

2019 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

Item#	Rationale	
1	Option A is correct	Imagery is the use of vivid language to represent objects, actions, or ideas. The author uses this type of figurative language to contrast the flower’s “bloodred” color against the “wan” sunlight to emphasize that the blossom is bright and bold and stands out in its surroundings.
	Option B is incorrect	The author describes the flower being “in a shaft of the wan afternoon sunlight,” so it is not in the shade, and there is no context to support the idea that the flower prefers to grow in the shade.
	Option C is incorrect	The author clearly describes the flower’s color as “bloodred,” so it is not difficult to describe.
	Option D is incorrect	The plant is healthy enough to produce a “bloodred” flower, so there is no context to support the idea that it is growing poorly in the greenhouse.
2	Option G is correct	Point of view is used to refer to the person telling or narrating a piece of writing. The excerpt is told in third person (by a narrator) that is limited to Saeng’s character. This helps the reader understand Saeng’s feelings during her experience. For example, in paragraph 7, the narrator describes that Saeng is “discouraged and feeling more than a little foolish.”
	Option F is incorrect	The author uses a limited point of view in the excerpt to help the reader understand Saeng’s personal feelings rather than the relationship between Saeng and the florist.
	Option H is incorrect	The point of view of the excerpt is limited to Saeng, so the author does not use it to help the reader understand the opinion of the florist.
	Option J is incorrect	The point of view of the excerpt is limited to Saeng, so the author does not use it to help the reader understand the florist’s desire to help Saeng.

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3	Option C is correct	The meaning of <u>profusion</u> is closest to the word “abundance.” In paragraph 13, the author explains that the greenhouse was “exploding with greenery” and that there were plants “of all shades and shapes.” The use of these phrases gives the reader the idea that the greenhouse was overflowing with an abundance of plants.
	Option A is incorrect	There is no reference to the height of the plants in the greenhouse, so this is not the meaning of <u>profusion</u> .
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author mentions plants “of all shades and shapes” in the greenhouse, no specific colors are mentioned. The word <u>profusion</u> is used to describe the number of plants rather than their color.
	Option D is incorrect	The word <u>profusion</u> is used to describe the number of plants in the greenhouse rather than their purpose.
4	Option G is correct	In paragraph 8, the author explains that “a slow smile deepened the wrinkles in” the florist’s face, because she knew she could give Saeng what she was looking for. This shows that Saeng’s problem of not knowing the name of a certain flower or how to find it will be resolved.
	Option F is incorrect	In this sentence, the author explains that the “flower looked—wrong, somehow,” so it is not the flower Saeng is looking for, and it is not the solution to Saeng’s conflict.
	Option H is incorrect	In this sentence, the author describes the florist leading Saeng to the greenhouse but gives no hint at what is inside or that it will resolve Saeng’s conflict.
	Option J is incorrect	In this sentence, the author describes Saeng’s desire to leave the situation before finding the flower she is looking for, which would not help resolve her conflict.

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5	Option A is correct	Saeng uses the leaf to find a plant that causes her to have vivid memories of her childhood. After Saeng shows the leaf to the florist, the florist leads Saeng to the hibiscus. When Saeng sees the hibiscus blossom, she recalls when, "sometimes after a monsoon rain . . . she would find a red [hibiscus] blossom floating in the bucket."
	Option B is incorrect	Although Saeng's grandmother is mentioned in paragraph 22, there is no context to support the idea that her grandmother or anyone else gave the leaf to Saeng.
	Option C is incorrect	Saeng's search for the hibiscus flower leads her to the roses of Sharon, but this is not why the leaf she carries is important in the excerpt.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no context to support the idea that Saeng is learning about her past. Instead, the leaf helps her to remember her past.
6	Option J is correct	The author uses the change in setting to advance the plot by allowing Saeng to discover the plant she is searching for despite her doubts. In paragraph 11, Saeng wishes to abandon her search and leave the nursery, but she goes to the greenhouse anyway. In paragraph 15, she finally sees the flower she's been looking for.
	Option F is incorrect	Saeng does not develop a relationship with the elderly woman. The woman leads Saeng to the flower in the greenhouse, but that is the end of their interaction.
	Option G is incorrect	Saeng's problem in the excerpt is that she does not know the name of the plant she is looking for and cannot find it. This problem already exists before the change in setting from the nursery to the greenhouse.
	Option H is incorrect	The change in setting is not a difficult situation, so although Saeng follows the elderly woman despite having doubts, Saeng does not learn a lesson about compromising in difficult situations.

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7	Option C is correct	The best summary of the excerpt is presented in these sentences. Saeng’s conflict and the steps taken to resolve that conflict are described. The resolution of Saeng finding the plant she was looking for and the memories that the flower evokes are included.
	Option A is incorrect	The resolution of Saeng seeing the plant she was looking for and the memories stirred by it are not conveyed in this summary.
	Option B is incorrect	Saeng’s discovery of and reaction to the hibiscus plant and the other plants in the greenhouse are not included in this summary.
	Option D is incorrect	The florist’s first attempt to identify the plant and Saeng’s reaction to finding the hibiscus are not included in this summary.
8	Option G is correct	The photograph and its caption are used to help the reader understand that methane is held in the containers so it won’t escape. In the photograph, there are two tall containers, and the caption is used to explain that “anaerobic digester silos trap methane gas.”
	Option F is incorrect	Microbes are not shown in the photograph or mentioned in the caption.
	Option H is incorrect	No food is shown in the photograph or mentioned in the caption.
	Option J is incorrect	It is explained in the caption that “silos trap methane gas,” but it is not explained in the caption nor shown in the photograph what is done with the methane gas.

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9	Option C is correct	The author uses this sentence to show that the Sainsbury’s company tries to make use of a by-product. Methane is a by-product of “organic waste” produced when it “decomposes in landfills.” It can be used to fuel trucks instead of being “released into the atmosphere” (paragraph 2).
	Option A is incorrect	The tactic used by Sainsbury’s to ensure most of its produce is sold is described in this sentence, but there is no mention of a by-product or its uses.
	Option B is incorrect	Sainsbury’s method of converting food waste into fuel is described in this sentence, but there is no mention of a by-product of this food waste or its uses.
	Option D is incorrect	This is a statement about Europe’s status in biofuel development, but there is no mention of a by-product being used to create biofuel.
10	Option F is correct	The photograph and caption can be used to support the idea that an initial step in Sainsbury’s plan is to sell appealing food to its customers. In the photograph, there is a woman holding up an apple and smiling. The caption, “Woman Admiring Apple,” is used to show the reader that Sainsbury’s is giving its customers attractive food options.
	Option G is incorrect	There is produce in the picture, but there is nothing in the picture or in the caption that can be used to suggest that the produce is being sold at a reduced price.
	Option H is incorrect	The photograph shows a grocery store and a woman who is probably going to purchase the apple she is holding, so the photograph and caption are not being used to show any donations to local organizations.
	Option J is incorrect	The woman in the photograph is smiling, and the caption explains that she is admiring the apple; so the apple is not unwanted and will probably be used to feed a person, not farm animals.

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11	Option D is correct	In paragraph 1, the author explains that “Sainsbury’s is one of England’s oldest grocery <u>chains</u> ,” which could be understood as a group of businesses owned by one parent company because there are many grocery stores named Sainsbury’s.
	Option A is incorrect	Physical <u>chains</u> that are joined by links are not being described in paragraph 1.
	Option B is incorrect	No bond is described in paragraph 1, so this is not the meaning of the word <u>chains</u> .
	Option C is incorrect	Although Crewe’s promise influenced Sainsbury’s food-waste practices, the word <u>chains</u> is not used in reference to this “cause and effect” relationship.
12	Option H is correct	In paragraph 2, the author describes the problem: dumping organic waste into landfills creates harmful amounts of methane gas. In the rest of the selection, the author describes creative ways to limit organic waste: giving customers attractive or reduced-price food, donating food to be eaten, and using methane gas as fuel.
	Option F is incorrect	The author is not encouraging the reader to do anything. Instead, the author is showing the reader what problems can be solved with creativity.
	Option G is incorrect	The author only describes one type of biofuel (methane gas from decomposed organic materials), so this is not why the selection was written.
	Option J is incorrect	The author focuses more on describing the creative methods used by Sainsbury’s to reduce food waste and use methane gas rather than arguing that it is important to prevent methane from escaping into the atmosphere.

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13	Option A is correct	In paragraph 4, the author explains that “these giant silos act like artificial stomachs” because they contain microbes that “digest organic waste and produce methane bubbles.”
	Option B is incorrect	The author is comparing the anaerobic digesters to stomachs, not vehicles, so the comparison is not used to describe vehicles using biofuel.
	Option C is incorrect	Although in paragraph 4 the author explains that “the same thing happens to organic waste in landfills,” the actual comparison of anaerobic digesters to stomachs is not used to emphasize the amount of methane, just the method of producing methane.
	Option D is incorrect	The comparison of anaerobic digesters to stomachs is used to describe the method of producing methane, not the source of food waste.
14	Option H is correct	The author included the information most likely to highlight that food waste is a renewable and useful resource. The author explains that the source for anaerobic digesters is “reliable” because people will always produce food waste and “valuable” because it can be used as “raw material for making biofuel.”
	Option F is incorrect	The author explains that every meal “results in some food waste” and that food waste is “reliable,” so the author is not suggesting that it is difficult to collect food waste.
	Option G is incorrect	The author mentions that every meal “results in some food waste” but does not argue in paragraph 6 that food waste is a growing problem.
	Option J is incorrect	In paragraph 6, the author explains that food waste can be managed by converting it into biofuel; this does not reveal that food waste is difficult to control.

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15	Option D is correct	In paragraph 9, it is explained that “chickadees burn their recently <u>accumulated</u> fat.” The fat that the birds use to keep warm at night is collected, or “gathered,” throughout the day.
	Option A is incorrect	The chickadees are using their “recently <u>accumulated</u> fat” to keep warm, which they could not do if the fat were lost.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the chickadees burn their fat at night, their fat is not “awakened”; it is gathered.
	Option C is incorrect	The chickadees’ fat does help them keep warm, but the word <u>accumulated</u> describes how the birds got the fat rather than what the fat helps them do.
16	Option G is correct	The author’s primary purpose is to describe the ways chickadees have adapted to be able to stay alive in cold climates. In paragraph 2, the author explains that “chickadees have adapted to the cold in amazing ways” and then explains those ways, such as fluffing their feathers, eating throughout the day to gain fat, and conserving energy.
	Option F is incorrect	Although the author explains that chickadees live in northern North America, the author’s purpose for writing the selection is to describe how chickadees survive in this frigid environment.
	Option H is incorrect	In paragraph 2, it is explained that chickadees “are only as big as a person’s thumb,” but there is no claim that their small size causes problems, so this is not the author’s purpose in writing the selection.
	Option J is incorrect	In paragraphs 3 through 5, the author explains how chickadees’ feathers function in cold weather. No other environments are discussed, so this is not the author’s purpose in writing the selection.

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17	Option C is correct	This sentence is used to support the idea that chickadees take action to keep their bodies warm at night. They do this by eating “enough each day to survive the long, 18-hour night.”
	Option A is incorrect	In this sentence, the author explains the difference between the outside temperature and internal temperature of a chickadee, but there is no mention of what a chickadee does to maintain this high internal temperature.
	Option B is incorrect	In this sentence, the author is explaining why chickadees do not keep their toes warm, which is the opposite of taking action to stay warm.
	Option D is incorrect	Roosting together in flocks is a method that some birds use to stay warm, so spending the night alone would be the opposite of taking action to stay warm.
18	Option G is correct	The best summary of the selection is presented in these sentences. The circumstances in which chickadees live are described and the methods they use to stay warm are detailed.
	Option F is incorrect	There is no mention of the methods chickadees use to stay warm in cold temperatures, which is the focus of the selection, so this is not the best summary.
	Option H is incorrect	Only one of the methods chickadees use to keep warm is described in these sentences, so this is really just a detail from the selection rather than an overall summary.
	Option J is incorrect	This summary does not include information about chickadees using certain methods to stay warm in freezing cold temperatures, so it is not the best summary.

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19	Option D is correct	Imagery is the use of vivid language to represent objects, actions, or ideas. The imagery in lines 9 and 10 of the poem is used to suggest the speaker feels encouraged because the weather is getting warmer—the sun is high in the sky, the cardinal is singing, and the icicles are melting.
	Option A is incorrect	The description of the sun being high in the sky and the icicles dripping is used to show the improvement in weather rather than how quickly the day passes.
	Option B is incorrect	The speaker is not bothered by the dripping water. Instead, the speaker is encouraged by the dripping water because it means the weather is becoming warmer and the icicles are melting.
	Option C is incorrect	The trilling of the cardinal is described to show the speaker’s relief that better weather is coming, not that company has arrived.
20	Option G is correct	The actions described in the first stanza are used to suggest that the speaker is hardworking. The speaker and other chickadees work hard to “glean and gulp and pluck and snare” all day long from “dawn to dusk” in order to survive the long, cold night.
	Option F is incorrect	The actions described in the first stanza are used to show how hard the speaker and other chickadees work during the day, not that they are surprised.
	Option H is incorrect	The actions described in the first stanza are used to show how hard the speaker and other chickadees work to prepare for the coming night, so they are not carefree.
	Option J is incorrect	The speaker and other chickadees work hard to gather food and items for their nest in order to survive the long, cold night, so they are more hardworking than greedy.

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21	Option C is correct	Rhythm is the metrical pattern of accented and unaccented syllables in poetry. The poet’s use of line length helps contribute to the poem’s rhythm. The same rhythm is maintained throughout the poem because each line has about eight syllables.
	Option A is incorrect	Tone is the way the author expresses his or her attitude through writing, so a change in tone would be indicated by word choice rather than line length.
	Option B is incorrect	Imagery is the use of vivid language to represent objects, actions, or ideas, so the poem’s vivid imagery would be presented through word choice rather than line length.
	Option D is incorrect	Alliteration is the repetition of the same letter or sound across closely connected words, so alliteration would be presented through word choice rather than line length.
22	Option G is correct	The repetition in line 6 and line 15 is used to emphasize the speaker’s confidence in surviving a harsh winter. The speaker sings and laughs at the weather because it knows how to endure the cold and that the weather will eventually improve.
	Option F is incorrect	No other birds are mentioned in line 6 or line 15, so this is not what the poet is trying to emphasize.
	Option H is incorrect	The speaker is not unfamiliar with the situation because the weather gets cold every year, so this is not what the poet is trying to emphasize.
	Option J is incorrect	The speaker is singing and laughing because the speaker is clever and knows the cold weather will eventually improve, not because the speaker enjoys the winter.

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23	Option D is correct	Imagery is the use of vivid language to represent objects, actions, or ideas. In lines 3 and 4, the speaker is describing a place to sleep that is “snug and tight” and will keep the speaker safe and secure during the “long and frozen night.”
	Option A is incorrect	The absence of other birds is not mentioned, so the imagery in lines 3 and 4 is not used to create a sense of loneliness.
	Option B is incorrect	Since there is no mention of other birds, there is no sense of affection being conveyed in lines 3 and 4.
	Option C is incorrect	The feeling being created by the imagery is more of safety in the “snug and tight” roost rather than acceptance of the cold night.
24	Option G is correct	Rhythm is the metrical pattern of accented and unaccented syllables in poetry. Each line has around eight syllables. The first line rhymes with the second line and the third line rhymes with the fourth line in each stanza. The poet uses this rhythm and rhyme scheme to help the reader sense, hear, and feel the energy and cheerfulness of the poem.
	Option F is incorrect	The poet does not create a mood of gratefulness through the use of rhythm and rhyme scheme in the poem.
	Option H is incorrect	A mood of curiosity is not created by the rhythm and rhyme scheme used in the poem.
	Option J is incorrect	A mood of mutual respect is not created by the poet’s use of rhythm and rhyme scheme in the poem.

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25	Option A is correct	Methods that chickadees use to stay warm are described in both the selection and the poem. The selection explains that chickadees “fluff their feathers,” eat food to make body fat, and conserve energy. The poem describes chickadees working “from dawn to dusk” to make their roost “snug and tight” and fluffing “each downy feather” to stay warm during the winter.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the poet uses the pronoun “we” throughout the poem, there is no context to support the idea that chickadees are helping one another. The author uses paragraph 10 of the selection to explain that chickadees “spend the night alone.”
	Option C is incorrect	Neither the selection nor the poem describes what chickadees must do without in harsh conditions.
	Option D is incorrect	Although it is mentioned in the selection that chickadees “increase their body weight by about 8 to 10 percent” (paragraph 9), there is no mention of internal bodily changes in the poem.
26	Option J is correct	In line 13, the poet writes that the chickadee is “quick and bold and brave and clever,” which is similar to the idea that the “chickadee shows how tough it really is” as is expressed in the selection. In the poem, like in this statement, the chickadee survives the winter.
	Option F is incorrect	There is no mention of bird feeders in the poem, so this is not a statement supported by the poem.
	Option G is incorrect	Although line 5, “We fluff and preen each downy feather” has a similar idea as the first half of this statement, the second half is not supported by the poem because the poem does not mention a specific location.
	Option H is incorrect	In the poem, the chickadees are surviving the winter until springtime, but there is no mention of what they do during the summer.

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27	Option C is correct	Drinking water from icicles is described in line 10 of the poem with the words "We sip the drips of icicles," but this action is not mentioned anywhere in the selection.
	Option A is incorrect	Storing food in tree bark is mentioned in paragraph 8 of the selection where the author explains that chickadees store "bugs, seeds, or fat" by "tucking these morsels into crevices in tree bark." It is not described in the poem.
	Option B is incorrect	Allowing feet to become cold is not mentioned in the poem but is mentioned in paragraph 6 of the selection.
	Option D is incorrect	Burning fat all night long is not mentioned in the poem but is mentioned in paragraph 9 of the selection.
28	Option J is correct	In the poem, the chickadee knows that winter is ending because the sun is high in the sky, the cardinal is singing, and the icicles and snow are melting (stanza 3). In the selection, however, the author does not suggest the chickadee knows winter is coming to an end.
	Option F is incorrect	The author uses the selection to state that chickadees prepare for winter "while the green leaves of summer are still on the trees," so they realize winter is coming. However, the poem begins during winter, so there is no chance for that realization.
	Option G is incorrect	The chickadee's time spent collecting food is described in both the selection and the poem, so this is not a difference.
	Option H is incorrect	The need for chickadees to eat more food during the colder months is expressed in paragraphs 7 through 9 of the selection but is not expressed in the poem.

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29	Option C is correct	In paragraph 2 of the selection, it is explained that “chickadees have adapted to the cold in amazing ways,” and in the poem, some of these adaptations are described, such as when the chickadees “fluff and preen each downy feather” to keep warm and find a snug roost on cold nights.
	Option A is incorrect	The chickadee’s activity in the summer is not mentioned in the poem, so this is not something revealed by both the selection and the poem.
	Option B is incorrect	The chickadee’s curiosity is not mentioned in either the poem or the selection.
	Option D is incorrect	In paragraph 6 of the selection, the author explains that “the chickadee can alter the temperature of its feet,” but the poet does not mention changes in body temperature in the poem.
30	Option G is correct	The original Keep Calm poster was created to boost people’s morale during a time of war. In paragraph 2, the author explains that the posters were displayed “at the start of the war in order to raise the morale of the British people.”
	Option F is incorrect	The British people “needed encouragement during World War II” (paragraph 4), so the posters were created to boost morale, not instill loyalty.
	Option H is incorrect	According to paragraph 2, the British government designed the original posters with a “motivational phrase” to boost morale. The intent was not to sell products to the people.
	Option J is incorrect	The poster was reproduced after the year 2000 in an effort to lift people’s spirits during the “economic downturn” after the year 2000, but its original purpose at the start of World War II was to boost morale.

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31	Option A is correct	The author explains that the Keep Calm motto was originally used to “raise the morale of the British people” during World War II and became popular after Stuart Manley put up a poster with the motto in his bookstore. Then the author explains how people have modified the slogan from its original wording, showing how it has changed over time.
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraph 2, the author explains that public response to the original posters was “just mediocre” and only recently became a “worldwide motto” (paragraph 3), so the effectiveness of the motto has actually increased rather than diminished.
	Option C is incorrect	This option does not address the author’s account of the origin of the motto, which is an important part of the organization of the selection.
	Option D is incorrect	The author does explain the reason the original Keep Calm motto was developed but then organizes the selection around how the use of the motto has changed over time, not how it has become the answer to many problems.
32	Option G is correct	The main idea of paragraph 6 is that the Keep Calm slogan and its various forms have become popular parts of current culture. In paragraph 6, the author explains that the “wartime slogan has been rewritten in different ways” and then gives some examples and tells where the slogan is seen today, such as on social media and on products sold online.
	Option F is incorrect	This is only one detail from paragraph 6 rather than the main idea.
	Option H is incorrect	Although people have different ways of using and interpreting the slogan, there is no actual discord described in paragraph 6, so this is not the main idea.
	Option J is incorrect	Although online shopping websites are mentioned in paragraph 6, there is no discussion that the Keep Calm phrase was good for online advertising.

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33	Option A is correct	The reader can conclude that the motto has a strong ability to encourage people with its optimistic message. In paragraph 4, when contemplating the reason for the motto’s popularity, the author states, “The saying ‘Keep Calm and Carry On’ seems to be the ideal slogan to bring courage and hope to people.”
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraph 7, the author advises the reader that “it is important to remember the significance of the motto’s original intent,” so it is not apparent that people appreciate the historical significance or even know where the slogan comes from.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the slogan may have brought comfort during wartime, this is not the reason for its continued popularity with the public. The author describes the ways people have rewritten the slogan to create “fun phrases” or add “sarcasm to the slogan,” so people are no longer drawn to the serious quality of the slogan.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the slogan has experienced a revival, it is not being used in the same way now as it was in 1940, and it is more popular now than in 1940, so it is unlikely that it is uniting different generations.
34	Option J is correct	In paragraph 5, the author offers reasons for the popularity of the poster, such as the “optimistic message, the simple design and understated tone” and the fact that it is “cheap to reproduce and easy to customize.”
	Option F is incorrect	The origin of the Keep Calm motto is explained in paragraph 2, not 5, so this is not why the author includes the information in paragraph 5.
	Option G is incorrect	Although the author explains the motto is “cheap to reproduce and easy to customize,” it is not actually explained how the products are made.
	Option H is incorrect	The author is offering reasons for, not opinions about, the popularity of the Keep Calm motto.

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35	Option C is correct	In paragraph 6, the author suggests that one reason for the popularity of the Keep Calm slogan is that the slogan can be easily altered in humorous ways. In paragraph 6, the author explains that some people have used the slogan to make "fun phrases" and "others have added sarcasm to the slogan."
	Option A is incorrect	There is no mention of the slogan being used for advertisement, so this is not suggested in paragraph 6.
	Option B is incorrect	The number of words in the slogan is not mentioned in paragraph 6, so this is not something suggested in the paragraph.
	Option D is incorrect	The cost of actually printing the motto on different products is not specified, so this is not something suggested in paragraph 6.
36	Option J is correct	This statement is an opinion because the author is presenting a subjective viewpoint that "it is important to remember the significance of the motto's original intent." Someone else may not think it's important to remember this.
	Option F is incorrect	This statement about the origin of the Keep Calm poster is an objective fact, so it is not an opinion.
	Option G is incorrect	This statement about where the original Keep Calm posters were displayed is an objective fact, so it is not an opinion.
	Option H is incorrect	This statement is not an opinion; it is a fact about the rarity of Manley's Keep Calm poster.

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37	Option B is correct	It is customary for audience members to applaud after the national anthem, but in this case they do so only halfheartedly, which helps the reader understand that Pete’s performance did not go well.
	Option A is incorrect	Only the audience’s reaction is described in the stage directions, not Pete’s reaction, so the reader cannot tell how Pete is feeling.
	Option C is incorrect	Only the audience’s reaction is described, not the actual performance, so the reader cannot tell exactly what went wrong during the performance.
	Option D is incorrect	Pete’s friends are not necessarily in the audience, so there is no context to support the idea that they are not supportive of his decision to sing.
38	Option F is correct	It is explained in the stage directions in line 29 that Angie has a “sly grin and sarcastic tone” when she tells Pete his performance won’t make it into the media club’s montage called “A Star-Spangled Catastrophe,” making it evident that she thinks he is overreacting and is teasing him.
	Option G is incorrect	Although Angie tells Pete, “I don’t think you’ll make the final cut,” it is because she thinks he didn’t actually mess up too badly, so she is not disappointed in him.
	Option H is incorrect	Angie is not trying to embarrass Pete. She lets him know that his mistake was “boring” and won’t even be a part of the media club’s video of national anthem bloopers.
	Option J is incorrect	Angie does not really understand Pete’s distress because she knows that many people have had problems singing the national anthem and that his mistake was not the worst.

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39	Option B is correct	Pete forgot some of the words to the national anthem, and the commentator was caught off guard, which is evident because of the commentator’s pauses and difficulty finding the words to describe the performance.
	Option A is incorrect	The commentator does not laugh or say anything comical, so the reader cannot conclude that the commentator thinks Pete’s mistakes were funny.
	Option C is incorrect	The commentator does not mention Angie, so there is no context to support the idea that the commentator is concerned about this.
	Option D is incorrect	The commentator noticed Pete’s mistakes, so it is likely that the people noticed them as well.
40	Option H is correct	The stage directions in lines 18 through 23 can be used to help the reader understand the conflicting viewpoints of the characters. Pete “ <i>firmly</i> ” tells Angie to delete the video of him singing, and she “ <i>firmly</i> ” refuses. Pete’s anger rises, but Angie is calm because she thinks there is no reason for him to be upset.
	Option F is incorrect	Pete is experiencing stress because he thinks he embarrassed himself, but Angie does not think anything is wrong, and she is not stressed about her responsibility.
	Option G is incorrect	The stage directions are not used to indicate how familiar the characters are with each other but rather to show how they interact.
	Option J is incorrect	The stage directions are used to show the conflict between Pete and Angie, not their lack of understanding about their tasks.

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41	Option D is correct	One way Angie tries to encourage Pete is by reminding him of his bravery. In line 23, Angie tells Pete, "If people give you a hard time, remind them that they would never stand in front of 2,500 people to belt out one of America's most difficult songs."
	Option A is incorrect	In line 29 Angie jokes that Pete's rendition of the national anthem wouldn't make it into the media club's montage called "A Star-Spangled Catastrophe," which they would post on the Internet. She does not think he will find fame on the Internet.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Angie tells Pete she will tell the media coordinator that she "missed the national anthem," this is just a joke. She did not miss Pete's singing and actually says to Pete in line 9 that he "sounded great."
	Option C is incorrect	In line 29, Angie does not tell Pete that he will be on a video with others. Instead, Angie teases Pete by telling him that his performance is too boring for the media club's video montage.
42	Option F is correct	The best summary is presented in this sentence. Pete's conflict is described, and the resolution offered by Angie is restated.
	Option G is incorrect	Pete being recorded is not the main conflict of the selection, so this is not the best summary.
	Option H is incorrect	Angie does not persuade Pete to sing a different song later so that he can feel better, so this is not the best summary.
	Option J is incorrect	Angie's compliments of Pete's voice do not make Pete feel better, so this is not the best summary.