

Core Academy 2012
Sample Student Performance Tasks

Using the Depth of Knowledge Chart, determine the level of rigor for the following assignments. Be prepared to explain your reasoning using evidence from the task and the chart.

1. Zuri, the baby elephant, was born August 10, 2009 at Hogle Zoo. The calf weighed 251 lbs. at birth. If the baby elephant gains 48 ounces a day, how much will she weigh at the end of 7 days?

5th Grade Curriculum Guide (5.MD.1)

2. Students cite specific textual evidence from Annie J. Cannon’s “Classifying the Stars” to support their analysis of the scientific importance of the discovery that light is composed of many colors. Students include in their analysis precise details from the text (such as Cannon’s repeated use of the image of the rainbow) to buttress their explanation.

*Appendix B, UCS for ELA and Literacy
in History/Social Studies, Science, and
Technical Subjects*

3. Think of two different types of transportation, such as a scooter and in-line skates, a sled and skis, a canoe and a sailboat, a subway and a bus, or a train and an airplane. Compare and contrast the two. Consider issues such as speed, comfort, enjoyment, and expense.

Writing task from *Bright Ideas for Writing*, Grades 6-8

4. It's carnival time!

You have been chosen to be part of the carnival committee. Your mission is to use the carnival budget of \$5000 to create the best school carnival ever! Use the chart below to plan your carnival. In order to have a good carnival, you must include tickets, food, games, and activities.

Game Equipment	\$1765
Crafts	\$530
Prizes	\$475
Hot Dogs	\$325
Pizza	\$575
Hamburgers	\$480
Cotton Candy	\$250
Snow Cones	\$200
Bouncy Houses	\$600
Face Painting	\$100
Petting Zoo	\$200
Tickets	\$150
Drinks	\$300
Magician	\$500
Band	\$650
Clown	\$400

Core Academy 2nd Grade, Day 2

5. Have students use prior knowledge to understand and learn meanings of English academic vocabulary heard during classroom instruction and interactions.

Provide a list of academic vocabulary from the Word Bank: accurate, consider, instructions, procedure. Discuss each word and model the use of prior academic knowledge: I heard the word procedure when we talked about the steps of an assignment. Procedure must mean "a series of steps."

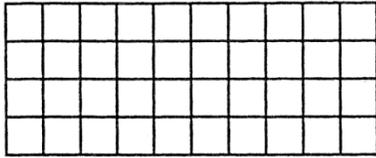
BEGINNING: Review vocabulary, using gestures. Help students refer to prior knowledge by giving them cloze sentences, like *When I assign homework, I give you _____ to follow.*

INTERMEDIATE: Complete the Beginning activity with students. Have groups use vocabulary word to summarize the page, using prior knowledge to clarify meanings.

ADVANCED: Have pairs read aloud page 257 and discuss the meanings of the vocabulary words, based on prior assignments, and then use them to summarize the vocabulary in oral sentences.

Prentice Hall, *Writing Coach: Writing and Grammar for the 21st Century*, Grade 10 (Pearson, 2012). ELL Sheltered Instruction: Cognitive

6. Shade 6 of the small squares in the rectangle below.



Using the diagram, determine the percent of the area of the rectangle that has been shaded. (Do not write and solve a proportion or use some other arithmetic work to answer this question. Base your argument solely on how you would use the diagram to explain your thinking.)

Once you have used your diagram to determine the percent of area that is shaded, share your strategy with your neighbor and discuss how your strategies are the same or different.

Adapted from: *Linking Fractions, Decimals and Percents Using an Area Model: The Case of Ron Castleman*, in *Implementing Standards-Based Mathematics Instruction: A Casebook for Professional Development*, NCTM (2000)

7. Which of the following is NOT a correct basic punctuation rule?

Place a question mark after a sentence that asks a question.

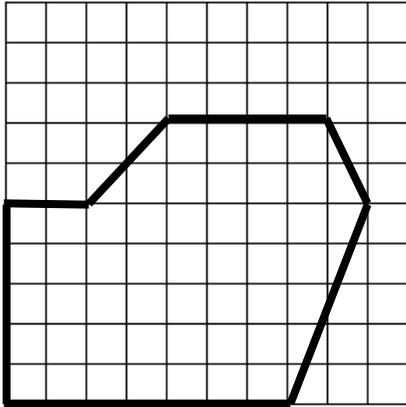
Use a comma and connecting word to join the parts of a compound sentence.

Use comma in years, but not in large numbers.

Use apostrophes to show possession.

Inquire: A Guide to 21st Century Learning, Teacher's Guide to the Student Handbook.
Topic: Basic Conventions, grades 6-8 (Thoughtful Learning 2012)

8. Find the perimeter of the patio in the scale drawing. Justify your answer with an organized explanation.



8th Grade Task from Core Academy

9. Read the article about the Olympics. Summarize the article. Include main ideas and relevant details.

Writing task from *Bright Ideas for Writing*, Grades 6-8

10. Compare Day and Night: With help from your teacher, create a Venn diagram to compare the objects that can be seen in the day and night sky.

4C Kindergarten assignment

11. What was the Bessemer Process? What effect did it have on American industry?

United States History,
Prentice Hall, p. 460

12. Students read Robert Coles’s retelling of a series of historical events in *The Story of Ruby Bridges*. Using their knowledge of how cause and effect gives order to events, they use specific language to describe the sequence of events that leads to Ruby desegregating her school.

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13. Compound words are made by putting two words together to form another word with a different meaning.

In the following sentences, find the compound word and type it in as two separate words.

The bus driver took an alternate route to the airport.
For more than a century, baseball has been America's national sport.
Jeanette was paid generously to baby-sit for her neighbor's child.

Grade 4, *Tune in to Learning*

14. “The explorers of the modern era are the entrepreneurs, men with vision, with the courage to take risks and faith enough to brave the unknown. These entrepreneurs and their small enterprises are responsible for almost all the economic growth in the United State. They are the prime movers of the technological revolution. In fact, one of the largest personal computer firms in the United States was started by two college students, no older than you, in the garage behind their home. Some people, even in my own country, look at the riot of experiment that is the free market and see only waste. What of all the entrepreneurs that fail? Well, many do, particularly the successful ones; often several times. And if you ask them the secret of their success, they’ll tell you it’s all that they learned in their struggles along the way; yes, it’s what they learned from failing. Like an athlete or a scholar in pursuit of the truth, experience is the greatest teacher.”

Ronald Reagan. “Address to Students at Moscow University.” *The American Reader: Words that Moved a Nation*, 2nd edition, edited by Diane Ravitch. New York: Harper Collins, 2000. (1988)

After doing a close reading of the excerpt from Reagan’s 1988 speech, decide what claim Reagan is making. Talk with the person next to you and be ready to cite the explicit textual evidence from the speech that supports **your** conclusion AND why you selected this particular evidence! Listen carefully to your partner’s selection of evidence and the rationale for selection.

Appendix B in the *Utah Core State Standards: Informational Text Exemplars for
Grades 9-10*

15. Students analyze the governmental structure of the United States and support their analysis by citing specific textual evidence from primary sources such as the Preamble and First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution as well as secondary sources such as Linda R. Monk's Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution.

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16. Rewrite the following letters in correct alphabetic order left to right.

j q u p f u o t m n l z _____

z j p x k c u n e s a m _____

i u y t o l h k f d x b m _____

3rd grade, www.teach-nology.com

11. Find 20% of 50.

Big Ideas Math 4th Grade