

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS

FOR

PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 6

(Test items developed for skills measured in TCAP)

Skills

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|-----|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 1.0 | Content | 5.0 | Writing |
| 1.1 | Story Elements/Facts/
Summaries | 5.1 | Problematic Sentences |
| 1.2 | Author's Purpose | 5.2 | Purpose of Writing |
| 1.3 | Forms of Text/Point of View | 5.3 | Organize Ideas |
| 2.0 | Word Meanings | 6.0 | Grammar |
| 2.1 | Text Elements | 6.1 | Parts of Speech |
| 2.2 | Comprehension Strategies | 6.2 | Subject-Verb Agreement |
| 3.0 | Vocabulary | 6.3 | Punctuation |
| 3.1 | Meaning in Context | 6.4 | Usage |
| 3.2 | Synonyms/Antonyms/Homonyms | 7.0 | Literary/Research Skills |
| 3.3 | Prefixes/Suffixes/Root Words | 7.1 | Select Source |
| 4.0 | Writing/Organization | 7.2 | Interpret Data |
| 4.1 | Paragraph Organization | 7.3 | Supporting Evidence |
| 4.2 | Title | 7.4 | Figurative Language |
| 4.3 | Simple Outlines | 7.5 | Spelling |

Number of questions: 64
Number of pages: 19
Approximate testing time: 80 minutes

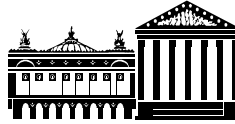
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TCAP PRACTICE TEST IN READING (ENGLISH) - GRADE 6
FORM A

PART 1

Read each passage and answer the questions that follow. Stop when you come to the word STOP.



In A.D. 62 a violent earthquake shook the cities and towns near Mount Vesuvius, severely damaging many buildings. One of these towns, Pompeii, was a prosperous town that had been founded in the 700's B.C. by a people native to the region. In later years the people of Pompeii were influenced by the Greek colonies on the coast and built public buildings in the Greek style. Because it was a port located on the Gulf of Naples, the city gradually collected wealth through trade in wine, oil, and other products. By the late first century B.C., wealthy Roman landowners were attracted to Pompeii because of its mild climate and prosperous trade. Many of them built great villas for their families.

Reconstruction of some of the buildings damaged in the earthquake of A.D. 62 was never completed. Mount Vesuvius erupted suddenly and violently in A.D. 72, releasing rivers of red-hot lava and mud that poured into the nearby town of Hercaulaneum. Most of the people of that town had time to escape. It took a few days. Most of the people of that town had time to escape. It took a few days. Most often people of that town had time to escape. Many people in Pompeii, however, could not escape. Hot cinder, ashes, and stones rained down on the town, and poisonous gases filled the air. In just a few days, Pompeii was buried in sixteen to twenty feet of volcanic material.

When the wet cinders and ashes cooled and dried and they sealed up much of Pompeii. It was not until the eighteenth century that serious excavation began. The excavators, however, were interested mainly in finding valuable objects, so they concentrated only on certain buildings. In the nineteenth century, Giuseppe Fiorelli started excavating the ancient Roman town block by block. Excavation continued, and about fifty years ago it was decided to leave the buildings and artifacts in place and to restore as much of the ancient town as possible. As a result, visitors can have walked through the streets of ancient Pompeii, seeing much of it as it appeared in the first century.

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| <p>1. Which sentence is a fact referring to the story?</p> <p>A. Most wealthy Roman landowners were attracted to Pompeii.</p> <p>B. In the nineteenth century, Giuseppe Firellie started excavating the ancient Roman town block by block.</p> <p>C. Excavators from all over the world were interested mainly in finding valuable objects.</p> <p>D. Pompeii was a prosperous town just like Mount Vesuvius.</p> | <p>2. What would be the best title for this passage?</p> <p>A. The Reconstruction of the City of Pompeii</p> <p>B. The Fall of Pompeii</p> <p>C. Artifacts Found in Pompeii</p> <p>D. The City of Pompeii</p> <p>3. What is the writer's purpose for writing this piece?</p> <p>A. to explain the fate of Pompeii</p> <p>B. to persuade tourists to tour the ruins</p> <p>C. to warn people about earthquakes</p> <p>D. to entertain the reader</p> |
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