

OHIO GRADUATION TESTS



Reading

Practice Test Scoring Guidelines and Sample Papers

2004

Table of Contents

Question 10: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	1
Question 10: Samples of Scored Student Responses.....	3
Question 14: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	9
Question 14: Samples of Scored Student Responses.....	11
Question 18: Question and Scoring Guidelines.....	17
Question 18: Samples of Scored Student Responses.....	20



Reading

Question 10

2004

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 10

Explain how nature can sometimes repair itself, citing two details from the passage to support your explanation. Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Sample Response for Question 10 (Short Answer):

Possible Responses (similar but not limited to the following):

Details:

- 1) Although the fires wiped out millions of lodgepole trees, the fires actually freed the seeds in the lodgepole tree pinecones—thus planting even more lodgepole trees.
- 2) The fallen trees provide lodging for wildlife in the park.
- 3) The fallen trees provide food for wildlife in the park (fallen trees fill up with insects).
- 4) The fire has made the park “brighter”, by adding color and texture.
- 5) The fire increased the diversity and abundance of the wildlife.
- 6) The fire increased the diversity and abundance of the plantlife.

Scoring Guidelines for Question 10:

Score point	Description
2 points	The response provides an accurate explanation that is supported by two details from the passage.
1 point	The response provides an accurate explanation that is supported by only one detail from the passage, OR the response provides one or two appropriate examples without an explanation.
0 points	The response shows no understanding of the task.



Reading

Question 10

2004

Sample Papers

29. Write your response to question 29 in the space below.

Nature is a weird thing it
fix itself without help from
anything.

Score Point: 0

This response shows no understanding of the task. Only a vague explanation is offered with no supporting details from the passage.

29. Write your response to question 29 in the space below.

Nature can sometimes repair itself when a fire happens cause what is left from the fire could still grow from the ashes cause the ashes could have seeds in them and they could spread and cause to have more than you did before the fire. Also to animals can help the forest grow to cause when they eat the plants. The plants would grow back.

Score Point: 1

This response provides an accurate explanation that is supported by one detail from the passage (the ashes could have seeds in them and they could spread and cause you to have more than you did before the fire). The part about plants growing back after animals eat them is not a reference from the passage.

29. Write your response to question 29 in the space below.

The lodgepole pine trees were extremely destroyed at Yellowstone. Within ten years nature has brought lodgepoles back to life and better and more abundant than before 1988.

Since the fire of 1988 nature has produced many wildlife to refill Yellowstone park. The park is now occupied by many three-toed woodpeckers. They were almost non-existent.

Score Point: 1

This response suggests two examples of nature's ability to repair itself from the passage (lodgepole pine trees/three-toed woodpeckers); however, no explanation is provided about how this process occurred.

29. Write your response to question 29 in the space below.

NATURE CAN REPAIR ITSELF, FOR EXAMPLE, LODGEPOLE CONES WERE ABLE TO OPEN UP, THEREFORE REPLANTING ALL THE TREES THAT WERE LOST. THE FIRE KILLED TREES, THOSE TREES THEN WERE FILLED WITH BUGS, BRINGING ANIMALS BACK TO YELLOWSTONE. THE TREES ALSO PROVIDED SHELTER.

Score Point: 2

This response provides an accurate explanation of how nature can sometimes repair itself. Several details from the passage are embedded within the explanation (lodgepole cones were able to open up/trees were filled with bugs bringing animals back/trees provided shelter).

29. Write your response to question 29 in the space below.

Nature sometimes repairs itself because without knowing it something that we would consider harmful, normally has a profound way of becoming useful. In this passage it talks about how the fires helped out with the lodgepole pine trees. The burning of their cones released their seeds and the ashes all around on the ground made for a perfect and suitable place for them to grow. Then the dead trees that house insects provide a feast for the other animals like the most commonly known grizzly bear.

Score Point: 2

This response provides an accurate explanation that is supported by two examples from the passage (the burning of the cones released their seeds/the dead trees that house insects provide a feast for the other animals).



Reading

Question 14

2004

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 14

Choose one of the following ideas for a graphic to accompany this passage. Give two reasons or examples from the text to support your choice.

- a photo of Andrei Codrescu speaking to an audience
- a photo of a group of new Americans standing together
- a picture of the flag of the United States

Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Sample Response for Question 14 (Short Answer):

A photo of a group of new Americans standing together would be an excellent choice because he mentions how, in America, people are free to laugh, talk, and vote however they want. This graphic would represent the openness of Americans with each other. Another excerpt could be “The greater and prouder the cultural difference you bring here, the greater your success.” This would represent the graphic well because it would show different people uniting to possibly share ideas.

Scoring Guidelines for Question 14:

Score point	Description
2 points	The response indicates a graphic and includes two details or examples from the text which plausibly support the choice.
1 point	The response indicates a graphic and includes only one reason or example from the text which plausibly supports the choice.
0 points	The response shows no understanding of the task.

Note: Picking a graphic with no text reference is a “0.”



Reading

Question 14

2004

Sample Papers

33. Write your response to question 33 in the space below.

A picture of the flag of the United States.
The flag shows pride and power. It shows our
strength and love.

Score Point: 0

This response picks a graphic (a picture of the flag of the United States) to accompany the passage by Andrei Codrescu. Reasons are offered for the choice, but they are not derived from the text.

33. Write your response to question 33 in the space below.

A photo of Andrei Codrescu speaking to an audience. Throughout the entire reading it feels like he is speaking to so many people. It would also mean more to see the man who wrote the speech.

Score Point: 1

This response indicates a graphic (a photo of Andrei Codrescu speaking to an audience) and includes one reason or example from the text that plausibly supports the choice (to see the man who wrote the speech).

33. Write your response to question 33 in the space below.

A picture of the flag of the United States would be a good graphic for this passage. The flag would symbolize to the new Americans a sense of security like a mother is to a child. Also the flag would represent the privilege to have freedom to be Americans, to be who they want to be instead of having that fearful sense of someone authoritating what you do.

Score Point: 1

This response indicates a graphic (a picture of the flag of the United States) and is credited with one reason or example from the text that plausibly supports the choice (the flag would represent the privilege to have freedom to be Americans, to be who they want to be instead of having that fearful sense of someone authorizing what you do). Ideas about freedom are included in the passage. The other offered reason (the flag would symbolize to the new Americans a sense of security) is not an obvious theme from the text.

33. Write your response to question 33 in the space below.

A picture of the flag of the united states

- Because she left her country to come here for a better place to live.
- To show people that she has recovered from her old country, and that she stands proud to be where she is now.

Score Point: 2

This response indicates a graphic (a picture of the flag of the United States) and includes two examples from the text which plausibly support the choice (because she left her country to come here for a better place to live/to show that she has recovered from her old country and that she stands proud to be where she is now).

33. Write your response to question 33 in the space below.

I would choose a photo of New Americans together because the first sentence of the passage says, "Hello New Americans!" Another reason is because the whole passage is about New Americans coming to America, and how they can help reshape America.

Score Point: 2

This response indicates a graphic (a photo of a group of new Americans standing together) and includes two details or examples from the text which plausibly support the choice (because the whole passage is about new Americans/and how they can help reshape America).



Reading

Question 18

2004

Question and Scoring Guidelines

Question 18

In paragraph 6, the author writes, “when I came to America I found that the school and my grandmother were both wrong.” Explain what his school taught him and what his grandmother told him about America, and give one example for each to show how they were both wrong. Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (4 points)

Sample Response for Question 18 (Extended Response):

Possible Responses (similar but not limited to the following):

The author was taught in school in Romania that America was a corrupt place where the wealthy scorned and treated the needy very badly. But his grandmother would secretly tell him that Americans were so wealthy that their roads were paved in gold. When he moved to America, he found out neither of them were correct. Although there were some people who were poor and some people who were rich, the majority of the people were neither. The roads were not paved in gold; in fact, many were dirt.

Scoring Guidelines for Question 18:

Score point	Description
4 points	The response presents an accurate explanation of what his school taught him and of what his grandmother said and gives an example for each of them showing how they were both wrong.
3 points	The response presents an accurate explanation of what his school taught him and of what his grandmother said and gives an example for either one of them showing how they were wrong.
2 points	The response presents an accurate explanation of what his school taught him or of what his grandmother said and gives an example showing how the one chosen was wrong, OR the response presents an accurate explanation of what the school taught and what his grandmother said with no examples, OR the response gives two examples with no indication of what the school taught or what his grandmother said.

- 1 point The response presents an accurate explanation of what his school taught him or of what his grandmother said but does not show how the chosen one was wrong, OR the response gives one example with no indication of what the school taught or what his grandmother said.
- 0 points The response shows no understanding of the task.



Reading

Question 18

2004

Sample Papers

His grandma told him that America was bad and people were racist and their were crimes which made it dangerous. School taught him English and not to be prejudice.

Score Point: 0

This response provides us with no accurate information that addresses the task; the school's teachings are attributed to the grandmother.

His school taught him that America was "a bad place where the rich laughed in the face of the poor who were about begging in the streets."

Score Point: 1

This response supplies only an accurate explanation of what the school taught (a bad place where the rich laughed in the face of the poor).

His grandmother taught him how to deal w/
many different things in life and he
got passed life with out as many difficulties
if it weren't for his grandmother.

She told him the "roads are paved with
gold" which gave him much pride and
inspiration for life.

Score Point: 1

Only an explanation of what his grandmother said
(roads are paved with gold) is given in this
response.

The school had taught him that America was bad and, in Romania, they could not speak of America in a good way. When arriving he found that the school was wrong because he liked America, and it was a wonderful place. ^{He did not have to whisper and could move freely.} His grandmother had told him dogs walked with pretzels on their tails and the streets were paved in gold. Of course, when he got here, he realized the streets were not actually paved with gold. His grandmother was wrong in this sense, but right because it was a better place for them to live. America provided more freedom for him and his grandmother, and although he missed old friends, he decided that America was a good place to move to and it was a wonderful thing to become a citizen.

Score Point: 2

This response presents an accurate explanation and an accompanying example to prove it wrong, but only for the grandmother's perspective (dogs walked with pretzels on their tails and the streets were paved in gold/the streets were not actually paved in gold). No credit was given for the school; "America was bad" is too vague to work as an explanation.

His Grandmother said american's dogs walked with pretzels on their tails and streets were paved with gold. she spiced America up. She over exaggerated how good america was.

The school said america was full of racial discrimination and everyone foreign would never succeed. The school under exaggerated America. Both the school and his Grandma were partly right but they both exaggerated it to make it sound better or worse than it is

Score Point: 2

This response gives two accurate explanations but no accompanying examples to prove them wrong. (Grandmother said Americans' dogs walked with pretzels on their tails and streets were paved with gold/the school said America was full of racial discrimination). "Both exaggerated" does not suffice as an example.

He's write they are both wrong.

His school taught him that America was a cruel place. That the rich laughed in the face of the poor, and that there was so much crime and racism that it made it dangerous to walk outside. His grandmother on the other hand told him that dogs walk around with pretzels on their tails, and that the roads were paved with gold.

✓ Sure some rich people laugh at poor people. Yes, there is crime and racism, but every country has that. Some dogs do have pretzels on their tails, but our roads are not paved with gold.

We are a country of many cultures, with much diversity. We are a free country and are free to practice our cultures. We ask people to not give up their old cultures because that is what makes us who we are and we make this country great.

Score Point: 3

This response provides accurate explanations of the school's and grandmother's teachings (rich laughed in face of poor, so much crime and racism/dogs walked around with pretzels on their tails, roads were paved with gold). However, only one example is given to show how the grandmother's ideas were wrong (our roads are not paved with gold). There is other information from the text, but it does not help to support the scoring criteria.

His school taught him that America was a bad place where the rich laughed in the face of the poor who went about begging in the streets. His grandmother said that dogs walk around with pretzels on their tails. His grandmother was wrong because they also get their own burial plots in hollywood. The school was wrong because there are mostly in-between people, people who are neither rich nor poor.

Score Point: 3

This response provides two accurate explanations (school taught ... rich laughed in the face of the poor who went about begging in the streets/grandmother said that dogs walk around with pretzels on their tails) but only gives one example to prove them wrong—for the school (there are mostly in-between people, people who are neither rich nor poor).

^{school}
In ~~v~~they taught him that America was a bad place and the rich laughed in the eyes of the poor and that there was heavy crime and racism. The author said that they were wrong because there were people in America that weren't poor but weren't rich and they were treated the same. People are indifferent from others in America because the author felt we are all indifferent so were treated the same.

The authors grandmother taught him that the roads were made of gold and dogs walked around with pretzels on there tails. She was wrong because the roads in America are not made of gold some of them are not even paved. The author also figured out that dogs do not walk around with pretzels on there tails. But one thing that the grandmother did say was that America was great and she was right.

Score Point: 4

This response presents an accurate explanation of what the school taught him (rich laughed in the eyes of the poor/heavy crime and racism) and gives an example of why that teaching was wrong (there were people in America that weren't poor but weren't rich). In addition, the student addresses the grandmother's teaching (roads were made of gold) and then refutes it (roads in America aren't made of gold, some of them are not even paved). "Extra" information, although unnecessary, does not detract from the score.

Codrescu's school in Romania taught him that America was an evil place where the rich persecuted the poor, and that crime and racism were rampant. His grandmother taught him that the roads were paved in gold and the dogs were fat and walked around with pretzels on their tails. The school was wrong because the rich people don't make fun of the poor people. Also, in America, most of the people belong to the middle class. His grandmother was wrong because some roads were not paved at all, but they could take you anywhere you wanted without a passport.

Score Point: 4

All four aspects of the scoring criteria are fulfilled in this response—an accurate explanation of the school's position (rich persecuted the poor) and of the grandmother's perceptions (the roads were paved with gold) along with examples that prove both wrong (in America, most of the people belong to the middle class/some roads were not paved at all).