

LITERARY TEXT

WASL Reading Question Stems

Grades 6-10

LC01: Demonstrate understanding of theme or message and supporting details (Reading GLE 2.1.3)

- MC:** What is the main idea/theme of the selection?
- SA:** The selection shows (theme/main idea). Provide **two** details from the selection that support this idea.
- SA:** Any of these titles could be another title for the selection. Choose the title you think best fits the selection. (Title) (Title) (Title) Provide **two** details from the selection to support your choice. **NOTE:** Make sure titles capture the theme of the selection.
- SA:** What is the main idea/theme of the selection? Support your answer with **one** example from the selection.

LC02: Summarize with evidence from the reading (Reading GLE 2.1.7)

- MC:** Which sentence summarizes this selection?
- SA:** In your own words, write a summary of the selection. Include **three** main events from the selection in your summary.

LC03: Make inferences or predictions based on the reading (Reading GLE 2.1.5)

- MC:** What does the author/character mean when he/she says "___" in paragraph __ of the selection?
- MC:** Based on the information in the selection, what inference /assumption can the reader make about _____?
- MC:** Based on the information in the selection, what do you predict what (character) will do now that (cite circumstances at the end of the selection)?
- MC:** Based on the information in the selection, what will most likely happen to (character) after (cite circumstances at the end of the selection)?
- MC:** How did (character) most likely react to _____?
- SA:** What is the most likely reason that (character) (action). Provide **two** details from the selection in your answer.
- SA:** Based on the information in the selection, predict what will most likely happen if the (character) (action). Provide information from the selection to support your prediction.
- SA:** What will (character) do now that (cite circumstances at end of selection)? Support your prediction with information from the selection.
- SA:** Based on the information in the selection, what inference/assumption can you make about (event/theme/character) _____? Include information from the selection to support your inference/assumption.
- SA:** Explain how ___ was important to the author/poet/character. Use **two** details from the selection to support your answer.

LC04: Interpret vocabulary critical to the meaning of the text (Reading GLE 1.3.2)

- MC:** What is the meaning of the word/phrase (*word/phrase in italics*) in paragraph (number) of the selection?
- MC:** What is the meaning of the word/phrase (*word/phrase in italics*) as it is used in paragraph (number) of the selection?
- MC:** Which word could the author have used in paragraph (number) instead of (vocabulary word/phrase)?

LA05: Demonstrate understanding of literary elements (genres; story elements such as plot, character, setting; stylistic devices) and graphic elements/illustrations (Reading GLE 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.3.3.)

- MC:** What is the main conflict in the selection?
- MC:** According to the story/selection/poem, which word best describes (character/setting)?
- MC:** What object does the author/poet personify?
- MC:** How does (character) feel about (character/event, etc.)?
- MC:** Which two objects does the author/poet compare using a simile/metaphor? **NOTE:** This item type should be passage-dependent; i.e. students should have to return to the text in order to answer the question.
- SA:** How does (character's action or trait) contribute to the conflict in the selection? Include **two** details from the selection in your answer.
- SA:** Any of these words could be used to describe (character) in the selection. Choose the word you think best describes (character). Adj. Adj. Adj. Provide **two** details from the selection to support your choice.
- SA:** How does (character) change in the selection? Use information from the selection to support your answer.
- ER:** What problem does (character) experience? What are three steps he/she takes to solve this problem? Include information from the selection in your answer.
- ER:** According to the selection, describe how (character) feels about (character/event/issue). Provide **three** details from the selection to support your answer.

LA06: Compare and contrast elements of text (Reading GLEs 2.3.1, 2.4.6)

- MC:** Which sentence tells how (two characters in the selection) are similar?
- MC:** How are the ___ in the story/selection/poem and ___ in the selection similar/different?
- MC:** How does (character's) feeling about (subject) compare to the author/poet's feeling about (same subject)?
- SA:** What are two similarities/differences between (character/events/object, etc.) and (character/events/object, etc.)? Include information from the selection in your answer.
- SA:** How do the (first author's/subject's/poet's) feelings about _____ compare to the (second author's/subject's/poet's) feelings about _____? Include **one** detail from the (first selection) and **one** detail from the (second selection) in your answer.
- SA:** The author of (the first selection in a pair) states, "___". Provide **two** examples from (the second selection in a pair) that (demonstrate the idea in the statement).
- ER:** What are two ways (character/event/object, etc. in first selection) is like or is different than (character/event/object, etc. in second selection)? Include information from (first selection) and (second selection) in your answer.

LA07: Make connections (cause and effect) between parts of text (Reading GLE 2.3.1)

- MC: Which sentence best describes (character's) response to (character) in the selection?
- MC: Why does (character) (action)?
- MC: Why does (character) decide to _____?
- MC: Which sentence explains why (event) happened in the selection?
- MC: According to the selection, what happens/happened when (action)?
- SA: Explain why (event) happened. Include **two** details from the selection in your answer.
- ER: How did (character's experience in selection) influence (character's growth or development)? Include three details from the selection in your answer.
- ER: What problem does (character) experience in the selection? What are **three** events that happen as a result of the problem? Include information from the selection in your answer.
- ER: What problem does (character) experience in the selection? What are **three** events that contribute to the resolution of the problem? Include information from the selection in you answer.

LT08: Analyze author's purpose and evaluate effectiveness for different audiences (includes fact/opinion, author's point of view, tone, and use of persuasive devices) (Reading GLEs 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4)

- MC: In paragraph ___ of the selection, why does the author include (technique)?
- MC: What is most likely the author's purpose for writing this selection?
- MC: Which sentence from the selection is an opinion? **NOTE:** Preferably use only in biographies. Answer choices taken directly from the text will appear in quotation marks.
- MC: Which word/sentence best describes the author's/poet's attitude/feelings about ___ in the selection?
- MC: What is the author's purpose for writing the selection? **NOTE:** Use with To ___, To ___, To ___, To ___
- MC: Which opinion can be supported with information from the selection? **NOTE:** Each statement must be an opinion.
- SA: What is the author's/subject's/poet's purpose for writing the selection? Provide **one** detail from the selection to support your answer.
- SA: Any of these phrases could identify the author's purpose for writing the selection. Choose the phrase you think best describes the author's purpose for writing the selection. (verb phrase) (verb phrase) (verb phrase) Use **two** details from the selection to support your choice. **NOTE:** Possible verb phrases include, but are not limited to: To entertain, To describe, To inform.
- SA: The author's purpose for writing this selection may have been to (give purpose). Provide **two** details from the selection to support this purpose.
- ER: What is the author's/subject's/poet's purpose for writing the selection? Provide **three** details from the selection to support your answer.
- ER: The author of the selection states, "___". Do you agree with his/her statement? Use **two** details from the selection to support your answer. **NOTE:** Use statements from the passage that state an opinion.

LT09: Evaluate reasoning and ideas/themes related to the text (Reading GLE 2.4.1, 2.4.5)

- MC: What is wrong with (character's) reasoning in the selection?
- MC: Which statement is the most important conclusion the reader can draw from the selection? **NOTE:** This is evaluating a conclusion.
- SA: Why does (character) do (action)? Include **two** details from the selection in your answer.
- SA: Is (character's) decision to (action) a good idea? Provide **two** details from the selection to support your answer.
- SA: Is the following statement a reasonable conclusion that readers may draw from the selection? ___(Statement)___ Provide **two** details from the selection to support your answer.
- ER: Does (character's) treatment of (other characters) seem fair? Include **four** details from the selection to support your answer.

LT10: Extend information beyond text (make generalizations beyond the text to a broader idea or concept, draw conclusions, or apply information to other texts or situations) (Reading GLEs 2.4.1, 2.4.5)

- MC: Based on the information in the selection, what generalization can the reader make about (concept/idea/event)?
- MC: Based on the information in the selection, what conclusion can the reader draw about (character/idea/event/concept)?
- SA: One conclusion that a reader can draw from this selection is (give conclusion). Provide **two** details from the selection to support this conclusion.
- SA: What conclusion can the reader draw about (character/event, etc.)? Provide information from the selection to support the conclusion.
- ER: What four pieces of advice would (character) give about (topic in passage)? Provide information from the selection in your answer.

LC = Literary Comprehension	MC = Multiple Choice
LA = Literary Analysis	SA = Short Answer
LT = Literary Critical Thinking	ER = Extended Response