



The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment

Reading Item and Scoring Sampler

SUPPLEMENT

2009–2010
Grade 5

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Reading Passage	2
Multiple-Choice Items	4
Open-Ended Item	8
Item-Specific Scoring Guideline	9
Open-Ended Item Responses.....	10
Summative Data Table	16
Acknowledgements.....	17

READING

INTRODUCTION

The 2009–2010 Reading Item and Scoring Sampler Supplement displays released items from the 2009 PSSA operational test. The sampler supplement is to be used in conjunction with the previous year’s sampler. The 2008–2009 Reading Item and Scoring Sampler can be found on the PDE website at <http://www.pde.state.pa.us/>. Select the “Pre K–12 Schools” tab at the top of the page. Then select “Assessment” in the “Learn About” column to the left. Select “Resource Materials” in the “Learn About” column of the next page, and then scroll down to find the appropriate sampler. Alternately, you may type in or click this link to reach the location of the item samplers: http://www.pde.state.pa.us/a_and_t/cwp/view.asp?a=108&Q=73314&a_and_tNav=680|&a_and_tNav=

This item and scoring sampler supplement contains multiple-choice items and an open-ended item. Each item is preceded by the Assessment Anchor and Eligible Content coding. The multiple-choice answer options are followed by an annotation that explains why the correct answer is correct and the other options are incorrect. The correct answer is indicated by an asterisk. The table following each multiple-choice item displays the percentages of students who chose each answer option. The correct answer is also shaded in these tables. The table following the open-ended item indicates the students’ performance at each score point. Sample student responses for each of the scoring levels are also included for the open-ended item.

READING PASSAGE

Read the following passage about a baker. Then answer questions 1–9.

The Stolen Smells

by Sharon Creeden

Once there was a baker who owned a shop in a small town. This baker was a stingy man, stingy with his greetings and smiles. In his shop, he never put out a small dish of samples or gave a cookie to a child.

But he was a skilled baker; his cinnamon rolls and his breads were finely made. The people of the town flocked to buy them. They were drawn into his shop by the sweet smells wafting into the street. The baker liked to watch the shoppers strolling down the avenue. One by one they sniffed and smiled and came into his shop.

But not everyone who smelled his delicious smells came inside and made a purchase. Some merely stood outside, smelling and peering into the windows. The baker thought, “They are filling their bellies on the scent of my bread. And here I am without a penny for all my hard work.” If only he could have bottled and corked up those delicious smells, he would have placed them on the shelf to be bought and sold like bread.

One winter morning, just after dawn, the baker was in his shop baking bread. He kneaded and twisted the dough in a big

wooden trough. He did not sing while he worked. Instead, he muttered and complained about the price of flour and the cost of firewood.

He looked up and saw someone peering in the window. It was a man in a worn coat. The man gazed at a row of warm raisin bread, and he hungrily breathed in great chunks of the fragrant air. The very sight of him angered the baker. “There’s a thief, stealing my smells, filling his belly, and not a penny for me.”

When the man did not move but continued to linger near the window, the baker threw down his dough, marched across the shop, and flung open the door. He grabbed the man by his collar and demanded, “Pay me.”

The startled man said, “Pay you for what?”

“For the smells you have stolen,” said the baker.

“Please, sir. I have stolen nothing. I just breathed in the air. Air is free,” replied the man.

“It’s not free when it’s full of the smells from my shop. Pay me now or I will have you arrested!”

READING

When the man did not pay, the baker dragged him through the snow to the judge's house. He pounded on the door. After a long time, the judge opened the door and peered into the morning light. He was in his nightshirt, and his hair was sticking out from under his nightcap. He was surprised to see the baker holding a struggling man.

"Arrest this thief. Throw him in jail. He stole the smells from my shop," said the baker.

The sleepy judge said, "Come in and tell me the story. But give me time to get dressed."

The judge reappeared with his nightshirt sticking out from under his official robes and his hair sticking out from under his official wig. He had a twinkle in his eye. He sat the men down in his official chambers, where he settled the disputes of the town.

The judge said, "All right, tell me the whole story from beginning to end. Baker, you begin." He listened patiently to the ranting of the aggrieved merchant about the theft of his smells. He listened to the plea of the man about free air.

And when he heard all the facts twice, and the men were ready to repeat the tale in even louder voices, the judge called a halt. "Stop! Silence! Just be quiet! I have reached a decision."

"Sir," the judge addressed the man. "Do you have any money?" The man reached into his pocket and brought out two copper coins of the smallest denomination.

"Please, your honor," said the man. "That's all the money I have in the world."

But the judge held out his hand and said, "Give me your money." The man put the coins into the judge's hand.

The judge cleared his throat and announced, "After hearing all the evidence in the aforesaid case, I find that the baker, also called the plaintiff, owned the smells coming from his shop, and that this man, also called the defendant, breathed in these smells without permission or payment. Therefore the baker is entitled to just compensation."

The baker smiled, perhaps for the first time in his adult life, and held out his hand to receive the coins. "It's not the money," said the baker. "It's the principle. Let this be an example."

The baker stood and waited for payment. But the judge did not drop the coins into the open palm. He said, "Listen and listen closely." He shook the coins and they rattled and jingled together. "That is your full payment," pronounced the judge.

The baker challenged the judge, "Give me my coins, your honor."

"No," replied the wise judge. "Punishment should fit the crime. I have decided that the price for the smell of bread shall be the sound of money." Then the judge returned the coins to the man.

And so ends the tale of the baker, the man, and the judge.

READING

MULTIPLE-CHOICE ITEMS

Note: All percentages listed in the tables below the items have been rounded.

B.1.1.1

1. The baker most likely behaves as he does because he lacks
- A talent.
 - B popularity.
 - C success.
 - D generosity. *

The student is asked to determine a character trait that the baker lacks based on his behavior. The passage states that the baker “never put out a small dish of samples or gave a cookie to a child,” implying that the baker behaves the way that he does because he lacks generosity. Option D is the correct answer. Options A, B, and C are not character traits of the baker as described by his actions in the passage.

A	B	C	D
9%	10%	20%	61%

A.1.2.2

2. Read the sentence from the passage.

“When the man did not move but continued to linger near the window, the baker threw down his dough, marched across the shop, and flung open the door.”

As used in the sentence what does the word linger mean?

- A stay *
- B collect
- C glare
- D disturb

The student is asked to determine the meaning of the word “linger” using context clues. The use of “did not move” in the excerpt implies that the man stayed in place. Option A is the correct answer as options B, C, and D do not fit the context of the given word.

A	B	C	D
70%	4%	21%	4%

READING

A.1.3.2

3. Which detail from the passage **best** supports the generalization that the baker is a stingy man?
- A The people smelled the wonderful smells from the bakery.
 - B The baker watched shoppers stroll down the street.
 - C The judge listened carefully and decided on a fair punishment.
 - D The baker would have bottled and sold smells if he could. *

The student is asked which detail from the passage best supports the generalization that the baker is stingy. The passage states that “he could have bottled and corked up those delicious smells...to be bought and sold,” implying the baker wanted to make as much money as possible, which makes option D the correct answer. Options A and C do not relate to the baker, while option B does not support the generalization that the baker is a stingy man.

A	B	C	D
12%	14%	8%	66%

A.1.2.2

4. Read the sentences from the passage.
- “... I find that the baker . . . owned the smells coming from his shop, and that this man . . . breathed in these smells without permission or payment. Therefore the baker is entitled to just compensation.”

What is the meaning of the word compensation?

- A permission
- B knowledge
- C reward *
- D arrangement

The student is asked to determine the meaning of the word “compensation” using context clues. The passage states that “the baker...owned the smells...and that this man breathed in these smells without... payment.” This implies that the baker should receive something in return for the man breathing the smells. Option C is the correct answer. Options A, B and C are not supported by the context clues in the passage.

A	B	C	D
21%	14%	46%	19%

READING

A.1.5.1

5. Read the incomplete summary of the passage.
- ▶ There was once a baker who thought people should pay for the smells from the bakery.
 - ▶ He caught a man stealing smells from the bakery and took him to a judge.
 - ▶ _____
 - ▶ _____
 - ▶ The judge decided that payment for the stolen smells should be the sound of money.

Which sentence **best** completes the summary?

- A The baker complained while he worked.
- B The baker disagreed with the judge’s decision.
- C The judge listened to each man’s side of the story. *
- D The judge shook the coins so the baker could hear them.

The student is asked to complete the summary of the passage. Option C is the most general statement of what occurs between stealing the smells and the judge’s final decision. Options A, B, and D describe events that either occur earlier in the story or are supporting details of the last point in the summary.

A	B	C	D
6%	10%	75%	9%

B.1.1.1

6. The baker and the man are alike because they both
- A enjoy making bread.
 - B want to make money.
 - C challenge the judge.
 - D think they are right. *

The student is asked to determine a similarity of the baker and the man. While speaking with the judge, the passage states that “the men were ready to repeat the tale in even louder voices,” implying that both thought they were correct. Option D is the correct answer. Options A, B, and C describe only the baker.

A	B	C	D
4%	22%	6%	68%

READING

B.1.1.1

7. Which event describes the resolution of the passage?
- A The baker grabs the man and demands payment.
 - B The judge shakes the coins so they rattle and jingle. *
 - C The baker watches people walking down the street.
 - D The judge wakes up to find the baker and the man waiting.

The student is asked to determine the resolution of the passage. The passage states that the judge “shook the coins and they rattled and jingled together.” The judge then says, “That is your full payment.” This statement about the payment implies that the judge has resolved the conflict in the passage. Therefore, option B is the correct answer. Options A, C, and D describe other elements of the plot rather than the resolution.

A	B	C	D
27%	56%	9%	8%

A.1.3.1

8. At the end of the passage, the judge most likely gives the coins back to the man because the judge wants the baker to
- A breathe air that is free.
 - B learn to be fair. *
 - C share the bread he makes.
 - D give his money to others.

The student is asked to infer the reason the judge gives the coins back to the man. The judge in the passage says, “Punishment should fit the crime,” meaning the judge wants the baker to learn to be fair about a payment (a sound) that is equal to his actual loss (a smell). Option B is the correct answer. Option A describes an action of the man, while options C and D are not implied in the judge’s statement.

A	B	C	D
10%	77%	9%	4%

READING

ITEM-SPECIFIC SCORING GUIDELINE

Item #9

This item is reported under Category B, Interpretation and Analysis of Fictional and Nonfictional Text.

Assessment Anchor:

B.1– Understand components within and between texts.

Specific Eligible Content addressed by this item:

B.1.1.1– Identify, explain, interpret, compare, describe, and/or analyze character actions, motives, dialogue, emotions/feelings, traits, and relationships among characters within fictional or literary nonfictional text.

Scoring Guide:

Score	In response to this item, the student—
3	demonstrates <i>complete</i> knowledge of understanding character relationships by explaining a lesson the judge teaches the baker and by using at least two examples from the passage to support the explanation.
2	demonstrates <i>partial</i> knowledge of understanding character relationships by explaining a lesson the judge teaches the baker. (Example: Student explains a lesson the judge teaches the baker and uses one example from the passage to support the response.)
1	demonstrates <i>incomplete</i> knowledge of understanding character relationships by explaining a lesson the judge teaches the baker. (Example: Student explains a lesson the judge teaches the baker without using any examples from the passage to support the explanation.)
0	gives a response that provides <i>insufficient</i> material for scoring or is inaccurate in all aspects.
Non-scorable	BLK (blank)... No response or written refusal to respond or too brief to determine response OT..... Off task/topic LOE..... Response in a language other than English IL..... Illegible

Example—Top Scoring Response (3 Points):

Explanation with Examples
The lesson the judge teaches the baker is that “Punishment should fit the crime.” He even states it in the passage. The baker accuses a man of stealing smells from his bakery. The judge asks for the accused man’s money and rattles the accused man’s coins while telling the baker “the price for the smell of bread shall be the sound of money.”

READING

OPEN-ENDED ITEM RESPONSES

B.1.1.1 Response Score: 3

9. What is a lesson the judge teaches the baker? Use at least two examples from the passage to explain your response.

The lesson that the judge teaches the baker is that you can't sell everything and it's not always good to be completely stingy. In the story, when the poor man is looking at the bread and smelling all the good smells, the baker tells him to pay him. The man says air is free, which is true. You can't charge someone for breathing air. Also, sometimes it's bad to be too stingy, then, in other people's eyes you become greedy. At the end of the story, the baker is ready to take all that the poor man has. Once again, you can't sell everything.
The student has given a complete answer to the task by stating a lesson the judge teaches the baker ("... you can't sell everything and it's not always good to be completely stingy") and by using at least two examples from the passage ("... when the poor man is looking at the bread and smelling all the good smells, the baker tells him to pay him. The man says air is free . . ." and "At the end of the story, the baker is ready to take all that the poor man has") to explain the response.

READING

B.1.1.1 Response Score: 2

9. What is a lesson the judge teaches the baker? Use at least two examples from the passage to explain your response.

The judge teaches the baker not to be greedy by not giving him the money. Also the judge makes it fair by jingleing the money because the man smelled the pastries from the baker's shop. So the judge evened it out. This is how the judge taught the baker not to be greedy.

The student has given a partial answer to the task by stating a lesson the judge teaches the baker (“not to be greedy”) and by using one example from the passage (“... the judge makes it fair by jingleing the money because the man smelled the pastries ...”) to explain the response.

READING

B.1.1.1 Response Score: 2

9. What is a lesson the judge teaches the baker? Use at least two examples from the passage to explain your response.

<p>Here are two ways the Judge taught the baker a lesson.</p>
<p>First, the baker wanted a man arrested for stealing the bakers smells. SO, he went to the Judges house to have the man arrested. The man only hade two copper coins.</p>
<p>Second, The Judge told the man to give the coins to the Judge. The the Judge shook up the coins in his hands and the baker put his hands out ready for the money. But his payment was the sound of money.</p>
<p>That is how the Judge taught the baker a lesson.</p>

The student has given a partial answer to the task by using two examples from the passage to imply a lesson the judge teaches the baker (“... the baker wanted a man arrested for stealing the bakers smells” and “... his payment was the sound of money”) without explicitly stating a lesson.

READING

B.1.1.1 Response Score: 1

9. What is a lesson the judge teaches the baker? Use at least two examples from the passage to explain your response.

That it is not stealing
smells if you smell someones
food. You should not demand
money from someone who
is look and smelling your food.

The student has given an incomplete answer to the task by stating a lesson the judge teaches the baker ("You should not demand money from someone who is look[ing at] and smelling your food") without using any examples from the passage to explain the response.

READING

SUMMATIVE DATA TABLE

Multiple-Choice Items

Sampler Sequence	A	B	C	D
1	9%	10%	20%	61%
2	70%	4%	21%	4%
3	12%	14%	8%	66%
4	21%	14%	46%	19%
5	6%	10%	75%	9%
6	4%	22%	6%	68%
7	27%	56%	9%	8%
8	10%	77%	9%	4%

Open-Ended Item

Sampler Sequence	Score Point 3	Score Point 2	Score Point 1	Score Point 0
9	19%	44%	32%	5%

READING

Acknowledgements

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