



Nebraska State Assessment

Grade 5

English Language Arts

Released Passage

Name:

Directions:

On the following pages of your test booklet are questions for the Grade 5 *Nebraska State Assessment–English Language Arts (NeSA–ELA)*.

Read these directions carefully before beginning the test.

This test will include several different types of questions. Record all of your answers in the answer document.

The test will include questions that will ask you to provide your answer in a variety of ways.

- Some questions will ask you to select an answer from among four choices.
- Some questions will have two parts and require that you choose an answer or answers to each part.
- Some questions will ask you to construct an answer by following the directions given.

When you come to the word **STOP** at the end of the test, you have finished the Grade 5 English Language Arts Test. You may review the test to check your answers. Make sure you have marked all of your answers clearly and that you have completely erased any marks you do not want. When you are finished, put your answer sheet inside your test booklet and close your test booklet.

Margaret Knight: Paper Bag Machine Inventor

Margaret Knight lived at a time when society made a distinction between women's and men's work. Women were expected to take jobs like cooking or sewing. Many worked in textile mills weaving cloth at a loom. They ran the looms and many other machines, but they did not know how to build them. That's what some people thought, anyway. Knight proved them wrong.

Early Life

Margaret Knight was born in 1838. She did not like to play with dolls, cook, or sew like many other little girls. She liked making things with her tools. When she thought of something to create, she sketched the idea out in a notebook and then found the supplies to make it. Knight made sleds, kites, and toys with moving parts for her brothers. She even made a foot warmer for her mother.

Knight went to school until she was twelve years old and then went to work in a textile mill. One day a shuttle flew off a loom. It hit and seriously injured a worker. Knight could not stop thinking about the accident. She thought about how to make the machine safer. She made many sketches in her notebook until she found a solution. She invented a device that would stop the loom any time it malfunctioned. Textile mills all over New England adopted her invention.

The Challenge

Knight moved to Springfield, Massachusetts, at the age of 18. She worked at the Columbia Paper Bag Company. The bags the company made did not have flat bottoms. Instead, they were glued together like an envelope. People tried for years to create a machine that could fold and paste a flat-bottomed bag. But they were unsuccessful. After working at the paper bag company for a short time, Knight decided she would give it a try. She set up a workshop in the basement of her rooming house. Each night after work, she spent hours working on her invention. Finally, when she thought she had a working design, Knight built a wooden model, or prototype. It took two years to create and perfect her design. But Knight did what so many before her tried and failed to do. She created a machine that made flat-bottomed paper bags.

The Patent Fight

A patent gives an inventor the right to make, use, and sell an invention. In order to file for a patent, Knight needed an iron prototype of her machine. She moved to Boston and, with the help of a machinist, spent her days working on the prototype.

Other inventors used the same machine shop to work on their inventions. One of these inventors, Charles Annan, saw her design. He thought it was an excellent idea. He quickly made his own prototype, rushed to the patent office, and patented it.

Meanwhile, Knight continued perfecting her design. When she felt it was as good as it could get, she took her machine to the patent office. She filled out all the necessary paperwork and gave it to the patent clerk. The clerk told her Charles Annan patented the idea a week earlier. Knight knew Annan had stolen her idea, and she wasn't going to let him get away with it. Knight sued for the patent rights. She kept great records and took all of her documentation with her to court. She proved that she was the inventor of the machine. The courts took the patent away from Annan and gave it to Knight. Her invention is still used today in factories throughout the world that make paper bags.

Female Edison

Thomas Edison is one of America's greatest inventors. He held over 1,000 patents. Among his inventions are the electric light bulb, the phonograph, and a motion picture camera.

Although Knight is best known for her paper bag-making machine, she invented many other things as well. One newspaper article described her as a "female Edison." She did not hold nearly as many patents as Edison, but she had 26 of them. Some sources credit her with more than 80 inventions. Among her other inventions are machines for cutting out soles for shoes, a clasp for holding robes, a barbecue spit, a spinning reel, and a numbering machine. She also received patents for several parts that are used in engines.

Margaret Knight lived at a time when people thought women were not supposed to understand machinery and how it worked. She proved them wrong. She was a great problem solver. Knight is a wonderful role model for children everywhere. She proved that anyone can succeed if they put their mind to it.

Inventions by Margaret Knight	Inventions by Thomas Edison
device to make looms safer	motion picture camera
machine for making flat-bottomed paper bags	method to preserve fruit
sewing machine reel	typewriting machine
machine for cutting soles of shoes	electric light bulb
dress and skirt protector	phonograph
window frame and sash	concrete furniture

1. What motivated Margaret Knight to create her first invention?
 - A. Someone stole her paper bag machine patent.
 - B. Someone was hurt in an accident at the textile mill.
 - C. She wanted to prove that women could build machines.
 - D. She wanted to be one of the greatest inventors in the country.

2. Based on the base word **function**, what is the meaning of **malfunctioned**?
 - A. did not work properly
 - B. worked properly again
 - C. a person who worked properly
 - D. worked properly with purpose

3. Which statement supports the idea that Margaret Knight was a great problem solver?
 - A. She took the time to carefully document her work.
 - B. She worked patiently to make her designs successful.
 - C. She had an understanding of machinery and how it worked.
 - D. She preferred building things rather than cooking and sewing.

4. Choose **two** sentences that indicate inventors need to protect their ideas. Choose **two**.

A patent gives an inventor the right to make, use and sell an invention. In order to file for a patent, Knight needed an iron prototype of her machine. She moved to Boston and, with the help of a machinist, spent her days working on the prototype.

Other inventors used the same machine shop to work on their inventions. One of these inventors, Charles Annan, saw her design. He thought it was an excellent idea. He quickly made his own prototype, rushed to the patent office, and patented it.

5. This question has two parts. Answer part A, and then answer part B.

Part A

Which word BEST describes Margaret Knight?

- A. cheerful
- B. creative
- C. friendly
- D. outgoing

Part B

Which statement supports the answer in part A?

- A. Knight began working in the textile mill when she was twelve years old.
- B. Knight moved to a new city when she was eighteen years old.
- C. Knight is considered to be a wonderful role model for children everywhere.
- D. Knight sketched the idea out in a notebook and then found the supplies to make it.

6. How does the information in the chart contribute to the reader's understanding of the passage?
- A. It organizes Knight's inventions in chronological order.
 - B. It includes additional information about Knight's inventions.
 - C. It shows how Knight's inventions were similar to Edison's.
 - D. It indicates that Edison's inventions came before Knight's inventions.
7. What is the main idea of the passage?
- A. Margaret Knight created more than 80 inventions during her life.
 - B. Margaret Knight stood up for herself by making sure her rights were protected.
 - C. Margaret Knight worked hard and became a very successful inventor.
 - D. Margaret Knight was twelve years old when she began working in a textile mill.
8. Which organizational pattern is used MOST in the passage?
- A. Description is used to show how Knight would make sketches of her inventions in a notebook.
 - B. Fact and opinion is used to show how well Knight's paper bag machine worked.
 - C. Compare and contrast is used to show that Knight and Edison were both great inventors.
 - D. A sequence of events is used to show the accomplishments in Knight's life.

9. Which characteristic helps the reader to determine the genre of the passage?
- A. The focus on the life of a person makes this passage a biography.
 - B. The focus on steps involved in applying for a patent makes this passage a how-to.
 - C. The focus on past events makes this passage historical fiction.
 - D. The focus on the life lessons about hard work makes this passage realistic fiction.
10. What is the author's purpose for writing the passage?
- A. to inform the reader about how to design machines for textile mills
 - B. to inform the reader about how Margaret Knight received a patent
 - C. to inform the reader about the accomplishments of Margaret Knight
 - D. to inform the reader about job opportunities for women many years ago

11. “Margaret Knight: Paper Bag Machine Inventor” tells about a female inventor in the 1800s. Explain how Margaret Knight’s actions helped lead the way for women today. Write a well-organized response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

**Writer’s Checklist for
Text-Dependent Analysis**

PLAN before you write

- I read the task carefully.
- I read the text(s) carefully.
- I thought about how the task connects to the text(s).
- I organized my ideas on scratch paper.

FOCUS while you write

- I responded to all parts of the task.
- I analyzed the information from the text(s) in my response.
- I chose relevant and accurate evidence from the text(s) to support my response.
- I organized my response with an introduction, body, and conclusion.

REVISE after you write





- I wrote my response in English.
- I wrote my final draft in the response box.
- I focused my writing on the task.
- I used/cited evidence from the text(s) to support my response.
- I corrected errors in capitalization, spelling, sentence structure, punctuation, and word choice.

Paper for Test Dependent Analysis. You may use only the pages in the booklet.

**Grade 5
ELA Practice Test
Answer Key**

1.	B
2.	A
3.	B
4.	see below
5.	B, D
6.	B
7.	C
8.	D
9.	A
10.	C
11.	refer to TDA rubric

Choose **two** sentences that indicate inventors need to protect their ideas. Choose **two**.

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**Grade 5
English Language Arts Released Passage**

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