

Grade 7 -- Narrative
Cisneros, Sandra. "Eleven."

***Woman Hollering Creek and Other Stories.* New York:
Random House, 1991. (1991)**

What they don't understand about birthdays and what they never tell you is that when you're eleven, you're also ten, and nine, and eight, and seven, and six, and five, and four, and three, and two, and one. And when you wake up on your eleventh birthday you expect to feel eleven, but you don't. You open your eyes and everything's just like yesterday, only it's today. And you don't feel eleven at all. You feel like you're still ten. And you are — underneath the year that makes you eleven.

Like some days you might say something stupid, and that's the part of you that's still ten. Or maybe some days you might need to sit on your mama's lap because you're scared, and that's the part of you that's five.

And maybe one day when you're all grown up maybe you will need to cry like if you're three, and that's okay. That's what I tell Mama when she's sad and needs to cry. Maybe she's feeling three.

Because the way you grow old is kind of like an onion or like the rings inside a tree trunk or like my little wooden dolls that fit one inside the other, each year inside the next one. That's how being eleven years old is.

You don't feel eleven. Not right away. It takes a few days, weeks even, sometimes even months before you say Eleven when they ask you. And you don't feel smart eleven, not until you're almost twelve. That's the way it is.

1) Why does the author compare growing older to an onion or tree rings? (LA 7.1.6.d)

- a) Onions can make people cry.
- b) Tree rings do not determine growth.
- c) Onions are pulled from the ground in the fall.
- d) Tree rings and onions grow from the inside to the outside.

2) What is the main idea of the story? (LA 7.1.6.d)

- a) Being eleven means you are grown up.
- b) When you are eleven, you know who you are.
- c) Your identity at age eleven is made up of your past.
- d) Being eleven means you are younger than your age.

3) Which point of view is this story? (LA 7.1.6.b)

- a) first person
- b) second person
- c) third person limited
- d) third person omniscient

4) Which example indicates internal conflict? (LA 7.1.6.b)

- a) "That's the way it is."
- b) "That's how being eleven years old is."
- c) "That's what I tell Mama when she's sad?"
- d) "...you expect to feel eleven, but you don't."

5) Which literary device is being used in "Because the way you grow old is kind of like and onion or like the rings inside a tree trunk or like my little wooden dolls that fit one inside the other, each year inside the next one."? (LA 7.1.6.c)

- a) simile
- b) metaphor
- c) oxymoron
- d) personification

6) How does the narrator solve the problem of understanding birthdays? (LA 7.1.6.a)

- a) She states people should always act their age.
- b) She implies birthdays should not require any attention.
- c) She reasons mothers would never want to be younger.
- d) She analyzes reasons why a person acts a certain age at different times.

C4L Reading - Item Writing Tally Sheet

Grade 7- Narrative

Enter Passage Name Here: **Eleven**

Gr7 Vocabulary	DOK Level	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	Item Total
LA 7.1.5 Vocabulary: Students will build literary, general academic, and content specific grade level vocabulary.					
LA 7.1.5.a <i>Determine meaning of words through structural analysis, using knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Anglo-Saxon roots, prefixes, and suffixes to understand complex words, including words in science, mathematics, and social studies</i>	1, 2				
LA 7.1.5.c <i>Select and apply knowledge of context clues (e.g., word, phrase, sentence and paragraph clues, re-reading) and text features (e.g., glossary, headings, subheadings, index, tables, maps, graphs, charts) appropriate to a particular text to determine meaning of unknown words</i>	2				3-5
LA 7.1.5.d <i>Analyze semantic relationships (e.g., figurative language, connotations, subtle distinctions)</i>	2,3				
Gr7 Comprehension	DOK Level	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	Item Total
LA 7.1.6 Comprehension: Students will extract and construct meaning using prior knowledge, applying text information, and monitoring comprehension while reading grade level text.					
LA 7.1.6.a <i>Analyze the meaning, reliability, and validity of the text considering author's purpose and perspective</i>	2, 3		1		1
LA 7.1.6.b <i>Identify and analyze elements of narrative text (e.g., character development, setting, plot development, conflict, point of view, theme)</i>	1, 2, 3		2		2
LA 7.1.6.c <i>Analyze author's use of literary devices (e.g., foreshadowing, personification, idiom, oxymoron, hyperbole, flashback, suspense, symbolism, irony)</i>	2, 3		1		1
LA 7.1.6.f <i>Apply knowledge of text features to locate information and gain meaning from a text (e.g., index, annotations, maps, charts, tables, graphs, headings, subheadings)</i>	1, 2				

<p>LA 7.1.6.g <i>Explain and make inferences based on the characteristics of narrative and informational genres (e.g., textbooks, myths, fantasies, science fiction, drama, periodicals, essays)</i></p>	2				
<p>LA 7.1.6.j <i>Generate and/or answer literal, inferential, critical, and interpretive questions, analyzing prior knowledge, information from the text and additional sources, to support answers</i></p>	1, 2, 3				