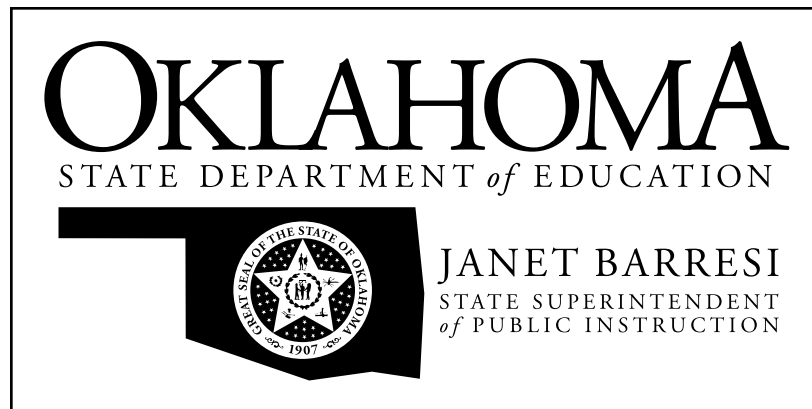


Oklahoma School Testing Program



Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests

2011–2012 Released Items

Grade 7
Reading

**Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma**

Acknowledgments

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PEARSON

Reading



Directions

Read the selection below and the questions that follow it. Choose the best answer for each question.

Read this passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

100671

The Guest

by Uma Krishnaswami



- 1 Nasreddin is a legendary character who appears in many Asian folktales. He solves life's problems with a mixture of foolishness and wisdom.
- 2 Mullah Nasreddin was a wise man. When he spoke, people listened. And so he chose his words and actions as carefully as kings choose their generals.
- 3 One day a rich man invited the Mullah to a feast at his house. "I would be honored, Mullah¹ sahib²," said he, "if you would grace us with your presence. Tomorrow night?"
- 4 "I will come," agreed Mullah Nasreddin, "tomorrow night."
- 5 The following night, the Mullah threw on his shabbiest and most comfortable clothes. "It is a bit chilly," he said, and added an old black coat. The edges of its sleeves were frayed. The holes in its elbows were patched with swatches torn from old flour sacks.
- 6 On his feet, Mullah Nasreddin slipped a pair of ragged sandals.

¹**Mullah:** a religious leader or teacher

²**sahib:** in the Hindi language, a courteous title for a respected man



- 7 When darkness fell he arrived at the rich man's doorstep. A servant opened the door. "What do you want, old man?" the servant demanded.
- 8 "Your master has invited me to his feast," said the Mullah.
- 9 The servant peered suspiciously at him. "Wait here," he said. "I'll be back in a moment."
- 10 The servant went in. His whispers carried to the door. "An old beggarman, O my master . . . says he is your guest . . ."
- 11 The rich man came to the courtyard to take a look. Seeing the old man in his ragged clothes, he waved a hand to the servant, then went back to join his elegant guests.
- 12 The servant returned to the door. "My master does not know you," he said.
- 13 "He invited me to his feast," insisted the Mullah.
- 14 The servant laughed. "Nonsense! Invited you? A ragged old beggar? My master's friends are noblemen and kings. Be off before I take a stick to you!"
- 15 So Mullah Nasreddin went home. He changed into his finest silk garments. He wore a black woolen vest with silver trim. He put his best cap on his head and added a handsome high-collared coat. He sprinkled rose water on his face and hands. He combed his beard.
- 16 Smiling to himself, he made his way back to the rich man's house and knocked at the door.
- 17 Once again, the servant opened it. Once again, the Mullah said, "Your master has invited me to his feast."
- 18 This time the servant bowed respectfully and ushered him in.
- 19 "Welcome, welcome, Mullah sahib." And the rich man himself showed the Mullah to his special seat at the feast.
- 20 "At last, Mullah sahib," said the guests. "We have all been waiting for you."
- 21 The food arrived. "Serve Mullah Nasreddin first," said the rich man. The Mullah smiled at everyone. Then he began to get busy with his food.
- 22 But he did not eat.
- 23 "Hai hai!" cried the guests.
- 24 "Mullah sahib! What are you doing?" cried the rich man.
- 25 For Mullah Nasreddin had begun to spoon the soup over his best cap. He crumbled the bread and sprinkled the crumbs over the shoulders of his handsome high-collared coat. He took apart the shish kebab and fed it lovingly to his sleeves.



- 26 The rich man's voice trembled. "Mullah sahib, do you not like the food?"
- 27 In reply, Mullah Nasreddin dribbled the delicate yogurt and cream sauces over his fine silk garments and best black woolen vest with silver trim. Then he sat back and beamed at everyone.
- 28 There was a shocked silence. Then the rich man said, "O most respected Mullah Nasreddin, you never do anything without a reason. Has someone offended you?"
- 29 The Mullah replied, "When I arrived in rags, you turned me away. Now that I am dressed in finery, you treat me with honor. Clearly it is my clothes you are welcoming and not me. So it is only fitting that they should eat this delightful food you have prepared for them."
- 30 The rich man hung his head in shame. He said, "Mullah sahib, forgive me. I was blind. I saw only your clothes and could not recognize the wearer. I will never again judge people by how they look or by the clothes they wear." And, in truth, he never did.

1 In paragraph 5, the word shabbiest means the same as

529163_4

- A** baggiest.
- B** warmest.
- C** best fitting.
- D** most ragged.

2 Which sentence uses words that show an action being repeated?

529280_4

- A** When he spoke, people listened.
- B** One day a rich man invited the Mullah to a feast at his house.
- C** On his feet, Mullah Nasreddin slipped a pair of ragged sandals.
- D** Once again, the servant opened it.

**3 Which is an example of a simile?**

529254_1

- A** . . . he chose his words and actions as carefully as kings choose their generals.
- B** When darkness fell he arrived at the rich man's doorstep.
- C** Seeing the old man in his ragged clothes, he waved a hand to the servant . . .
- D** This time the servant bowed respectfully and ushered him in.

4 The details in paragraph 25 support which of these ideas?

529390_2

- A** Nasreddin wanted to spoil the feast by making a mess.
- B** Nasreddin was willing to look silly to make his point.
- C** Nasreddin wanted to entertain the other guests.
- D** Nasreddin was trying to embarrass himself.

5 Which detail best supports Nasreddin's legendary wisdom?

529318_1

- A** People listen when he speaks.
- B** He returns after being sent away.
- C** A rich man invites him to a feast.
- D** At the feast, he smiles at everyone.

6 Which word reflects Nasreddin's actions in the middle of the story?

529499_1

- A** clever
- B** restless
- C** ambitious
- D** emotional



7 Which conflict was revealed when the servant asked, "What do you want, old man?" 529480_4

- A** youth versus age
- B** past versus present
- C** thinking versus doing
- D** appearance versus reality

8 Which characteristic of a folk tale is found in this story? 529469_2

- A** It uses suspense to tell about a puzzling event or crime.
- B** It teaches a lesson based on a community's values.
- C** It narrates the events in a character's lifetime.
- D** It explains the origins of an element in nature.



Read the selection below. Then answer the questions that follow.

100882

Something in the Wind

- 1 Something is in the wind in Oklahoma these days. What is it? Electricity, of course! High atop the Slick Hills, northwest of Lawton, 45 giant wind turbines rise more than 300 feet into the air. These modern day windmills are part of the Blue Canyon Wind Farm project. The windmills are designed to harness the power of the wind. How much power? These windmills can produce enough electricity for 20,000 homes.
- 2 Oklahoma was once the oil capital of the world. Now, the state is fast becoming a national leader in wind power generation. Blue Canyon Wind Farm was the state's first wind power plant, but it has not been the last. Several more wind farms have been built since the Blue Canyon facility opened in 2003. The new wind farms are even larger than Blue Canyon, and they also produce more electricity. Today, only four states produce more wind power than Oklahoma.
- 3 The wind turbines sit at the top of tall, sleek towers. With three large rotor blades, the turbines look something like large airplane propellers. Each of the rotors is more than 100 feet long. When the wind blows, these rotors turn, and electricity is produced. In fact, each modern windmill can produce enough power for more than 500 homes. They do so without burning fuel or creating pollution. Plus, wind power is inexpensive and renewable.
- 4 Modern windmills might look like something from a science-fiction movie, but wind power is nothing new. People have relied on wind power for thousands of years. Oklahoma, or even the United States, as we know it would not exist without the wind. Centuries ago, the first colonists came to America aboard ships powered by the wind.
- 5 The first windmills can be traced back to Persia. They were built about two thousand years ago. The windmills pumped water for crops and turned stones to grind grain. Europeans later developed many other uses for windmill power. Wind power was used to saw timber, grind minerals, and even produce electricity. Windmills were also important in the United States. In the late 1800s, most small farms and ranches relied on windmills. They were the only way to produce the electricity needed to charge batteries, run radios, and pump water from deep wells.
- 6 During the early 1900s, however, wind technology was largely forgotten. People learned how to use oil and gas to produce electricity. Electricity was



cheaper and easier to produce using gas burning generators. But now that oil is in short supply, wind power is starting to make a comeback. Unlike oil and gas, wind is plentiful. There is little chance the wind will stop blowing—at least not for very long. In most of Oklahoma, wind is very abundant. In fact, experts think the state has enough wind to supply all of its electricity needs. For now, though, wind farms produce only a small portion of the state’s power needs.

- 7 Scientists have made many improvements to modern windmills. These improvements make wind power more and more attractive. Relying on the wind for power, however, is not without problems. Windmills can make electricity only when the wind is blowing. To minimize this problem, wind farms are built in areas known to be windy. High ridges and hills usually work best, which is why the Slick Hills area of Oklahoma was chosen. Before a location is chosen, years of tests are done to determine just how windy an area is. So far, experts have chosen productive spots for Oklahoma’s wind farms, and the state’s wind power project has been a tremendous success. You might even say it is blowing away expectations!



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9

529589_2

I. History of Windmills**A. Persia**

1. Pump water
2. Turn stones

B. Europe

1. Saw timber
2. Grind minerals
3. Produce electricity

C. United States

- 1.
2. Run radios
3. Pump water

Which best completes this outline?

- A** Power generators
- B** Charge batteries
- C** Crush grain
- D** Dig wells

10 In the word technology, what does the suffix “ology” mean?

529209_3

- A** a place for
- B** a thing that
- C** the study of
- D** the quality of



11 The main reason the use of wind technology decreased in the early 1900s is

529306_3

- A the migration of people to the cities.
- B the expense of rotor blades.
- C the use of gas generators.
- D the invention of batteries.

12 Why is wind power becoming more popular?

529304_1

- A Oil is now in limited supply.
- B Land is plentiful for building turbines.
- C It is one of the oldest forms of power.
- D It can be used for numerous purposes.

13 In paragraph 7, what does minimize mean?

529192_1

- A reduce
- B estimate
- C establish
- D substitute

14 The reader can conclude that other windy states

529336_1

- A will research the possibility of using windmills.
- B have limited the ways to use wind power.
- C have not considered utilizing wind power.
- D will stop using other forms of electricity.



15 The reader can best tell that “Something in the Wind” is a nonfiction selection because it

529462_3

- A** contains a main idea.
- B** contains figurative language.
- C** presents facts and examples about a subject.
- D** presents thoughts and ideas in paragraph form.

16 Which topic would best help locate more information on the Internet about the Blue Canyon Wind Farm?

529549_4

- A** rotors
- B** towers
- C** farm projects
- D** wind turbines



Read this passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

100665

Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice

by Dave Crawley



- 1 I was thinking this morning, while drinking my juice,
That it's quite easy telling a moose from a goose.
A goose doesn't gallop. There's no need to try.
And whoever heard of a moose that could fly?
- 5 The moose is a mammal. The goose is a bird.
A goose joins a gaggle. The moose has a herd.
But what do I call them? What's the right use
Of a name to describe more than one goose or moose?
- I pour some more juice. I now have two juices.
- 10 But never, not ever, could I have two mooses.
Two geese? Of course not! That just isn't done!
It does get confusing to have more than one!
It is proper to talk about seventeen geese,
But nobody ever had forty-one meese.
- 15 If there should be more than one moose on the loose,
The name is the same. There are sixty-two moose.



But I wonder, whatever could be the right words
For more than one gaggle or eighty-one herds?
Is it geese and moose, or geese and mooses?
20 No time to answer, I've finished my juices.



Funny Food Names

by Marie Jones

1 Is a Strawberry made of Straw? Is a Grapefruit a big, yellow Grape? Are Hamburgers made of Ham? Are Sandwiches full of sand?

2 No, of course not. But let's see how these foods got their names.

Straw Fruit

3 Strawberry plants have long stems that grow along the ground. These stems look like straw. Because the juicy, red berries grow on a plant that looks like straw, they are called strawberries.

Bunches of Sunshine

4 Grapefruits are citrus fruits, like oranges and lemons. But unlike other citrus fruits, grapefruits grow in bunches on trees. Because they grow in bunches, much like grapes, they are called grapefruits.

German Burgers

5 Hundreds of years ago, ground beefsteak was a popular food in Hamburg, Germany. When people from Hamburg moved to the United States, they taught Americans how to make these ground beef patties. The Americans called the patties "hamburgers," after the Germans' hometown.

Go Fish

6 Long ago, a nobleman who lived in Sandwich, England, liked to play cards. He liked playing cards so much that he didn't want to stop playing even to eat. He asked for a piece of meat between two slices of bread so that he could eat and play cards at the same time. The sandwich was named for that nobleman, the Earl of Sandwich.

17 Which rhyme pattern is used in "Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice"?

- A abab
- B aabb
- C abca
- D aaaa

529540_2



18 Which sentence expresses an opinion in “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice”?

529439_1

- A There’s no need to try.
- B The moose is a mammal.
- C The goose is a bird.
- D I now have two juices.

19 “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice” has which characteristic of a poem?

529407_3

- A hyperbole
- B metaphor
- C stanzas
- D similes

20 In which book would the poem, “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice” most likely be found?

529552_4

- A *Origins of Words*
- B *Wintertime Poetry*
- C *Sonnets and Haikus*
- D *Poems for Silly Smiles*

21 Why does the author of “Funny Food Names” begin with four questions?

529314_2

- A to encourage the reader to ask many questions
- B to attract the reader’s interest in the answers
- C to describe various types of foods
- D to show the reader the main idea



22 Which question is answered in paragraph 5 of “Funny Food Names”?

529381_3

- A** How did the strawberry get its name?
- B** What was the Earl of Sandwich’s hobby?
- C** What is the origin of the word hamburger?
- D** How do grapefruits differ from other citrus fruits?

23 How do the purposes of “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice” and “Funny Food Names” compare?

529504_3

- A** Both are persuasive.
- B** Both show a rhyming pattern.
- C** Both are entertaining selections.
- D** Both are informational about word origins.

24 What do “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice” and “Funny Food Names” have in common?

529509_4

- A** They use a similar tone.
- B** They follow a sequential pattern.
- C** Both study the historical origin of words.
- D** Both point out unusual qualities of words.

25 How does the point of view in “Thoughts I Was Thinking While Drinking My Juice” compare to the point of view in “Funny Food Names”?

529406_2

- A** The poem uses third person point of view, while the article uses first person.
- B** The poem uses first person point of view, while the article uses third person.
- C** Both use third person point of view.
- D** Both use first person point of view.



