

Regents Examination In English Language Arts Answer Key

Part 1

Directions (1–24): Closely read each of the three passages below. After each passage, there are several multiple-choice questions. Select the best suggested answer to each question and record your answer on the separate answer sheet provided for you. You may use the margins to take notes as you read.

Reading Comprehension Passage A

Caramelo

One would think now that she was living in Chicago, in the same city as her [favorite son] Inocencio, the Grandmother would find happiness. But no, that wasn't the case. The Grandmother was meaner than ever. She was unhappy. And didn't know she was unhappy, the worst kind of unhappiness of all. As a result, everyone was in a hurry to find her a house
5 of some sort. A bungalow, a duplex, a brownstone, an apartment. Something, anything, because the Grandmother's gloominess was the contagious kind, infecting every member of the household as fiercely as the bubonic plague.

Because Baby [Inocencio's brother] and Ninfa's apartment had room to accommodate a guest, it was understood the Grandmother would stay with them until she could find a
10 house of her own. This had seemed all well and fine when the plans were made long-distance with Uncle Baby shouting into the receiver that he insisted, that he and Ninfa wouldn't think of her staying anywhere else, that the girls were thrilled she was coming. But now that she was actually sleeping in [granddaughter] Amor's narrow bed with radios and televisions chattering throughout the apartment, and doors and cupboards banging, and the
15 stink of cigarettes soaking into everything, even her skin, and trucks rumbling past and shaking the building like an earthquake, and sirens and car horns at all hours, well, it just about drove her crazy; even the rowdy Chicago wind, a rough, moody brute who took one look at you and laughed. ...

All day and all night the expressway traffic whooshed past, keeping the Grandmother
20 awake. She napped when she could, even when the apartment and its inhabitants jabbered the loudest. She was tired all the time, and yet she had trouble sleeping, often waking once or twice in the early morning, and in her sleeplessness, padding in her house slippers to the living room, where the front windows looked out onto the lanes of traffic, the expressway billboards, and the frighteningly grimy factories beyond. The trucks and cars, furious to get
25 from here to there, never paused for a moment, the sound of the expressway almost not a sound at all, but a roar like the voice of the sea trapped inside a shell.

She pressed her forehead against the cold glass and sighed. If the Grandmother had consulted her feelings, she would've understood why it was taking her so long to buy a new house and settle in Chicago, but she was not a woman given to reflection. She missed her
30 old house too much and was too proud to admit she'd made a mistake. She couldn't go backward, could she? She was stuck, in the middle of nowhere it seemed, halfway between here and where?

The Grandmother missed the routine of her mornings, her three-minute eggs and
35 *bolillo*¹ breakfasts. She missed rubbing her big toe along the octagon tiles of her bathroom floor. But most of all, she missed her own bed with its mattress sagging in the center, the familiar scent and weight of her blankets, the way morning entered gradually from the left

¹bolillo — crunchy roll

Regents Examination in English Language Arts Answer Key

The Regents Examination in English Language Arts (ELA) is a standardized test administered in New York State, designed to assess students' proficiency in reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. This examination is critical for high school students, as it serves as a graduation requirement. Understanding the answer key for the Regents ELA exam is essential for educators, students, and parents alike. This article will delve into the structure of the exam, the importance of the answer key, how to interpret it, and resources available for preparation.

Overview of the Regents Examination in English Language Arts

The Regents ELA exam is typically taken at the end of 11th grade and consists of several components that evaluate students' skills in various areas of language arts.

Structure of the Exam

The exam is divided into three main sections:

1. Reading Comprehension: This section includes a series of passages from literature, informational texts, and poetry. Students must read these texts and answer questions that assess their understanding and analysis of the material.
2. Writing Tasks: Students are required to complete a written response, which may include an argumentative essay, a literary analysis, or a narrative piece. This section tests students' ability to formulate coherent arguments, use evidence, and adhere to standard writing conventions.
3. Listening Comprehension: While not always present in every iteration of the exam, some formats include a listening component where students must listen to audio excerpts and answer related questions.

Scoring of the Exam

The Regents ELA exam is scored on a scale from 0 to 100, with a passing score typically set at 65. Each section of the exam contributes to the overall score, and students must demonstrate proficiency across all areas to pass.

The Importance of the Answer Key

An answer key is a critical component of any standardized test, including the Regents ELA exam. It serves several purposes:

Guidance for Educators

- Curriculum Alignment: Teachers can use the answer key to ensure that their instructional practices align with the exam content.
- Assessment: The answer key provides a standard for evaluating student responses, allowing educators to identify areas where students may need additional support or enrichment.

Feedback for Students and Parents

- Self-Assessment: Students can use the answer key to check their responses, gaining insight into their understanding of the material.
- Preparation for Future Exams: By reviewing the answer key, students can identify patterns in the types of questions asked, which helps them prepare for future assessments.

Standardization and Fairness

The answer key ensures that all students are evaluated consistently. It provides a transparent method for scoring, reducing bias and increasing the fairness of the assessment process.

Interpreting the Answer Key

Understanding how to interpret the answer key is crucial for both students and teachers.

Types of Questions

The answer key typically includes several types of questions:

- Multiple Choice: These questions have one correct answer among several options. The answer key will indicate the correct choice for each question.
- Constructed Response: For open-ended questions, the answer key will provide a rubric detailing the criteria for scoring. This rubric outlines what is expected for a high-scoring response, including the use of textual evidence, coherence, and grammar.

Using the Answer Key Effectively

To effectively use the answer key, students and educators should:

1. Review Incorrect Answers: Analyze why a particular answer was wrong. This reflection can help identify gaps in understanding.
2. Understand Scoring Rubrics: Familiarize yourself with the scoring criteria for constructed responses. Knowing what evaluators look for can improve future writing.
3. Practice with Sample Questions: Use the answer key in conjunction with practice exams to simulate the testing environment and alleviate anxiety.

Resources for Preparation

Preparing for the Regents ELA exam requires a variety of resources and strategies.

Study Guides and Practice Tests

- Official New York State Resources: The New York State Education Department provides official study guides and past exams, which are invaluable for understanding the format and types of questions that appear on the test.
- Commercial Study Guides: Numerous companies publish study guides specifically designed for the Regents exams, offering practice questions, detailed answer explanations, and tips for success.

Online Resources

- Educational Websites: Websites like Khan Academy, Quizlet, and others offer free resources, including practice questions and instructional videos.
- Discussion Forums: Online forums and social media groups can provide support and shared resources among students and teachers.

Tutoring and Additional Support

- One-on-One Tutoring: For students who may struggle with specific areas of the exam, seeking a tutor can provide personalized instruction.
- After-School Programs: Many schools offer after-school programs focused on test preparation, helping students review key concepts and practice test-taking strategies.

Conclusion

The Regents Examination in English Language Arts is an essential component of a New York State high school education. Understanding the answer key not only aids in proper preparation for the exam but also helps students and educators evaluate performance effectively. By utilizing various resources and strategies for preparation, students can enhance their skills in reading, writing, and critical thinking, ultimately leading to success on the exam. With a clear focus on understanding how to interpret the answer key and access the available tools, students can approach their Regents ELA exam with confidence.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the purpose of the Regents Examination in English Language Arts?

The purpose of the Regents Examination in English Language Arts is to assess students' proficiency in reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, aligning with New York State learning standards.

When is the Regents Examination in English Language Arts typically administered?

The Regents Examination in English Language Arts is typically administered in January, June, and August each year.

How can students prepare for the Regents Examination in English Language Arts?

Students can prepare by studying past exam questions, practicing reading comprehension and writing skills, and utilizing review materials and study guides.

Where can students find the answer key for the Regents Examination in English Language Arts?

Students can find the answer key for the Regents Examination in English Language Arts on the New York State Education Department's official website.

Are the answer keys for previous Regents Examinations available to the public?

Yes, the answer keys for previous Regents Examinations are available to the public on the New York State Education Department's website.

What types of questions are included in the Regents Examination in English Language Arts?

The examination includes multiple-choice questions, constructed response questions, and an essay component that assesses writing skills.

How is the Regents Examination in English Language Arts scored?

The examination is scored on a scale of 0 to 100, with a passing score typically set at 65 or higher.

Can students retake the Regents Examination in English Language Arts if they do not pass?

Yes, students can retake the Regents Examination in English Language Arts multiple times until they achieve a passing score.

What resources are available for teachers to help students prepare for the Regents Examination in English Language Arts?

Teachers can access curriculum guides, sample questions, scoring rubrics, and professional development resources from the New York State Education Department.

How does the Regents Examination in English Language Arts impact graduation requirements in New York State?

Passing the Regents Examination in English Language Arts is a requirement for high school graduation in New York State, along with other subject area exams.

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