

OPEN-RESPONSE ITEM ASSIGNMENT #1

Use the information below to complete the exercise that follows.

Tyler, a third-grade student, has been silently reading *Seven Kisses in a Row* by Patricia MacLachlan. In the passage shown below, Aunt Evelyn is knitting baby booties for the child she is expecting. Her niece, Emma, notices some problems with the booties.

"Aunt Evelyn," said Emma, "I have something bad to tell you."

"What's that?" asked Aunt Evelyn.

"Your baby will eat those spangles." Emma pointed to the baby booties.

"Oh dear," said Aunt Evelyn. "I suppose you are right. I don't know very much about babies."

Emma felt sorry for Aunt Evelyn.

"Don't worry, Aunt Evelyn, I was a baby about seven years ago. And my mother told me what I was like."

Aunt Evelyn put her arm around Emma. "You'd better tell me all about it," she said.

"First of all," Emma began, "babies don't pay attention to rules. They will eat spangles on booties, and wet and spit up milk and cry and wake up and sleep whenever they want to."

Aunt Evelyn sighed. "That's true, isn't it?"

Emma nodded. She looked at the purple spangled booties.

"Aunt Evelyn, I have something more bad to tell you."

"Now what?" asked Aunt Evelyn.

"Those purple booties are much too big for your baby," said Emma. "But I have some in my room that I saved from when I was a baby. They are not purple. I could give them to you."

Aunt Evelyn smiled at Emma. "Only if you want to, Emma."

Emma went into her room and found the booties. They were pink and blue. And they were very small. Aunt Evelyn loved them.

"Emma," she said, "I have noticed something. I think the purple spangled booties will fit you."

"I knew that," said Emma.

Aunt Evelyn laughed. "Oh, Emma. I like you."

After Tyler finishes reading the passage, the teacher prompts her to retell this part of the story. Shown below is Tyler's oral retelling of the passage.

Aunt Evelyn has some purple baby booties with spangles on them. They're for her baby. I don't know what spangles are. Maybe they're like bangles but much smaller. Anyway, Emma likes the spangles and wants the purple booties for herself, so she decides to trade them for her pink and blue booties. Aunt Evelyn seems really happy with the pink and blue booties and she thanks Emma.

Using your knowledge of **reading comprehension** (e.g., literal comprehension, inferential comprehension, engagement of schema, self-monitoring), write a response in which you:

- identify and discuss one of Tyler's *strengths* relating to reading comprehension; and
- identify and discuss one of Tyler's *weaknesses* relating to reading comprehension.

Be sure to cite specific evidence from the passage and the retelling to support your thoughts.