

## Examples of Top Quality Constructed response Questions

### Communication Arts:

1. Explain what course of action you would take if you were in [character's] situation and explain why this would be a more effective course than the course that [character] chose.
2. If [character] follows the advice offered by [another character] in the passage, what do you think will happen and why?
3. How is the setting important in this story? Use details and information from the story to support your answer.
4. List or draw at least 5 events that happened in the story in the order that they happened. Tell which event had the most impact on the main character and explain why.
5. Compare [character in passage A] to [character in passage B]. Use examples from both passages to support your answer.
6. What is the most exciting part in the story? Explain why you think it is the most exciting part using details and /or examples from the story.
7. Fill in the chart to show the problems [character] faced in the story. Beside each problem, write how [character] solved the problem.
8. Write a short letter to a friend telling him or her what the story is about. Be sure to use proper letter format.
9. What do you think was the author's purpose for writing this passage? Use examples to support your reasoning.
10. Which of the two stories do you think is the best story, and why? Use details from both stories to support your answer.
11. What is the main idea of the text? Explain how you know this is the main idea.
12. What did [character] mean when [he/she] said ["quote from passage"]? Use details from the story to explain your answer.
13. What is the mood of the passage? Give at least three examples of how the author tried to create this mood.
14. Predict what will happen to [character] after the end of this story. Use details from the story to give reasons for your prediction.

## Math

1. Given 5 right triangles of different sizes, look at the lengths of the sides of each of the 5 triangles. Determine the relationship of the side opposite the right angle to the other two sides. Write an explanation of the relationship.
2. Use the menu [which includes four options for each of the following: drinks, main dishes, and desserts] to determine how many lunch possibilities there are if Carl chooses one drink, one main dish and one dessert. Show all the possibilities.
3. Create a diagram that shows a classification arrangement of the following: quadrilateral, parallelogram, trapezoid, rhombus, rectangle, and square.
4. Explain why an 8-inch by 10 inch “enlargement” of a 3-½ inch by 5-inch photograph is not a true enlargement. Draw two enlargements that would be accurate, labeling the dimensions, and showing how you decided that the two diagrams would be true enlargements.
5. Create as many number sentences as possible using the following numbers:  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.
6. Compare and contrast the following numbers: 3,4,6,8,9,12,15,18. Place them in the appropriate spot on the Venn diagram. Be sure to add a title and labels to your diagram.
7. Classify the following numbers into three groups: 3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15. At the top of each group, write what the numbers have in common.
8. Show how many ways the three shapes (circle, square, and triangle) can be ordered.
9. Add arithmetical symbols (+, -, x, /, ( ) ) on the left of the equals sign, between the numbers, to make this equation true.

$$1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9 = 100$$

## Social Studies

1. The *Monroe Doctrine* had a positive impact on our country. Tell whether you agree or disagree with this statement. Give four specific reasons to support your answer.
2. Which 20<sup>th</sup> Century President do you think had the most positive impact on our country? Give at least 3 reasons to support your claim.
3. You have just been elected class president. One of your duties is to propose a list of classroom rules. Write out at least 3 of your rules. Then, write a sentence for each rule that justifies your reason for choosing it.

4. Explain how communities meet the needs of people. Use at least four examples to support your explanation.
5. What do you think would happen to our community if we did not have policemen? Use examples to support your explanation.
6. What do you think our country would be like if we didn't have laws? Use examples to support your explanation.
7. Write a description of the daily life of a Native American child living in the 1800's. Include at least three daily activities in the description.
8. Explain why a map has a key. Describe what it would be like using a map without a key.
9. America has experienced cultural diffusion since its beginning. The results have filtered into our individual lives. Explain how your life exhibits culture diffusion and give 3 examples to support your answer.
10. Explain 2 ways the spread of the Reformation might have been affected if Gutenberg had not developed his printing press.
11. Explain why hunting supplies cost less in the summer than in the fall. Use examples to support your explanation.

## **Science**

1. If a solid has a shape that cannot be easily or accurately measured, describe a process you can use to find its volume.
2. Are mutations always harmful to an organism? Explain why or why not.
3. You are an astronaut about to travel to the moon. What are 4 different things that you would need to take with you to survive? Explain why you would need to take each item.
4. Identify three questions that you would want answered to help you understand why the deer population in Missouri has been increasing.
5. Complete the graphic organizer to show how insects and spiders are alike and how they are different. Be sure to label your organizer.
6. Examine today's weather map. Draw the warm fronts and cold fronts where you think they will be tomorrow. Based on that movement, predict what tomorrow's weather will be like here at school (include temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure,

- precipitation and cloud cover). Explain why your prediction is logical.
7. Describe two things that you could do to conserve energy in your home and explain why each of these actions would conserve energy.
  8. Tell two ways birds and fish are alike and tell two ways they are different.
  9. It was once believed that the fevers of malaria were caused by the night air. Some walled cities shot off gunpowder or burned sulfur to keep out the bad air. Using present scientific knowledge about malaria and/or yellow fever, explain why shooting off gunpowder and burning sulfur will not reduce anyone's chances of getting malaria.
  10. Examine the plate tectonics map of the world. Predict what the area around the Mediterranean Ocean will be like in another 10,000 years if the plates continue to move as they have. Justify your prediction.

**Fine Arts:**

1. Given two paintings portraying different moods, create a chart that tells the mood of each painting and how the effective use of color, line, shape, etc. are used to create the mood.
2. Describe the tempo of the song. Then, tell which song studied thus far is similar to this one. Tell how the tempos of the two songs are similar.
3. Look at the drawing of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century *Russian Cat*. Explain 2 ways the artist uses line in the drawing.
4. After viewing a video clip of a dance and a picture of a painting, compare and contrast the dance and the painting. Include at least 3 similarities and 3 differences.
5. Explain what we can learn about a culture by studying its art. Give examples to support your explanation.

**Health/Physical Education:**

1. Explain what makes a meal nutritious. Give an example of a nutritious meal.
2. Explain why a reduced caloric diet and aerobic exercise can cause a person to lose weight.
3. Explain why proper nutrition is necessary. Describe what can occur when a person does not have proper nutrition. Use at least 2 examples.
4. You want to live to be at least 90. Explain two things you can do to make this dream become a reality and explain why these two actions would help you to live to age 90.

5. Explain what is meant by “team spirit”. Why would it be important for a team to have “team spirit”?
6. Compare and contrast the rules of tennis to the rules of table tennis. Give at least 3 similarities and 3 differences.
7. Several body systems work together. Describe a scenario describing how three different systems work together.

**Business:**

1. When marketing a product, what factors need to be considered? Explain what impact each factor has upon the sale of the product.
2. Explain how computers make life easier. Use at least 2 examples to support your explanation.
3. Computers make the world seem smaller. Explain how this can be true.