bedding.

By the way, the cage will cost you more than the mouse. A pet mouse costs about \$3, but the cage costs at least \$10. Bedding costs around \$15. You'll also pay more than \$25 each year for food and other things you'll need.

Should you get a male or female mouse? Either will be fun. If you want more than one mouse, get at least three females. They like to play with each other, which is fun to watch.

If you get very interested in these pets, you might want to take them to mouse shows and get involved with other mouse fanciers. Ask a pet store if there's a pet mouse group near you. Mice are great pets if you don't have much room and want something furry to hold.

1. About how many minutes a day does it take to take care of your pet mouse?
  - A. ten
  - B. two
  - C. eleven
  - D. eight
2. What is most likely the author's purpose in this article?
  - A. to entertain with a funny mice story.
  - B. to entertain readers with a mystery.
  - C. to persuade readers to have mice as pets.
  - D. to persuade readers to have cats as pets.
3. What is smallest expense in having a pet mouse?
  - A. cage
  - B. mouse
  - C. bedding
  - D. food

Read the story about mushrooms and answer the questions.

### **The Parasol Mushroom**

The parasol mushroom is beautifully marked with thick brown scales on the cap and stem. It stands about eight inches high, and the cap may be an equal eight inches across. It's a common mushroom found in meadows and open woods all summer. It may appear in your gardens and pastures too.

In stories and poetry for children, the parasol mushroom is used by elves and tiny creatures of the woods. They keep dry with it when it rains or take a nap under its shade when the sun is hot. Even today as you bend over to examine it, a small mouse may scurry away from under it or a solemn toad may stare out at you and refuse to move.

4. What color is the parasol mushroom?

- A. brown
- B. gray
- C. black
- D. red

5. You can usually see the parasol mushroom in the month of

- A. July
- B. November
- C. March
- D. December

6. Where can you find parasol mushrooms?

- A. in forests
- B. in swamps
- C. on beaches and sand dunes
- D. in rocky deserts

7. A mouse may use a parasol mushroom in the same way that a human uses

- A. an umbrella
- B. a sun lamp
- C. an oven
- D. a telephone

This is a story about Martin Luther King. Read the story and answer the questions.

### **Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.?**

In 1983, Martin Luther King's birthday became a national holiday. He is only the second American whose birthday is celebrated as a national holiday. Why was Martin Luther King so special that his birthday should be a holiday? Let's find out.

Martin Luther King was a black American Baptist minister who became one of the most important leaders of the civil rights movement in the United States. He was angry about the way black people in America were being treated. They were being discriminated against because of their skin color. He felt that all people should be treated equally no matter what race they were. He was a good speaker and he was able to influence many other people to believe that everyone should be treated equally.

Martin Luther King was involved in many protests. He fought hard for equal rights for black people, but he made sure that his protests did not become violent. He wanted to influence others in a kind, peaceful way. He became famous for his speeches and demonstrations throughout the world. In 1964, he won the Nobel Peace Prize for leading so many civil rights demonstrations in a peaceful way.

Since Martin Luther King was such a great leader and had so much influence in the United States, our Congress decided his birthday should be celebrated as a national holiday on the third Monday of every January.

8. What is the main idea of the story?

- A. National holidays in America are fun.
- B. Martin Luther King won the Noble Peace Prize in 1964.
- C. Marin Luther King was a great leader who helped many people gain their civil rights.
- D. Martin Luther King's birthday is in January.

9. Which sentence is a fact?

- A. Martin Luther King was the best American Baptist minister.
- B. He was a very kind man.
- C. In 1983, Martin Luther King's birthday became a national holiday.
- D. He influenced more Americans than any other speaker.

10. In the second paragraph, the word *discriminated* means:

- A. treated differently
- B. against the law
- C. made speeches
- D. celebrated

11. If Martin Luther King had not insisted on peaceful protests, during the struggle for civil rights, there might have been

- A. fewer speeches.
- B. more violence in America.
- C. more people in America.
- D. less for people to talk about.

**5-6 WRITING**

**Question 1:**

Imagine that you have been given the opportunity to go on a trip anywhere you want. Pretend that you have to write a brief story about your adventure for the school newspaper.

Use the following graphic organizer to plan your story about your trip. Remember, include a title for your story in the blank middle box and make sure to include as much information as possible from your graphic organizer.

Title:

What did you see?

Where did you go?

What did you do?

How did you feel?



**Question 3:**

Imagine that one of your friends has a book report due next week. Unfortunately, your friend still needs to select a book to read. You must write a letter to your friend recommending a book that you think would be good for a book report.

Think about what you will write and answer the questions in the boxes.

Which friend needs your help with the book report?

Which book will you recommend?

Describe why the book is a good book.

Why should your friend read this book?

When and why did you read this book?



**Question 5:**

You were just voted the President of the Student Government in your school. Now you have to write a speech telling the students about your plans for making the school a better place to learn. Complete the chart below to help you think about this speech.

What election did you win?

Who would you thank for helping you to win the election?

What changes will you make in your school?

Who will you ask to help you make these changes?

What will you do to increase school spirit?



**Question 7:**

This is a story about silkworms. There are some spelling and grammar mistakes in the story. You are going to fix the mistakes by writing in the boxes.

Do you no what type of insect produce a fiber that is stronger than steel It's a silkworm.

Silkworms are raized on silk farms in asia. They require a lot of specil care. A newly hatched

silkworm has an enormous appetite and will eat all the tines. Every two to three hours, the silk

farmer must bringed the tiny silkworm more fresh mulberry leafs to eat.

As the silkworm grow, it sheds its skin four times. When fully grown, in about four to

five weeks, the silkworm is ready for spin its cocoon. It takes about three days for the cocoon to

be finished.

**Question 8:**

This is a story about the planet Saturn. There are some spelling and grammar mistakes in the story. You are going to fix the mistakes by writing in the boxes.

Saturn is the second largest planet in are solar system and the sixth closest to the sun. its

diameter is 74,900 miles which are ten times the size to the Earth. Most scientist think that

Saturn is a huge ball of gas with no solid surface. It is surround by seven thin, flat rings made up

of billions of icy particles. It move in an elliptical (oval-shaped) orbit that takes 29 1/2 Earth

years for complete. The tempreture on Saturn can reach 290 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, so if

you are planing a trip thier, be sure to pack alot of warm clothes!

