

5th Grade, Unit 4: America in Conflict

Summative Assessment

Literary Analysis

This assessment is intended to provide an opportunity to score students on the following standards:

* RL.5.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.
* RL.5.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
* RL.5.6 Describe how a narrator’s or speaker’s point of view influences how events are described.
* W.5.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.a. Apply grade 5 Reading standards to literature (in this case…RL.5.6)

The format for this assessment is aligned to the format for the Literary Analysis section of the PARCC Assessment. Students are asked to read two literary passages and answer comprehension questions for each passage. Students are then asked to write an essay discussing the effects point of view (RL.5.6) has on the narratives. Students are expected to use information from both passages to complete their essay. If possible, teachers are encouraged to arrange a time for students to type their essay rather than write it on paper. This allows students more practice towards the PARCC format.

An answer key is included for multiple choice questions. Teachers are encouraged to use the “[GRADES 4 AND 5 CONDENSED SCORING RUBRIC FOR PROSE CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE ITEMS](file:///H:\Lit%20Coach\PARCC\Grade%204-5%20July%2029%20Rubric%20Final.pdf)” to score student essays. The rubric can be found by opening the hyperlink. The rubric is also linked in RPS Teacher Created Resources.

The Life of a Cat

From readworks.org

1

It is morning. With the sunlight, comes noise. First, there’s that screaming round thing. The humans call it an “alarm clock.” It makes a terrible sound. But worst of all, are those creatures with whom I live--those dogs. As soon as the humans are out of their sleeping place, the dogs start yapping. “Take me out!” “Feed me!” “Pet me!” “Let’s play catch!” It’s embarrassing to watch them. They don’t keep any secrets. They lick and jump and do all sorts of things to tell the humans how happy they are. They have no dignity.

2

I am a cat. Being a feline gives me a certain standing in the world. I don’t let people own me. I let the people--and the dogs--know that they are lucky if I acknowledge them at all. Sure, once in a while, I’ll sit on a human lap and purr. People seem to like this, and it doesn’t cost me anything, so I do it. I’ll even show the dogs some consideration now and then. For example, I once let Rover slop his big, wet tongue over my head. It actually wasn’t that bad. He managed to reach an itch that I had been unable to scratch.

3

Living among these lowly creatures is mostly a burden. Because I am a cat, I expect certain rules to be followed. There is to be a clean litter box every day. I expect to have my food stirred, not simply dumped into a bowl. (Would you want to eat something in the shape of a can? I think not!) I expect quiet when I’m napping. (I nap about 20 hours a day, so they really need to work on the noise level.) I have my favorite chair. I do not get up for anyone. I thought I had made that clear years ago. I let them know, with a few swipes of my sharpened claws, that they should find someplace else to sit.

4

One more thing that really annoys me: The humans buy me those silly toys that look like mice or birds. It’s very disappointing to pounce only to find a ball of wool in my mouth. I prefer the real thing. I remember that nice bird they had a few years ago. And the aquarium fish. Delicious! Now why can’t they get more of those?

*The Life of a Cat*

Checking for Understanding

1. Part A

The theme of this story is

* A. cats makes good pets.
* B. cats and dogs get along well.
* C. cats think that they are in charge.
* D. people like pets.

Part B

Which sentences from the story best supports the answer to Part A? Check all that apply.

* A. “Being a feline gives me a certain standing in the world.”
* B. “As soon as the humans are out of their sleeping place, the dogs start

yapping.”

* C. “Living among these lowly creatures is mostly a burden.
* D. “It’s very disappointing to pounce only to find a ball of wool in my

mouth.”

* E. “Humans buy me those silly toys that look like mice or birds.”
* F. “Because I am a cat, I expect certain rules to be followed.”
* G. “Now why can’t they get more of those?”

1. Part A

What does the word **consideration** mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

* A. To notice or observe
* B. Respect or concern for the needs of others
* C. To give comfort in a time of loss
* D. Expensive and worth a lot of money

Part B

Which line from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

* A. “Sure, once in a while, I’ll sit on a human lap and purr.”
* B. “…and it doesn’t cost me anything, so I do it.”
* C. “I once let Rover slop his big, wet tongue over my head.”
* D. “He managed to reach an itch that I had been unable to scratch.”

1. What would the cat think the moral of this passage is?
   * A. Treat cats with respect.
   * B. Do not buy dogs.
   * C. Let cats get their sleep.
   * D. Don't forget to feed your cat.

*I Am Still The Greatest*

By Muhammad Ali

1

I have always believed in myself, even as a young child growing up in Louisville, Ky. My parents instilled a sense of pride and confidence in me, and taught me and my brother that we could be the best at anything. I must have believed them, because I remember being the neighborhood marble champion and challenging my neighborhood buddies to see who could jump the tallest hedges or run a foot race the length of the block. Of course I knew when I made the challenge that I would win. I never even thought of losing.

2

In high school, I boasted weekly — if not daily — that one day I was going to be the heavyweight champion of the world. As part of my boxing training, I would run down Fourth Street in downtown Louisville, darting in and out of local shops, taking just enough time to tell them I was training for the Olympics and I was going to win a gold medal. And when I came back home, I was going to turn pro and become the world heavyweight champion in boxing. I never thought of the possibility of failing — only of the fame and glory I was going to get when I won. I could see it. I could almost feel it. When I proclaimed that I was the "Greatest of All Time," I believed in myself. And I still do.

3

Throughout my entire boxing career, my belief in my abilities triumphed over the skill of an opponent. My will was stronger than their skills. What I didn't know was that my will would be tested even more when I retired.

In 1984, I was conclusively diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Since that diagnosis, my symptoms have increased and my ability to speak in audible tones has diminished. If there was anything that would strike at the core of my confidence in myself, it would be this insidious disease. But my confidence and will to continue to live life as I choose won't be compromised.

4

5

Early in 1996, I was asked to light the caldron at the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. Of course my immediate answer was yes. I never even thought of having Parkinson's or what physical challenges that would present for me.

6

When the moment came for me to walk out on the 140-foot-high scaffolding and take the torch from Janet Evans, I realized I had the eyes of the world on me. I also realized that as I held the Olympic torch high above my head, my tremors had taken over. Just at that moment, I heard a rumble in the stadium that became a pounding roar and then turned into a deafening applause. I was reminded of my 1960 Olympic experience in Rome, when I won the gold medal. Those 36 years between Rome and Atlanta flashed before me, and I realized that I had come full circle.

Nothing in life has defeated me. I am still the "Greatest." This I believe.

*I Am Still The Greatest*

Checking for Understanding

1. Part A

What does the word **diminished** mean as it is used in paragraph 4?

* A. To make smaller or less important
* B. To smash together or break
* C. To lighten or fade
* D. To brighten and make worth more

Part B

Which words from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

* A. “only of the fame and glory…”
* B. “…conclusively diagnosed…”
* C. “…strike at the core of my confidence…”
* D. “…won’t be compromised.”

1. Which examples from the text support Muhammad Ali’s statement that, “I have always believed in myself? Check all that apply.
   * A. “My will was stronger than their skills.”
   * B. “…darting in and out of local shops, taking just enough time to tell them

I was training for the Olympics…”

* C. “What I didn’t’ know was that my will would be tested even more when

I retired.”

* + D. “Early in 1996, I was asked to light the caldron at the Summer Olympic

Games in Atlanta.”

* + E. “Nothing in life has defeated me.”

Literary Analysis

Identify the narrator in “The Life of a Cat” and “I Am Still the Greatest”. Write an essay describing how each narrator’s point of view influences how the story is told. Be sure to use details from both stories.

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*The Life of a Cat*

Checking for Understanding

1. Part A

The theme of this story is

* A. cats makes good pets.
* B. cats and dogs get along well.
* C. cats think that they are in charge.
* D. people like pets.

Part B

Which sentences from the story best supports the answer to Part A? Check all that apply.

* A. “Being a feline gives me a certain standing in the world.”
* B. “As soon as the humans are out of their sleeping place, the dogs start

yapping.”

* C. “Living among these lowly creatures is mostly a burden.
* D. “It’s very disappointing to pounce only to find a ball of wool in my

mouth.”

* E. “Humans buy me those silly toys that look like mice or birds.”
* F. “Because I am a cat, I expect certain rules to be followed.”
* G. “Now why can’t they get more of those?”

1. Part A

What does the word **consideration** mean as it is used in paragraph 2?

* A. To notice or observe
* B. Respect or concern for the needs of others
* C. To give comfort in a time of loss
* D. Expensive and worth a lot of money

Part B

Which line from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

* A. “Sure, once in a while, I’ll sit on a human lap and purr.”
* B. “…and it doesn’t cost me anything, so I do it.”
* C. “I once let Rover slop his big, wet tongue over my head.”
* D. “He managed to reach an itch that I had been unable to scratch.”

1. What would the cat think the moral of this passage is?
   * A. Treat cats with respect.
   * B. Do not buy dogs.
   * C. Let cats get their sleep.
   * D. Don't forget to feed your cat.

*I Am Still The Greatest*

Checking for Understanding

1. Part A

What does the word **diminished** mean as it is used in paragraph 4?

* A. To make smaller or less important
* B. To smash together or break
* C. To lighten or fade
* D. To brighten and make worth more

Part B

Which words from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

* A. “only of the fame and glory…”
* B. “…conclusively diagnosed…”
* C. “…strike at the core of my confidence…”
* D. “…won’t be compromised.”

1. Which examples from the text support Muhammad Ali’s statement when he said, “I have always believed in myself? Check all that apply.
   * A. “My will was stronger than their skills.”
   * B. “…darting in and out of local shops, taking just enough time to tell them

I was training for the Olympics…”

* C. “What I didn’t’ know was that my will would be tested even more when

I retired.”

* + D. “Early in 1996, I was asked to light the caldron at the Summer Olympic

Games in Atlanta.”

* + E. “Nothing in life has defeated me.”