



# Grade 8

## Reading Language Arts

## General Information

±

---

Grade 8 Reading  
Passage with Extended  
Constructed Response and  
Short Constructed Response

---

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Carol Jenkins and her mother visit the home of \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Linden to explore his collection of books. Upon a return visit, Carol makes an unusual discovery.

from *OUR LQGHQV LEUDU\*  
by Walter Dean Myers

3, P

UHDGHU

Esteban told himself that he had been swimming long enough. He had already gone much farther than anyone he knew, even farther than men with strong legs. No one swam all the way to the island. Now he was nearer than he had ever been, but it no longer seemed important to him. It was as if he were swimming not for himself but for the dolphin that went before him most of the time but sometimes behind him, nudging him forward.

He began breathing hard, showing the dolphin how tired he was, how afraid he was to keep going when he ZDV ~~Q~~ ~~W~~ sure of himself. He was not that strong and had already done more than he had ever done in his life. He stopped and treaded water for a while, with the dolphin only a few feet away. Esteban felt that he and the dolphin were on a mission together, that they were proving something. But what were they proving, and where would it lead?

ER \ ¶ V

<sup>3</sup>\$K      OLOOHU ¶ V

# Grade 8 Reading Extended Constructed Response

Prompt

5 HDG WKH H[FHUSW IURP 30U /LQGHQ Z·GbiIUR[đ ó•d ÈãÓZÔ~çP°• €o3 Resan

# Grade 8 Reading Passage with Extended Constructed Response

## Informational Writing Rubric

Score Point	Organization and Development of Ideas
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="418 426 1219 457">x Controlling idea/Thesis is clear and fully developed</li>   <li data-bbox="418 527 821 558">x Organization is effective</li>   <li data-bbox="418 726 1141 758">x Evidence is specific, well chosen, and relevant</li>   <li data-bbox="418 926 1455 1052">x Expression of ideas is clear and effective            7KH ZULWHU¶V ZRUG FKRLFH LV VSHFLILF SXUSRY            FRQYH\ WKH ZULWHU¶V LGHDV DQG FRQWULEXWH</li> </ul>

<p>1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x Controlling idea/Thesis is evident but not developed</li>   <li>x Organization is minimal and/or weak</li>   <li>x Evidence is insufficient and/or mostly irrelevant</li>   <li>x Expression of ideas is ineffective</li> </ul> <p>7KH ZULWHU¶V ZRUG FKRLFH LV YDJXH RU OLPLW LQWHUIHUH ZLWK WKH ZULWHU¶V LQWHQG HG PHD</p>
<p>0</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x</li> <li>x</li> <li>x</li> </ul>









Score Point 1

Response 1

Organization and Development of Ideas: 1

\$ WKHVLV LV SURYLGHG <sup>3</sup>QRWLFLQJ WKH ERRN KDG FKDQJHG D OLWWD  
DQG ZRQGHU ZK\ VKH UHPHPEHUHG WKH FKDQJH RI WKH ERRN' EXW QR

ZKLFK LPSDFWV WKH FODULW\ RI WKH PHVVDJH <sup>3</sup>VKH ZHQW RQ KHU RZ  
EDG KHDGDFKH' <sup>3</sup>VR WKH PDQ OHW KHU LQ WKH OLEUDU\ DORQH DQG M  
ORRNHG DZD\ IURP LW DQG IRXQG DQRWKHU ERRN DQG LW ZDV LQWHU

Conventions: 0

IUHTXHQW HUURUV LQ VHQWHQFH FRQVWUXFWLRQ <sup>3</sup>KHU FXULRXVQHVV  
VKH ZDQWHG WR JHW LPIRUPDWLRQ' FDSLWDOLJDWLRQ DQG SXQFWXD  
DSRVWURSKHV <sup>3</sup>FDUROV ' <sup>3</sup>GLGQW ' <sup>3</sup>KDVQW ' <sup>3</sup>PDQV' DQG ODFNV D SH



---

--

Response 2

WKH ERRN KH ZDV UHDGLQJ VR KH ZDQW WR JR EDNWR WKH C  
KDQGV RQ KLV ERRN DQG FKHFN LW RXW ' WKLV TRXWH WHO

Organization and Development of Ideas: 2

\$ WKHVLV LV SUHVHQW LQ WKH VHFRQG SDUDJUDSK <sup>3</sup>KH ZDV ZRQGHUL  
UHDGLQJ VR KH ZDQW WR JR EDNWR WKH  
SXUSRVHIXO VWUXFWXUH WKDW LQFOXGHV DQ LQWURGXFWRQ <sup>3</sup>OLWW  
HVFSHOVKXO\ FXULRVW\ EXW KRZ GRHV LWLQIXOHQF \RX DFWLRQV  
FRQFOXVLRQ O<sup>3</sup>LQV<sup>3</sup> V<sup>3</sup>KR<sup>3</sup>XOG DOZD\ VWD\ FXULVH HYHQ LI \RXU \  
WKH VHFRQG SDUDJUDSK V<sup>3</sup>VKH ZRXOG VWDUW E\ WDONLQJ DERXW WKH  
RXW ¶ WKLV TRXWH WHOOV PH KHV LV JHWLQ FXULHV DERXW WKHER  
DERXW LW WR ILQG RXW ZK\ LW NHHSV DGGLQJ PRUH RW WKH VWRU\` I







Response 2

ERWKHUHG LQ WKH WH[W  
KDG EHHQ <RX ZRXOGQW EH LQWHUHVWHG´ WKDWV DQ HYHQ  
GLIIHQW LQ WKH WH[W LW VWDWHV <sup>3</sup> 7KH QLJKW FDUORV V  
WKRXJKW WR FKQDJH WKH ZD\ VKH UHPPHEUHG WKH SDJH´ W

Organization and Development of Ideas: 2

\$ WKHVLV LV SUHVHQWHG LQ WKH LQWURGXFWRQ <sup>3</sup>, WKLQN &DUORV F  
SKUDVHV WR FRQQHFW VHQWHQFHV LQ PHDQLQJIX,OWZDWR<sup>3</sup> HQIH RW WK´HF  
<sup>3</sup>WKLV VKRZV DQRWKHU HYHQW´ 7KH WKHVLV LV SDUWLDOO\ GHYHORS  
H[SODQDWRQ <sup>3</sup>2QH RI WKHP EHLQJ WKH ROG EODFN PDQ ZKHQ KH KHD  
EHFXDVH KH ZDV YHU\ ERWKHUHG LQ WKH WH[W LW VWDWHV  $\mu$ 7K  
LQWHUHVWHG¶ WKDWV DQ HYHQW WKDW KDSSHQGV EHFSDVH RI KHU FX  
GUHDP LQ WKH FRQFOXGLQJ VWDWHP  
ERRN , IHHO OLNH VKH ZRXOGQW RI KDG WKLV GUHDP´ ([SUHVVLQ RI

Conventions: 1

<sup>3</sup> $\mu$ <RX ZRXOGQW EH LQWHUHVWHG¶ WKDWV DQ HYHQW WKDW KDSSHQGV

Response 3

&DURO¶V FXULRVLW\ LQIOXHGFHV KHU WR JR WR WKH OLEUD

&DURO¶V KHDGV WR WKH OLEHU\ DIWHU KHU GUHDP ODV

SDUDJUDSK LV VWDWV ³\$JDLQ &DURO FKHFNHG WKH QXPEH

KDG FDKQJHG´ )URP %DVHG RQ WKH HGLYFQHG VKRZQ V

\$QRWKHU ZD\ WKDW &DURO¶V FXUWRVLW\ KDG LQIOXHGF

ERUXJKW XS WKH ERRN KH ZDV UHDGLQJ 2Q SDUDJUDSK L

UK\WKPLFDOO\ ³,W¶V QRW D YHU\ JRRG ERRN´ )URP %DV

RFHDQ ZDYHV ZDV KHUH DOEH LI FDURO¶V FXULRVWL\ WR DV

&DURO¶V FXUWRVLW\ tgt,z³«ü wWO\Uè&;'''.2` t€YHU\—wuC†=Xã@z. p0

Organization and Development of Ideas: 3

7KH ZULWHU SUHVHQWV WKH FOHDU WKHVLV W  
H[SORUH WKH WKRXJKWV LQ KHU GUHDPV WKDW D



Response 2

VWRU\ DIWHU GUHDPLQJ DERXW WKH ERRN VKH GHFLGHG DJL  
ZHUH QR P\VWHU\V LQ WKH UHDO ZRUOG ' DQG VKH IRXQG WI

GRQW NQRZ ZKDW VKHV JRLQJ WR GR DERXW LW 7KLV LV G  
P\VWHUW\ DQG VKH UDWKHU HQMR\HG WKH FXULRXVHVQHVV  
:KHQ ZDWFKLJ D VFDU\ PRYLH DQG \RX JHW WKDW 3GRQV

KHU GUHDP 7KH VWRU\ VD\V 3ILUVW VKH KDG WR JHW KHU K

Organization and Development of ~~1~~ ~~RrfqD~~ ~~rfqD~~ ~~5rfqD~~ ~~8I~~ ~~WwuP~~ ~~q~~ ~~0Z~~ ~~RTsOp~~ ~~SRD~~

Score Point 5

Response 1

&DURO¶V FXULRXVLW\ LQIOXHQFHV WKH VWRU\ EHFDXVH  
QRW FXULRXV DERXW WKH ERRN¶V HQGLQJ LW ZRXOG¶YH UH  
WUXHO\ LV KDSSHQLQJ WR WKH ERRN¶V HQGLQJ DQG WKDW  
7KLV LV VKRZQ LQ SDUDJUDSK ZKHQ LW TXRWHV ³&DU  
/LQGHQ¶V OLEUDU\ TXHVWLRQLQJ KLP DERXW KLV OLIH DQG  
VKH UHPHPEHUHG WKH SDJH ´ DQG LQ SDUDJUDSK ³\$OO WK  
FLGHG DJDLQVW LW ,W ZDV KHU P\VWHU\ DQG VKH UDWKH

Organization and Development of Ideas: 3

7KH ZULWHU SUHVHQWV WKH FOHDU DQG LGHQWLILDEOH WKHVLV WKDW  
ZDV FKDQJLQJ DQG EHLQJ PDQLSXODWHG ´ 7KH ZULWHU FRQWLQXH V  
LQFOXGLQJ DQ HIIHFWLYH LQWURGXFWRQ WKDW VXPPDUL]HV WKH RYH  
ZDV QRW FXULRXV DERXW WKH ERRN¶V HQGLQJ LW ZRXOG¶YH UHVXOW  
WUXHO\ LV €€4402C>41.5440056>-2 <000 <0048>-3 <000 -5 <00030057>-3 <004B>8 <0048>-3 <00>-2 <000 <

Response 2

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying the upper half of the page. It is intended for a response.

Condition Code: Off Topic

³FRQGLWLRQ FRGH´

Response 1

---





## Grade 8 Reading Short Constructed Response

Prompt

LQIRUPDWLRQ LQ SDUDJUDSKV WKURXJK RI WKH DUWLFOH 3  
&RXUWURRP ' ZKDW LV WKH PRVW OLNHO\ UHDVRQ WKH -XGLFLDO &RQI

Item-Specific Rubric

Score: 2

Score: 1

\$ SDUWLDO UHVSQRVH'PD\LQFOXGH'RQH RI WKH DQVZHUV H[SHFWHG L  
+RZHYHU WKH HYLGHQFH LQFOXGHG GRHV QRW VXSSRUW WKH'DQVZHU  
SURYLGHG ''

\$ SDUWLDO UHVSQRVH PD'FLWH RU SDUDSKUDVH UHOHYDQW WH[W HYL  
QRW'LQFOXGH'DQ DFFXUDWH DQVZHU DERXW ZKDW LV WKH PRVW OLNH

# Sample Student Responses

Score Point 0

Response 1

E H J D Q W R DDDDDRRZZ FDDPHUDDV LIQQ FRRXUWUURRRPPV DD WWHU DDDGG WKKOR IL G@HD  
NHSW KLLGHQ DZT\ WKH SHRSOH LQ WKH FRXVUW ZHUH DORZHG WR KD

Response 2

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Score Point 1

Response 1

,Q WKL V SDUWLDO UHVSQRVH WKH ZULWHU SDUDSKUDVHV UHOHYDQW  
QXPEHU' KRZHYHU WKH ZULWHU GRHV QRW DFFXUDWHO\ VWDWH D UH

Response 2

<sup>3</sup>LW ZRXOG DOORZ MXGJHV LQ DOO IHGHUDO FRXUW WKH GLV  
FRYHUDJH ZKLOH VDIH JXUGLQJ GXH SURFHVV DQG SULYDF\

,Q WKL V SDUWLDO UHVSQRVH WKH ZULWHU FLWHV UHOHYDQW HYLGHQ  
JXUGLQJ GXH SURFHVV DQG SULYDF\ EXW GRHV QRW

Response 3

the p a (t)-3 (h)8 (4156>2y)-7 ( w)-4467.7 30.25 re W\* n q 72.5225 483.4 Td [<002C>-3 <0051>8 <00030

---



Response 4

JHWLQJ WKH ULJKW WUHDWPHQW IRU LW ,W VD\W WKLW LV  
VHUYHG ´

EHJDQ WR DOORZ FDPHUDV LQ FRXUWURRPV DIWHU ³LW DOORZHG V

ZKRP KDYH GRQH EDG WKLQJV DUH JHWLQJ WKH ULJKW WUHDWPHQW I  
UHOHYDQW VXSSRUWLQJ WH[W ³6XSSRUWHUV RI WKH SURJUDP DUJXH  
SXEOLF WR VHH WKDW MXVWLFH ZDV EHLQJ VHUYHG ´

---

Grade 8 Writing Short  
Constructed Response

---



# Grade 8 Writing Short Constructed Response

Passage: 3

Original Paragraph:

)UHGHULF &KXUFK ZDV D VWXGHQW RI &ROH¶V +H SD

## Sample Student Responses

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---