





2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

Item	Rationale	
3	Option C is correct	In line 44, Nelson realizes he made a mistake when he notices that his copy of the book had slipped into a hole in the lining of his backpack; at this point, he feels bad about thinking that Lucia had his book.
	Option A is incorrect	Nelson asks this question in line 27 because he still thinks that Lucia has his book; he has not yet realized he made a mistake.
	Option B is incorrect	In line 33, Nelson is still suspicious and thinks that Lucia is to blame for his lost book, so he hasn't realized his mistake at this point.
	Option D is incorrect	In line 48, Nelson makes this statement because he now plans to read his book, as explained in line 49; this is past the point when Nelson realizes he made a mistake.

2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales





2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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7	Option D is correct	In line 30, Lucia knows that Nelson believes the book she has is his, because in lines 25 and 27, he asks her where she got the book and if she was sure she didn't find it in the library. This is the reason she holds it close.
	Option A is incorrect	In line 30, as she holds the book close, Lucia describes how much she is enjoying the book, suggesting she's not likely to leave it behind. Also, she's defending herself against Nelson's insinuations that she might have his book, which is the more likely reason she holds it close.
	Option B is incorrect	Although in line 30 Lucia reveals that she's already on page 134, there is no indication that she wants to read the book before

## 2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

<b>Item</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	
8	Option F is correct	The central idea of the selection is that Junior Rangers learn about and explore the state's parks, as the author explains in the last sentence in paragraph 1. The rest of the selection supports this idea. For





2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales



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11	Option A is correct	In paragraphs 4 through 6, the author includes information about what children must do to earn their Junior Ranger badges.
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraphs 4 through 6, the author lists examples of other activities children can do but does not describe specific activities that children have done to improve the park.
	Option C is incorrect	Only the specific park being visited is discussed in the activity journal, so teaching about different state parks is not an idea included by the author in paragraphs 4 through 6.
	Option D is incorrect	Children may write in the journals, but the key information the author includes in paragraphs 4 through 6 is what children must do to become Junior Rangers.



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13	Option C is correct	In this sentence in paragraph 3, the author indicates that each park offers unique experiences different from those offered in other parks, best explaining why children should visit as many parks as they can.
	Option A is incorrect	Although in this sentence from paragraph 1 the author encourages children to explore Texas state parks, the author does not suggest that children should visit as many parks as they can.
	Option B is incorrect	The approximate number of state parks is provided by the author in this sentence from paragraph 2, but it is not suggested that children should visit them all.
	Option D is incorrect	In this sentence from paragraph 4, the author indicates that journals will be available at all the state parks, not that children should collect them by visiting many state parks.





2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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16	Option F is correct	In "Do What You Can," the details provided by the author in paragraph 2 reveal the first raindrop's observations that, without rain, the farmer will have no crop. This supports the key idea that the first raindrop understands the farmer's problem.
	Option G is incorrect	The raindrop feels sorry for the farmer and wants to help him, but the author does not indicate that the raindrop wants to be friends with the farmer.
	Option H is incorrect	In paragraph 2, the author does not indicate that the first raindrop believes the farmer should plant a different crop.
	Option J is incorrect	In paragraph 2, it's clear that the first raindrop understands that the farmer is sad because, despite his hard work, his crops might not make it, not that the farmer is ill from hard work.



## 2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

<b>Item</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	
17	Option C is correct	Anansi feels proud of his sons' accomplishments. In paragraph 1, Anansi names each of his sons for his





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20	Option J is correct	Puffy Pillow allowing Anansi to land on him in paragraph 15 is the last action the sons took, which solved the problem because it saved their father Anansi as he was falling from the sky.
	Option F is incorrect	In this sentence in paragraph 9, Anansi is still in trouble, as indicated by his screams for help. The problem is not resolved until the sons work together to get him out of the bubble and safely on the ground.
	Option G is incorrect	When Stone Thrower announces “I’ll rescue him” in paragraph 12, Anansi still needs to be rescued. Stone Thrower’s action was one step in the process of saving their father, but it did not resolve the problem.
	Option H is incorrect	Anansi is freed from the bubble by Stone Thrower’s pebble throw, but the problem is not solved yet because Anansi is still in danger as he plunges toward the ground in paragraph 12.

2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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21	Option B is correct	Both stories include characters rewarded for their efforts. In "Do What You Can," in paragraph 1, the farmer works hard on his crop; in paragraphs 4 through 9, many raindrops join to cause a shower to fall on the farmer's field, allowing the corn to grow. In "How Six Sons Rescued Anansi," in paragraphs 4 through 15, the sons work together to save their father; in paragraphs 17 and 18, Anansi rewards his sons with the moon in the sky.

Option A is incorrect

Although "How Six Sons Rescued Anansi" depicts a family—the son

## 2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

<b>Item#</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
22	Option F is correct

2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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23	Option D is correct	The experiences of the farmer and Anansi differ because the farmer’s problem is caused by nature and Anansi’s is caused by an accident. In “Do What You Can,” the farmer is described in paragraph 1 as wishing “for the rain to fall” on his thirsty crop; in “How Six Sons Rescued Anansi,” in paragraph 4, See Far notices that his father falls into a lake and is swallowed by a fish.
	Option A is incorrect	In “Do What You Can,” although the farmer appears to be happy about the rain in paragraph 7, there is no indication that the farmer will be changed by his experience; as a farmer, it can be concluded that he will always want enough rain for his crop. In “How Six Sons Rescued Anansi,” the father remains adventurous and proud of his sons.
	Option B is incorrect	In “Do What You Can,” although the farmer notices the raindrop in paragraph 7, this does not imply he learns a lesson; as a farmer, he is aware that his crop needs rain and how this is beyond his control. In “How Six Sons Rescued Anansi,” Anansi teaches no lesson to his sons. They appear to already know how to work together to help their father, as described in paragraphs 4 through 15.
	Option C is incorrect	It’s true that Anansi’s feelings improve, since he’s saved from the fish and bubble. However, the farmer’s feelings also change—from feeling sad in paragraph 1 to seeing hope in paragraph 7 because it begins to rain.





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25	Option C is correct	As the author explains in paragraph 7, “music is more than just a pleasant art. It’s a powerful force.” The author demonstrates the power of music throughout the selection—for example, it boosts mood (paragraphs 2–3); is good for health (paragraph 4) and sleep (paragraph 5); and aids in learning (paragraph 6).





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28	Option J is correct	The reader can conclude that test takers will feel calmer if music is playing because it reduces stress and helps students perform on tests. In paragraph 3, the author points out music can “lower stress and help you worry less”; in paragraph 6, the author explains that background music helps students answer more test questions and answer correctly more often.
	Option F is incorrect	The author suggests in paragraph 3 that music can calm most people, but the idea that a student would fall asleep in the middle of a test while listening to music is not present. In fact, in paragraph 6, the author cites a study that found music to help students perform better on tests.
	Option G is incorrect	In paragraph 4, the author states that music gets the blood pumping during exercise, not while taking a test. Paragraph 6 focuses on the ways music affects test takers—for example, it helps them answer more questions and get more questions correct—but it does not say music gets their blood pumping.
	Option H is incorrect	Although the author points out many ways that music is good for people, such as reducing stress (paragraph 3) and enhancing exercise (paragraph 4), there is no indication that music reduces boredom, either in paragraph 6, which discusses music’s benefits to test takers, or elsewhere in the selection.

## 2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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29	Option A is correct This summary contains the key ideas of the selection. In the selection, the author describes the many reasons people should listen to music. These reasons primarily involve improving mood, as described in paragraphs 2 and 3, and helping the mind and body, as described in paragraphs 4 through 6.

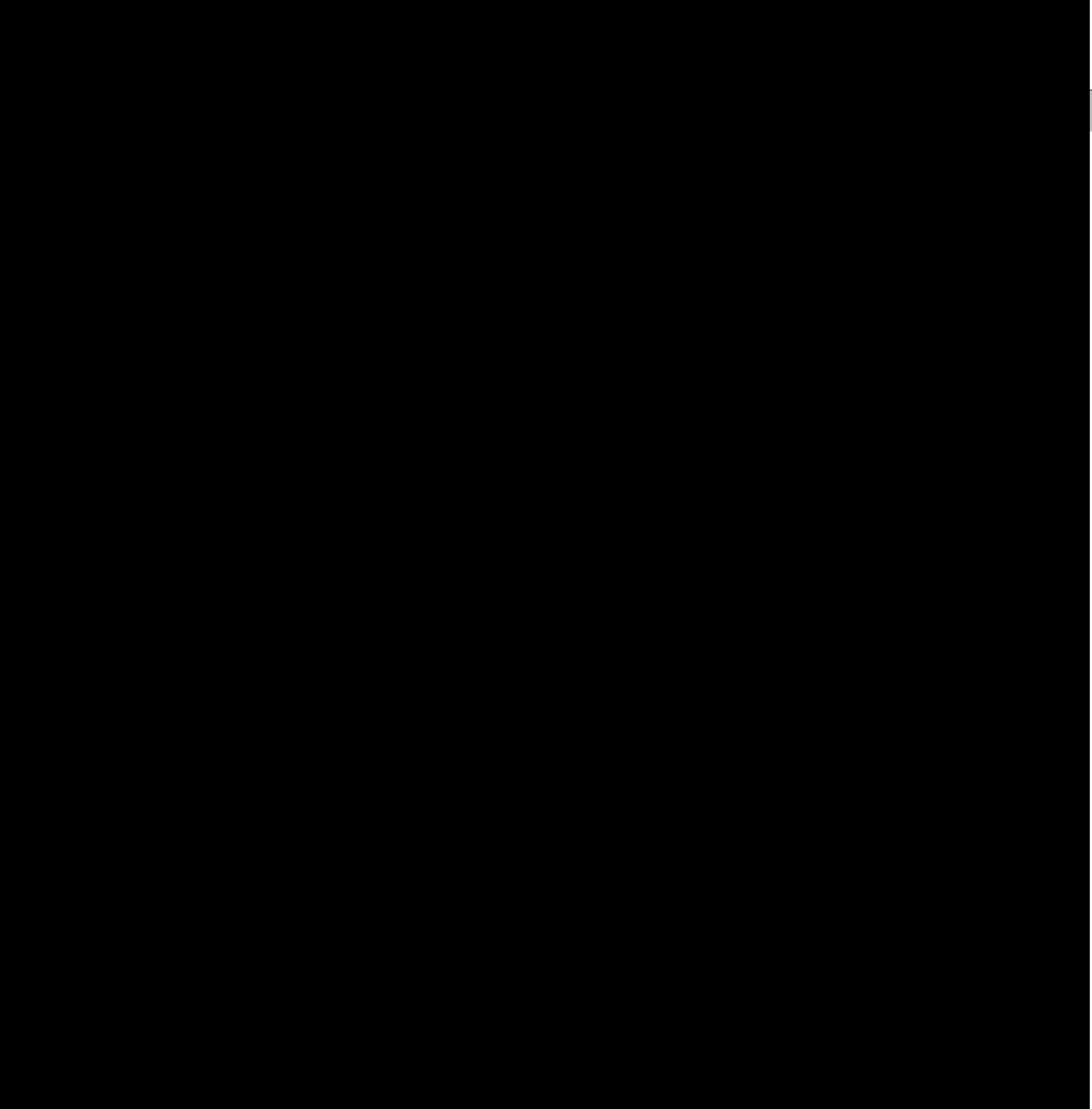
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Option G is correct

...ion of this photograph supports the idea that listening to music can have an effect on people.  
...e author explains in paragraph 2, "music can make you smile, sing along, or get up and dance."

Option F is incorrect

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Item	Rationale	
32	Option F is correct	The suffix <i>-ly</i>



2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

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33	Option B is correct	Figurative language is language that uses words that mean something different than their literal interpretation. In lines 6 and 7, the speaker uses figurative language to emphasize how movements or sounds cause her to imagine a conversation between the curtain and the shade.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the speaker uses the word “whispering” in line 7, this is to indicate the presence of movement or sound, not quiet.
	Option C is incorrect	Although in lines 1 through 4 the speaker in the poem uses the word “except” after “Of course there’s nothing in the night that isn’t there by day,” this is not what the speaker is referring to in lines 6 and 7; rather, the speaker is referring to things she can see—the curtain and the shade.
	Option D is incorrect	Lines 6 and 7 do not emphasize the darkness of the room; in fact, the speaker can see the curtain and the shade because of the moonlight, as pointed out in line 5.



2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

Item	Rationale	
35	Option D is correct	Point of view is the perspective from which the events in a story are told. In the first-person point of view, the narrator tells the story from the narrator’s perspective and uses the word “I.” The use of “I’m” in line 29 indicates a first-person point of view for the poem.
	Option A is incorrect	Line 1 does not indicate a first-person point of view, since it does not use “I” or “we” or otherwise describe events from a particular perspective.
	Option B is incorrect	Because line 4 does not use “I” or “we,” or otherwise speak from an individual perspective, there is nothing to indicate it uses a first-person perspective.
	Option C is incorrect	Line 5 does not indicate a first-person point of view; it is a prepositional phrase that d

2022 STAAR Grade 4 Reading Rationales

Item	Rationale	
36	Option H is correct	The poet expresses the theme that our imagination creates some problems. For example, the speaker imagines that the curtain whispers to the shade in lines 6 and 7 and considers ghosts speaking in lines 10 and 11.
	Option F is incorrect	Even though the poem occurs at bedtime, when people tend to dream, the speaker is not dreaming; rather, the speaker is imagining, so this is not the theme.
	Option G is incorrect	Although the speaker says in line 16, "I know just what you'll say," this is part of her efforts to talk herself out of being afraid.