

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS FOR
PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 6
(Test items developed for skills measured in ACTAAP*)

Skills

- 1.0 Constructive Meaning
 - 1.1 Context
 - 2.0 Extend/Evaluate Meaning
 - 2.1 Apply to Other Situations/Evaluate
 - 3.0 Using Reading Strategies
 - 3.1 Summarize/Compare Information/Use Pictures/Graphs/Text Information
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Number of questions: 24
Number of pages: 11

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ACTAAP PRACTICE TEST IN READING - GRADE 6 - FORM A

Directions: Read each passage and answer the questions that follow it.

TRACY'S MOMENTO

Tracy was a student in Mrs. Clark's class who was on a field trip to visit Newman's Candles, a local factory that made candles and sold them all over the United States. When they arrived at the factory, Tracy and her class were introduced to Sally Green, an employee of Newman's Candles who would lead the class on a tour of the factory building and explain to the students how candles are made.

First, Mrs. Green showed the class the "wax warehouse." The warehouse was a big room with a cement floor where small tractors made big piles of wax as they unloaded it off of delivery trucks.

"Newman's Candles uses only the best wax to make its candles," explained Mrs. Green to the class. "Today, as you can see, we are receiving a shipment of real beeswax, which we will use to make into Rolled Beeswax Candles."

Tracy looked around her at the piles of wax. It was all brown and didn't look anything like the colorful wax candles her mother had at home.

Mrs. Green took the class from room to room, where they got to watch the wax being washed and dried and separated to be used for different kinds of candles. Mrs. Green stopped in front of one door in particular. "Before we go into this room, you need to know that it is going to be warmer than any other room. That is because this is the room where the wax is melted before it is shaped. We use hot water and steam to melt all the wax. We will be walking on a catwalk above the vats of wax so that we can look down at them. Everyone please hold on to the handrail as you walk."

As she entered the door, Tracy could see that the brown wax was being dyed many different colors as it melted. Mrs. Green explained to the class that different combinations of dyes are used to make special colors for special projects. She pointed to one place in particular where three different colors of dye were being mixed into the melted wax to make a bright red color. Tracy leaned over the railing, and as she did, one of her earrings fell from her ear and landed in the vat of hot wax below.

"Oh no!" cried Tracy. "My earring! It fell into the wax!"

"Oh no!" said several of Tracy's friends, who were standing next to her. "Mrs. Green, Mrs. Green! Tracy's earring fell into the wax!"

Mrs. Green came over where Tracy and her friends were standing. "Don't panic," she said. "Did you see where it landed?"

Several fingers pointed to show her where the earring had sunk into the wax below. Mrs. Green took a hand-held radio from her belt and called to someone to explain the situation. In a moment, a man dressed in a white coat appeared on the floor under the catwalk where Mrs. Clark's class was standing. The man took a shovel and scooped through the wax looking for the earring.

Mrs. Green explained to Tracy that her earring would not be wearable after it was dug out of the wax. "Wax is very hard to clean off of small objects," she explained to Tracy. "But, if you would give me the other one, I have an idea that might help you to feel better about losing your earring." Mrs. Green explained her idea to Tracy, and Tracy agreed that it was a fun idea.

Several weeks later, Mrs. Clark called the class to attention first thing in the morning. "Tracy received a package in the mail this morning from Newman's Candles," she announced. Tracy went to the front of the class and opened the package. The whole class waited to see how Mrs. Green's idea had worked.

Tracy took a large red candle that smelled like berries out of the package. As she held it up to the class, they could see her earrings buried beneath the surface of the wax. It was a special momento of the class trip to Newman's Candles.

1. Why did Mrs. Green suggest the idea of having the earrings molded into a candle?
 - A. The class wanted a momento from their field trip.
 - B. The earrings would not be wearable after it was removed from the wax.
 - C. Tracy was hoping to get a special candle from Newman's.
 - D. The class was interested in seeing a candle being made.