

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE ITEMS FOR

PRACTICE TEST, READING, GRADE 10

(Test items developed for skills measured in TERRA NOVA [CTBS]*)

Skills

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|-----|--|-----|--|
| 1.0 | Literal Meaning | 4.0 | Reading Strategies |
| 1.1 | Vocabulary | 4.1 | Using Pictures/Graphs/Text Information |
| 1.2 | Stated Information | 4.2 | Summarize/Compare Information |
| 2.0 | Reading Comprehension | 5.0 | Thinking Skills |
| 2.1 | Main Idea | 5.1 | Generate Ideas |
| 2.2 | Cause/Effect; Inferences | 5.2 | Organize Information |
| 2.3 | Draw Conclusions | 5.3 | Gather Information |
| 2.4 | Story Elements | 5.4 | Analyze Information |
| 2.5 | Literary Techniques | 5.5 | Evaluating Incomes |
| 3.0 | Extend Meaning | 5.6 | Synthesize Elements |
| 3.1 | Predict | | |
| 3.2 | Application to Other Situations/Extend Meaning | | |
| 3.3 | Author's Purpose/Meaning | | |
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Number of questions: 48

Number of pages: 18

Approximate testing time: 60 minutes

CTBS and CAT are parallel tests

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TERRA NOVA PRACTICE TEST IN READING - GRADE 10

Directions: Read this story and answer Numbers 1 through 9.

Canis Lupus Returns to Yellowstone

Yellowstone National Park, in the North-western corner of Wyoming, is one of the most beautiful and famous places on earth. People around the world are familiar with the home of Old Faithful, the geyser which shoots 8,000 gallons of hot water 130 feet into the air 20 or more times a day. During the summer months, thousands of people gather to watch each spectacular eruption.

Yellowstone has been well-known and well-loved almost since the day it was discovered by modern people. Trappers, fur traders, and explorers began to visit the area in the early 1800's. The gorgeous mountains, incredible geysers, hot springs, and bountiful animal life soon established the area with a reputation of beauty. In 1869 the Cook-Fulsom-Peterson Expedition was the first group to actually explore and draw maps of the area.

It was the very next summer that General Henry Washburn, a government official, used those maps to lead his own exploration party into the Yellowstone wilderness. During this trip a very important event took place. General Washburn and his men sat around a blazing fire one evening discussing how they could divide up the land to keep among themselves. They believed that the natural beauty of the area would prove a good investment and make them very rich men. General Washburn became more and more quiet as the conversation went on, until he finally decided to speak. He told his men that he thought it would be wrong to divide up the land for profit. He thought the place was so beautiful that it should be shared by all Americans instead of owned by a few men. It was his idea that perhaps Congress could declare it to be a National Park.

And so it was on December 18, 1871, that Congress passed a bill establishing the area around Yellowstone river to be America's first ever national park. President Grant signed the bill into law several months later, having never seen the land for himself.

It was just over a century later that Yellowstone became famous for another reason. It was here that scientists and environmentalists decided to reintroduce *canis lupus*, the wild gray wolf.

When Yellowstone became the first national park in U.S. history, gray wolves were one of the animals that lived here along with buffalo, elk, deer, big horn sheep, and bears. But as the years went on and more and more people moved into houses and farms around the area, wolves began to disappear. Farmers and ranchers, afraid for the safety of their livestock and families, would shoot any wolf they saw. Decades passed, and soon all the wolves were gone.

It was not until the wolves had all been killed that people began to realize they may never come back. Some scientists and environmentalists felt that wolves were an important part of the balance of nature, and that the wilderness and the other animal populations would not be the same without them. It took many years, but slowly some people began to think that killing all the wolves in the Yellowstone area was a mistake.

In 1973, 102 years since the birth of Yellowstone National Park, President Richard Nixon signed the Endangered Species Act, a law which, among other things, said that the government must help bring back animals that had been hunted and killed until they were all gone in one area. Not everyone agreed with this law. Many farmers and ranchers still thought the wolf was a dangerous animal that could kill their cattle and sheep. This would cost the ranchers a lot of money, which they could not afford. There were many arguments about what to do, even in Congress.

Finally someone had the idea to pay the ranchers for the cattle and other animals that the wolves might kill to eat. This idea was good for both the ranchers and the wolves. With this problem solved, there were just two other questions: Where would the new wolves come from, and where would they live?

Luckily, some wild gray wolves still lived in the Canadian wilderness. Canada agreed to help the United States by giving America some wolves. It was then decided that the wolves should be brought to live in Yellowstone, because it is a very large place where the wolves could have enough space and food and still be safe.

In January 1995, 14 wolves were captured in western Canada and flown to Yellowstone, their new home. They were put into very large pens, where they stayed for several weeks while they got used to their new surroundings. Some scientists were afraid that if they did not like their new home they might try to return to Canada, a long and hard trip that might kill them.

Everyone was relieved when, after the gates were opened, the wolves decided to stay in Yellowstone. The next year, in 1996, 17 more wolves were brought from Canada to add to the new *canis lupus* population in Yellowstone National Park.

The problem of bringing wolves back to live in Yellowstone National Park was a difficult one, but it has been very successful. As of 1999, 11 wolf packs (wolf families) are now living in the area. This means that about 120 wild gray wolves now roam the park. On a lucky day, tourists can spot the wolves on a hillside, playing in the grass or snow.