



**NEW ENGLAND
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items
2012**

**Grade 5
Writing**

Writing

- 1 Where should a comma be added to the sentence below?

As soon as we get home, I'm going to brush my teeth wash my face, and go to bed.

- A. after *soon*
 - B. after *going*
 - C. after *teeth*
 - D. after *and*
- 2 Which word in the sentence below should be capitalized?

It takes me a whole day to drive to new York City but only five hours to get there on the train.

- A. new
- B. five
- C. hours
- D. train

- 3 How should the underlined words in the sentence below be written?

Someday, my friends and me want to go to Hawaii.

- A. me and my friends
 - B. my friends and I
 - C. them and I
 - D. them and me
- 4 Which spelling change should be made in the sentence below?

I think my cat gets lonesom for me, because he is so excited to see me when I arrive home.

- A. Change *lonesom* to **lonesome**.
- B. Change *because* to **becuz**.
- C. Change *excited* to **exited**.
- D. Change *arrive* to **arive**.

5 Which sentence has a punctuation error at the end?

- A. Frank learned to play ice hockey by playing on frozen ponds?
- B. Frank hopes to try out for the ice hockey team in high school.
- C. Does Frank have friends who are good at ice hockey?
- D. I think Frank skates better than anyone else I have seen.

6 What is the **best** way to combine the sentences below?

I usually order chicken when I go to a restaurant. Sometimes I order fish.

- A. I usually order chicken when I go to a restaurant, sometimes I order fish.
- B. I usually order chicken when I go to a restaurant, but sometimes I order fish.
- C. I usually order chicken when I go to a restaurant, sometimes order fish.
- D. I usually order chicken when I go to a restaurant, sometimes for fish.

7 Where should a comma be added to the sentence below?

My father said that my brother was the first baby born at the hospital on January 1 2000.

- A. after *said*
- B. after *baby*
- C. after *hospital*
- D. after *1*

8 Which of the following is a complete sentence?

- A. The book fair coming to our school.
- B. Books by writers from all over the world for sale.
- C. There are many books that I want to buy.
- D. A good idea to make a list of books before you go.

- 9 Which word in the sentence below should be capitalized?

The story *Peter pan* is about a boy who lives on an island and never wants to grow up.

- A. story
- B. *pan*
- C. island
- D. grow

- 10 What is the **best** way to combine the sentences below?

The students are planting a vegetable garden. They are planting the garden behind the school.

- A. The students are planting a vegetable garden behind the school.
- B. The students are planting a vegetable garden, and they are planting it behind the school.
- C. The students are planting a vegetable garden, planting it behind the school.
- D. The students are planting a vegetable garden, they are planting it behind the school.

When writing responses to prompts 11, 12, and 13, remember to

- **read the prompt carefully,**
- **develop a complete response to the prompt,**
- **proofread and edit your writing, and**
- **write only in the space provided.**

Narrative

- 11 Imagine that you are your favorite animal. Write a paragraph that shows how you would start your day as that animal.

Response to Informational Text

As you read this passage about an unusual place to visit, think about whether you would enjoy staying in an ice hotel. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.

Ice Hotels

What Are They?

Ice hotels are exactly what they sound like—hotels made out of ice. The floors and ceilings are ice. The beds, tables, and even drinking glasses are made of ice. Your bed of ice is warm and cozy because it's covered in reindeer skins and a down sleeping bag. Your room might even have a Jacuzzi and a fireplace. There are art galleries (featuring ice art) and movie theaters, ice chapels, and snow restaurants. There's always one room that's not frozen, however—the bathroom (you can't flush frozen water).

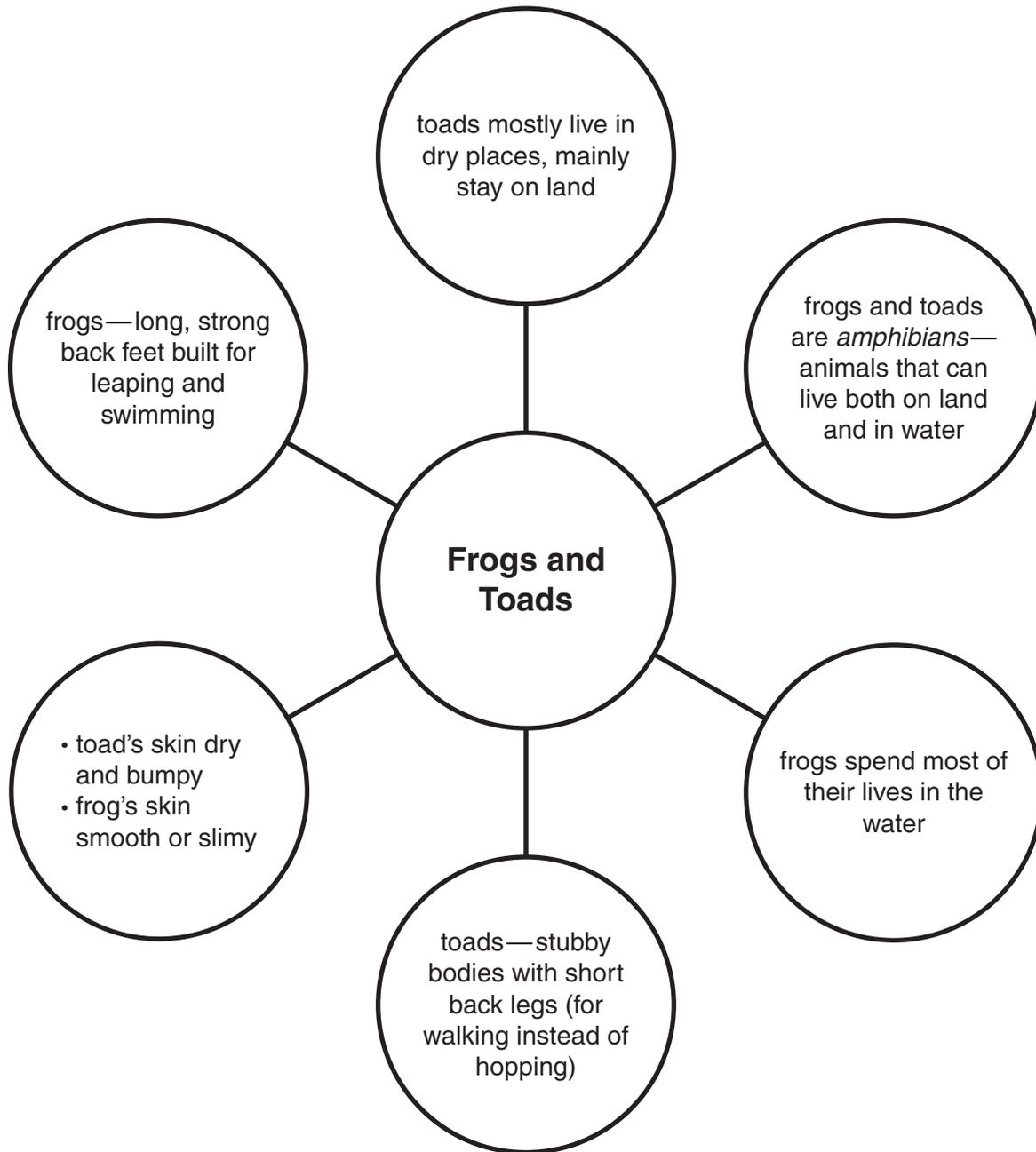
An Ice Idea

The first ice castle was built in Jukkasjarvi, Sweden, in 1990. It wasn't really meant to be a hotel, but some people decided to spend the night there and loved it. They spread the word, and now there are four ice hotels around the world. No matter how cold it gets outside, the temperature in an ice castle remains between 2° and 24°F. That's because of the insulating properties of ice. Like an igloo, ice castles retain the warmth from the people and other heat sources inside. The retained heat melts the inside of the walls and ceiling slightly, but the water quickly returns to ice. This thin sheet of ice acts like a layer of cement, sealing out the cold and holding in the heat.

- 12 Would you like to stay in an ice hotel? Write a paragraph using details from the passage to support your response.

Report

A student made this organizer about frogs and toads. Read the information in the organizer and think about how frogs and toads are different. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.



- 13 Write a paragraph that explains how frogs and toads are different. Choose information from the organizer to support the main idea of your paragraph.

Response to Literary Text

Read this passage about a girl named Rayanne and her first day at a new school. Think about how Rayanne feels about being at a new school. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.

Rayanne

by Alice Mead

ON THE PLAYGROUND at the Springbrook Central School, the morning bell rang. The students, with their new sneakers and brightly colored backpacks, hurried excitedly toward the doors.

Rayanne hung back as the kids surged around her, laughing and chattering. She kept her gaze on the ground and waited until most of them had hurried inside to find their new classrooms. Then Rayanne followed the long hall down to the fourth-grade wing, where Miss Pinkham's room was.

In the classroom, the other students were already hanging their bags on coat hooks and finding their desks and then rushing off to see where their friends' desks were.

Rayanne stood just inside the doorway. Her mouth was so dry, she couldn't swallow, let alone speak. Finally, Miss Pinkham saw her from across the room. She waved above the heads of the children clustered around her.

"Come on in, Rayanne. Find your desk."

Reluctantly, Rayanne walked down the first row of desks, looking for her name tag. The pressure in her throat was unbearable. Tears backed up in her eyes so that she saw everything through a watery blur.

There was her desk at the end of the row. She slipped quietly into her seat, stuffing her book bag underneath, not daring to go over

and push her way through the group of kids still laughing and talking by the coat hooks. She stared straight ahead.

Miss Pinkham bent down next to her.

"Good to see you here, Rayanne," she said softly.

Rayanne tried to smile, but nothing happened. She didn't want the teacher to think that she didn't like her, but her lips wouldn't move.

"You can keep an eye on my turtle for me, okay? See him?"

Miss Pinkham pointed to a large tank of pond water against the wall just behind Rayanne's desk. Rayanne could see a snapping turtle's scaly legs pawing the water.

"Maybe you can help me think of a name for him."

Miss Pinkham gave Rayanne's shoulder a little squeeze and moved to the front of the room. Rayanne let out a deep sigh and wiped the tears from her eyes. Finally, school was starting.

"Everyone take your seat," called Miss Pinkham. "Let's begin."

During the familiar routines of collecting lunch money, taking attendance, and passing out books, Rayanne began to relax and look around the room.

Maybe going to the new school wasn't going to be too bad after all. Miss Pinkham made sure Rayanne understood exactly what was expected of her, and there was a computer in the back of the room. Miss Pinkham

introduced her iguana and the snapping turtle, which ate raw hamburger. There was also a telescope you could sign out like a library book and take home to look at the stars.

- 14 How do you think Rayanne feels about being at a new school? Use details from the passage to support your response.

A complete response to the text includes

- a focus/controlling idea
- clear organization
- supporting details from the text
- well-chosen words

Be sure to proofread and edit your writing.

Acknowledgments

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