



**PAWS
Reading
Grade 6**

**Released Items
With Data**

2009

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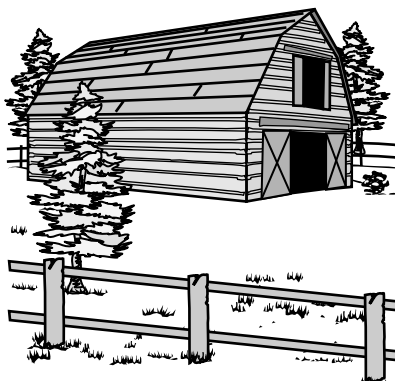
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Read "A Time for Everything" and think about how the plot of the story helps convey a message.

A Time for Everything



- 1 Going to my Great Uncle Nick's farm in Iowa was not my idea of fun and was not how I wanted to spend my spring break. All of my friends were going to horseback riding camp. Jeans, boots, and cowboy hats for five days seemed like paradise. The smell of saddle soap and fresh hay in the stalls was my idea of how to spend a week off from school. Unfortunately, my parents had made plans for me to spend time with my mother's Uncle Nick.
- 2 Since I was not happy about being dropped off at Uncle Nick's farm, I decided I should make everyone else miserable too. I gave one-word answers to any questions directed toward me.
- 3 "Sarah, come on over here," Uncle Nick called. I glimpsed him out of the corner of my eye.
- 4 I was not about to move from my perch on the wooden fence that separated the barn from the farmhouse. I was perfectly content listening to the latest tunes on my CD player. I pretended not to hear Uncle Nick.
- 5 Uncle Nick tapped me on the shoulder. "I need your help. Follow me."
- 6 I had to admit, sitting around doing nothing was starting to feel as boring as waiting for my turn in a doctor's office. "An adventure might liven up this old farm," I thought to myself.

7 I followed him behind the barn. Uncle Nick grabbed two shovels, and we headed to the east side of the potato field. After about five minutes of brisk-paced walking, we stopped in front of the tallest oak tree I had ever seen. Uncle Nick searched the tree bark. He ran his fingers over the trunk. "There it is." He pointed to an "X" marked on the trunk. Uncle Nick stood with his back to the "X" on the tree trunk and took three steps forward. He handed me a shovel and announced, "Let's start digging."

8 "Digging? What are we digging for?" I asked.

9 "When your mother was about your age, she came and spent the summer here. She didn't want to be here either, and she didn't talk for a week! Finally, we started talking, and we became the best of friends. When it was time for her to go home, we buried a time capsule here."

10 "A what?" I asked.

11 "A time capsule. You know, a container with the date written on it and filled with special things." Uncle Nick looked at me with his eyebrows raised. "Haven't you ever heard of a time capsule?"

12 "I've seen them on television, but I never knew anyone who made a real one," I replied.

13 "Well, your mom and I found an old metal lock box in the barn. We filled it up and buried it here. The box has all kinds of keepsakes from the 1980s."

14 I grabbed a shovel and started digging. A foot down, I heard the clank of metal hitting metal. I dug like an excited dog looking for a lost toy. I dusted off the dirt and looked at the box. Uncle Nick handed me a key.

15 We opened the box and gazed at the pictures. At first glance, the girl in the picture looked just like me. The girl was my mother when she was about twelve years old. She was dancing while wearing headphones and a small cassette player was clipped to her jeans. In another picture, she and Uncle Nick rode horses near the potato field. I looked under the pictures and saw something shiny. I held up a tarnished silver chain. Two interlocking circles hung in the middle.

16 "What's this?" I asked. Uncle Nick grinned.

17 "That is from when your grandmother and grandfather were first married. He was a sailor in the Navy. The Navy had called him to duty in Panama to help protect the Panama Canal and keep the passage open for trade. This necklace was a symbol of their love. No matter the distance between them, their love would keep them connected."

18 At that moment, I felt a tug in my chest. I had never really known much about my mother or grandparent's lives when they were young. We would go to dinner at my grandparent's house for holidays, but I never listened to the talk at the table. I would beg to go home and watch television or play with my friends. I had no interest in listening to stories of the past.

19 "I never knew that," I commented. "What else is in the time capsule?"

20 "Let's take a look," Uncle Nick answered. We continued to empty the time capsule one item at a time. With each trinket Uncle Nick took out, he told me the significance and a story about our family. Uncle Nick had given me treasures from the past.

21 I spent the rest of the week getting to know my mother, uncle, and the rest of the family in a way I had never known them before. On my last day at the farm, I found Uncle Nick feeding the chickens. "Uncle Nick," I hesitantly called. "May I come back again next year?"

22 He smiled and laughed. "Of course, I think there's a trunk in the attic you might find interesting. We'll check it out when you come back." I cannot wait!

3520133

Which of these explains how Paragraph 1 most affects the plot?

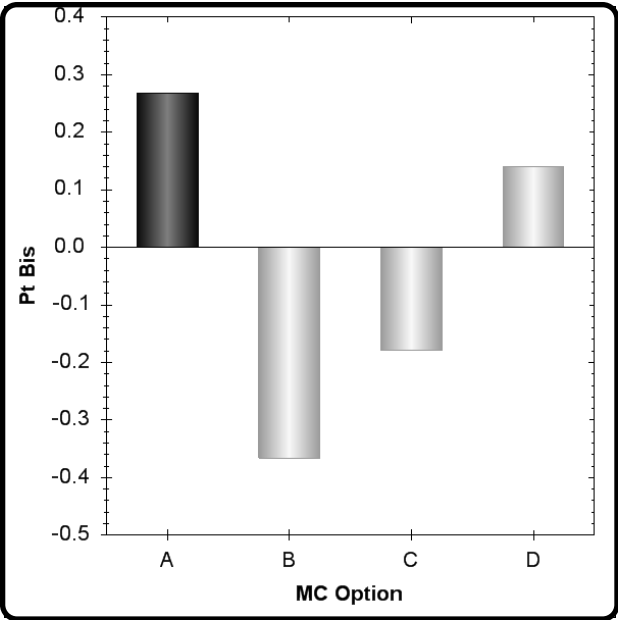
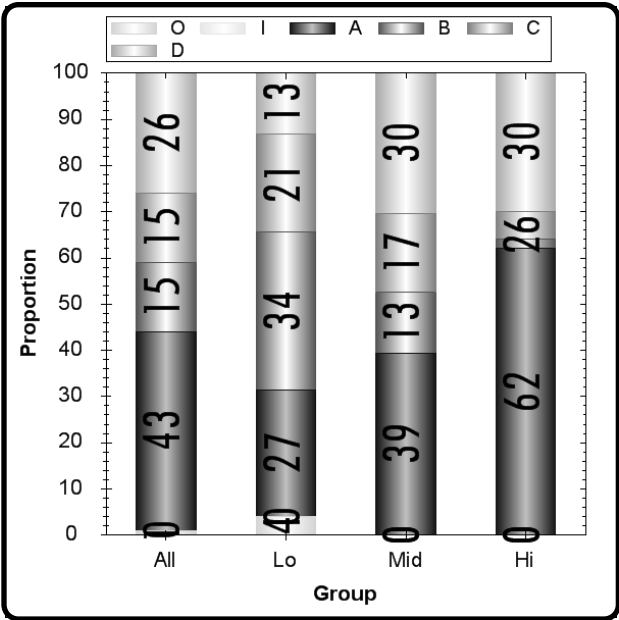
- A** It introduces the central character.
- B** It offers a solution to a problem.
- C** It reveals how the problem will be resolved.
- D** It defines the message of the story.

Grade 6 **Reading** **CID 3520133**
Item # 22 **R.06.N.2** **Administration FT07**
Psg : A Time for Everything **(NAR OP2008)**

Type	Max Points	Correct Answer	N Count	Item Mean	Discrimination
Multiple Choice	1	A	508	0.431	0.268

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	43	15	15	26	1	0
Low Scorers	27	34	21	13	4	0
Middle Scorers	39	13	17	30	0	0
High Scorers	62	2	6	30	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
0.268	-0.366	-0.179	0.141



Notes:

Option D has positive discrimination. Check option for ambiguity/correctness.

3520127

Read this sentence from Paragraph 6.

I had to admit, sitting around doing nothing was starting to feel as boring as waiting for my turn in a doctor's office.

Which of these best explains how this comparison relates to the plot?

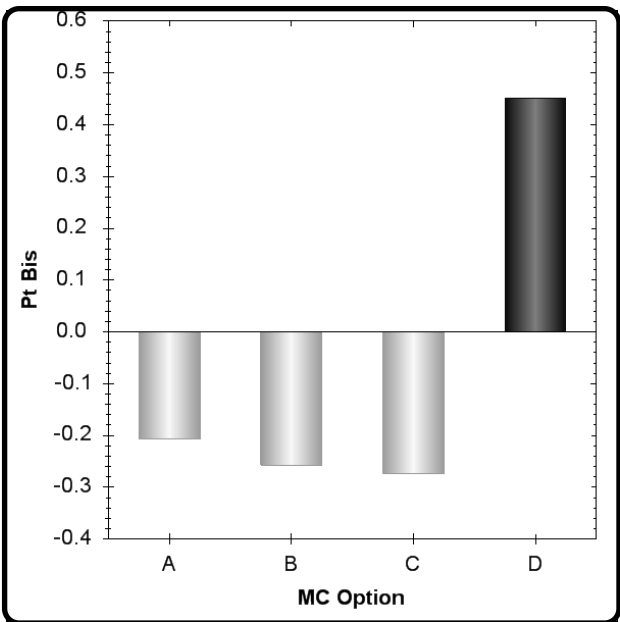
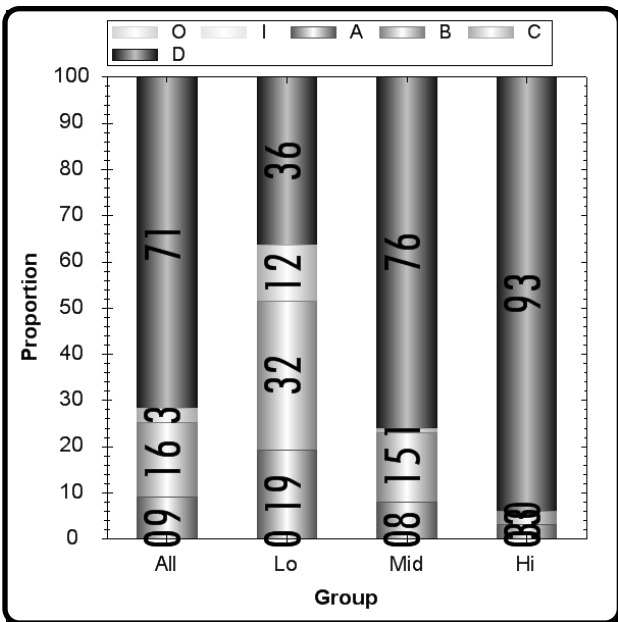
- A** As a doctor performs important work, Uncle Nick reveals an important lesson to Sarah.
- B** As Sarah dislikes waiting, Uncle Nick waits to tell Sarah he needs her help.
- C** As Sarah enjoys relaxing on the farm, Uncle Nick enjoys working in the barn.
- D** As sitting in the waiting room can be miserable, Sarah is unhappy sitting around the farm.

Grade 6 **Reading** **CID 3520127**
Item # 26 **R.06.N.1** **Administration OP08**
Psg : A Time for Everything **(NAR OP2008)**

Type	Max Points	Correct Answer	N Count	Item Mean	Discrimination
Multiple Choice	1	D	6285	0.713	0.452

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	9	16	3	71	0	0
Low Scorers	19	32	12	36	0	0
Middle Scorers	8	15	1	76	0	0
High Scorers	3	3	0	93	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.207	-0.257	-0.273	0.452



Notes:

3520128

When does Uncle Nick tell Sarah about the tree?

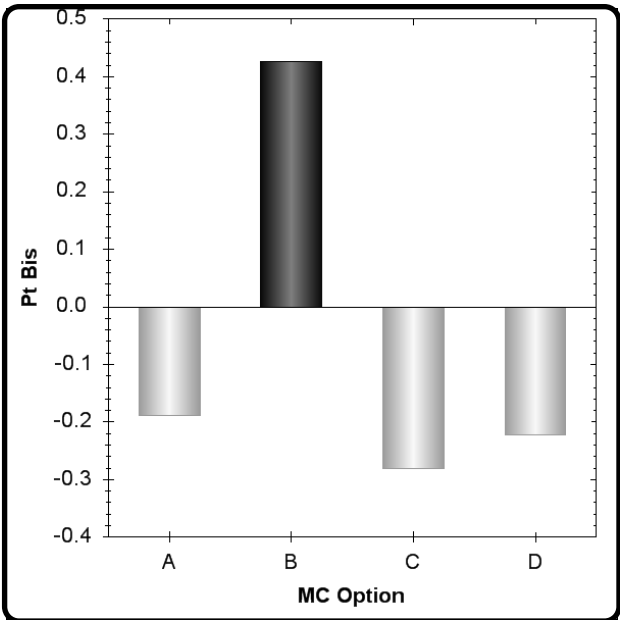
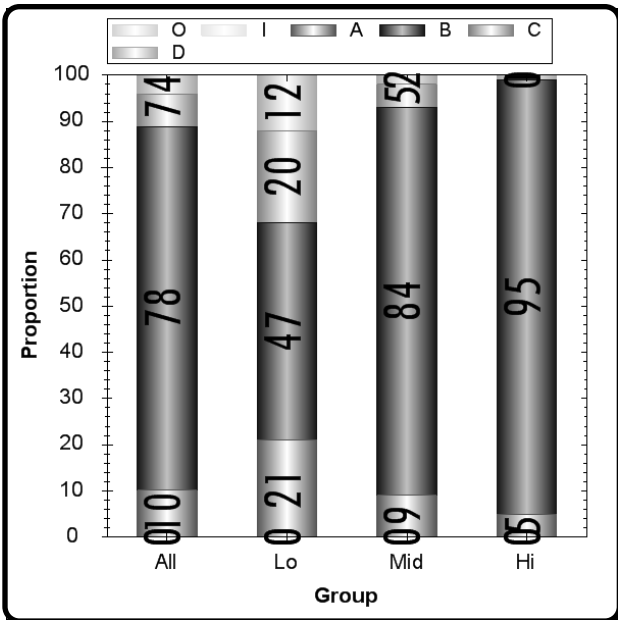
- A** As soon as she arrives
- B** After she ignores him
- C** Before she sits on the fence
- D** When she decides to return

Grade 6 **Reading** **CID 3520128**
Item # 25 **R.06.N.2** **Administration OP08**
Psg : A Time for Everything **(NAR OP2008)**

Type	Max Points	Correct Answer	N Count	Item Mean	Discrimination
Multiple Choice	1	B	6285	0.781	0.427

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	10	78	7	4	0	0
Low Scorers	21	47	20	12	0	0
Middle Scorers	9	84	5	2	0	0
High Scorers	5	95	0	1	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.189	0.427	-0.281	-0.223



Notes:

Non LEP students may perform better on this item as compared to LEP students. (B)

3520134

Which of these best supports the message of connecting with the past?

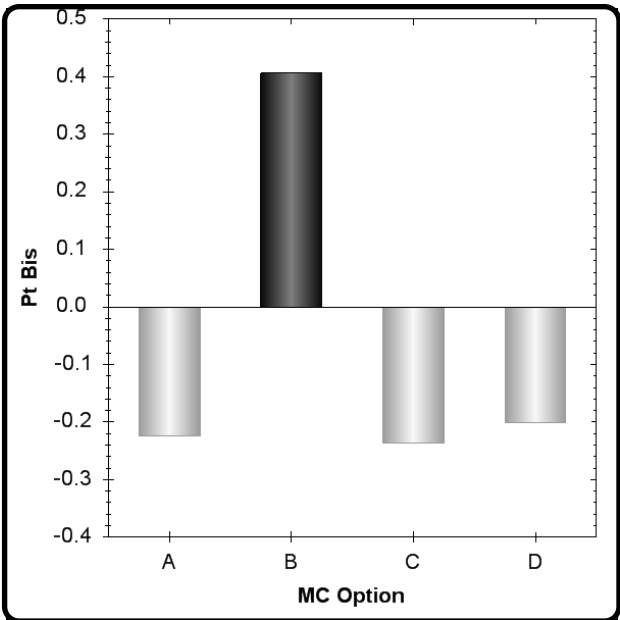
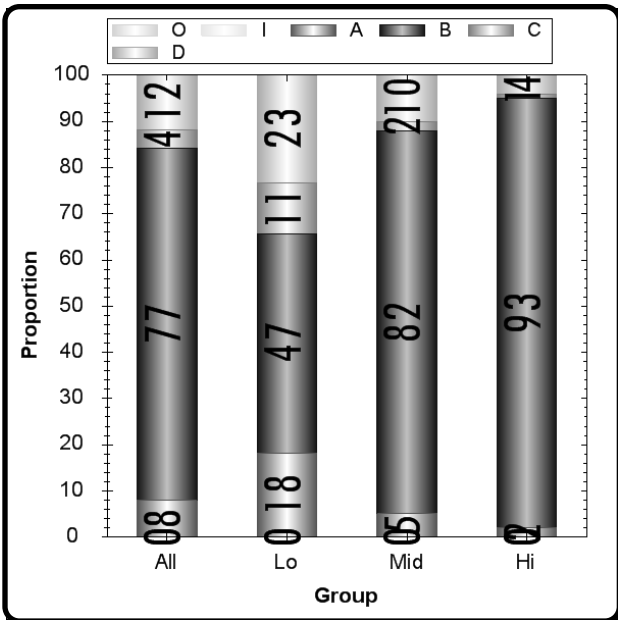
- A** Uncle Nick's farmhouse
- B** A picture of Sarah's mother
- C** Sarah's CD player
- D** A box in Uncle Nick's barn

Grade 6 **Reading** **CID 3520134**
Item # 29 **R.06.N.3** **Administration OP08**
Psg : A Time for Everything **(NAR OP2008)**

Type	Max Points	Correct Answer	N Count	Item Mean	Discrimination
Multiple Choice	1	B	6285	0.767	0.406

	A	B	C	D	Omit	Invalid
All	8	77	4	12	0	0
Low Scorers	18	47	11	23	0	0
Middle Scorers	5	82	2	10	0	0
High Scorers	2	93	1	4	0	0

MC Item Option Discriminations			
A	B	C	D
-0.225	0.406	-0.236	-0.201



Notes:

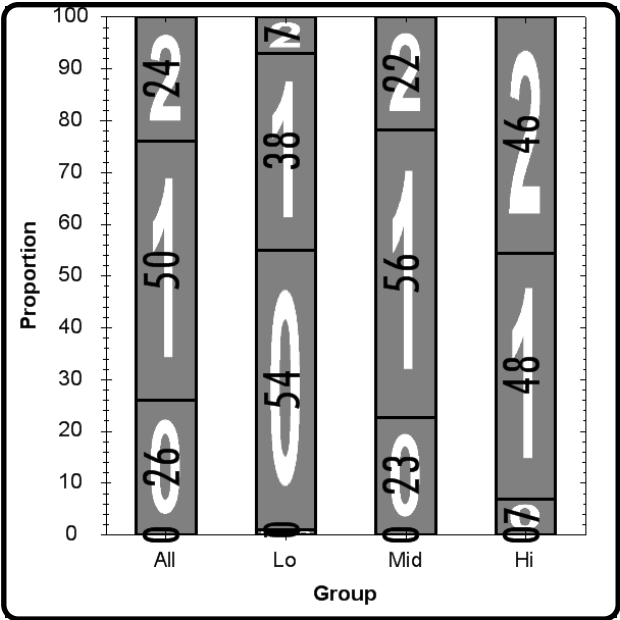
Non LEP students may perform better on this item as compared to LEP students. (B)

Explain why "A Time for Everything" is a good title for this story. Use details from the story to support your response.

Grade 6 Reading CID 3520151
 Item # 54 Administration OP08
 R.06.N.3
 Psg : A Time for Everything (NAR OP2008)

Type Max Points N Count Item Mean Discrimination
 Short Answer 2 6285 0.981 0.398

	0	1	2	Omit	Invalid
All	26	50	24	0	0
Low Scorers	54	38	7	1	0
Middle Scorers	23	56	22	0	0
High Scorers	7	48	46	0	0



Notes:

