

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS

FOR

PRACTICE TEST FOR READING, GRADE 8

(Test items developed for skills measured in TAKS03)

Skills

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1.0 | Understanding Text | 3.0 | Analyze Text |
| 1.1 | Word Identification | 3.1 | Cause/Effect |
| 1.2 | Vocabulary | 3.2 | Similarities/Differences |
| 1.3 | Reading Comprehension | 3.3 | Purposes of Text |
| 2.0 | Apply Knowledge | 3.4 | Compare/Contrast |
| 2.1 | Analyze Characters | 4.0 | Critical Thinking Skills |
| 2.2 | Setting | 4.1 | Inferences/Conclusions |
| 2.3 | Interpret Literary Devices | 4.2 | Fact and Opinion |
| | | 4.3 | Compare/Contrast/
Chronological |
| | | 4.4 | Style/Mood/Tone of Text |

Number of questions: 48

Number of pages: 17

(c) EPES TESTING, INC.

(OVER)

TAKS03 PRACTICE TEST IN READING/ENGLISH - GRADE 10
FORM A

DIRECTIONS:

Read the three selections and answer the questions which follow.

Canis Lupus Returns to Yellowstone

1 Yellowstone National Park, in the northwestern 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.

My notes about what I am reading

2 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 1800s. 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.

3 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.

1. What conclusion can you make about General Henry Washburn after reading paragraph 3?
- A. He was a trapper and fur trader.
 - B. He drew complex maps of the Yellowstone wilderness.
 - C. He was a generous and patriotic government official.
 - D. He hoped to gain profit for himself and the other members of his exploration party.

2. What is the most important historic significance of the story of Yellowstone National Park?
- A. Yellowstone was not the first national park.
 - B. The Endangered Species Act came about as a result of problems there.
 - C. There were countless arguments about it in Congress.
 - D. The United States and Canada became friends.