

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

1	Option A is correct	Sophia misses seeing whales twice because she is so involved in sharing her knowledge about them that she is not looking when they jump out of the water.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Sophia is friendly toward her peers, this is not what keeps her from seeing the whales.
	Option C is incorrect	Sophia shows enthusiasm for facts about whales, not for learning from challenging experiences.
	Option D is incorrect	Sophia sees the baby whale at the end of the drama, but she does not show patience while waiting.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

2	Option C is correct Option A is incorrect	In line 11, Sophia ignores the voice of the tour guide, so the meaning of <u>disregarding</u> is "ignoring."

3	Option D is correct The setting affects the development of the plot because the children are on a whale-watching tour







2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

7	<p>Option B is correct</p> <p>Option A is incorrect</p>	<p>The playwright says in line 24 that Maggie and Allen “have their eyes glued to the water.” This figurative language shows that their eyes are not moving from the spot because they want to see the whales.</p> <p>The playwright does not mention Maggie and Allen squinting or their eyes being tired from watching for whales. In fact, the figurative language characterizes their excitement</p>

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

8	Option D is correct	The playwright's use of the words "grinning" in line 34 and "laughing" in line 36 contribute to the mood of the play by describing the friends in a way that shows they are amused by Sophia's behavior.
	Option A is incorrect	The words "grinning" in line 34 and "laughing" in line 36 do not reveal a critical mood.
	Option B is incorrect	Sophia's friends do not show admiration for Sophia, because in line 27 they ignore her talking to watch the whales.
	Option C is incorrect	Although "grinning" in line 24 and "laughing" in line 36 are words that could be used to describe the making of jokes, none of the characters in the play make any jokes.



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

9	Option C is correct Option A is incorrect	In the stage directions in lines 16 and 18, Maggie and Allen spot a whale, but Sophia misses it because her focus is on talking.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

10	Option A is correct	In paragraph 2 the author states that scientists are trying to determine whether there were ever microbes on Mars. In paragraph 6 the author reveals that water has been found on Mars and that some scientists wonder whether frozen microbes still exist there.
	Option B is incorrect	According to paragraph 2, astronomers proved that there were no crops growing on Mars, and according to paragraph 6, water does exist on Mars.
	Option C is incorrect	According to paragraph 6, because of the discovery of water on Mars, scientists are closer than ever to determining whether life once existed there.
	Option D is incorrect	The selection does not provide any evidence that people exploring Mars are unsure of how to identify living microbes.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

11	Option C is correct	This paraphrase accurately restates the ideas and information in paragraph 4.
	Option A is incorrect	The emphasis on photographs in this paraphrase excludes the other tasks done by rovers described in paragraph 4.
	Option B is incorrect	The rovers are not trying to show the scientists that it is difficult for life

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

12	Option A is correct	By describing different researched aspects of Mars, the author shows that scientists believe it likely that there was once life on the planet.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author does present contrasting theories, the author does not identify different kinds of life that may have existed on Mars. The only kind of life that scientific research supports the existence of on Mars is microbes.
	Option C is incorrect	The issue of whether life existed on Mars is a problem addressed by the author. However, the author does not reveal why sending humans to Mars is necessary in the selection "Life on Mars." That topic is explored in the selection "Say Yes to Exploring Mars."
	Option D is incorrect	The features needed to support life on Mars are not listed in order of importance.



13 Option C is correct Throughout the selection, the author provides useful information for





2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

16	Option B is correct	The idea that people might be able to create a breathable atmosphere on Mars is found only in "Say Yes to Exploring Mars," in paragraph 4.
	Option A is incorrect	"Life on Mars" discusses NASA scientists' interest in sending people to Mars in paragraphs 4 through 6 and "Say Yes to Exploring Mars" discusses the same idea in paragraph 3 and paragraph 6.
	Option C is incorrect	Scientists' excitement about discovering frozen water on Mars is found in paragraph 6 of "Life on Mars" and paragraph 4 of "Say Yes to Exploring Mars."
	Option D is incorrect	The benefits of astronauts visiting Mars is found in paragraph 7 of "Life on Mars" and throughout the selection in "Say Yes to Exploring Mars."





2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

18	Option C is correct	The author of "Life on Mars" describes different discoveries about Mars and how they came about. For example, photos taken and data gathered by rovers showed that Mars's surface contains some of the key elements for life to exist. The author of "Say Yes to Exploring Mars" describes the benefits of sending humans to Mars; for example, the inventions used for space exploration are often used on Earth as well.
	Option A is incorrect	Both authors explain how pictures of Mars help scientists. In "Life



19 Option B is correct

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

20	Option D is correct	The controlling idea of the article is that robots offer beneficial uses for humans in different areas of their lives including in the home and at work.
	Option A is incorrect	The focus of the article is not on the appearance of cobots and robots. This is a detail.
	Option B is incorrect	The information about exoskeletons benefitting the field of medicine is a detail that supports the controlling idea that robots can be useful for humans.
	Option C is incorrect	This sentence is a detail that supports the controlling idea by suggesting that robots can be useful in ever-evolving ways.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

21	Option A is correct	The design requirements for exoskeletons should be included in a complete summary of the article. They provide the purpose of exoskeletons in a way that fits into the provided summary structure.
	Option B is incorrect	The fact that exoskeletons are worn by warehouse workers should not be included in a complete summary, because it is a small idea rather than a main supporting detail.
	Option C is incorrect	The exoskeletons not only allow workers to perform their normal activities but also assist workers in doing more than they could without the exoskeleton. This idea should not be included in a complete summary.
	Option D is incorrect	The idea that exoskeletons make people look as though they are in a science fiction movie is a minor detail; therefore, it should not be included in a complete summary.

22	
Option C is correct	It can be inferred that some people think robots are objects to be feared based on the author's opening paragraph. The author explains how science fiction and movies often portray robots that are "bent on taking over the world," which shapes people's perception.
Option A is incorrect	At the beginning of the article, the author does not mention that some

23	Option B is correct	The author poses a rhetorical question in the title so that readers ca-217
----	---------------------	--

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

24	Option C is correct	In paragraph 7 the author’s use of words such as “even” and “almost no limit” contributes to a mood of excitement about the ways robots may help people in the future.
	Option E is correct	In paragraph 6 the author’s use of the word “promising” contributes to an optimistic mood that one day people will use robots to overcome certain physical conditions.
	Option A is incorrect	Neither paragraph 6 nor paragraph 7 uses language that contributes to a cautious mood.
	Option B is incorrect	Neither paragraph 6 nor paragraph 7 uses language that hints at patience being required.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the language in paragraphs 6 and 7









2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

28	Option A is correct	Sentence 3 repeats the information in sentence 2 that Rory is unsure about how long the Popsicle has been in the freezer.
	Option B is incorrect	In sentence 4 Rory expresses a new idea about how old the Popsicle might be. It is not a repeated idea.
	Option C is incorrect	The new idea Rory expresses in sentence 5 is her opinion of the old Popsicle and her preference for a banana split from By the Scoop.
	Option D is incorrect	Rory's wish to be sitting in the By the Scoop Ice Cream Shop in sentence 6 is a new idea, not a repeated one.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

29	Option B is correct	This sentence corrects the disjointed clauses and the awkward passive voice in sentence 14. It also corrects the misplaced modifier by moving "Mom" after "puzzled."
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence is wordy and awkward because it has a series of three verbs—two in active voice and one in passive voice—connected by a redundant "and."
	Option C is incorrect	The sentence is disjointed, and the events are described out of logical order.
	Option D is incorrect	This sentence corrects the misplaced modifier by moving "Mom" after "puzzled." However, it is still awkward because it creates another misplaced modifier by moving "who walked ahead" after "squinted."

30	Option C is correct. "In fact" is the most effective transition word.
----	---

31		For SCR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

32	Option B is correct	This sentence relays a more positive message and reiterates the purpose of the letter.





2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

34	Option D is correct  Option A is incorrect	Maylin discusses competitors' clothing in this sentence, which does not support the key idea of the second paragraph. The key idea of the second paragraph is the expansion of the original Spartan Race.  In this sentence, Maylin gives part of the history of the Spartan Race

# 2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

36	Option B is correct	"Satisfaction" is a more effective word than "quality" because satisfaction is something people can feel about themselves or a situation.
	Option A is incorrect	"Confirmation" generally means that a person receives assurance that a decision was correct. In this context, the participant does not require assurance since the paragraph already says the race gives them a sense of purpose.
	Option C is incorrect	"Refreshment" does not mean the same thing as "quality," and participating in the Spartan Race is not likely to be refreshing. In fact, sentence 25 states that it is "grueling."
	Option D is incorrect	In the fifth paragraph, Maylin does not discuss anything that would support the use of the word "agreement" in sentence 27.

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

37	Option D is correct	This sentence is grammatically accurate.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence is missing an important clause identifying helpers, which creates a confusing meaning.
	Option B is incorrect	This sentence misuses "since" as a conjunction and includes a redundancy ("complete and finish").



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

Option A is correct	"Instead" shows the contrast between what Presley hopes to find and what she finds.
Option B is incorrect	"Also" indicates an addition, but Logan tells in sentence 2 what Presley hopes to find rather than what she has already found.
Option C is incorrect	Logan does not get more specific in sentence 3 about what is found in sentence 2, as "namely" would imply.
Option D is incorrect	Using the word "certainly" would not make sense with the rest of sentences 2 and 3.

40	Option C is correct. The subordinate clause "as Presley opened the box" box" theQ ttheC



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

41	Option D is correct	The name of the magazine is a proper noun and needs to be capitalized.
	incorrect	Logan wrote the paper in past tense, so changing the verb "was" from past to present tense would not maintain the verb tense of the paper.



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

43	Option D is correct	The semicolon correctly separates these two complete, but related, ideas and corrects the run-on.
	Option A is incorrect	The original run-on sentence could be corrected by adding either a semicolon or a comma followed by a conjunction, but not both. This sentence incorrectly uses a semicolon and a conjunction together. Also, the choice of the conjunction “so” is illogical in this sentence.
	Option B is incorrect	The first sentence is complete and correct, but the punctuation makes the second sentence incomplete and illogical.
	Option C is incorrect	The first sentence is complete and correct. The punctuation placement makes the second sentence illogical.



2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

45	Option B is correct	Removing the apostrophe from the word "it's" corrects the error because the word "its" correctly shows Treviño's possession of cultural importance.
	Option A is incorrect	"Appreciated" is spelled correctly as is.
	Option C is incorrect	"Importance" is spelled correctly as is.