


# STUDENT TEST BOOKLET



6-8 Week  
**S**kills  
Assessments

Developed for Districts  
Using *Open Court Reading 2002*

**G** **R** **A** **D** **E** **6**

**Unit 6**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Yasha, Sasha & Misha

*Toby Joan Rosenstrauch*

On the outskirts of St. Petersburg, there once lived a wealthy Russian merchant. He had a large shop that sold the finest wares. His home was a huge stone mansion where he lived with his wife and three sons, Yasha, Sasha, and Misha.

The sons were as different from one another as they could possibly be. They did not eat the same foods, enjoy the same work, or have the same opinions about anything. Even their hair and eyes were different. Yasha had red hair and brown eyes; Sasha had blond hair and blue eyes, and Misha had black hair and gray eyes.

One morning the merchant looked in his mirror and saw that his hair was turning gray. He knew that one day in the not-too-distant future he would be too old to take care of his business. He wanted to leave it to all three of his sons, but they did not get along together. When he brought them to the shop to teach them how to run it, they could never agree on anything. If Yasha said, "Papa, buy furs," Sasha said, "Papa, buy jewels," and Misha said, "Papa, buy silks." If Yasha said, "Charge three rubles," Sasha said, "Charge five rubles," and Misha said, "Charge eight rubles."

One evening the merchant called his sons into the parlor and spoke to them with regret and sadness in his heart. "I am growing old," he said, "and soon I shall give my shop to one younger and stronger than myself. I had hoped you could all work together, but, alas, that can never be. So I have decided to send all of you out into the world for a while to see what you will do with the money I shall give you."

To each son he gave a large sack of rubles and a horse.

"Go," he said, "and return to me in four years. Whichever one of you brings me the best wares to sell shall have the shop as his own."

Yasha, Sasha, and Misha each took one sack of rubles, mounted their horses, and galloped off in different directions.

As the years passed, the merchant became grayer and more wrinkled; his shoulders bent more with age. He tired easily and longed for the day when he could give the shop to another to run. He looked forward to the return of his sons with great eagerness.

The first to come back was Yasha, but he was so changed that his father could barely recognize him and took him at first for a beggar. Yasha stood in rags before his father, his eyes downcast in shame.

"What wares have you brought for me?" asked the merchant.

"Oh, Papa," cried Yasha, "I traveled far and purchased the finest furs. However, one night, on the way back to St. Petersburg, I slept in a forest. As I slept, thieves came and took the furs, the rest of my money, and even the horse. It was only through the compassion of a farmer who gave me a ride in his wagon that I was able to come back to you today."

The merchant was delighted to see his son home safely, but he was saddened that Yasha had brought no wares to show for all the time and money. Clearly, this was not the son to whom the merchant could entrust his business.

A few days later, Sasha arrived home. He, too, had tattered clothes and no horse or money. He, too, had no merchandise for his father.

“Oh, Papa,” he said, “I sold my horse, and then with the money you gave me, I boarded a ship for the Orient, where I bought the finest jewels. Nevertheless, one night, as I was returning to Russia by sea, there was a terrible storm. All the goods on the ship were washed overboard. I and the other merchants were lucky to escape with our lives.” Ashamed, Sasha hung his head; a few tears trickled down his face. He was sorry that he had disappointed his father.

The merchant was thankful that Sasha’s life had been spared, but he knew that this son was not suited to run his business, either.

Days passed, and the merchant waited anxiously for the return of Misha. Then, one bright morning, the merchant looked out the window and saw Misha walking up the hill to the house. Misha had no horse and carried nothing in his arms. The merchant’s heart sank, but he tried not to make a judgment before he had spoken to his son.

“Oh, Papa,” Misha said, “I hope you will be pleased with me. I have no furs, no jewels, and no silks to give you, but I have something more valuable. I have not traveled far—only to St. Petersburg, to the university. I have spent all the money and sold the horse, but I have received a fine education. What I have learned can never be taken away from me. It cannot be lost, and it cannot be stolen. I hope you will feel that I have spent my money wisely.”

The merchant heard Misha, and the joy in his heart made his face light up. “The shop shall be yours,” he said, “because you have indeed brought something even more precious than wares.”

To Misha the father gave his business, secure in the knowledge that this educated son would run it well. Misha, with love for his brothers, secured work for each as an apprentice with local tradesmen. When the father died, he died in peace, knowing that his sons were provided for and that his business would continue to grow and prosper.

*Now answer the questions about the selection.*

1. Which word best describes the wealthy merchant at the beginning of the story?
  - A. worried
  - B. content
  - C. proud
  - D. angry
  
2. Why does the merchant send his sons away for four years?
  - A. They are always arguing with one another.
  - B. He wants to give them a chance to make money on their own.
  - C. They refuse to work in the family business.
  - D. He wants to find out who is best suited to take over the family business.
  
3. What does Sasha do during the four years he is away from home?
  - A. He travels far and purchases the finest furs.
  - B. He goes to the Orient to buy jewels.
  - C. He prospects for gold in India.
  - D. He goes to college in St. Petersburg.
  
4. When Yasha and Sasha return home empty-handed, the merchant decides that he can't entrust the family business to them because they
  - A. cannot get along with each other.
  - B. are not responsible enough to protect their property.
  - C. don't appreciate the value of money.
  - D. didn't take advantage of the opportunity he gave them to become rich.
  
5. Sasha arrives home in tattered clothes. The word *tattered* means
  - A. brand-new.
  - B. dirty.
  - C. ragged.
  - D. second-hand.

6. Misha tells his father he has something more valuable than furs, jewelry, and silk. What does Misha have that is so valuable?

- A. knowledge
- B. gold
- C. health
- D. happiness

7. Misha spends his money wisely because

- A. what he learned can never be taken away.
- B. he doesn't have tattered clothes.
- C. he stays in St. Petersburg.
- D. his father gives him the business.

8. The merchant decides to turn his business over to Misha because the youngest son

- A. is his favorite.
- B. demonstrates he knows how to run a business.
- C. is friendly, agreeable, and intelligent.
- D. has proven he knows how to spend time and money wisely.

9. Which word best describes the merchant at the end of the story?

- A. confused
- B. anxious
- C. contented
- D. disappointed

10. What lesson does the author want you to learn from this story?

- A. Parents shouldn't criticize children when they fail.
- B. Education is a wise investment for the future.
- C. Not everyone can learn how to run a business.
- D. You have to have a lot of luck to run a business successfully.

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10
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**Read each of the following sentences. Draw a vertical line between the complete subject and the complete predicate. Underline the simple subject once and the simple predicate twice.**

1. Yasha, Sasha, and Misha left their father's mansion.
2. Two sons returned home without anything for their father.
3. Misha, the last son to return, used his money for an education.

**Read each of the following sentences. Circle the pronoun that correctly completes the sentence.**

4. King Midas and Marygold are rich with gold, but (their, they're) not content with what they have.
5. The miner and (he, him) each gave the king a gift.
6. The farmer shared his meal of stew and bread with Juan and (I, me).
7. Juan, (that, who) had been a thief for many years, followed Doña Josefa to steal her gold coin.

Read each sentence. Fill in the bubble next to the correct sentence type.

8. When Midas possessed the Golden Touch, he turned everything to gold.
- simple     
  compound     
  complex     
  compound-complex
9. Fausto put twenty dollars in the basket, which held money for the poor, and he immediately felt better.
- simple     
  compound     
  complex     
  compound-complex
10. After dinner, Fausto played the guitar; it was the happiest day of his life.
- simple     
  compound     
  complex     
  compound-complex

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. The candidate’s speech was very disjointed; his main points were difficult to follow.
  - B. Cesar Chavez initiated a grape boycott to raise an issue about the plight of migrant farm workers.
  - C. Boystrous little children ran excitedly through the park toward the merry-go-round.
  - D. No mistake
2.  A. After burrowing in the earth all day, the rabbit family curled up and snuggled in their warren.
  - B. The young ballerina was complemented on her poise and dancing skills.
  - C. The accountant was working on a profit-and-loss statement for his client.
  - D. No mistake
3.  A. Exhausted from playing all day, the child drowsily curled up on the couch.
  - B. That man was in such a rush, he practicaly ran right into my car.
  - C. Presently, nothing can be done to make the legislator change her mind.
  - D. No mistake
4.  A. We waited anxiously for the new edision of *Lord of the Rings* to come out in paperback.
  - B. The soldier was charged with desertion, but he knew he was innocent.
  - C. When the new addition to the house is completed, we will have four bedrooms.
  - D. No mistake
5.  A. Both northern and southern states refused to waiver from their stance on slavery.
  - B. Abraham Lincoln delivered his most famous address on the battlefield at Gettysburg.
  - C. The wildfire left an eerily desserted wasteland of burned trees.
  - D. No mistake



6.  A. The bride tossed her lovely bouquet of pink roses into the excited crowd of single women.
- B. Check your travel skedule carefully and allow enough time to clear airport security.
- C. Did the mechanic thoroughly check the engine after repairing the radiator?
- D. No mistake
7.  A. Father plopped onto his favorite lownge chair and closed his eyes.
- B. The starving hound dog devoured his food and then begged for more.
- C. The scoundrel lied to the old woman when he said she needed a new roof.
- D. No mistake
8.  A. The biology student was interested in learning about holistic medicine.
- B. Princes and princesses in the kingdom were invited to a grand ball.
- C. Police kept people at a safe distance until the kontents of the mysterious package were determined.
- D. No mistake
9.  A. Although he had muscles of iron, he couldn't lift the large trunk filled with books.
- B. After baking all day, we finally had enuff cookies for the weekend bake sale.
- C. We wear bathing suits and run through the sprinklers on sizzling, summer afternoons.
- D. No mistake.
10.  A. Weather you like fantasy, science, or realistic fiction, you will find an enjoyable book at your public library.
- B. Have you read any of the Harry Potter serial novels?
- C. Judo and karate are two martial arts styles popular for developing self-defense, confidence, and discipline.
- D. No mistake

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10
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**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. The dedication of the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial was a solemn occasion attended by thousands of people.
  - A. rickety
  - B. charity
  - C. cheerful
  - D. licensed
  
2. His deceitful behavior became public knowledge when the story was printed in the newspaper.
  - A. trustworthy
  - B. sneaky
  - C. shrewd
  - D. insistent
  
3. Our group was walking through the meadow and talking amiably when we noticed a group of grazing deer.
  - A. thunderously
  - B. distractedly
  - C. vaguely
  - D. disagreeably

**PART 2 — Multiple Meanings**

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the sentence. Read and answer the question. Fill in the bubble next to the answer.

4. The fourth person in the relay race seized the baton and sprinted toward the finish line.
 

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

  - A. Negotiations will seize up if the quarreling countries don’t resolve their differences.
  - B. One of the dueling musketeers tried to seize his opponent’s sword and pin him to the wall.
  - C. Seize each day and make the most of it; a day lost can never be regained.
  - D. Apartment residents were seized by the pungent, gassy smell and fled the building.
  
5. Every time we ask mother if she wants some ice cream she says, “Just a trifle.”
 

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

  - A. My friend likes her trifle served with whipped cream.
  - B. The candidate’s speech was a series of trifle points which could easily be refuted.
  - C. Ebenezer Scrooge was not just a trifle stingy; he was a selfish, tightfisted man.
  - D. By not returning the ball, our dog always trifles with us during a game of fetch.

**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. Last year we gave our parents a perpetual calendar so they would never forget our birthdays.
- A. continuous
  - B. majestic
  - C. shriveled
  - D. festive
7. Nobody’s banana cream pie is quite as luscious and tasty as Grandma’s.
- A. mealy
  - B. steaming
  - C. ransacked
  - D. delicious

**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 foreign dignitary made an eloquent speech to Parliament.
- A. hoax
  - B. official
  - C. warehouseman
  - D. suspect
9. The millionaire’s avaricious nature is legendary.
- A. distinguished
  - B. greedy
  - C. hospitable
  - D. wealthy
10. Community members complained about the statue for years; the monstrosity had been donated by the former mayor.
- A. balustrade
  - B. spyglass
  - C. shawl
  - D. eyesore

TOTAL SCORE: ____/10
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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.*

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 doubled the size of a young United States. Purchasing this vast, fertile land helped our country rise to world-power status. The events leading up to history’s largest peaceful land transfer are extremely interesting.

The sale of the Louisiana Territory to the United States by Napoleon was the result of a complex chain of events. France first claimed the land as its own. The French and Indian War shifted the balance of power among France, England, and Spain. At the end of the war in 1762, France gave the land to Spain. Forty years later, Spain began to decline as a world power. France again became interested in Louisiana. During secret talks, France convinced Spain to return the territory.

When news reached President Thomas Jefferson in the States, he conferred with France. He wanted to purchase New Orleans and Louisiana. The United States wanted this land. Many American settlers and merchants lived in the region.

France was having financial problems. It could no longer defend the territory. Napoleon talked officials into selling the entire area. The land was purchased for fifteen million dollars. This was a mere three cents an acre. Today, this region is often referred to as “the nation’s breadbasket.” It provides an abundance of the country’s food products.

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>150</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.

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.*

In 1979, Jan Scruggs, an honored Vietnam War veteran, had an idea. The idea was to build a memorial. Its purpose was to honor the soldiers who had died during this unpopular war.

The following year, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund held a national design contest. Maya Lin, a young, talented woman was studying structural design and sculpture at Yale. She entered the contest. Her entry was a polished, black-granite, v-shaped wall. It was inscribed with the names of the 58,000 who had perished. Maya won the competition.

Some people felt the design was not suitable. They wanted a different tribute to the fallen heroes. Critics were split into supporters and opponents. Both sides were eventually satisfied. The parties agreed to erect a statue of three soldiers with a flag at the entrance.

The wall was completely funded through private donations. It has become one of our most valued monuments. People visit it daily seeking the names of friends and relatives who died. Photographs, flowers, and mementos are tearfully placed on the sidewalk in front of the wall. These items are kept and cataloged in a building near the site. A scaled-down version of the wall travels throughout the country. This allows people unable to visit Washington D.C. to see the names of their loved ones.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
<del>sky</del>	(/) 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>150</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**

**Writing Situation:** You are thinking of a place you know well. How would you describe it so your reader could picture that place?

**Purpose:** To describe a place in a descriptive essay

**Audience:** Your classmates

**Writing Directions:** Think of a place you know well. Using words that put images in the reader’s mind, write a descriptive essay that creates a mental picture of your place.

**Student Checklist:**

<b>Revising</b>
<p>_____ Does your first paragraph have a topic sentence?</p> <p>_____ Have you made your readers feel they are in the place you are describing?</p> <p>_____ Did you use vivid adjectives and adverbs to support and clarify the place you are describing?</p> <p>_____ Did you use words that have to do with the senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, touching, and tasting?</p> <p>_____ Did you use comparisons to bring your descriptions to life?</p> <p>_____ Is your essay organized with transition words to help the reader move easily from one description to the next?</p>
<b>Proofreading</b>
<p>_____ Is every paragraph indented?</p> <p>_____ Did you capitalize proper nouns and the beginnings of sentences?</p> <p>_____ Did you use correct grammar?</p> <p>_____ Did you use correct punctuation?</p> <p>_____ Is every word spelled correctly?</p>

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

# NOTES

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**Seventh Edition**

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