

2018 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

Item #	Rationales	
1	Option C is correct	The author writes in paragraph 2 that Alyssa, “an <u>illustrious</u> traveler,” would have “fans” following her “social media status updates,” which helps the reader to understand the word <u>illustrious</u> means “famous.”
	Option A is incorrect	Although Alyssa is separated from her friends, the details in paragraph 2 are not included to suggest “an <u>illustrious</u> traveler” would be “lonely.”
	Option B is incorrect	The word <u>illustrious</u> in paragraph 2 is used to describe a traveler, so “native” as the meaning of <u>illustrious</u> is not supported by context.
	Option D is incorrect	The words “illustrious traveler” are used to describe someone who has likely traveled before, so “inexperienced” as the meaning of <u>illustrious</u> is not supported.
2	Option G is correct	The reader can infer that Alyssa has a negative attitude about spending time at her grandparents’ farm based on her reference to her trip as a week of “summer exile.” The word “exile” is used to suggest that Alyssa has been banished from her home against her wishes.
	Option F is incorrect	Alyssa does speak to her mother on the phone while at her grandparents’ farm, but this detail is not included to demonstrate Alyssa’s attitude toward the visit.
	Option H is incorrect	This phrase does not reflect Alyssa’s initial attitude about spending time at her grandparents’ farm.
	Option J is incorrect	This phrase is included to show what Alyssa’s mother thinks about her daughter’s unique opportunity, not to reveal Alyssa’s attitude.
3	Option A is correct	The description of the rooster in this sentence is included to give Alyssa’s post a dramatic effect. The rooster’s actions (“His call clamors”; “crying out to all creatures”) are presented as exciting and dynamic.
	Option B is incorrect	This post is composed at the beginning of the story, so the reader cannot yet determine whether Alyssa’s attitude has changed.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the rooster’s actions are described in this sentence, the words are not written to mimic the rooster’s call.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the status update is about a rooster’s call, the descriptive language in this sentence is not included to suggest that hearing the rooster is an important event in the story’s plot.
4	Option J is correct	The reader can infer that the importance of appreciating current circumstances is the primary theme, or central message, of the story. Alyssa exaggerates details about her vacation in her status updates in order to make her stay at her grandparents’ farm seem more impressive than it is, but her friends’ reactions to her posts help Alyssa realize that her experience has been worthwhile and special.
	Option F is incorrect	Although Alyssa posts exaggerated updates as if she were a traveler, she is not lying about what is happening, so the importance of telling the truth is not the story’s primary theme.
	Option G is incorrect	Although Alyssa thinks about her friends and seems to value their reactions to her updates, valuing friendship is not a primary theme of the story.
	Option H is incorrect	Although Alyssa posts photos of the farm, recognizing the beauty of nature is not a theme supported by the story.
5	Option B is correct	Figurative language is language that uses words that mean something different than their literal interpretation. The author includes the figurative language in paragraph 23 to show that Alyssa is startled by an unexpected noise. Alyssa mentions that she “almost vaulted to the ceiling” after hearing the “whining sound” from the barn, helping the reader to infer that she jumped because she was startled by the sound.
	Option A is incorrect	Although it could be perceived that Alyssa jumps because she is excited, the reader can infer based on paragraph 23 that Alyssa “almost vaulted to the ceiling” because of an unexpected noise.
	Option C is incorrect	The reader can infer that when Alyssa hears a sound in the barn in paragraph 23, she is startled, not inspired to write an online post.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no evidence to support that Alyssa thinks she should not be in the barn.

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6	Option H is correct	The story's plot is affected by the setting because Alyssa is able to compose interesting social media updates based on her experiences at her grandparents' farm.
	Option F is incorrect	Although Alyssa is far from her friends, she uses social media to communicate with them, so the conclusion that she feels isolated is not supported.
	Option G is incorrect	Alyssa's separation from her mother is a minor detail of the plot, and there is no indication that the separation causes Alyssa to value her family more.
	Option J is incorrect	There is no conflict between Alyssa and her grandmother as a result of the farm setting. In fact, Alyssa appreciates her grandmother's cooking and encouragement.
7	Option D is correct	The reader can infer that at the end of the story Alyssa is happy with her vacation and likes to be on the farm. In the last paragraph, Alyssa expresses her contentment: "I'm really glad I'm getting to spend some time at your farm this summer,' I said. And I meant it."
	Option A is incorrect	There is no indication that Alyssa feels sad at the end of the story because she knows that she will have to leave the farm soon.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Alyssa is satisfied throughout the story when her friends like her posts, the reader can infer based on the final paragraphs that Alyssa is happy and content that she is spending her vacation at her grandparents' farm.
	Option C is incorrect	Alyssa likely already believes that she will enjoy the rest of her summer; she does not need to be "hopeful" that this will be the case.
8	Option G is correct	In paragraph 3, the teacher says BizTown "prepares children for the future." The teacher's actions of "calling out" and publicly praising the program indicate that she "provides support," making her an <u>advocate</u> of BizTown.
	Option F is incorrect	This meaning is not supported by the context of paragraph 3 or the root <i>vocare</i> . The teacher in paragraph 3 who is described as an <u>advocate</u> is voicing her support for BizTown, not studying other people.
	Option H is incorrect	This meaning is not supported by the context of paragraph 3 or the root <i>vocare</i> . The teacher in paragraph 3 who is described as an <u>advocate</u> is voicing her support for BizTown, not trying to control a group.
	Option J is incorrect	This meaning is not supported by the context of paragraph 3 or the root <i>vocare</i> . The teacher in paragraph 3 who is described as an <u>advocate</u> is voicing her support for BizTown, not offering motivation.
9	Option B is correct	The quotations that the author includes in paragraphs 3 and 4 come from a teacher and a senior director of strategic partnerships. Both of the adults show their support for Junior Achievement by explaining that the program helps prepare students for the future.
	Option A is incorrect	The quotations in paragraphs 3 and 4 are included to help the reader understand that many adults support the program, not to explain the contributions from volunteers.
	Option C is incorrect	The quotations in paragraphs 3 and 4 are included to help the reader understand that many adults support the program, not to explain that successful adults participated in the program as students.
	Option D is incorrect	The quotations in paragraphs 3 and 4 are included to help the reader understand that many adults support the program, not necessarily to inspire students to become involved.

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10	Option F is correct	The reader can infer from information in paragraph 5 that there are many benefits of participating in Junior Achievement. The author explains what students learn in the program and how those lessons will help the students in the future as adults.
	Option G is incorrect	There is no evidence in paragraph 5 to support the idea that Junior Achievement has made changes to meet the demands of modern life.
	Option H is incorrect	The author does not include details in paragraph 5 to explain how community members organize Junior Achievement programs.
	Option J is incorrect	In paragraph 5, the author does not mention that it is important for teachers to motivate students to participate in Junior Achievement.
11	Option C is correct	The reader can infer from this sentence that Junior Achievement students will be well prepared to join the working world because the author includes specific examples of how students are exposed to real-life employment situations when participating in this program.
	Option A is incorrect	There is no evidence in this sentence that suggests that Junior Achievement students will be well prepared to join the working world.
	Option B is incorrect	This sentence is a general statement about the challenges of growing up; it is not included to suggest that the Junior Achievement students will be well prepared to join the working world.
	Option D is incorrect	The author includes this sentence to describe the volunteers who take part in the program, not to emphasize the idea that Junior Achievement students will be prepared for the working world.
12	Option G is correct	The author organizes the selection by explaining what Junior Achievement does by giving in-depth examples of its programs. The author provides examples of Junior Achievement's BizTown and Finance Park and describes what students do when they are part of these programs.
	Option F is incorrect	The author does not organize the selection by comparing the benefits of Junior Achievement with those of Scouting or summer camp.
	Option H is incorrect	The organization of the selection is not based on an explanation of how volunteers contribute to Junior Achievement's overall goal.
	Option J is incorrect	Although the author mentions how Junior Achievement has changed over time, this is a supporting detail, not the basis of the author's organization of the selection.
13	Option D is correct	Based on the author's explanation that Junior Achievement, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts all teach students financial literacy and budgets, the reader can conclude that these programs share the belief that managing a personal budget is a necessary skill.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author mentions a summer camp operated by BizTown in paragraph 7, the reader cannot conclude that these programs share the belief that all children should go to summer camp.
	Option B is incorrect	The conclusion that these organizations believe that students of all ages are capable of owning their own businesses is not supported.
	Option C is incorrect	There is no information included to support the reader's conclusion that Junior Achievement, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts all believe that many people buy more things than they can afford.

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14	Option J is correct	Throughout the selection, information is provided to show that Junior Achievement teaches students skills that will be necessary in their futures. This information is included to support the idea that the main goal of the program is to prepare students for adult responsibilities.
	Option F is incorrect	There is no evidence to suggest involving students in their local city government is the main goal of Junior Achievement.
	Option G is incorrect	Although students learn to manage and control money through participation in Junior Achievement, there is no evidence to suggest the organization helps them earn money while attending school.
	Option H is incorrect	There is no evidence to support the idea that the main goal of Junior Achievement is to allow students to improve businesses in their community.
15	Option C is correct	This sentence is a factual claim because the author explains that the popularity of BizTown and Finance Park has caused other programs to use their concepts. This statement can be proved and does not include the author's opinion.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author provides information about what may be happening in the Scout programs now, this sentence is not a factual statement since the reader is asked to imagine something.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author mentions that principles from Junior Achievement are being taught at some summer camps, this is not true of all summer camps.
	Option D is incorrect	The author's statement that "these activities all seem rather ordinary" is an opinion, not a factual claim.
16	Option J is correct	The reader can infer from the photographs that Junior Achievement activities are designed to give students a hands-on experience. Students lining up at a JA BizTown location are shown in one photograph, and students working together to make cookies for their Junior Achievement business are displayed in a second photograph.
	Option F is incorrect	The idea that Junior Achievement activities occur during regular school hours is not supported by the photographs.
	Option G is incorrect	Although adults are shown in the first photograph, the two photographs are not included to support the idea that the students can ask adults for help.
	Option H is incorrect	The idea that the younger the children in Junior Achievement are, the more they benefit from the programs is not supported by the photographs.
17	Option B is correct	The photographs in the article are included to help the reader understand how man-made Velcro and naturally occurring burrs are similar. By comparing the three photographs, the reader can see the features that burrs and Velcro share.
	Option A is incorrect	The reason nylon is superior to cotton for making Velcro is not explained by the photographs.
	Option C is incorrect	The difficulty Mestral experienced in creating his design for Velcro is not explained by the photographs.
	Option D is incorrect	Mestral's reasons for believing that Velcro would be a useful invention are not explained by the photographs.
18	Option J is correct	Based on paragraph 4, the reader can conclude that Mestral faced the challenge of finding a manufacturer that would produce Velcro as "companies were not interested" in his product, and he experienced "several rejections."
	Option F is incorrect	There is no evidence in the article to suggest to readers that Mestral found it a challenge to find different uses for Velcro. Paragraph 5 includes a variety of ways to use Velcro.
	Option G is incorrect	There is no evidence in the article to suggest that Mestral experienced a challenge locating a country willing to approve his patent. Ultimately, Mestral patented his product in Switzerland.
	Option H is incorrect	There is no evidence in the article to suggest that Mestral was unable to find a way to make a profit selling Velcro.

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19	Option A is correct	The reader can conclude that Mestral was determined to make his idea for Velcro a reality based on the information in paragraph 4 that he persevered despite the nearly 10 years of development and early rejections.
	Option B is incorrect	There is no information provided in paragraph 4 indicating that Mestral did not receive product rights for Velcro. Instead, the reader can understand that he patented the product, which means he received the product rights.
	Option C is incorrect	Mestral was denied help because companies “were not interested” in Velcro, not because companies had difficulty manufacturing it.
	Option D is incorrect	Mestral was dedicated to his product, but there is no indication that he wanted Velcro to be known as the world’s best fastener.
20	Option H is correct	This is the most complete summary of the article. An introduction to who Mestral was and how he got the idea for creating Velcro is provided in the first sentence of the summary. The problems Mestral faced and the eventual success of Velcro are also included in this summary.
	Option F is incorrect	This summary is incomplete. Information about Mestral’s determination or eventual success is not included—only that he was the inventor and had an inspirational idea.
	Option G is incorrect	This summary is incomplete. Information from the last half of the article is not included. Mestral’s challenge to find a manufacturer and his ultimate success are also omitted.
	Option J is incorrect	This summary is incomplete. Information about how Mestral finally got his product manufactured and his ultimate success with Velcro is omitted.
21	Option C is correct	By looking at the photograph of a drop of water at the mouth of a Namib beetle, the reader can visualize the way the beetle positions its body in order to collect water.
	Option A is incorrect	The photograph is included to show how the Namib beetle collects water, not to show the process of fog turning into water.
	Option B is incorrect	There is nothing in the photograph to which the beetle can be compared, so the photograph is not included to help the reader envision the actual size of the beetle.
	Option D is incorrect	By looking at this photograph, the reader can only see one drop of water, not the entire amount of water needed by desert insects.
22	Option J is correct	The author focuses on the Namib beetle’s unique ability to collect water from fog, specifically in paragraph 3 where the author explains that the beetle is able to provide itself with water in the absence of rain.
	Option F is incorrect	Although the author provides information about how the beetle provides a water-collection model for scientists to consider, the beetle is very small and, therefore, would not be a viable source of water for desert travelers.
	Option G is incorrect	The author states in paragraph 2 that the beetle actually “thrives” in the terrain “because of its amazing physical adaptation.”
	Option H is incorrect	The author focuses on the Namib beetle’s unique ability to harvest water using its wings, not on the way the beetle uses its wings to stay cool in an arid environment.
23	Option B is correct	The author describes in paragraph 3 how the Namib beetle “positions its body at a 45-degree angle to the wind” to help it to collect water on its back when fog rolls into the desert.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the beetle has a waxy substance on its back, the wax is not released when fog rolls in.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the beetle has bumps and troughs on its wings, these features are already part of the beetle; they are not created when fog rolls into the desert.
	Option D is incorrect	The author describes in paragraph 3 how water collects on the beetle’s wings and then rolls down into its mouth. The beetle does not drink the water directly from the air.

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24	Option H is correct	The author wrote this selection most likely to show how designs from nature can create solutions to global problems, such as gathering and storing water. The author focuses on the Namib beetle's unique design and explains how scientists are using this design as inspiration to create their own water-collection products.
	Option F is incorrect	The author explains how the Namib beetle collects water from moist air, but this explanation is provided to support the main purpose of the selection: to show how nature can serve as an inspiration in solving global problems.
	Option G is incorrect	Although the beetle has adapted to living in a hostile environment, the author wrote this selection to explain that designs from nature can help people create solutions to global problems.
	Option J is incorrect	Although water is a scarce resource in many areas on Earth, the author wrote this selection to explain that the problem could potentially be remedied by modeling designs from nature.
25	Option C is correct	Velcro and the water-collection panels are similar in that the models for both inventions were discovered in unexpected sources. The author of the article explains that Mestral found inspiration from burrs stuck to his dog's fur, while the author of the selection explains that the Namib beetle's unique design inspired scientists.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author of the article explains that Mestral did experiment with different materials for Velcro, the author of the selection does not suggest that the scientists who created water-collection panels experimented with different materials.
	Option B is incorrect	Although both inventions were inspired by nature, they were not inspired by the same environment. The first was inspired by burrs found in the woods, while the second was inspired by insects in the desert.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the water-collection panels received support in the beginning, the invention of Velcro did not receive initial support, so this is not how Velcro and water-collection panels are similar.
26	Option G is correct	The idea that inventors can find ideas by carefully observing nature is presented in both texts. Mestral was inspired to create Velcro after observing naturally occurring burrs stuck to his dog's fur, and scientists got the idea for water-collection panels from the body of the desert-dwelling Namib beetle.
	Option F is incorrect	Although scientists in the selection hope that water-collection panels will provide the basic necessity of water, the author of the article does not refer to the invention of Velcro as a basic necessity.
	Option H is incorrect	Although Mestral had to change from cotton to nylon when inventing Velcro, the scientists creating the water-collection panels have used the same material throughout production, so this is not an idea presented in both texts.
	Option J is incorrect	The size of the company that manufactures Velcro is not mentioned in the article, and the water-collection panels described in the selection are created in a laboratory, not manufactured by a company.
27	Option D is correct	The author of the article explains that Velcro was developed to be used in many situations. This differs from the development of the water-collection panels in the selection, which are meant to solve a specific problem: the scarcity of water on Earth.
	Option A is incorrect	The author of the article explains that Velcro took over 10 years to perfect, which is not a short time period. The author of the selection does not provide information about how long it took scientists to produce water-collection panels.
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraph 4 of the article, the author explains that Velcro is now made from the synthetic material nylon because natural cotton did not work well. The water-collection panels in the selection are also made from synthetic materials, so this is not a difference in the development of the two inventions.
	Option C is incorrect	Although Mestral made a change in the materials used to make Velcro, there is no indication in the selection that the design for the water-collection panels was ever changed.

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28	Option F is correct	The author of “Natural Inspiration” states that Mestral’s invention has been a great financial success, whereas the author of “A Brilliant Beetle” does not indicate whether the scientists’ water-collection panels have proved to be financially successful.
	Option G is incorrect	The water-collection panels are meant to replenish something found in nature (water), but Velcro is not meant to do the same; it was created as a fastener.
	Option H is incorrect	The author of “Natural Inspiration” states that Velcro has many uses as a fastener but does not suggest that it can solve multiple problems, so this is not an outcome of Mestral’s invention, making this option incorrect.
	Option J is incorrect	Although the water-collection panels in “A Brilliant Beetle” may have inspired new uses beyond their original purpose, such as fog elimination at airports and on roadways, the author of “Natural Inspiration” does not claim that Mestral’s invention inspired uses beyond its intended use as a fastener.
29	Option C is correct	The author of “Natural Inspiration” includes information about various places where Velcro is used (e.g., NASA, car and shoe manufacturers, everyday life), whereas the author of “A Brilliant Beetle” does not suggest that water-collection panels are being widely used.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the cost of each invention is not included in the selections, it is likely that given its widespread use, Velcro is less expensive to reproduce than the water-collection panels.
	Option B is incorrect	Although it is evident that the water-collection panels are still being used, it is also clear that Velcro has not been replaced by other inventions and is still being used today.
	Option D is incorrect	The author of the article explains that Velcro is used in many industries. The author of the selection does not mention the industries where the panels can be used.
30	Option F is correct	The poet highlights a contrast between the description of the lively woods and the steady pace of the river in lines 8 through 19. The poet describes the grass that “whispers excitedly,” and “The birds [that] gossip,” and then provides a contrast with the description of the river that is “intent always to push forward” at a steady pace.
	Option G is incorrect	The poet writes about nature in the poem, but there is no description of the speaker’s complex emotions.
	Option H is incorrect	The poet writes about nature in a playful way, but there is no contrast made between this and the speaker’s serious purpose.
	Option J is incorrect	The poet describes animals living in the woods in lines 8 through 19, but the poet does not mention the lack of living organisms in the river.
31	Option B is correct	Throughout the poem, it is evident that the speaker has a meaningful connection with the river. In lines 25 and 26, the speaker relays that the river can carry bad feelings away. The reader can interpret these lines to signify that the river reminds the speaker of what is important in life.
	Option A is incorrect	There is no indication that the speaker has been forced by the river to make a decision.
	Option C is incorrect	There is no evidence to suggest the speaker has been introduced by the river to the outdoors.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no evidence to suggest that the speaker has been provided with an unusual experience; the speaker simply sits on a bridge and observes nature.

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32	Option H is correct	A writer uses personification to give human qualities to something that is not human. The poet uses personification in the sixth stanza to support the idea that the river teaches the speaker to enjoy the experience of living. In line 24, the speaker relates that the river “reminds me that life is an adventure” as it keeps moving forward, supporting the idea that life should be enjoyed as it passes by.
	Option F is incorrect	The poet does not use personification in the sixth stanza to suggest that the river teaches the speaker about making good decisions.
	Option G is incorrect	The poet does not use personification in the sixth stanza to suggest that the river teaches the speaker to protect an important resource; rather, the river teaches the speaker to enjoy the experience of living.
	Option J is incorrect	Although the speaker seems to enjoy the beauty of nature, the poet uses personification to show that the river’s constant flowing should teach the speaker to enjoy life.
33	Option D is correct	The poet places lines 25 and 26 in their own stanza, or verse, most likely to highlight the outcome of the speaker’s experience at the river—that the river carries away “whatever bad feelings I brought with me.”
	Option A is incorrect	The idea that the river affects the speaker’s relationships with others is not supported by the details in lines 25 and 26.
	Option B is incorrect	The idea that the speaker is disappointed after spending time at the river is not supported by the details in lines 25 and 26.
	Option C is incorrect	The idea that the speaker seeks an adventure at the river is not supported by the details in lines 25 and 26.
34	Option H is correct	The poet writes in lines 27 through 29 that “Rivers make good friends. They help you to remember what the world makes you forget.” Based on these words, the reader can understand that the speaker visits the river to “remember” how to approach life.
	Option F is incorrect	Although information about the speaker sitting along the river is presented in this line, evidence is not provided to explain why the speaker visits the river in the first place.
	Option G is incorrect	The poet does not provide evidence in this line to explain why the speaker visits the river in the first place.
	Option J is incorrect	The poet does not provide evidence in this line to explain why the speaker visits the river in the first place.
35	Option B is correct	The poet explores the theme, or central message, that nature can provide perspective on life. While at the river, the speaker is reminded that “things change quickly, but the river takes its time” (lines 5–6) and that “life is an adventure” during which “there is so much to see!”
	Option A is incorrect	Although the speaker observes the lively woods and the flowing river, the speaker is more content than excited and more interested in what the river provides than in learning about patterns of nature.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the visit to the river is relaxing for the speaker, the theme of setting aside time daily to relax is not developed.
	Option D is incorrect	The speaker indicates that nature offers perspective on life in general, but there is no mention of people being “honest with themselves” to better appreciate life.
36	Option H is correct	In paragraph 3, the word <u>style</u> is used to refer to the way Paige behaves. Definition 3 is supported by the context because the author explains that when he reached out to Paige for advice, Paige was intuitive and patient with his phone calls.
	Option F is incorrect	In paragraph 3, the word <u>style</u> is used to indicate the way Paige behaves, not her fashion sense or what she wears.
	Option G is incorrect	In paragraph 3, the word <u>style</u> is used to refer to the way Paige behaves, not to “the type or make of something.”
	Option J is incorrect	In paragraph 3, the word style is used to refer to the way Paige behaves, not to a “set of rules for writing.”

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37	Option D is correct	In paragraph 3, the author provides evidence that he was worried he wasn't caring for his dog properly when he explains his calls were "frequent" and "panic-driven."
	Option A is incorrect	In these sentences, although the author seems worried about caring for his dog, there is no evidence to suggest that the author is discouraged by his dog's behavior.
	Option B is incorrect	In these sentences, there is no evidence to suggest that the author is surprised by his friend's knowledge. Rather, the author calls Paige because he wants to "pick her brain" about dogs.
	Option C is incorrect	In these sentences, there is no evidence to suggest that the author regrets calling Paige, nor does he feel he takes advantage of her.
38	Option G is correct	In paragraphs 4 through 6, the author mentions that the woman gave the author a look that could be described as "halfway between pity and a scold." The reader can infer that the woman's reaction indicates she disagrees with the author's choice not to provide Atticus with training.
	Option F is incorrect	The author does not suggest that he believes the woman is an expert in either dog training or music, only that she is judgmental.
	Option H is incorrect	The author provides evidence in paragraphs 4 through 6 that the woman displays a critical attitude when she learns the dog has not received formal training, not because of where the author brings his dog.
	Option J is incorrect	The woman does not offer to teach anything to the owner or his dog.
39	Option D is correct	The author explains in paragraphs 7 through 13 that people expect dog owners to teach their dogs some tricks, such as when people expected Atticus to present his paw, assuming that Atticus was formally trained based on his demeanor.
	Option A is incorrect	The author explains in paragraph 7 that Atticus would stare when people asked him for his paw, but this is because Atticus was never taught the trick, not because Atticus would only respond to the author.
	Option B is incorrect	The author provides the example of Atticus's confusion over the trick as evidence to support what some people expect from dogs and dog owners, not to illustrate that certain tricks are easier to teach to dogs.
	Option C is incorrect	The author provides evidence that Atticus's confusion and refusal to share his paw is not a result of disliking strangers but rather the result of not having been taught the trick.
40	Option G is correct	The author's main objective in raising Atticus is revealed in this sentence. Although Atticus does not know certain tricks, he does know "basic things" that help him to live safely and easily, such as how to behave off of a leash in public.
	Option F is incorrect	This sentence is a comment often made to the author when he mentions that he did not train Atticus. It is not the author's objective in raising his dog.
	Option H is incorrect	This sentence is an explanation of Atticus's reaction when asked to do a trick; the sentence does not relate to the author's main objective of raising his dog to live safely and easily.
	Option J is incorrect	The author does not share his main objective in raising Atticus in this sentence.

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41	Option D is correct	A simile is a figure of speech in which two objects are compared using the word “like” or “as.” The author includes the simile in paragraph 16 to help the reader understand that he feels responsible for protecting his dog in the same way that a running back protects a football by running with it safely tucked in his or her arm.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the simile in paragraph 16 refers to the game of football, the author includes the simile to show how he protects Atticus, not how he hopes to find time to play with him.
	Option B is incorrect	The author does not include the simile about a running back in paragraph 16 to suggest that he wants Atticus to be strong; the author wants Atticus to “be his own dog” as related in paragraph 14.
	Option C is incorrect	The author includes the simile in paragraph 16 to explain that he wants to protect Atticus, not to imply that he thinks Atticus is a better pet than most dogs.
42	Option H is correct	This summary includes the key events and important details from the selection. The author introduces how he was able to form a bond with Atticus and why he decided against formally training his dog. The author concludes with his main objective in raising his dog: to ensure that Atticus feels safe and happy.
	Option F is incorrect	This summary is incomplete. The author’s main objective in raising his dog is not included, nor is the information related to the author’s decision against formally training Atticus.
	Option G is incorrect	The key details of how the author established a bond with Atticus and chose to forgo obedience school are omitted from the summary, making the summary incomplete.
	Option J is incorrect	This summary is incomplete because it only includes one incident from paragraphs 4 through 6 and omits information related to the author’s bond with Atticus and his main objective in raising the dog.