

2022 STAAR Grade 6 Reading Rationales

Item #	Rationale	
1	Option C is correct	Based on text from paragraph 2, which describes how Carter has planted rows of plants that provide food for monarchs, and from paragraph 16, which states that he has raised and tagged more than 700 monarch butterflies, the reader can infer that Carter's efforts to help butterflies have been successful. He has provided for and raised many butterflies.
	Option A is incorrect	It may or may not be the case that Carter sees a variety of insects throughout the year; however, this cannot be inferred based on these sentences from paragraphs 2 and 16.
	Option B is incorrect	The author explains that Carter created an area in his backyard to host butterflies; however, nothing is included in these sentences from paragraphs 2 and 16 that would lead the reader to infer that Carter expanded this area.
	Option D is incorrect	



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6	Option J is correct	The author uses information in paragraphs 1 through 4 to help the reader understand that the problem of monarch migration is beginning to receive public attention; Carter was a nine-year-old boy who learned about this problem which was already known to scientists. In paragraph 4, the author emphasizes this idea by writing that Carter is "joining scientists to help the butterflies."
	Option F is incorrect	Clearing areas is one action that can be taken, but the overall focus of paragraphs 1 through 4 is getting public attention for the monarchs' plight.
	Option G is incorrect	The cost involved in public efforts to help the monarchs is not the focus of paragraphs 1 through 4.
	Option H is incorrect	The information in paragraph 3 about where monarch butterflies are mainly found is a detail meant to help the reader understand monarchs' migration patterns, but it's not the primary focus of paragraphs 1 through 4.

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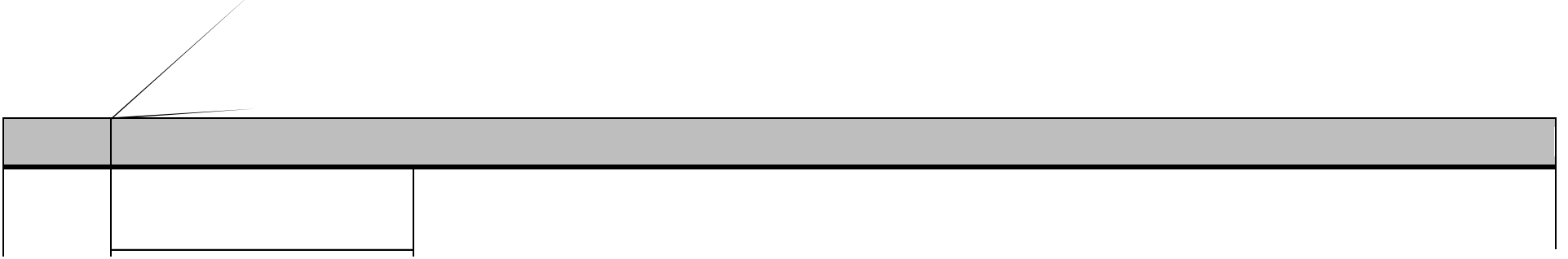
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7	Option C is correct	The problem-solution structure most contributes to the author's purpose by highlighting that monarchs' habitats are being reduced or eliminated and then describing how people are helping restore the habitats so that the butterflies survive and flourish.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author demonstrates how people are building butterfly gardens, she does not discuss concerns about raising money for butterfly gardens, so this does not contribute to the author's purpose.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author discusses the work of citizen scientists, she does not focus on problems citizen scientists may encounter, so this does not contribute to the author's purpose.
	Option D is incorrect	The author provides information on how researchers gather data, not about problems getting enough data, so this does not contribute to the author's purpose.

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8	Option J is correct	

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9	Option B is correct	The author uses information in this sentence from paragraph 9 to support the idea that helping monarchs requires a large amount of effort. In this sentence, the author specifies the large number of people, “thousands,” and the lengthy time, “60 years,” related to the public assisting scientists in their study of monarchs.
	Option A is incorrect	The phrase “most impressive” in paragraph 4 is a description of the yearly migration, not of the effort to help the monarchs, and so it does not support the idea that helping monarchs requires a great deal of effort.
	Option C is incorrect	In this sentence from paragraph 10, the author mentions that a scientist had a plan, but the sentence does not include details about what this plan is. Therefore, this sentence does not support the idea that helping monarchs takes a large amount of effort.
	Option D is incorrect	The author does not use this sentence to support the idea that it takes a lot of effort to help monarchs; the author simply states that photos are shared without specifying the subject of the photos.





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13	Option C is correct	The appearance of the water in line 40 contributes to the resolution of the story because, by melting the snowflake, the water helps Hormiguita get back home.
	Option A is incorrect	The appearance of the water does not provide an explanation for Hormiguita being away so long; rather, it frees her, allowing her to get home and tell her parents what happened.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Hormiguita's parents explain an ant's job, they do this in scene 1, before the appearance of the water. The water's appearance in line 40 simply allows Hormiguita to get back home.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the water did help Hormiguita and the sun, cloud, and wind did not, the sun, cloud, and wind did not have any reaction to the water's appearance in line 40.

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14	Option G is correct	Based on scene 3, the reader can predict that Hormiguita's parents will be pleased to know that Hormiguita now understands how important it is to take care of her responsibilities. As the narrator states in line 54, "From that day on, Hormiguita was one of the hardest workers in the ant colony."
	Option F is incorrect	Nothing in scene 3 indicates that Hormiguita's parents will place such a restriction on her after she tells them about her adventures, especially since she became such a hard worker, as indicated in line 54.
	Option H is incorrect	Nothing in scene 3 indicates that her parents feel it's necessary to teach her about being safer in the forest.
	Option J is incorrect	Hormiguita's parents have stressed the importance of working instead of playing. Therefore, there is no reason to predict that they would grant Hormiguita more time to play.

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15	Option D is correct	In the quoted text from line 12, the author uses specific language from Mother Ant to support the theme that everyone's efforts are needed to achieve a common goal. In this case, the common goal is taking care of the responsibilities of being an ant.
	Option A is incorrect	Taking care of the responsibilities of being an ant is the theme of the drama; the theme is not about parents and children doing things together.
	Option B is incorrect	The theme is taking care of the

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17	Option C is correct	The reader can conclude that Taylor wants his art to affect its environment. In paragraph 5, he says by attracting swimmers, his sculptures will "give the Tc 19.he Tc at4.22s, The 23.0e Tc at4.22.7m524786 0 Taylor

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18	Option H is correct	The word <u>fragile</u> in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to delicate, or easily broken or damaged. The reefs are so <u>fragile</u> , or delicate, that divers “accidentally [harm] the reefs and the marine animals that live there.”
	Option F is incorrect	The word <u>fragile</u> in paragraph 5 does not refer to the size of the reef, though the article does refer to the size of the reef in other ways.
	Option G is incorrect	The reefs may be mysterious because they are not what people see every day, but the word <u>fragile</u> in paragraph 5 describes the reefs as delicate and easily damaged.
	Option J is incorrect	Although the reefs are popular, the word <u>fragile</u> describes their delicate structures, which are easily damaged.

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19	Option D is correct	The author most likely includes the photograph because it emphasizes the lifelike appearances of Taylor's sculptures. In paragraph 1, she describes them as "life-sized sculptures of people," and in paragraph 8, she explains how they're made from molds of actual people.
	Option A is incorrect	The photograph shows just one of the sculptures in one of Taylor's sculpture parks, and the size of the park is not indicated.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Taylor appears to be inspired by marine life in a way that makes him want to protect it, this photograph—of a realistic sculpture of children—does not display any inspiration from marine life.
	Option C is incorrect	Leading people away from reefs is Taylor'

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23	Option C is correct	Although Fenn has provided vague clues about where he left the treasure, in paragraph 4, the author shares that Fenn “has told nobody, not even his wife” of the treasure’s whereabouts. Keeping the location of the treasure a secret ensures that people will continue to get outdoors and hunt for the treasure, enjoying nature along the way.
	Option A is incorrect	Fenn is hopeful the treasure will be found eventually, but he also hopes that it will take a long time, so that more people will be encouraged to get outdoors to look for it.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Fenn receives a lot of correspondence from people regarding the treasure—100 emails a day, according to paragraph 4—he does not seem to be overwhelmed by it. Rather, he seems excited.
	Option D is incorrect	Fenn has “told nobody, not even his wife,” but there is no evidence in paragraphs 4 and 5 that suggests he has not told his wife because he doesn’t trust her.



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25	Option B is correct	The idea that people can experience the beauty of nature is present in both selections. For example, in "Dive into a Sunken Museum," the author describes the underwater sculptures as "beautiful" (paragraph 4); in "A Modern-Day Treasure Hunt," the author refers to "the beauty of the great outdoors" (paragraph 6).
	Option A is incorrect	In "Dive into a Sunken Museum," the artist states that one reason for his underwater sculptures is to protect the reefs from being accidentally harmed by divers; in "A Modern-Day Treasure Hunt," the person

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26	Option H is correct	A difference in the way the two authors create understanding involves the inclusion of other people's thoughts about the subject's works. In "Dive into a Sunken Museum," the author quotes a child wr qu (002101391

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30	Option J is correct	Lines 13 and 14 relate to the winds carrying away the clouds to allow for April's sun and showers to begin spring, suggesting that March creates opportunities for a new season.
	Option F is incorrect	Although line 14 refers to the rain crying, this is part of what March is doing to create opportunities for 0 m0.72 0.2

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31	Option A is correct	The word <u>dwindling</u> in line 18 implies that the winds are calming down, or “lessening,” as March prepares to end her work.
	Option B is incorrect	The word “soaking” is more appropriate for describing April showers than March winds.
	Option C is incorrect	The word “straying” suggests that the winds move with no sense of direction or destination; March has a definite purpose as she “awakens earth and flowering things” (line 12).
	Option D is incorrect	Although the March winds may not always be appreciated, the word <u>dwindling</u> does not mean the winds are “troubling.”

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32	Option J is correct	Personification is a type of figurative language where human characteristics are applied to something that is not alive. The poet most likely uses personification throughout the poem because attributing human actions to March makes March's effect on the weather clearer and more dramatic for the reader. For example, line 11 describes "that high pitch whistling song she sings."
	Option F is incorrect	Although the poem hints at March's excitement for the new season to begin, the personification of March is more welcoming than impatient. For example, "she welcomes April showers in" (line 17).
	Option G is incorrect	March's farewell is positive and purposeful, not sad, "knowing she'll be back this way" (line 20).
	Option H is incorrect	Although the poet personifies, or attributes, human traits to the weather, the personification does not show any effect on people.



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38	Option F is correct	The main message conveyed by the author in this story is that appearances can be deceiving. Since the rat bases all his assumptions about the beetle solely on the beetle's appearance when they first meet, he does not consider that the beetle could have wings.
	Option G is incorrect	Neither the rat nor the beetle is aware of any limitations throughout the story, so this is not the main message conveyed by the author.
	Option H is incorrect	The beetle is not inspired by a bright-colored coat to win the race. The beetle wins because she can fly, and the rat cannot. Therefore, this is not the main message conveyed by the author.
	Option J is incorrect	Although the beetle is polite to the rat, neither the beetle nor the rat is trying to please anyone. Therefore, this is not the main message conveyed by the author.

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40	Option J is correct	Based on the end of the story, the reader can predict the rat will realize his foolishness for assuming he could beat the beetle. Learning that the beetle has wings and has won the race by flying proves to the rat that he should never assume that he is better than others.
	Option F is incorrect	Although the rat has realized his error in assuming he would win, there is no indication that he will try to become friends with the beetle and the parrot. It seems more likely that the rat is embarrassed and will simply go on with his life, having learned a valuable lesson.
	Option G is incorrect	As the story makes clear, there is nothing in the rules of the race to prevent the beetle from flying rather than crawling, so it's unlikely that the rat will ask to race again.
	Option H is incorrect	Although the rat at times slows down in the race—such as in paragraph 11 when he asks himself, than11.928 k2.0