

Grade 4
English Language Arts/Literacy
End of Year Short/Medium
Literary Text

2019 Released Items

2019 Released Items: Grade 4 End-of-Year Short/Medium Literary Text Set

The End-of-Year short/medium (S/M) literary text set requires students to read a literary text and answer questions.

The 2019 blueprint for the grade 4 End-of-Year S/M literary text set includes Evidence-Based Selected Response/Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response items.

Included in this document:

- Answer key and standards alignment
- PDFs of each item with the associated text(s)

Additional related materials not included in this document:

- Sample scored student responses with annotations and practice papers
- Scoring Rubric for Prose Constructed Response Items
- Guide to English Language Arts/Literacy Released Items: Understanding Scoring

**Release Items Answer and Alignment Document ELA/ Literacy:
Grade 4**

Text Type: S-M Lit		
Passage(s): from <i>The Book of Three</i>		
Item Code	Answer(s)	Standards/Evidence Statement Alignment
BB430048898	Item Type: EBSR Part A: C Part B: A	L 4.4.1 RL 4.1.1 RL 4.4.1
BB430060204	Item Type: EBSR Part A: B Part B: B	RL 4.1.1 RL 4.3.1
BB430358482	<p align="center">Item Type: TECR</p> <p align="center">Setting</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>"And so it had been horseshoes all morning long." (paragraph 1)</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>"We have no battles at Caer Dallben" (paragraph 12)</p> </div> <p align="center">OR</p> <p align="center">Setting</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>"We have no battles at Caer Dallben." (paragraph 12)</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px auto; width: fit-content;"> <p>"And so it had been horseshoes all morning long." (paragraph 1)</p> </div>	RL 4.1.1 RL 4.3.2
BB430248885	Item Type: EBSR Part A: C Part B: B	RL 4.1.1 RL 4.3.1

Read the passage from *The Book of Three*. Then answer the questions.

from *The Book of Three*

by Lloyd Alexander

- 1** Taran wanted to make a sword; but Coll, charged with the practical side of his education, decided on horseshoes. And so it had been horseshoes all morning long. Taran’s arms ached, soot blackened his face. At last he dropped the hammer and turned to Coll, who was watching him critically.
- 2** “Why?” Taran cried. “Why must it be horseshoes? As if we had any horses!”
- 3** Coll was stout and round and his great bald head glowed bright pink. “Lucky for the horses,” was all he said, glancing at Taran’s handiwork.
- 4** “I could do better at making a sword,” Taran protested. “I know I could.” And before Coll could answer, he snatched the tongs, flung a strip of red-hot iron to the anvil, and began hammering away as fast as he could.
- 5** “Wait, wait!” cried Coll, “that is not the way to go after it!”
- 6** Heedless of Coll, unable even to hear him above the din, Taran pounded harder than ever. Sparks sprayed the air. But the more he pounded, the more the metal twisted and buckled, until, finally, the iron sprang from the tongs and fell to the ground. Taran stared in dismay. With the tongs, he picked up the bent iron and examined it.
- 7** “Not quite the blade for a hero,” Coll remarked.
- 8** “It’s ruined,” Taran glumly agreed. “It looks like a sick snake,” he added ruefully.
- 9** “As I tried telling you,” said Coll, “you had it all wrong. You must hold the tongs—so. When you strike, the strength must flow from your shoulder and your wrist be loose. You can hear it when you do it right. There is a kind of music in it. Besides,” he added, “this is not the metal for weapons.”
- 10** Coll returned the crooked, half-formed blade to the furnace, where it lost its shape entirely.

- 11** "I wish I might have my own sword," Taran sighed, "and you would teach me sword-fighting."
- 12** "Wisht!" cried Coll. "Why should you want to know that? We have no battles at Caer Dallben."
- 13** "We have no horses, either," objected Taran, "but we're making horseshoes."
- 14** "Get on with you," said Coll, unmoved. "That is for practice."
- 15** "And so would this be," Taran urged. "Come, teach me the sword-fighting. You must know the art."

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1. Part A

What is the meaning of **din** as it is used in paragraph 6?

- A. fury
- B. heat
- C. noise
- D. confusion

Part B

Which detail from paragraph 6 supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “. . . unable even to hear him . . .”
- B. “Sparks sprayed the air.”
- C. “. . . the metal twisted and buckled. . . .”
- D. “. . . sprang from the tongs and fell to the ground.”

2. Part A

How does Taran feel about his training?

- A. eager to watch Coll make a sword worthy of battle
- B. upset when Coll expects him to make horseshoes
- C. determined to do the best job possible
- D. surprised to hear the music of the metal

Part B

Which detail **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "At last he dropped the hammer and turned to Coll, who was watching him critically." (paragraph 1)
- B. "'I could do better at making a sword,' Taran protested. 'I know I could.'" (paragraph 4)
- C. "But the more he pounded, the more the metal twisted. . . ." (paragraph 6)
- D. "'You can hear it when you do it right.'" (paragraph 9)

3. Drag **two** details that help describe the setting into the boxes.

"And so it had been horseshoes all morning long." (paragraph 1)

"Taran's arms ached, soot blackened his face." (paragraph 1)

"Coll was stout and round and his great bald head glowed bright pink." (paragraph 3)

"We have no battles at Caer Dallben." (paragraph 12)

Setting

4. Part A

Which trait **best** describes Taran in the passage?

- A. talented
- B. mischievous
- C. frustrated
- D. imaginative

Part B

Which piece of evidence **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. ““Lucky for the horses,’ was all he said, glancing at Taran’s handiwork.” (paragraph 3)
- B. “. . . flung a strip of red-hot iron to the anvil, and began hammering away as fast as he could.” (paragraph 4)
- C. “. . . that is not the way to go after it!” (paragraph 5)
- D. “. . . picked up the bent iron and examined it.” (paragraph 6)