

Smarter Balanced
Sample Practice Test Questions/Performance Tasks
ELA/Literacy, Grades 6-8

ELA/Literacy
Grade 6

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Sample test question: The author suggests that Raining Fish was a welcomed event to some people. Which sentence from the text **best** supports this inference?

- A. "In some places, however, it happens so often that it doesn't even surprise residents any longer."
- B. "In Yoro, Honduras, it happens so regularly that they have begun to predict the Lluvia de Peces, or Rain of Fishes, once or twice a year."
- C. "In Lajamanu, Australia, the fish were not only alive, but some were large enough to eat."
- D. "It has rained fish on every continent, and each time, people have tried in various ways to explain this strange phenomenon."

Sample performance task: Explain what Source #1 and Source #3 say about how robots are able to save lives by paraphrasing the information while avoiding plagiarism.

ELA/Literacy
Grade 7

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

Sample essay question: Summarize the central idea in the section "Ups and Downs." Use key evidence from the text to support your summary.

Sample performance task: People whose sleep is routinely interrupted might need to pay special attention to their sleep needs. Provide **two** pieces of evidence from different sources that support this claim and explain how each example supports the claim. Cite evidence for each piece of information and identify the source by title or number.

ELA/Literacy
Grade 8

Read the text. Then answer the questions.

Sample multiple-choice question: Which statement **best** summarizes the central idea of the text?

- A. Ansel Adams volunteered at a film development company when he was young and developed a foundation for photography.
- B. Ansel Adams captured the smallest of the details in everyday life, and considered the use of light, shade, and angles before taking a photograph.
- C. Ansel Adams approached photography with the desire to capture the experience within the setting or subjects taken, evoking a range of emotion from his viewers.
- D. Ansel Adams put extensive thought and preparation into his photography by documenting the types of film, lens, and filters needed when photographing his subjects.

Sample performance task: Look at the claims in the table. Decide if the information in Source #3, Source #4, both sources, or neither source supports each claim. Click on the box that identifies the source that supports each claim. There will be only one box selected for each claim.

	Source #3: Give a Penny—Save the Day!	Source #4: The Ever-Changing Penny	Both	Neither
The penny has more value than what it can buy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rounding price totals will cause an increase in prices.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The low value of a penny is a good thing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing the metals in the penny is a possible solution for people who want to keep the penny.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>