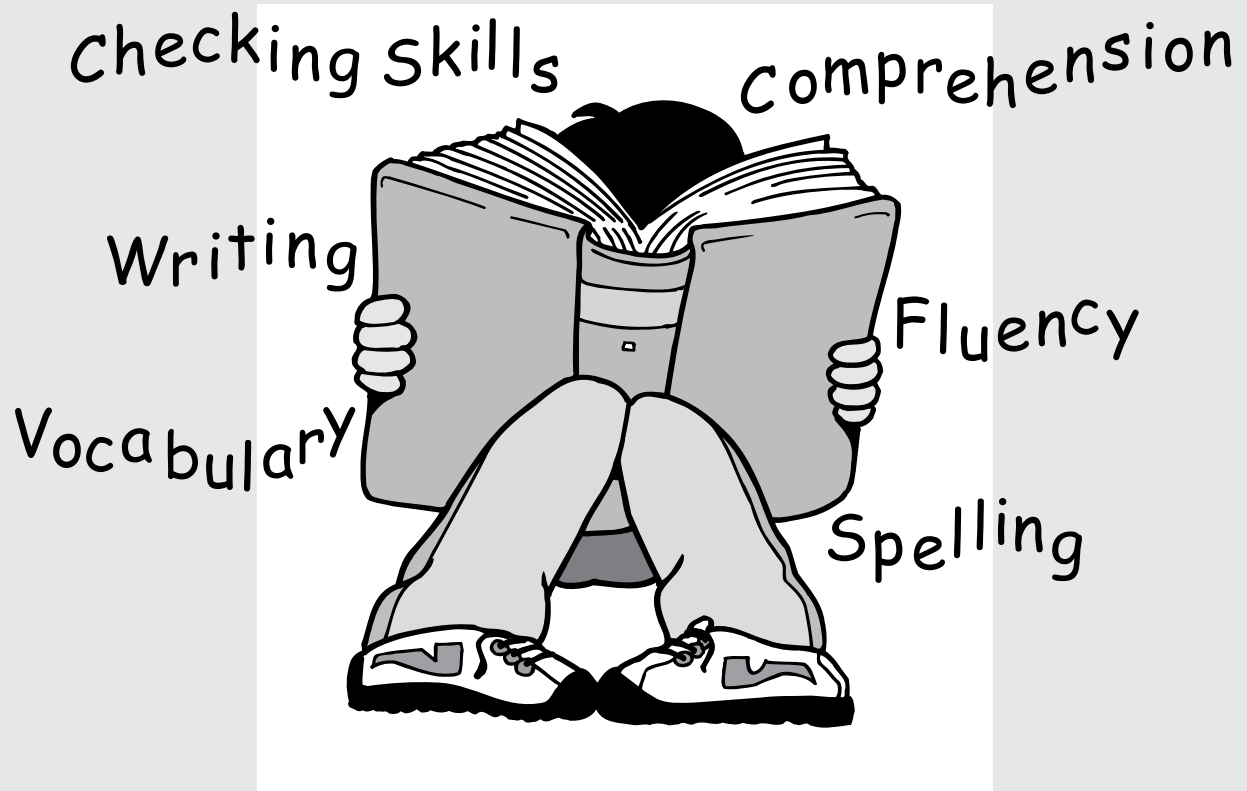


STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

6-8 Week Skills Assessments Developed for
Districts Using *Houghton Mifflin Reading*



GRADE 5
Theme 5

Student Name _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

Charley Parkhurst

Pat Bush

Charlotte shivered in the cold New Hampshire morning. Her mother and father had been recently killed in a wagon accident. It was tragic to lose her parents at such an early age. It was more traumatic when her uncle decided to send her and her brother to an orphanage. As she neatly braided her long hair, she wondered what living in an orphanage would be like. She knew her brother would probably not stay long since boys could become an apprentice in trades such as carpentry or blacksmithing. Charlotte envied him. She knew it was unthinkable for a girl to have such opportunities. Sighing, she took her small bundle of belongings and walked to the living room where the trustees for the orphanage were waiting for the two children. Departing in the carriage, Charlotte left behind the life she had always known.

Soon after arriving, Charlotte's brother became an apprentice and left the orphanage. Before leaving he secretly gave Charlotte some of his clothes, as they both realized it was the only way she could support herself outside of the orphanage.

Then one night she cut her hair and left quietly, embarking on an odyssey that would take her on a lifelong journey of danger and deception. Masquerading as a boy, she changed her name to Charley. She found a job as a stable boy on a farm. From that time on everyone thought Charley was a boy. For a long time she mucked the stalls, and she walked and fed the horses. When her employers realized how good she was with horses, Charley was allowed to ride them for their daily exercise. As she progressed from menial duties, she drove a stagecoach to and from neighboring towns.

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

1. Why did Charlotte envy her brother?

- A. He was a boy.
- B. She wanted to be a blacksmith.
- C. Boys didn't have to do housework.
- D. Boys who had jobs could leave the orphanage.

2. In paragraph 3, the author states that Charlotte embarked on an odyssey.
The word *odyssey* means

- A. danger and deception.
- B. an extended adventure.
- C. masquerade.
- D. change your name.

At a time when a lady's options were limited to household duties, Charlie enjoyed her time outside working with horses. Keeping her real identity from fellow workers became too burdensome, so she decided to head West. In this wild, unsettled, and rugged land, nobody asked questions about one's past. Charlie continued life as a man driving a stagecoach during the gold-rush days in California.

Charley was only about 5'6" in height, slim and wiry, and had attentive gray eyes. She did not speak very often, and when she did, her voice was oddly sharp and high-pitched. Charley wore a patch over one eye either to distract people from the lack of a beard, or because she had been injured by a horse. She refused to bunk with the other drivers. Instead, she slept in barns with the horses to maintain her privacy.

A skilled driver, Charley took danger and hardship in stride. On one trip, one-eyed Charley was carrying a large amount of gold. Sensing danger, she felt the hair on the back of her neck rise. Suddenly two masked gunmen jumped from behind a pile of boulders. The outlaws pointed six-shooters at her and demanded the gold. Too fast for the thieves to know what was happening, Charley swung her shotgun around and fired. They dropped. Charley put down her gun, ignoring the cheers of her passengers. She was only doing her job. From that time on, no outlaw dared mess with Charley. They were afraid of meeting the same fate.

In Charley's day, women were not allowed to vote. But Charley was not known to be female. Ulysses S. Grant ran for president in 1868. Charley cast her vote in November of that year, becoming the first woman ever to vote in a presidential election.

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

3. Why did Charley move to the West?
- A. It would be easier to keep her secret.
 - B. She wanted to join the gold rush miners.
 - C. She was slim and wiry.
 - D. She was looking for her brother.
4. What was one of the ways Charley kept her secret?
- A. She spoke with a high-pitched voice.
 - B. She took hardships in stride.
 - C. She slept in barns with the horses.
 - D. She enjoyed working outside.
5. Why did Charley ignore the cheers of her passengers after she saved them and the gold shipment?
- A. Charley was too frightened.
 - B. Charley was just doing her job.
 - C. Charley thought the cheers were silly.
 - D. Charley was too embarrassed.
6. Charley was the first woman to vote for a president because
- A. people thought she was a man.
 - B. she was responsible.
 - C. everyone in California was allowed to vote.
 - D. she was good with horses.

She gained the respect of almost all of the people in the towns and stations she served. She helped women during childbirth, set broken bones, donated money to needy causes, and kissed babies. Charley was plagued by arthritis after long years of heat, cold, rain, and snow. Aches and pains were part of her daily routine. However, people knew her stagecoach would arrive on time. Nothing could stop her, neither wrecks in flooded washes nor wild pigs in the road. More than once she had to pull flailing passengers from a shattered coach. Still the passengers and mail continued to be delivered.

Charley woke one morning so stiff she was reluctant to take the stagecoach on its run. As she painfully walked across the barn floor, she decided it was time to retire. She purchased a stagecoach station because a sedentary life was not for her. Each day, drivers knew she would be patiently waiting for them to come around the bend. She would wave at the first sound of horses pulling another load of the gold seekers.

One day Charley was not outside. The driver pulled up and gave a loud “whoa” to stop the horses; still Charley was nowhere in sight. The driver knew something was wrong. When he entered the small station house, he found Charley. She had died in her sleep. Until that day, nobody had suspected this extraordinary pioneer was a woman.

Now answer the questions about this part of the selection.

7. Charley gained the respect of others because
- A. she decided to retire.
 - B. she wore a patch over one eye.
 - C. she voted for president in 1868.
 - D. her stagecoach was always on time.
8. One of the jobs listed below was not something Charley did.
What is the job she did **not** do?
- A. stable boy
 - B. carpenter
 - C. stagecoach driver
 - D. stagecoach station owner
9. The theme of this story is
- A. the West is a dangerous place to live.
 - B. everyone liked Charley.
 - C. stagecoach drivers developed lots of aches and pains from exposure to heat, cold, rain, and snow.
 - D. women are capable of performing jobs that many thought only men could do.
10. This story is an example of
- A. a play.
 - B. science fiction.
 - C. historical fiction.
 - D. autobiography.

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

Read each sentence. Underline the word in parentheses that correctly completes the sentence.

1. Members of the tribe gave (they, them) new names.
2. Warriors traded their buffalo hides with (us, we).
3. My father and (I, me) listened carefully to his advice.
4. The hero of the battle was (him, he).

Read each sentence. Fill in the bubble next to the answer that correctly replaces the underlined words.

5. Farmers' homes were often destroyed by storms.

Theirs Their

6. Mama made Grace's dress for the party.

her hers

7. John's and my cabin was built by the river.

Our Ours

Read each sentence. Complete each sentence with the correct form of the adverb in parentheses.

8. Bob had driven the herd _____ of all. (fast)

9. The cowboy's horse stopped _____ than the mustang. (quickly)

10. Wild horses escaped _____ than horses in the corral. (frequently)

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

DIRECTIONS: Read all of the sentences. If an underlined word is misspelled, fill in the bubble next to the sentence. If none of the underlined words are misspelled, fill in the bubble next to “No mistake.”

1. A. Please note your corrections in the left margin of your paper.
 - B. Her expression of gratitude made us feel appreciated.
 - C. Did his old truck pass the smog inspeccion?
 - D. No mistake
2. A. Fishermen spent three days drifting in their disabled sailboat.
 - B. Because of his inaction when the alarm sounded, he was late to work.
 - C. People agreed the governor’s decision to raise taxes was a diservice to the state.
 - D. No mistake
3. A. How many relatives will attend the family reunion?
 - B. Clever clothing designers created adaptive clothing for people with handicaps.
 - C. Redwood trees are native to coastal regions in northern California.
 - D. No mistake
4. A. Onlookers watched the work crew distroy the old bridge.
 - B. A pack of wolves howled in the distance.
 - C. Forest firefighters quickly put out the blaze and prevented a disaster.
 - D. No mistake
5. A. Grandmother’s handmade quilt was a family treasure.
 - B. Our vacation was sheer pleashure from beginning to end.
 - C. I felt ashamed after I lied to my father.
 - D. No mistake

6. A. We met with mother's surgian this morning.
- B. The mountain climber's descent was interrupted by an unexpected snowstorm.
- C. Actors left the stage as the curtain came down.
- D. No mistake
7. A. When I go to college, I would like to study ancient Mayan culchure.
- B. Mother served spinach and meatloaf for dinner.
- C. It takes a mixture of hard work and persistence to win the boss's approval.
- D. No mistake
8. A. Have you been noticing that the weather seems cooler this summer?
- B. After measuring the sides of your desk, calculate the area.
- C. The newscaster said they will be televizing the program on Saturday.
- D. No mistake
9. A. We admired her ability to stay calm during difficult situations.
- B. Spys stole the secret documents from the safe.
- C. The United Nations tries to preserve harmony among countries.
- D. No mistake
10. A. This novel is much scarier than the one I read last week.
- B. Lawyers were not at liberty to discuss the impending court case.
- C. The busiest shopping days occur during the winter holidays.
- D. No mistake

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

PART 1 — Antonyms

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **opposite** of the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

1. You could extend the length of the tablecloth by adding a wide border.
 - A. inherit
 - B. transform
 - C. raid
 - D. reduce

2. The remorseful girl bowed her head in disgrace.
 - A. determined
 - B. rugged
 - C. guiltless
 - D. notorious

3. Anything could grow in the valley’s fertile soil.
 - A. barren
 - B. prairie
 - C. ravine
 - D. discouraged

PART 2 — Multiple Meanings

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Read and answer the question. Fill in the bubble next to the answer you have chosen.

4. Miners worked for months excavating their claim without finding gold.

In which sentence is the word claim used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?

 - A. We completed the insurance claim form and returned it to our agent.
 - B. Winners of the race were asked to claim their prizes in front of the grandstand.
 - C. My uncle staked his claim and registered it with the Department of Mines.
 - D. The defendant continued to claim his innocence throughout the trial.

5. Let’s mill around the lobby while we wait for the movie to start.

In which sentence is the word mill used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?

 - A. A huge, round stone was used to mill the grain and turn it into flour.
 - B. We sat on a bench and watched shoppers mill about the mall.
 - C. Grandfather used an old-fashioned cider mill to make apple juice.
 - D. My aunt refers to people who gossip as part of the “rumor mill.”

PART 3 — Context Meaning

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Using context, choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

6. Sailors' brave efforts prevented the ship from being seized by pirates.
- A. respected
- B. captured
- C. convinced
- D. urgent
7. Architects use their knowledge of engineering and artistic appeal when designing a building.
- A. daring
- B. grief
- C. attractiveness
- D. memoirs

PART 4 — Synonyms

DIRECTIONS: Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

8. The judge's reputation was never disputed; he was always honest and fair.
- A. character
- B. custom
- C. intimidation
- D. credit
9. For years people lived in fear of the cruel dictator.
- A. immigrant
- B. merchant
- C. ruler
- D. bandit
10. Letters of condolence were written to the family of the wounded soldier.
- A. triumph
- B. revolution
- C. hostility
- D. sympathy

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

In the summer of 1896, gold fever spread like wildfire across North America. According to rumors, someone had found gold near the Klondike River in Canada. Hopeful men and women were stricken with gold fever. People combed western Canada and Alaska in search of the precious metal. Nome, Alaska, was first settled as a mining camp. It became an important hub of the gold rush. Fortune seekers relied on the growing city for supplies.

Prospectors grumbled but were willing to face the hardships. They chose to endure the harsh, frigid weather for a chance to become wealthy. Lives were lost in the freezing, arctic climate. Gritty miners searched the land for hidden riches. Burros plodded beside their masters with huge boxes of mining supplies. They were also laden with food items such as flour, beef jerky, and beans. Fresh vegetables were scarce.

There were many other hazards. Danger lurked everywhere. A ghastly fate awaited anyone who stumbled upon a grizzly bear. Bandits often robbed miners of their gold.

Some lucky miners struck gold in the mother lode. They filled their coffers with treasure. Most, however, returned home empty handed.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 135

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

The Oregon Trail began in Saint Louis, Missouri. 8
 Pioneers were hoping to establish homesteads in the 16
 West. Settlers were advised to only pack basic food 25
 items. With drinking water, clothing, and cooking 32
 utensils, a covered wagon weighed more than three tons. 41
 Some people tried to take too much. So the trail was 52
 littered with abandoned belongings. 56
 The westward migration began in early spring. 63
 Pioneers needed to make it across the mountains before 72
 winter. The people and livestock required water. 79
 They also needed relief from the sizzling sun. For these 89
 reasons, the trail followed various rivers. Oregon’s 96
 Columbia River marked the final leg of the journey. 105
 Pioneers were robust people. They had a great sense 114
 of adventure. Fathers drove the wagons. Mothers and 122
 young children rode in the wagons. Older sons and 131
 daughters herded animals alongside the caravan. 137
 The wooden wagon seats were hard and uncomfortable. 145
 To get relief, banged and bruised riders jumped off their 155
 wagons and walked. 158
 Encounters with hostile Indians were not very 165
 common. Contrary to old, western movies, “circle the 173
 wagons” was not a cry to fend off Indians. It was an 185
 order by the wagon master. It meant it was time to form 197
 a corral for horses and oxen. 203
 The journey wasn’t always unbearable. Settlers took 210
 time to have fun. They told stories, sang, and danced 220
 around the campfire. 223

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (/)	word read incorrectly
blue sky (^)	inserted word
(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words	
Read Per Minute:	_____
Number of Errors:	— _____
Number of Words	
Read Correctly:	_____
Passing Criterion	
(50th %ile)	= <u>135</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Expository Writing Prompt - Response to Literature

Writing Situation: You have read *Pioneer Girl*, and you are thinking about what you have learned about pioneer life in the 1800s.

Purpose: To repond to literature in a compare/contrast essay

Audience: Your teacher

Writing Directions: Consider the way your life is similar to pioneer life and the way your life is different. Write a compare/contrast essay that describes at least one similarity and one difference between the two ways of life. Use a Venn diagram to plan your essay. Refer to your anthology to write this response.

Student Checklist:

Revising
<p>_____ Did you clearly state the subject to be compared and contrasted in the first paragraph?</p> <p>_____ Did you use vivid details to make your comparisons and contrasts clear?</p> <p>_____ Did you summarize your main points in your conclusion?</p>
Proofreading
<p>_____ Did you write in well-organized paragraphs?</p> <p>_____ Did you use a variety of sentence structures with proper subject-verb agreement?</p> <p>_____ Did you use correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?</p>

Conventions Score: _____ /4	TOTAL RUBRIC SCORE: _____ /4
Genre Score: _____ /4	
Writing Traits Score: _____ /4	

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Sixth Edition

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