

# NeSA-RMS Secure Item Writing



## Practice Items



# Item Example - CONTENT



What is the genre of the passage? Why?

- A. Non-fiction, because the passage has sited sources
  - B. Historical fiction, because the main character is fictional but the events are real
  - C. Drama, because it has Acts and Scenes
  - D. Poetry, because it is arranged in stanzas
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- ***LA 7.1.6.g*** *Cite specific textual evidence to analyze and make inferences based on characteristics of a variety of literary and informational texts.*



# Item Example – STYLE



Which statement is NOT a simile?

- A. "But this animal is not cute like Donald Duck."
- B. "Its large bill is made of soft cartilage, like our noses."
- C. "It uses its tail to help paddle and to steer its body."
- D. "The bottom layer is short and thick, and covers it like long underwear."

**LA 5.1.6.c** *Identify and explain why authors use literary devices (e.g. simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, imagery, rhythm, personification, hyperbole, idioms)*



# Item Writing Guidelines – ITEM STEMS



- State clearly and concisely
- Use complete sentences with ending punctuation in context
- Question appears at the end of the stem
- Use *which* before a noun and *what* before a verb
- Avoid negatives (capitalize if used)
- Do NOT use “Which *of the following* . . . .”



# Item Writing Guidelines – ITEM STEMS



State the main purpose of this text.

- A. to show the downfall of modern society
- B. to show the loss of physical transportation aides
- C. to demonstrate the benefits of GPS
- D. to show the technological advances made in the last 20 year

***LA 12.1.6.a Evaluate the meaning, reliability, and validity of the text considering author's purpose, perspective, rhetorical style and contextual influences***



# Item Writing Guidelines – ITEM RESPONSES



What is the best definition of the word **solution** in the phrase, “...Sweden created a different solution to the problem”?

- A. a mixture of two or more substances
- B. the payment of a claim or debt
- C. an answer to a problem
- D. variables

**LA 5.1.5.d** *Identify semantic relationships (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homophones, multiple-meaning words) to determine the meaning of words, aid in comprehension and improve writing.*



# Item Example



Complete the analogy.

Glimpse is to peek as astounding is to \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Repetitive
- B. Dreary
- C. Impressive
- D. Expected

***LA 8.1.5.d*** Analyze and use semantic relationships (e.g., multiple meanings, synonyms, antonyms, figurative language, connotations, subtle distinctions) to determine the meaning of words, aid in comprehension and improve writing.



# THANK YOU!



# QUESTIONS?

The logo for Nebraska State Assessment (NeSA). It features a red silhouette of the state of Nebraska on a white background. The letters "NeSA" are written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the red silhouette.

NeSA