

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)

Sample Test Questions ELA/Literacy, Grades 3-5

ELA/Literacy Grade 3

Directions: Today, you will read two stories titled "Johnny Chuck Finds the Best Thing in the World" and "Me First." As you read, think about the actions of the characters and the events of the stories. Answer the questions to help you write an essay.

Sample essay question: Old Mother West Wind and the Sandwich both try to teach important lessons to characters in the stories. Write an essay that explains how Old Mother West Wind's and the Sandwich's words and actions are important to the plots of the stories. Use what you learned about the characters to support your essay.

ELA/Literacy Grade 4

Directions: Today you will read a story about a girl whose family is from India and a poem that expresses how the speaker faces frightening experiences. After you finish the task, you will write an essay about a theme in the story and the poem.

Sample question: Select **three** phrases that help describe the setting in the column titled "Phrases that Describe the Setting". Then, select **three** pieces of supporting evidence in the column titled "Evidence from 'Just Like Home.'"

Phrases that Describe the Setting	Evidence from "Just like Home."
a playground with a large cement area	"Now she sat in the corner of the field and watched the other kids play without her." (paragraph 1)
a long driveway with room to welcome guests	"The studio had the most wonderful things, like aluminum pie tins, plaster of Paris and India ink." (paragraph 2)
a field for sitting and watching others	"All the families in India, where Priya's family was from, did rangoli every morning just like Priya and her mother." (paragraph 4)
a walkway with little drawing space	"Their new apartment had barely any sidewalk in front of it, and there was no room for rangoli." (paragraph 4)
a workspace filled with art supplies	"Priya walked over to the basketball court and sat on the host pavement." (paragraph 5)

ELA/Literacy Grade 5

Sample essay question: You have read a passage from "The Growin' of Paul Bunyan." Think about how the story would be different if it were told from Johnny's point of view. Write a narrative story retelling the story from the point of view of Johnny. Be sure to use supporting details from the passage.