

Colorado Measures of Academic Success



Grade 8

English Language Arts/Literature



Paper Practice Resource for Students

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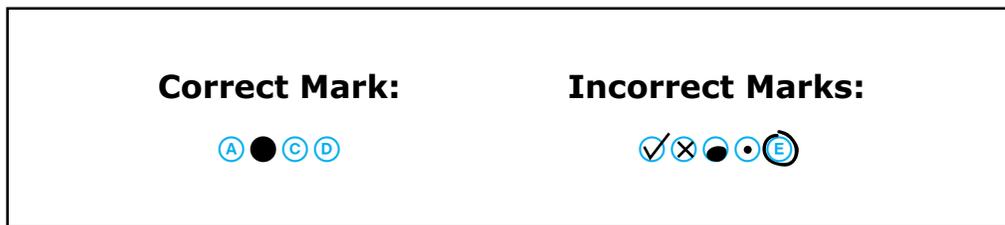
The Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) is Colorado’s standards-based assessment program designed to measure the Colorado Academic Standards (CAS) in the content areas of science, social studies, English language arts, and mathematics. The sample items included in this resource provide students with an opportunity to become familiar with the format of test items that appear in the paper-based test books. The sample items are not intended to be a complete test, nor are they intended to cover all assessed content or item types.

While the use of the sample items is not required, it is strongly encouraged to help ensure students are familiar with the types of items they may encounter while taking the paper-based test.

Item Types:

Selected Response Items

Selected response items are multiple choice questions. To respond, the student indicates their response by filling in the circle(s) next to their answer choice.



Constructed Response Items

Constructed response items are questions or prompts that require an independent, written response. To respond, the student writes his or her answer in the response box in the test book.

Converted Online Technology-Enhanced Item Types

Online technology-enhanced items converted to the paper testing format may ask students to:

- Circle the correct answer
- Complete a table with checkmarks, Xs, or letters from a list of answer choices
- Fill in the blank
- Draw lines from boxes to correct answers
- Complete a bar graph or histogram

ITEM SET 1

Today you will analyze a passage from "Trial by Combat" and a passage from *Summer Ball*. As you read these texts, you will gather information and answer questions about differences in point of view of the characters so you can write an essay.

Read the passage from "Trial by Combat." Then answer questions 1 through 3.

from "Trial by Combat"

by Shirley Jackson

- 1 When Emily Johnson came home one evening to her furnished room and found three of her best handkerchiefs missing from the dresser drawer, she was sure who had taken them and what to do. She had lived in the furnished room for about six weeks and for the past two weeks she had been missing small things occasionally. There had been several handkerchiefs gone, and a service pin which Emily wore sometimes and which had come from the five-and-ten¹. And once she had missed a small bottle of perfume and one of a set of china dogs. Emily had known for some time who was taking the things, but it was only tonight that she had decided what to do. She had hesitated about complaining to the landlady because her losses were trivial and because she had felt certain that sooner or later she would know how to deal with the situation herself. It had seemed logical to her from the beginning that the one person in the rooming house who was home all day was the most likely suspect, and then, one Sunday morning, coming downstairs from the roof, where she had been sitting in the sun, Emily had seen someone come out of her room and go down the stairs, and had recognized the visitor. Tonight, she felt, she knew just what to do. She took off her coat and hat, put her packages down, and, while a can of tamales was heating on her electric plate, she went over what she intended to say.
- 2 After her dinner, she closed and locked her door and went downstairs. She tapped softly on the door of the room directly below her own, and when she thought she heard someone say "Come in," she said, "Mrs. Archer?," then opened the door carefully and stepped inside.
- 3 The room, Emily noticed immediately, was almost like her own—the same narrow bed with the tan cover, the same maple dresser and armchair; the closet was on the opposite side of the room, but the window was in the same relative position. Mrs. Archer was sitting in the armchair. She was about sixty. More than twice as old as I am, Emily thought, while she stood in the doorway, and a lady still. She hesitated for a few seconds, looking at Mrs. Archer's clean white hair and her neat, dark-blue house coat, before speaking. "Mrs. Archer," she said, "I'm Emily Johnson."

¹five-and-ten—a store offering a wide assortment of inexpensive items, formerly costing five or ten cents, for personal and household use

- 4 Mrs. Archer put down the *Woman's Home Companion* she had been reading and stood up slowly. "I'm very happy to meet you," she said graciously. "I've seen you, of course, several times, and thought how pleasant you looked. It's so seldom one meets anyone really"—Mrs. Archer hesitated—"really nice," she went on, "in a place like this."
- 5 "I've wanted to meet you, too," Emily said.
- 6 Mrs. Archer indicated the chair she had been sitting in. "Won't you sit down?"
- 7 "Thank you," Emily said. "You stay there. I'll sit on the bed." She smiled. "I feel as if I know the furniture so well. Mine's just the same."
- 8 "It's a shame," Mrs. Archer said, sitting down in her chair again. "I've told the landlady over and over, you can't make people feel at home if you put all the same furniture in the rooms. But she maintains that this maple furniture is clean-looking and cheap."
- 9 "It's better than most," Emily said. "You've made yours look much nicer than mine."
- 10 "I've been here for three years," Mrs. Archer said. "You've only been here a month or so, haven't you?"
- 11 "Six weeks," Emily said.
- 12 "The landlady's told me about you. Your husband's in the Army."
- 13 "Yes. I have a job here in New York."
- 14 "My husband was in the Army," Mrs. Archer said. She gestured at a group of pictures on her maple dresser. "That was a long time ago, of course. He's been dead for nearly five years." Emily got up and went over to the pictures. One of them was of a tall, dignified-looking man in Army uniform. Several were of children.
- 15 "He was a very distinguished-looking man," Emily said. "Are those your children?"
- 16 "I had no children, to my sorrow," the old lady said. "Those are nephews and nieces of my husband's."
- 17 Emily stood in front of the dresser, looking around the room. "I see you have flowers, too," she said. She walked to the window and looked at the row of potted plants. "I love flowers," she said. "I bought myself a big bunch of asters tonight to brighten up my room. But they fade so quickly."

- 18 "I prefer plants just for that reason," Mrs. Archer said. "But why don't you put an aspirin in the water with your flowers? They'll last much longer."
- 19 "I'm afraid I don't know much about flowers," Emily said. "I didn't know about putting an aspirin in the water, for instance."
- 20 "I always do, with cut flowers," Mrs. Archer said. "I think flowers make a room look so friendly."
- 21 Emily stood by the window for a minute, looking out on Mrs. Archer's daily view: the fire escape opposite, an oblique slice of the street below. Then she took a deep breath and turned around. "Actually, Mrs. Archer," she said, "I had a reason for dropping in."
- 22 "Other than to make my acquaintance?" Mrs. Archer said, smiling.
- 23 "I don't know quite what to do," Emily said. "I don't like to say anything to the landlady."
- 24 "The landlady isn't much help in an emergency," Mrs. Archer said.
- 25 Emily came back and sat on the bed, looking earnestly at Mrs. Archer, seeing a nice old lady. "It's so slight," she said, "but someone has been coming into my room."
- 26 Mrs. Archer looked up.
- 27 "I've been missing things," Emily went on, "like handkerchiefs and little inexpensive jewelry. Nothing important. But someone's been coming into my room and helping themselves."
- 28 "I'm sorry to hear it," Mrs. Archer said.
- 29 "You see, I don't like to make trouble," Emily said. "It's just that someone's coming into my room. I haven't missed anything of value."
- 30 "I see," Mrs. Archer said.
- 31 "I just noticed it a few days ago. And then last Sunday I was coming down from the roof and I saw someone coming out of my room."
- 32 "Do you have any idea who it was?" Mrs. Archer asked.
- 33 "I believe I do," Emily said.

- 34 Mrs. Archer was quiet for a minute. "I can see where you wouldn't like to speak to the landlady," she said finally.
- 35 "Of course not," Emily said. "I just want it to stop."
- 36 "I don't blame you," Mrs. Archer said.
- 37 "You see, it means someone has a key to my door," Emily said pleadingly.
- 38 "All the keys in this house open all the doors," Mrs. Archer said. "They're all old-fashioned locks."
- 39 "It *has* to stop," Emily said. "If it doesn't, I'll have to do something about it."
- 40 "I can see that," Mrs. Archer said. "The whole thing is very unfortunate." She rose. "You'll have to excuse me," she went on. "I tire very easily and I must be in bed early. I'm so happy you came down to see me."
- 41 "I'm so glad to have met you at last," Emily said. She went to the door. "I hope I won't be bothered again," she said. "Good night."
- 42 "Good night," Mrs. Archer said.

From "Trial by Combat" by Shirley Jackson from THE NEW YORKER, December 16, 1944. Copyright © 1944 Condé Nast Publications.

1. Part A

In paragraph 1, what does the word **trivial** mean?

- Ⓐ reasonable
- Ⓑ frustrating
- Ⓒ personal
- Ⓓ insignificant

Part B

What evidence from paragraph 1 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . three of her best handkerchiefs . . .”
- Ⓑ “. . . small things occasionally.”
- Ⓒ “. . . hesitated about complaining . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . she would know how to deal with the situation. . . .”

2. Part A

What does the conversation between paragraph 6 and paragraph 20 reveal about the characters?

- Ⓐ Emily is intimidated by Mrs. Archer.
- Ⓑ Emily and Mrs. Archer have a lot in common.
- Ⓒ Mrs. Archer already knows why Emily is visiting.
- Ⓓ Emily and Mrs. Archer will likely become friends.

Part B

What other part of the passage contributes to the conclusion found in Part A?

- Ⓐ the description of the missing items in paragraph 1
- Ⓑ the introduction of Mrs. Archer in paragraph 3
- Ⓒ the description of the apartment in paragraph 3
- Ⓓ the reaction of Mrs. Archer in paragraph 4

3. Part A

Why did Emily decide to approach Mrs. Archer?

- Ⓐ She hoped Mrs. Archer could identify the thief.
- Ⓑ She suspected Mrs. Archer of taking her things.
- Ⓒ She needed Mrs. Archer's help to speak to the landlady.
- Ⓓ She was concerned Mrs. Archer's belongings were also missing.

Part B

Select **three** details from the passage that **best** support the answer to Part A.

- Ⓐ ". . . then, one Sunday morning, coming downstairs from the roof, where she had been sitting in the sun, Emily had seen someone come out of her room and go down the stairs, and had recognized the visitor." (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ "She was about sixty. More than twice as old as I am, Emily thought, while she stood in the doorway, and a lady still." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓒ "'I've told the landlady over and over, you can't make people feel at home if you put all the same furniture in the rooms.'" (paragraph 8)
- Ⓓ "'I don't know quite what to do,' Emily said." (paragraph 23)
- Ⓔ "Mrs. Archer was quiet for a minute. 'I can see where you wouldn't like to speak to the landlady,' she said finally." (paragraph 34)
- Ⓕ "'It *has* to stop,' Emily said. 'If it doesn't, I'll have to do something about it.'" (paragraph 39)
- Ⓖ "'I hope I won't be bothered again,' she said. 'Good night.'" (paragraph 41)

Read the passage from *Summer Ball*. Then answer questions 4 and 5.

from *Summer Ball*

by Mike Lupica

- 1 It was Gampel's night to use the phone, which meant it was Danny's first chance to talk to his dad about everything that had—and hadn't—happened in the last day or so.
- 2 As soon as Richie Walker got on the line, he wanted to know everything about the knee, whether the swelling was on the inside or the outside, if the doctor was sure it was just a sprain and not ligaments, if the doctor was sure there was nothing floating around in there. His dad still considered himself a medical expert, not just on knees, but everything else after all the broken parts he'd had fixed in his life.
- 3 "Dad," Danny said, "I'm fine."
- 4 "Well, you're not fine if they still want to do an MRI," his dad said. "That doesn't sound fine to me."
- 5 Danny was in the phone booth with the door open, because it was a hot, muggy night in Cedarville. Zach was waiting to use the phone next. Danny closed the door now, even if Zach knew most of the story about the fake knee injury. It was more Danny being so embarrassed about what he was going to say next that he didn't even want *himself* to hear.
- 6 Like he was telling somebody he was afraid of the dark.
- 7 "When I say fine, Dad, it means I was never really hurt," he said. "I wanted an excuse to get out of here."
- 8 Out with it, just like that. He felt bad enough about having lied to the doctor and his mom and maybe himself. He was done with that, for good. He wasn't going to lie to his dad. Before he'd even considered doing something this lame, he should have thought about what his dad looked like in the hospital after his last accident. He should have remembered how his dad's basketball life—and nearly his whole life—ended in that first car accident his rookie year.
- 9 He could hear Tarik's voice inside his head now.
- 10 True *that*.

- 11 On the other end of the phone line, Richie Walker didn't say anything at first. It was one of those killer silences parents gave you sometimes, in person or over the phone, when they were trying to make you keep talking.
- 12 Or maybe his dad couldn't believe what he'd just heard.
- 13 "I'm not sure I heard you right," Richie Walker said.
- 14 Danny said, "You heard right."
- 15 Finally, Richie said, "That's not you." There was another pause and then he said, "Man, that's never been you."
- 16 "Dad," Danny said, "I know that now. I would have figured it out on my own. But Tess—she's here—got in my face the other night and made me see how dumb I'd been." He paused before he said, "Dad, believe me, there's nothing you could say that would make me feel worse than I already do."
- 17 "I don't care how much this coach got to you," Richie said. "You never fake an injury in sports. Never." He spit out the last word. "You quit before you do that."
- 18 "I know that now," Danny said.
- 19 "Do you?"
- 20 "Dad, I made a mistake, and I'm owning up to it. Isn't that what you always tell me to do?"
- 21 "You want a trophy for that?"
- 22 There was a lot more Danny wanted to tell his dad, to make him understand, wanted to tell him about Coach Powers saying he should switch sports, that maybe soccer would be better for him. But he was afraid it would come out sounding like one more lame excuse for faking the injury.
- 23 So he kept what had happened at Coach Powers's cabin to himself, through a silence from his dad that felt longer than eighth grade.
- 24 "You want to come home, come home," Richie said. "You want to stay, then show this coach he was wrong about you. Other than that, I've got nothin' right now. Talk to you soon."
- 25 Didn't say he loved him. Didn't wait for Danny to say that to him.

26 Just hung up.

27 Danny stood there, the receiver still to his ear, listening to the dial tone.

28 Then he took a deep breath, leaned out and asked Zach if he could make one more quick call. He pumped some change into the phone, called the number at Tess's uncle's house. He was going to tell her about the conversation with his dad, but when she came on, telling him in this happy excited voice about a fish she'd caught that afternoon, he decided against it. He would have skipped talking about the game, too, but she asked him about it once she was finished with her fish tale.

29 "Aren't you the one who always says there's a lot more that goes into a game than the last play?" Tess said.

30 "Yeah, but—"

31 Tess cut him off. "Forget the ending and think about the good stuff as a beginning."

32 "Okay," Danny said.

33 "Promise?"

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4. Part A

Read paragraphs 20–21 of the passage from *Summer Ball*.

“Dad, I made a mistake, and I’m owning up to it. Isn’t that what you always tell me to do?”

“You want a trophy for that?”

How does the dialogue in these paragraphs affect Danny’s behavior?

- Ⓐ It convinces Danny to try harder to prove himself to his coach.
- Ⓑ It makes Danny less willing to communicate openly with his father.
- Ⓒ It forces Danny to think more deeply about the error of his ways.
- Ⓓ It persuades Danny that he should no longer seek his father’s approval.

Part B

Which evidence from the passage **best** supports the answer to Part B?

- Ⓐ “. . . he was afraid it would come out sounding like one more lame excuse. . . .” (paragraph 22)
- Ⓑ ““You want to stay, then show this coach he was wrong about you. . . .”” (paragraph 24)
- Ⓒ “Didn’t say he loved him. Didn’t wait for Danny to say that to him.” (paragraph 25)
- Ⓓ “Danny stood there, the receiver still to his ear, listening to the dial tone.” (paragraph 27)

5. Part A

What is a central idea of *Summer Ball*?

- Ⓐ There is no excuse for lying.
- Ⓑ There are two sides to every story.
- Ⓒ There are never times when one should quit.
- Ⓓ There is reward for admitting one's mistakes.

Part B

What piece of evidence from *Summer Ball* supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ "It was Gampel's night to use the phone, which meant it was Danny's first chance to talk to his dad about everything that had—and hadn't—happened. . . ." (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ "It was more Danny being so embarrassed about what he was going to say next that he didn't even want *himself* to hear." (paragraph 5)
- Ⓒ "There was another pause and then he said, 'Man, that's never been you.'" (paragraph 15)
- Ⓓ "'Aren't you the one who always says there's a lot more that goes into a game than the last play?'" (paragraph 29)

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Read the passage "Log of the 'Demeter'" from *Dracula*. Then answer questions 7 through 12.

Log of the "Demeter"

by Bram Stoker

LOG OF THE "DEMETER"

Varna to Whitby

- 1 Written 18 July, things so strange happening, that I shall keep accurate note henceforth till we land.
- 2 On 6 July we finished taking in cargo, silver sand and boxes of earth. At noon set sail. East wind, fresh. Crew, five hands . . . two mates, cook, and myself, (captain).
- 3 On 11 July at dawn entered Bosphorus. Boarded by Turkish Customs officers. Baksheesh. All correct. Under way at 4 p.m.
- 4 On 12 July through Dardanelles. More Customs officers and flagboat of guarding squadron. Baksheesh again. Work of officers thorough, but quick. Want us off soon. At dark passed into Archipelago.
- 5 On 13 July passed Cape Matapan. Crew dissatisfied about something.
- 6 Seemed scared, but would not speak out.
- 7 On 14 July was somewhat anxious about crew. Men all steady fellows, who sailed with me before. Mate could not make out what was wrong. They only told him there was SOME- THING, and crossed themselves. Mate lost temper with one of them that day and struck him. Expected fierce quarrel, but all was quiet.
- 8 On 16 July mate reported in the morning that one of the crew, Petrofsky, was missing. Could not account for it. Took larboard watch eight bells last night, was relieved by Amramoff, but did not go to bunk. Men more downcast than ever. All said they expected something of the kind, but would not say more than there was SOMETHING aboard. Mate getting very impatient with them. Feared some trouble ahead.
- 9 On 17 July, yesterday, one of the men, Olgaren, came to my cabin, and in an awestruck way confided to me that he thought there was a strange man aboard the ship. He said that in his watch he had been sheltering behind the deckhouse, as there was a rain storm, when he saw a tall, thin man, who

was not like any of the crew, come up the companionway, and go along the deck forward and disappear. He followed cautiously, but when he got to bows found no one, and the hatchways were all closed. He was in a panic of superstitious fear, and I am afraid the panic may spread. To allay it, I shall today search the entire ship carefully from stem to stern.

- 10 Later in the day I got together the whole crew, and told them, as they evidently thought there was some one in the ship, we would search from stem to stern. First mate angry, said it was folly, and to yield to such foolish ideas would demoralise the men, said he would engage to keep them out of trouble with the handspike. I let him take the helm, while the rest began a thorough search, all keeping abreast, with lanterns. We left no corner unsearched. As there were only the big wooden boxes, there were no odd corners where a man could hide. Men much relieved when search over, and went back to work cheerfully. First mate scowled, but said nothing.
- 11 22 July.—Rough weather last three days, and all hands busy with sails, no time to be frightened. Men seem to have forgotten their dread. Mate cheerful again, and all on good terms. Praised men for work in bad weather. Passed Gibraltar and out through Straits. All well.
- 12 24 July.—There seems some doom over this ship. Already a hand short, and entering the Bay of Biscay with wild weather ahead, and yet last night another man lost, disappeared. Like the first, he came off his watch and was not seen again. Men all in a panic of fear, sent a round robin, asking to have double watch, as they fear to be alone. Mate angry. Fear there will be some trouble, as either he or the men will do some violence.
- 13 28 July.—Four days in hell, knocking about in a sort of maelstrom, and the wind a tempest. No sleep for any one. Men all worn out. Hardly know how to set a watch, since no one fit to go on. Second mate volunteered to steer and watch, and let men snatch a few hours sleep. Wind abating, seas still terrific, but feel them less, as ship is steadier.
- 14 29 July.—Another tragedy. Had single watch tonight, as crew too tired to double. When morning watch came on deck could find no one except steersman. Raised outcry, and all came on deck. Thorough search, but no one found. Are now without second mate, and crew in a panic. Mate and I agreed to go armed henceforth and wait for any sign of cause.
- 15 30 July.—Last night. Rejoiced we are nearing England. Weather fine, all sails set. Retired worn out, slept soundly, awakened by mate telling me that both man of watch and steersman missing. Only self and mate and two hands left to work ship.

7. Part A

What is the meaning of **allay** as it is used in paragraph 9 of "Log of the 'Demeter'" from *Dracula*?

- (A) examine
- (B) explain
- (C) lessen
- (D) foretell

Part B

Which **two** details from the passage **best** illustrate how the captain tries to **allay** the crew's fears?

- (A) ". . . when he got to bows found no one, and the hatchways were all closed." (paragraph 9)
- (B) ". . . I am afraid the panic may spread." (paragraph 9)
- (C) ". . . I shall today search the entire ship carefully" (paragraph 9)
- (D) "Later in the day I got together the whole crew, and told them" (paragraph 10)
- (E) ". . . they evidently thought there was some one in the ship" (paragraph 10)
- (F) ". . . to yield to such foolish ideas would demoralise the men" (paragraph 10)

8. Part A

In paragraph 10, the captain organizes a search of the entire ship, despite the first mate's opposition. Read the captain's comments.

First mate angry, said it was folly, and to yield to such foolish ideas would demoralise the men, said he would engage to keep them out of trouble with the handspike. I let him take the helm, while the rest began a thorough search, all keeping abreast, with lanterns. We left no corner unsearched.

Which aspect of the captain's character does this information reveal?

- A He is uncertain about his role.
- B He is trusting of his crew.
- C He is difficult to please.
- D He is easily alarmed.

Part B

Which detail illustrates the result of the captain's decision?

- A "As there were only the big wooden boxes, there were no odd corners where a man could hide." (paragraph 10)
- B "Rough weather last three days, and all hands busy with sails, no time to be frightened." (paragraph 11)
- C "Men seem to have forgotten their dread. Mate cheerful again, and all on good terms." (paragraph 11)
- D "When morning watch came on deck could find no one except steersman. Raised outcry, and all came on deck." (paragraph 14)

9. Write **one** letter in each empty box in the correct sequence to create a summary of six key events in "Log of the 'Demeter'" from *Dracula*. Two sentences have already been entered. Not all sentences will be used.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F.

1. _____
2. One of the crew, Petrofsky, goes missing.
3. _____
4. _____
5. A second crew member goes missing.
6. _____

10. Part A

What is a central idea of "Log of the 'Demeter'" from *Dracula*?

- Ⓐ The captain understands his ship's fate.
- Ⓑ There are consequences for keeping secrets.
- Ⓒ Someone is seeking revenge.
- Ⓓ Something evil is lurking on board.

Part B

Which detail develops the central idea in Part A?

- Ⓐ "Written 18 July, things so strange happening that I shall keep accurate note henceforth till we land." (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ "Like the first, he came off his watch and was not seen again." (paragraph 12)
- Ⓒ "Fear there will be some trouble, as either he or the men will do some violence." (paragraph 12)
- Ⓓ "Four days in hell, knocking about in a sort of malestrom, and the wind a tempest." (paragraph 13)

11. Using the incidents stated in the log beginning with the entry 14 July, write **one** letter in **each** box to identify three key incidents and the decision that results from each. Some incidents will not be used.

- A. "Mate lost temper with one of them that day and struck him. Expected fierce quarrel, but all was quiet." (paragraph 7)
- B. "Took larboard watch eight bells last night, was relieved by Amramoff, but did not go to bunk. Men more downcast than ever." (paragraph 8)
- C. "On 17 July, yesterday, one of the men, Olgaren, came to my cabin, and in an awestruck way confided to me that he thought there was a strange man aboard the ship." (paragraph 9)
- D. "First mate angry, said it was folly, and to yield to such foolish ideas would demoralise the men. . . ." (paragraph 10)
- E. "Already a hand short, and entering the Bay of Biscay with wild weather ahead, and yet last night another man lost, disappeared. Like the first, he came off his watch and was not seen again." (paragraph 12)
- F. "Second mate volunteered to steer and watch, and let men snatch a few hours sleep." (paragraph 13)
- G. "Thorough search, but no one found. Are now without second mate, and crew in a panic." (paragraph 14)

Decision: The captain decides to keep a log of the "Demeter."

Decision: The captain decides to put the crew on double watch.

Decision: The captain and a mate decide to arm themselves.

12. Part A

What does the captain's log show that builds suspense and his sense of the crew's feelings?

- Ⓐ The captain felt that the crew was almost rebellious about having to complete a search of the ship.
- Ⓑ The captain thought it was ironic that the stormy weather actually lifted the crew's spirit.
- Ⓒ The captain noticed that the crew was unusually curious about the loaded cargo.
- Ⓓ The captain was very aware of the crew's unspoken apprehension.

Part B

Select **two** details from the passage that **best** support the answer to Part A.

- Ⓐ "On 6 July we finished taking in cargo, silver sand and boxes of earth. At noon set sail. East wind, fresh. Crew, five hands . . . two mates, cook, and myself, (captain)." (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ "On 16 July mate reported in the morning that one of the crew, Petrofsky, was missing." (paragraph 8)
- Ⓒ "Feared some trouble ahead." (paragraph 8)
- Ⓓ "First mate angry, said it was folly, and to yield to such foolish ideas would demoralise the men. . . ." (paragraph 10)
- Ⓔ "First mate scowled, but said nothing." (paragraph 10)
- Ⓕ "Praised men for work in bad weather. Passed Gibraltar and out through Straits. All well." (paragraph 11)

This is the end of Item Set 1.

ITEM SET 2

Today you will research the topic of sound and the invention of the phonograph. You will read the article “The Incredible Talking Machine.” Then you will read a passage from the article “History of the Cylinder Phonograph” and the article “Psst . . . Hey, You.” As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about sound and the invention of the phonograph so you can write an essay.

Read the article “The Incredible Talking Machine.” Then answer questions 1 through 3.

“The Incredible Talking Machine”

by Randall Stross

- 1 The invention of the phonograph made Edison world-famous—but it took him years to understand what it did best.
- 2 In the end, they named it the phonograph. But it might have been called the omphlegraph, meaning “voice writer.” Or the antiphone (back talker). Or the didaskophone (portable teacher). These are some of the names someone wrote in a logbook in Thomas Edison’s laboratory in 1877, after Edison and his assistants invented the first rudimentary machine for recording and playing back sounds. From the first, they thought it would be used to reproduce the human voice, but they had no clear idea of its exact purpose.
- 3 Edison once said, “Anything that won’t sell, I don’t want to invent.” But all his life, he was a better inventor than salesman. The phonograph, his first invention to make him world-famous, is a perfect example. It was the product of a well-prepared but wandering mind.
- 4 It was also the outcome of an amazing burst of inventiveness. One evening in July 1877, while relaxing with his assistants after their regular midnight dinner, Edison had an idea. They were working with ways to use paper strips to make a record of telegraph messages. Why not adapt those to record the vibrations of the diaphragm¹ in a telephone mouthpiece? Thinking out loud, Edison suggested attaching a needle to the back of the diaphragm and mounting it above rollers for the paper strips. Speaking into the mouthpiece would cause the diaphragm to move, which in turn would cause the needle to

¹diaphragm—a thin disc within a receiver whose vibrations convert signals into sound waves or vice versa

inscribe squiggled indentations into the strips. If the paper were then pulled through the rollers again with the needle resting in the groove, the indentations would move the attached diaphragm, which should reproduce the original sound.

- 5 Edison's assistants set to work. Within the hour, they had a working device they tried out by reciting "Mary had a little lamb" into the telephone. In the first trial, all that could be heard from the playback was "ary ad ell am." But that was encouraging. The staff went on working through the night, fiddling with the gizmo²--and thus occurred the first midnight recording session.
- 6 Edison and his crew later replaced the paper and rollers with tinfoil, which was wrapped around a cylinder attached to a crank. But Edison did not regard the machine as commercially promising. At best, he thought, it might be an office machine allowing businessmen to dictate³ letters.
- 7 When word of the invention spread, however, the outside world saw greater possibilities. The dead could speak to us, eternally! Collectors could keep what the New York Times called a "well-stocked oratorical⁴ cellar." But the primitive phonograph that Edison demonstrated for the editors of Scientific American that December remained exceedingly limited. It could clearly introduce itself--"How do you do? How do you like the phonograph?"--but that exhausted its recording capacity.
- 8 Still, the editors were excited enough to publish an admiring bulletin about the device--a first shot that set off an avalanche of publicity. A reporter wrote him, "I want to know you right bad," and everyone else did too. Investors enlisted him in a new venture, the Edison Speaking Phonograph Co. But he soon lost interest in making the phonograph a salable product. The company introduced a toy model that functioned badly and a second, more expensive one that was used by show-business entrepreneurs⁵ who rented concert halls to demonstrate the wondrous machine to paying audiences. It broke down frequently and required a trained technician's constant attention.

²gizmo—a slang word meaning an object

³dictate—to speak or read for a person or for a machine to record

⁴oratorical—relating to public speaking

⁵entrepreneurs—people who organize, manage, and assume the risks of a business

- 9 Ten years elapsed before Edison returned to the phonograph, only after a competitor developed a wax-coated cylinder that could be removed without ruining the recording, something impossible to do with Edison's delicate tinfoil. To him, the idea that his most cherished invention faced competition was unendurable. He set to work on what he would call the Perfected Phonograph. When he introduced it to the market, however, in 1889, it was anything but perfect as the dictation device he still thought it to be. But it played music beautifully. Edison's backers tried to persuade him that the phonograph could be marketed for entertainment purposes, but he could not let go of his conviction that it was destined for the office.
- 10 Competitors leaped further ahead, developing a new recording medium, the disc, and rushing to sign musical artists to recording contracts. Eventually, Edison capitulated and entered the recorded-music business too--a business he was poorly suited to as a man who disapproved of most genres of popular music. He dismissed "miserable dance and ragtime selections" and described jazz as something for "the nuts." Another competitor soon emerged, the Victor Talking Machine Co. and its Victrola. And while Victor built a stable of notable musical artists, Edison remained unwilling to pay royalty advances necessary to recruit stars.
- 11 In the 1920s, Edison's phonograph faced a new challenge, commercial radio. The other phonograph companies introduced radios but Edison refused, wanting nothing to do with the medium's inferior sound quality. Prodded by his sons, he grudgingly relented, but the move came too late--in the midst of the stock-market crash of 1929. Within a year, his radio company ceased production. Edison died a year later. The music industry he had set in motion lived on, evolving into stereo, iPods and streaming music. He had made it all possible, without ever quite grasping how to make the most of it for himself.

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1. Part A

Read the sentence from paragraph 2.

These are some of the names someone wrote in a logbook in Thomas Edison's laboratory in 1877, after Edison and his assistants invented the first rudimentary machine for recording and playing back sounds.

What is the meaning of the word **rudimentary** as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) basic
- (B) mobile
- (C) practical
- (D) original

Part B

Which sentence from the article supports the answer to Part A?

- (A) "The phonograph, his first invention to make him world-famous, is a perfect example." (paragraph 3)
- (B) "It was also the outcome of an amazing burst of inventiveness." (paragraph 4)
- (C) "But the primitive phonograph that Edison demonstrated for the editors of *Scientific American* that December remained exceedingly limited." (paragraph 7)
- (D) "When word of the invention spread, however, the outside world saw greater possibilities." (paragraph 7)

2. Part A

Which statement describes the central idea of "The Incredible Talking Machine"?

- (A) Edison was dependent on his assistants and backers to be successful.
- (B) Edison was never able to comprehend the full potential of his invention.
- (C) Edison was more gifted at promoting his inventions than designing them.
- (D) Edison was so impressed with his own invention that he ignored constructive criticism.

Part B

Select **two** sentences from the article that **best** support the answer to Part A.

- (A) "From the first, they thought it would be used to reproduce the human voice, but they had no clear idea of its exact purpose." (paragraph 2)
- (B) "The staff went on working through the night, fiddling with the gizmo--and thus occurred the first midnight recording session." (paragraph 5)
- (C) "At best, he thought, it might be an office machine allowing businessmen to dictate letters." (paragraph 6)
- (D) "Still, the editors were excited enough to publish an admiring bulletin about the device--a first shot that set off an avalanche of publicity." (paragraph 8)
- (E) "To him, the idea that his most cherished invention faced competition was unendurable." (paragraph 9)
- (F) "He dismissed 'miserable dance and ragtime selections' and described jazz as something for 'the nuts.'" (paragraph 10)

3. Part A

How does the author of "The Incredible Talking Machine" **mainly** present information throughout the article?

- (A) by presenting a cause and its effects
- (B) by describing events in sequential order
- (C) by explaining a problem and its solution
- (D) by comparing and contrasting events

Part B

Which sentence from the article **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- (A) "If the paper were then pulled through the rollers again with the needle resting in the groove, the indentations would move the attached diaphragm" (paragraph 4)
- (B) "It broke down frequently and required a trained technician's constant attention." (paragraph 8)
- (C) "Ten years elapsed before Edison returned to the phonograph, only after a competitor developed a wax-coated cylinder that could be removed without ruining the recording" (paragraph 9)
- (D) "The other phonograph companies introduced radios but Edison refused, wanting nothing to do with the medium's inferior sound quality." (paragraph 11)

Read the passage from "History of the Cylinder Phonograph." Then answer questions 4 through 6.

from "History of the Cylinder Phonograph"

- 1 The phonograph was developed as a result of Thomas Edison's work on two other inventions, the telegraph and the telephone. In 1877, Edison was working on a machine that would transcribe¹ telegraphic messages through indentations on paper tape, which could later be sent over the telegraph repeatedly. This development led Edison to speculate that a telephone message could also be recorded in a similar fashion. He experimented with a diaphragm² which had an embossing³ point and was held against rapidly-moving paraffin paper. The speaking vibrations made indentations in the paper. Edison later changed the paper to a metal cylinder with tin foil wrapped around it. The machine had two diaphragm-and-needle units, one for recording, and one for playback. When one would speak into a mouthpiece, the sound vibrations would be indented onto the cylinder by the recording needle in a vertical (or hill and dale) groove pattern. Edison gave a sketch of the machine to his mechanic, John Kruesi, to build, which Kruesi supposedly did within 30 hours. Edison immediately tested the machine by speaking the nursery rhyme into the mouthpiece, "Mary had a little lamb." To his amazement, the machine played his words back to him.
- 2 Although it was later stated that the date for this event was on August 12, 1877, some historians believe that it probably happened several months later, since Edison did not file for a patent until December 24, 1877. Also, the diary of one of Edison's aides, Charles Batchelor, seems to confirm that the phonograph was not constructed until December 4, and finished two days later. The patent on the phonograph was issued on February 19, 1878. The invention was highly original. The only other recorded evidence of such an invention was in a paper by French scientist Charles Cros, written on April 18, 1877. There were some differences, however, between the two men's ideas, and Cros's work remained only a theory, since he did not produce a working model of it.
- 3 Edison took his new invention to the offices of *Scientific American* in New York City and showed it to staff there. As the December 22, 1877, issue reported, "Mr. Thomas A. Edison recently came into this office, placed a little machine on our desk, turned a crank, and the machine inquired as to our health, asked how we liked the phonograph, informed us that it was very

¹transcribe—to make a written copy of

²diaphragm—a thin disc within a receiver whose vibrations convert signals to sound waves or vice versa

³embossing—raising from the surface

well, and bid us a cordial good night." Interest was great, and the invention was reported in several New York newspapers, and later in other American newspapers and magazines.

- 4 The Edison Speaking Phonograph Company was established on January 24, 1878, to exploit the new machine by exhibiting it. Edison received \$10,000 for the manufacturing and sales rights and 20% of the profits. As a novelty, the machine was an instant success, but was difficult to operate except by experts, and the tin foil would last for only a few playings.
- 5 Ever practical and visionary, Edison offered the following possible future uses for the phonograph in *North American Review* in June 1878:
 1. Letter writing and all kinds of dictation without the aid of a stenographer.
 2. Phonographic books, which will speak to blind people without effort on their part.
 3. The teaching of elocution⁴.
 4. Reproduction of music.
 5. The "Family Record"--a registry of sayings, reminiscences⁵, etc., by members of a family in their own voices, and of the last words of dying persons.
 6. Music-boxes and toys.
 7. Clocks that should announce in articulate⁶ speech the time for going home, going to meals, etc.
 8. The preservation of languages by exact reproduction of the manner of pronouncing.
 9. Educational purposes; such as preserving the explanations made by a teacher, so that the pupil can refer to them at any moment, and spelling or other lessons placed upon the phonograph for convenience in committing to memory.
 10. Connection with the telephone, so as to make that instrument an auxiliary in the transmission of permanent and invaluable records, instead of being the recipient of momentary and fleeting communication.

⁴elocution—the art of effective speaking

⁵reminiscences—remembering long ago experiences

⁶articulate—expressing oneself clearly

6 Eventually, the novelty of the invention wore off for the public, and Edison did no further work on the phonograph for a while, concentrating instead on inventing the incandescent light bulb.

From "History of the Cylinder Phonograph"—Public Domain/The Library of Congress

4. Part A

Which part of the invention process was **most likely** the key step for securing the patent?

- Ⓐ testing the machine
- Ⓑ improving the machine's parts
- Ⓒ constructing the original machine
- Ⓓ demonstrating the machine to the public

Part B

Which statement from the passage supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ "Edison later changed the paper to a metal cylinder with tin foil wrapped around it." (paragraph 1)
- Ⓑ "To his amazement, the machine played his words back to him." (paragraph 1)
- Ⓒ ". . . and Cros's work remained only a theory, since he did not produce a working model of it." (paragraph 2)
- Ⓓ "Interest was great, and the invention was reported in several New York newspapers . . ." (paragraph 3)

5. Part A

In paragraph 4, what is the meaning of the word **exploit**?

- Ⓐ research
- Ⓑ promote
- Ⓒ improve
- Ⓓ defend

Part B

What phrase from paragraph 4 supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . machine was an instant success . . .”
- Ⓑ “. . . difficult to operate . . .”
- Ⓒ “. . . except by experts . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . last for only a few playings . . .”

6. Write an **X** to indicate whether each claim from the passage from "History of the Cylinder Phonograph" is a fact or a judgment. Write **only** one **X** in each row.

Claim	Fact	Judgment
Edison did not file for a patent on the phonograph until December 24, 1877.		
A patent on the phonograph was issued on February 19, 1878.		
The invention of the phonograph was highly original.		
The list published in June 1878 shows Edison was both practical and visionary.		

Read the article "Psst . . . Hey, You." Then answer questions 7 and 8.

Psst . . . Hey, You

by Mark Fischetti

- 1 You are walking down a quiet grocery store aisle when suddenly a voice says: "Thirsty? Buy me." You stop in front of the soda display, but no one is next to you, and shoppers a few feet away do not seem to hear a thing.
- 2 At that moment, you are standing in a cylinder of sound. Whereas a loudspeaker broadcasts sound in all directions, the way a lightbulb radiates light, a directional speaker shines a beam of waves akin to a spotlight. The beam consists of ultrasound waves, which humans cannot hear, but which can emit audible tones as they interact with air. By describing these interactions mathematically, engineers can coax a beam to exude¹ voice, music or any other sound.
- 3 Military and sonar researchers tried to harness the phenomenon as far back as the 1960s but only managed to generate highly distorted audible signals. In 1998 Joseph Pompei, then at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, published algorithms² that cut the distortion to only a few percent. He then designed an amplifier, electronics and speakers to produce ultrasound "that is clean enough to generate clean audio," Pompei says. He trademarked the technology Audio Spotlight and started Holosonics, Inc., in Watertown, Mass., in 1999. Rival inventor Woody Norris markets a competing product called HyperSonic Sound from his American Technology Corporation in San Diego.
- 4 Pompei's speakers are installed in company lobbies, and above exhibits at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and Walt Disney World's Epcot Center, among other locations. Narrations inform visitors standing in front of artifacts or video screens without filling the rooms with noise. Department stores have tried the arrangement for retail displays, and automakers are experimenting with them so passengers can hear only their own music or movies. A speaker above a recliner in the living room would allow Dad to hear the television while other family members read on the couch in peace.
- 5 Detractors³ say that in certain situations headphones can provide similar benefits, and note random problems, such as unwanted reflections off a car seat. But the primary obstacle to wider deployment is cost: systems can run from \$600 to \$1,000 or more. If the price drops, consumers are more likely to consider buying the gear. . . or encounter it while shopping.

¹exude—to ooze out

²algorithms—a procedure for solving a mathematical problem

³detractors—people who speak or think poorly about others

DID YOU KNOW...

- **BOUNCED:** Ultrasound waves remain in a tight column where they reflect off a hard, smooth surface. Police teams could bounce a beam off a building at the end of an alley or off a distant window inside a warehouse to flush out suspects, who would run away from the sound—and right into the officers' waiting arms.
- **BATS NOT DOGS:** Certain animals can detect the ultrasound noise behind audible directed sound. The ultrasound speakers emit⁴ frequencies from 40,000 to 80,000 cycles a second, or hertz (Hz). Humans typically hear frequencies between 20 and 20,000 Hz. Dogs can hear up to 40,000 Hz or so, mice up to 90,000, and bats, porpoises and beluga whales up to 100,000 Hz or higher.
- **BONUS:** Middle ear bones limit human hearing to below 20,000 Hz. But researchers have applied ultrasound up to 200,000 Hz to the skulls of volunteers, some of whom report "hearing" sounds; the skull may be distorting vibrations that reach the cochlea⁵.

⁴emit—throw or give off or out

⁵cochlea—a hollow tube in the inner ear that is coiled and contains the sensory organ of hearing

"Psst . . . Hey, You," by Mark Fischetti from SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, May 2007, Vol. 296, Issue 5. Copyright © 1998 Scientific American Inc. Reproduced with permission.

7. Part A

Which sentence states the central idea of "Psst . . . Hey, You"?

- Ⓐ Sound technology continues to evolve.
- Ⓑ Modern inventors must compete for recognition.
- Ⓒ Directional speakers are useful in commercial businesses.
- Ⓓ Advancements in technology are prohibitively expensive.

Part B

Select **two** sentences from the article that support the answer to Part A.

- Ⓐ "Whereas a loudspeaker broadcasts sound in all directions, the way a lightbulb radiates light, a directional speaker shines a beam of waves akin to a spotlight." (paragraph 2)
- Ⓑ "Military and sonar researchers tried to harness the phenomenon as far back as the 1960s but only managed to generate highly distorted audible signals." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓒ "In 1998 Joseph Pompei, then at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, published algorithms that cut the distortion to only a few percent." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓓ "Rival inventor Woody Norris markets a competing product called HyperSonic Sound from his American Technology Corporation in San Diego." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓔ "Detractors say that in certain situations headphones can provide similar benefits, and note random problems, such as unwanted reflections off a car seat." (paragraph 5)

8. Part A

In paragraph 2, how does the author help the reader understand how ultrasound works?

- Ⓐ by describing the features of new technology
- Ⓑ by using familiar concepts to explain new technology
- Ⓒ by explaining how researchers discovered new technology
- Ⓓ by providing additional resources about the new technology

Part B

Which sentence from paragraph 2 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ "At that moment, you are standing in a cylinder of sound."
- Ⓑ "Whereas a loudspeaker broadcasts sound in all directions, the way a lightbulb radiates light, a directional speaker shines a beam of waves akin to a spotlight."
- Ⓒ "The beam consists of ultrasound waves, which humans cannot hear, but which can emit audible tones as they interact with air."
- Ⓓ "By describing these interactions mathematically, engineers can coax a beam to exude voice, music or any other sound."

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A large rectangular box with a thin green border, containing 20 horizontal blue lines spaced evenly down the page, providing a writing area.

A large rectangular box with a green border, containing 20 horizontal blue lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the box.

Read the passage from “Emerald Ash Borer.” Then answer questions 10 through 13.

from “Emerald Ash Borer”

by Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

- 1 The emerald ash borer is a small, green beetle that belongs to a large family of beetles known as the buprestids, or metallic wood boring beetles. The description is apt, as many of the adult buprestids are indeed glossy, appearing as if their wing covers are made of polished metal. The emerald ash borer, with its green, iridescent wing covers, fits right in. Adult EABs are between 0.3 to 0.55 inches in length—small by most standards but large compared to other buprestids—and relatively slender.
- 2 During its life cycle, EAB undergoes a complete metamorphosis. It starts as an egg, becomes a larva (alternatively called a grub), and then changes to become a pupa and then an adult. The life cycle of an EAB takes either 1 or 2 years to complete. Adults begin emerging from within ash trees around the middle of June, with emergence continuing for about 5 weeks. The female starts laying her eggs on the bark of ash trees about 2 weeks after emergence. After 7 to 10 days, the eggs hatch and the larvae move into the bark, to begin feeding on the phloem (inner bark) and cambium of the tree. Throughout each of its successive instars (larval growth stages), the larva continues to feed within this same part of the tree. The larval stage may last for nearly two years. Before becoming an adult, the insect overwinters as a pre-pupal larva. It then pupates in the spring and emerges as an adult during the summer.
- 3 EAB feeds strictly on ash trees. The larvae feed on the phloem and cambium, while the adults feed on leaves. In Connecticut, there are three species of ash trees—the white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), the green or red ash (*F. pennsylvanica*) and the black ash (*F. nigra*). Despite its common name, mountain ash (*Sorbus* spp.) is not a true ash and does not attract the EAB.
- 4 Two other buprestids are well-known to those in Connecticut who are concerned about trees. The bronze birch borer is a pest of ornamental birch trees. The two-lined chestnut borer often attacks stressed oak trees, including oaks in the forest.

Why is EAB a Problem?

5 EAB is an insect that is not native to North America. It was first found in 2002 in the vicinity of Detroit, MI, and Windsor, ON. It had arrived sometime within the several years previous, presumably on woody packaging materials. It is now known to be found in 12 states. It is considered to be established in several of the upper Midwest states where it was first found. Movement of ash, in particular ash nursery stock and ash wood in the form of firewood, logs and wood packaging materials, has been cited as a likely means by which EAB has been assisted in its spread. More recently, strict regulations have been initiated to prevent the movement of these materials from infested areas.

from "Emerald Ash Borer" by Department of Energy and Environmental Protection—Public Domain

10. Part A

How does the author organize the information about the emerald ash borer?

- (A) by providing general facts followed by a statement of a problem
- (B) by defining the problem in scientific terms followed by an argument for proposed action
- (C) by presenting a problem followed by a suggested solution
- (D) by listing facts in order of importance followed by causes of a problem

Part B

How does paragraph 3 contribute to the organizational pattern of the passage?

- (A) by showing why some facts about EABs are of greater significance than others
- (B) by explaining what course of action should be taken to prevent borer infestations
- (C) by providing the scientific names of various species of borer insects
- (D) by contrasting the food sources of the mature and immature EABs

11. Part A

What is one reason why the author includes the explanation about the EAB in paragraph 5?

- Ⓐ to help the reader understand the types of damage the EAB causes
- Ⓑ to help the reader understand why the EAB issue did not exist in the previous century
- Ⓒ to help the reader understand how the EAB exists in ash trees
- Ⓓ to help the reader understand where the EAB will most likely travel next

Part B

Which detail from paragraph 5 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . not native to North America.”
- Ⓑ “. . . known to be found in 12 states.”
- Ⓒ “. . . in particular ash nursery stock and ash wood . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . movement of these materials from infested areas.”

12. Part A

What is the meaning of **established** as it is used in paragraph 5 of the passage?

- Ⓐ in a strong position permitting growth
- Ⓑ proven beyond a doubt
- Ⓒ well known and respected
- Ⓓ accepted as a rule or law

Part B

Which phrase from paragraph 5 helps the reader understand the meaning of **established**?

- Ⓐ “. . . not native . . .”
- Ⓑ “. . . first found . . .”
- Ⓒ “. . . several years previous . . .”
- Ⓓ “. . . found in 12 states.”

13. Part A

Based on the information in the passage, what is one conclusion that can be drawn about the emerald ash borer?

- Ⓐ The habits of the emerald ash borer are harmful to ash trees.
- Ⓑ The emerald ash borer is the most destructive of the buprestids in North America.
- Ⓒ The buprestids, including the emerald ash borer, cause problems for Connecticut homeowners.
- Ⓓ Additional laws are needed in North America to protect the ash trees from the emerald ash borer.

Part B

Which evidence from the passage supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ "The larvae feed on the phloem and cambium, while the adults feed on leaves." (paragraph 3)
- Ⓑ "Two other buprestids are well-known to those in Connecticut. . . ." (paragraph 4)
- Ⓒ "The two-lined chestnut borer often attacks stressed oak trees. . . ." (paragraph 4)
- Ⓓ "More recently, strict regulations have been initiated to prevent the movement of these materials from infested areas." (paragraph 5)

This is the end of Item Set 2.

