

Grade 6 -- Informational

Obstacles

Helen Keller faced many obstacles in her life, but nothing stopped her from living a happy and successful life.

At only 19 months of age, Helen became very ill. Although this illness did not last long, it did leave Helen both blind and deaf. While growing up, Helen communicated with her young friend, Martha, by creating signs. However, Helen's parents knew that they needed to do more for her. They were in search of a teacher and found Anne Sullivan. Anne, who also lost some of her eyesight, became Helen's teacher.

Helen grew up very spoiled, but Anne knew that needed to change. Anne and Helen stayed in a little house in the garden away from her family. This isolation enabled Anne to work with Helen without distractions. Anne began by teaching Helen different signs. She was learning some new words, but it wasn't until one day that Helen really started to catch on. Anne wanted to teach Helen the word "water". As Helen held her hands under water, Anne spelled the word into her hand. Helen's face lit up with joy! Later, Helen became inspired and wanted to learn how to speak, as well. Helen would touch the lips of others as well as having words spelled into her hands. With help from Anne, Helen was able to communicate with many people.

As Helen grew older, she attended college and later became a famous author and speaker. She also won many awards for her accomplishments.

Helen's memory lives on. Her picture is on the Alabama state quarter, and she also has a hospital dedicated in her name. Helen is an inspiration to many!

- 1) Which word contains a suffix? (LA 6.1.5.a)
 - a) college
 - b) memory
 - c) although
 - d) successful

- 2) Why is Helen's picture on the Alabama state quarter? (LA 6.1.6.k)
 - a) Helen is blind and deaf.
 - b) Helen is an inspiration to many.
 - c) Helen has a hospital named after her.
 - d) Helen is a famous Alabama author and speaker.

- 3) Why is Helen able to communicate with many people? (LA 6.1.6.k)
 - a) Anne teaches her to speak.
 - b) Anne teaches her different signs.
 - c) Anne became Helen's teacher.
 - d) Anne teaches Helen the word "water".

- 4) What is the first word Helen learned? (LA 6.1.6.k)
 - a) water
 - b) Anne
 - c) Helen
 - d) Mom

- 5) How does Anne begin teaching Helen? (LA 6.1.6.k)
- a) by showing Helen water
 - b) by teaching Helen different signs
 - c) by talking to Helen about the words
 - d) by spelling the word "water" in Helen's hand
- 6) Which organizational pattern is used in this passage? (LA 6.1.6.f)
- a) sequence
 - b) description
 - c) cause/effect
 - d) compare/contrast
- 7) When did Helen Keller lose her sight and hearing? (LA 6.1.6.f)
- a) at birth
 - b) at nineteen months
 - c) as a teenager
 - d) as an adult
- 8) What evidence shows that Helen Keller's memory lives on? (LA 6.1.6.e)
- a) Helen Keller attended college.
 - b) Helen Keller's picture is on the Alabama quarter.
 - c) Helen Keller learned to communicate with the help of Anne Sullivan.
 - d) Helen Keller was able to communicate with her young friend, Martha.
- 9) Why is Helen Keller an inspiration to many people? (LA 6.1.6.e)
- a) She held her hands under water.
 - b) She grew up spoiled and had her own teacher.
 - c) She lived in a little house, separated from her family.
 - d) She learned to communicate with people, despite being blind and deaf.
- 10) What is the main idea of this passage? (LA 6.1.6.e)
- a) Helen became a famous author.
 - b) Helen learned to communicate by spelling.
 - c) Helen experienced much success in her life.
 - d) Helen has been blind and deaf since she was a baby.
- 11) What is the author's purpose in writing this passage? (LA 6.1.6.a)
- a) to encourage the reader to learn sign language
 - b) to persuade the reader to face life's obstacles
 - c) to inform the reader of Helen Keller's illness
 - d) to inform the reader of obstacles faced by Helen Keller

C4L Reading - Item Writing Tally Sheet

Grade 6-Informational

Passage Name: Obstacles

Gr6 Vocabulary	DOK Level	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	Item Total
LA 6.1.5 Vocabulary: Students will build literary, general academic, and content specific grade level vocabulary.					
LA 6.1.5.a <i>Determine the 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 6.1.5.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, charts) to determine meaning of unknown words in a variety of text structures</i>	2				
LA 6.1.5.d <i>Identify semantic relationships (e.g., metaphors, similes, idioms, analogies, comparisons)</i>	2				
Gr6 Comprehension	DOK Level	DOK 1	DOK 2	DOK 3	Item Total
LA 6.1.6 Comprehension: Students will extract and construct meaning using prior knowledge, applying text information, and monitoring comprehension while reading grade level text.					
LA 6.1.6.a <i>Explain how author's purpose and perspective affect the meaning and reliability of the text</i>	2, 3		2		2
LA 6.1.6.d <i>Interpret and explain the author's use of literary devices (e.g., simile, metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, imagery, rhythm)</i>	2, 3				
LA 6.1.6.e <i>Summarize, analyze, and synthesize informational text using main idea and supporting details</i>	2, 3		1	2	3
LA 6.1.6.f <i>Apply knowledge of organizational patterns found in informational text (e.g., sequence, description, cause and effect, compare/contrast, fact/opinion)</i>	2		1		2
LA 6.1.6.g <i>Apply knowledge of text features to locate information and gain meaning from a text (e.g., index, maps, charts, tables, graphs, headings, subheadings)</i>	1, 2				

<p>LA 6.1.6.h <i>Distinguish between the defining characteristics of different narrative and informational genres (e.g., textbooks, myths, fantasies, science fiction, drama, periodicals, and essays)</i></p>	2				
<p>LA 5.1.6.k <i>Generate and/or answer literal, inferential, critical, and interpretive questions, supporting answers using prior knowledge and literal and inferential information from the text and additional sources</i></p>	1, 2, 3	1	3		4