NeSA-RMS Secure Item Writing

Practice Items

Nebraska Department of Education, June 2014
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

• *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.
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 . . . “
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

Nebraska Department of Education, June 2014
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.
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?