

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale	
1	The student selects the photo of the kitten.	The description in the listening prompt corresponds to the photo of the kitten. The words “soft,” “warm,” and “fuzzy” all provide clear support for the kitten as the correct answer choice and do not apply to the other objects pictured.

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Item Position	Rationale	
2	Option A is correct	The description in the listening prompt best matches this photo, which shows a butterfly coming out of a chrysalis that is attached to a tree branch. The language in the prompt that supports this answer choice is "A chrysalis is attached to a tree branch" and "butterfly is starting to emerge from the bottom of the chrysalis." These both describe what is shown only in this photo.
	Option B is incorrect	This photo shows a butterfly sitting on a leaf with its wings fully open and does not correspond to the listening prompt. The language in the prompt describes a butterfly not yet fully out of its chrysalis. It also describes a tree branch and not a leaf.
	Option C is incorrect	This photo does not match the listening prompt fully because although it shows a chrysalis on a tree branch, it does not show a butterfly coming out of the chrysalis.
	Option D is incorrect	This photo shows a butterfly sitting on a leaf with its wings open and does not correspond to the listening prompt. The language in the prompt describes a butterfly not yet fully out of its chrysalis. It also describes a tree branch and not a leaf.

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Item Position	Rationale	
3	Option A is correct	The language in this section describing how Mingo’s tail “slapped the ground eagerly” and that the dog “ran excitedly around Danny” shows that the dog is excited for the game of fetch to begin. The phrase “get underway” means to start or begin.
	Option B is incorrect	To watch something is to have it in view and pay attention to it. This cannot be the meaning of “get underway” in this sentence, since a game of fetch cannot view or pay attention to anything.
	Option C is incorrect	To find something is to locate or discover it. A game of fetch cannot be said to find anything, and Mingo is not trying to locate the game. He wants the game to begin.
	Option D is incorrect	Something returns when it comes back or reappears. But it cannot do that unless it has already started or begun. Mingo is waiting for the game of fetch to “get underway,” or begin.

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Item Position	Rationale	
4	Option C is correct	This section of the video describes how Danny and Mingo cannot play fetch, so they try racing instead. It states that after a short while, “Danny was panting and Mingo looked bored.” The actions of panting and looking bored both support the idea that Danny and Mingo are no longer having fun or enjoying themselves.
	Option A is incorrect	The listener learns early in the video that Danny brought a water bottle and a dog dish to the park. This detail shows that Danny can give Mingo water without leaving the park. This answer choice is not supported by the video.
	Option B is incorrect	It is clear from the video that Danny and Mingo become bored because they cannot play fetch without a ball. This shows that what they are missing is not more dogs but rather the ball to play the game of fetch they both enjoy. That is why Danny says they should leave.
	Option D is incorrect	Dad is not mentioned in this section of the video. Thus, this section provides no support for the idea that Danny tells Mingo they should leave because he learns that Dad needs his help.

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Item Position	Rationale	
5	Option D is correct	In this part of the video, Dad asks Danny to use the loppers to “remove thin branches and trim them into smaller pieces.” This language provides direct support for this as the correct answer choice, since “thin” and “small” have similar meanings and to trim means to cut.
	Option A is incorrect	Dad asks Danny to help him by “clearing dead limbs” from the trees and bushes. Clearing dead limbs means removing them, which is not the same thing as finding them.
	Option B is incorrect	It is clear in this section that Dad already has his chainsaw and the loppers with him when Danny gets home. There is no evidence here that Dad asks Danny to get more tools from the garage.
	Option C is incorrect	In this section, Mingo is described as running back and forth between Danny and the gate. He is clearly eager to go back to the park. However, there is no language to support the idea that Dad asks Danny to keep Mingo away from the chainsaw.

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6	Option D is correct	In this section of the video, the listener can tell how Danny feels when he thinks to himself, "Not only did I lose a chance to play with Mingo, but now I also have a chore to do." It is clear from this that Danny is disappointed and upset over how his day is going.
	Option A is incorrect	When Mingo runs back and forth to the gate, Danny recognizes that his dog still wants to go back to the park to play. But Danny's actions of sighing multiple times and his words, "Not only did I lose a chance to play with Mingo, but now I also have a chore to do," show that he is mainly unhappy about how his day is going.
	Option B is incorrect	The listener learns in this section that after Dad hands Danny the loppers, "Danny and Dad set to work." Danny is not described as being nervous about using the tool, since he starts right away to do the chore he is asked to do. There is no language in the video to support this answer choice.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the "loud buzzing" of Dad's chainsaw is mentioned in this section, there is no indication that Danny is annoyed by it. Therefore, there is no support for this answer choice.

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Item Position	Rationale	
7	Option B is correct	Danny’s action of putting a sign next to the pile of sticks that says “Free Tossing Sticks” and his remark “Now every dog will have something to chase” both support this as the correct answer choice. Danny does these things so that all the dogs and their owners can have fun at the park.
	Option A is incorrect	Danny’s action of putting a sign next to the pile of sticks that says “Free Tossing Sticks” and his remark “Now every dog will have something to chase” do not support this answer choice. Danny would not say or do this if he were trying to hide the sticks for Mingo and himself.
	Option C is incorrect	Since the listener knows that Danny has already pulled the sticks to the park, this is not a reasonable explanation for why he does not take them home.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no language in this section of the video to support the idea that Danny thinks playing with a ball is more fun than throwing sticks. The video describes him enjoying both activities.

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Item Position	Rationale	
8	Option D is correct	In this section of the video, the listener learns mainly how Danny solves the problem of not having a ball to play fetch with Mingo. Danny takes the sticks from his yard to the park so that he and Mingo, along with other dogs and owners, will always have something to throw and play with at the park.
	Option A is incorrect	The events in this section of the video happen “after Danny and Dad had finished working.” The language here gives no information on how Danny feels about working for his father in the yard.
	Option B is incorrect	This section does not include a description of what the park that Danny and Mingo go to looks like. There is no support for this answer choice.
	Option C is incorrect	This section does not give an explanation as to why Danny enjoys playing fetch with Mingo. There is no language to support this answer choice.

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Item Position	Rationale
9	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>First, Danny looks in his backpack to find Mingo's ball so they can play fetch. However, he forgets to bring Mingo's ball. He tries looking for spare balls in the park, but there weren't any. Danny and Mingo race around the park, but Mingo gets bored. They go home. When Danny arrives home, he finds his dad standing next to a tree with a chainsaw. Dad asks Danny to help him clear the dead branches from the trees and bushes. While Danny is busy cutting branches, Mingo goes through the pile of branches Danny made and picks up a stick. Danny takes the stick and tosses it. Mingo starts to chase after the stick. Then, Danny got an idea. After Danny and Dad were done working, he filled up a wagon with sticks. Danny and Mingo went back to the park with the wagon. They spent an hour playing fetch with sticks. Mingo was very joyful. When it was time for them to head home, Danny placed the sticks in the wagon near a bench. He also placed a sign that said, "Free Tossing Sticks." Finally, Danny and Mingo walked home with the now empty wagon.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale
10	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 2-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the TELPAS Two-Point Speaking Rubric on the TELPAS Resources webpage.</p> <p>This student is probably asking herself how to solve this question. She's adding 5 plus 9, plus 2 plus 4, so we know that she's trying to do a math question, but I think that she really doesn't understand the question. She's trying her best to understand the question, and she's probably not really that good with adding double digits, so she looks like she's confused, and she doesn't know what to do, but she really does know what to do. She needs to try her best, and she can try to ask for help.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale
11	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>The way that I would describe the outside part of the castle would be it's surrounded by water, and it has a bunch of trees around the area that it is in, and the castle is large. But the things that I would do inside of the castle is probably make it into a museum because when I was growing up, I always wanted to make a castle into a museum. And, since it's so big, I could invite my family and friends over to live with me inside the castle since it has so many rooms. And the way that I would feel about living in a castle would be excited and happy because, me growing up and watching cartoons, I always wanted to live in a castle so that would make me happy and excited. But the thing that I would not like about it is that if I was trying to find something, the castle is like too big so it would probably take me a long time to find something.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale	
12	Option A is correct	The photo shows two dancers matching each other’s movements as they dance. They are smiling and look like they enjoy what they are doing. The recorded text includes the phrases “the couple,” “stomped their feet and moved their arms in the same way,” “it was fun to perform,” and “enjoyed showing off their talent.” All of these phrases describe the photo accurately.
	Option B is incorrect	The recorded text states, “The dancers wore matching costumes and stood in a row.” This does not match the photo, which shows two dancers wearing different outfits, dancing one behind the other.
	Option C is incorrect	The recorded text, “All the dancers leapt and spun across the stage,” does not match the photo, which shows the dancers with their feet on the ground facing forward. The recording also says, “After the performance ended, the audience stood and clapped.” The photo shows the dance in progress and does not show an audience.
	Option D is incorrect	The photo shows two dancers in modern, nontraditional clothes making sharp, energetic moves while their feet are planted firmly on the floor as they perform. The recording does not match the photo, as it says, “wear colorful costumes and dance to a traditional folk song” and “moved elegantly in circles.”

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Item Position	Rationale	
13	Option B is correct	This section provides information about how Groundhog Day is celebrated. It gives details about the ceremony, including what the groundhog and the surrounding people do on Groundhog Day.
	Option A is incorrect	This section does include information about when and where Groundhog Day began. However, these are just two details described in the section. They are not what the section is mainly about.
	Option C is incorrect	In this section, the listener learns that according to legend, winter may last for six more weeks if the groundhog sees its shadow. However, this is a detail and not the main idea presented in the section.
	Option D is incorrect	This section of the video does state that Groundhog Day is celebrated “every February 2.” However, this is just one detail mentioned in the section. The full context of this section gives information about what happens on this holiday and what the celebration is all about.

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Item Position	Rationale	
14	Option C is correct	To accumulate means to build up, or grow, over time. This section of the video states that groundhogs eat large amounts of various foods during the summer and early fall. This indicates something happening over a long period of time. It states that groundhogs accumulate a “thick layer of fat,” which is something that grows larger over time.
	Option A is incorrect	The phrase “turn into” means to change from one thing into something else. This section does not talk about the groundhog changing or turning into something different.
	Option B is incorrect	To spread is to stretch out or extend over a larger area. There is no language to support the idea that groundhogs complete the action of spreading a thick layer of fat. The layer of fat is something that builds up “in their bodies.”
	Option D is incorrect	To locate something is to find it somewhere. The video explains how the layer of fat grows after groundhogs eat a lot of food over a long period of time. There is no language to support the idea that groundhogs find their layer of fat.

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Item Position	Rationale	
15	Option A is correct	The language in this part of the video explains that groundhogs conserve energy in winter by not being active. During this time, “their heart beats very slowly,” while their breathing rate and temperature also drop. This makes it clear that having a slow heart rate is part of what helps a groundhog save energy as it hibernates.
	Option B is incorrect	The language in this section does not support the idea that the groundhog moves around during hibernation. It describes the groundhog as “dormant, or not active” during that time.
	Option C is incorrect	The language of this section includes the sentence “During hibernation, their body temperature drops.” Thus, this answer choice is not consistent with the information presented.
	Option D is incorrect	This section states, “Being dormant, or not active, helps groundhogs conserve energy.” This means that being still helps them save energy. Building a burrow would require groundhogs to move, which is the opposite of being dormant. This answer choice is not supported by the context of the video.

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Item Position	Rationale	
16	Option C is correct	This part of the video explains that the German settlers in Pennsylvania chose the groundhog for their celebration because “at that time, there were no hedgehogs in Pennsylvania.” As an alternative, they chose a similar animal, the groundhog.
	Option A is incorrect	The language in this section states that the German settlers chose an animal that “resembled a hedgehog—the groundhog” so that they could “continue their traditions.” This language supports the idea that the German settlers wanted to continue celebrating in the same way as much as possible, not in a different way.
	Option B is incorrect	Nothing in this section suggests that groundhogs are better than hedgehogs at predicting the weather. In fact, the listener is told that “a groundhog seeing its shadow is definitely not a dependable way to predict when winter will end.” It is neither better nor worse than a hedgehog.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no language in this section to support the idea that a groundhog is easier to handle than a hedgehog. In addition, the context makes it clear that there were no hedgehogs in Pennsylvania at that time, so the settlers were not able to make this comparison when they chose a new type of animal.

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Item Position	Rationale	
17	Option D is correct	Based on the author’s reference at the end of the video to “this unique holiday,” the listener can conclude that the author thinks that Groundhog Day is an interesting event. This conclusion is also supported by the information presented about the origin and history of the celebration, the events that take place, and the nature and habits of the groundhog itself.
	Option A is incorrect	The author mentions only Groundhog Day celebrations that take place in the United States, mainly those that take place in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Even though there may be similar events in Germany or elsewhere, there is no indication that the author believes that Groundhog Day is celebrated in most countries.
	Option B is incorrect	The author presents no information that supports the idea that he or she lives in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. This answer choice is not a conclusion that can be drawn from the language in this section of the video.
	Option C is incorrect	In this section of the video, the author includes the admission that “weather predictions based on Groundhog Day have been wrong more than half the time.” This shows that the author does not believe these predictions or trust them to be accurate.

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Item Position	Rationale
18	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the Grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>A special thing that we do each year is go to Mexico. We always go. This year we are going in July. We go in July because it is hot and not as cold as in winter. When we get there, we first go and eat some tacos, and then we go visit my grandparents because we only visit them like three weeks a year, and we miss them. This day is special because mostly all of my family lives there, and they love me, and I love them. Also, because I always visit my favorite horse. It is my dad's horse, but I also ride it. My horse also looks at his shadow like a groundhog, but he doesn't predict anything. He just does this because he wants to. I like this day because we spare our minds about work and school. Something I don't like about this is that we go in our truck and my dad doesn't sleep and gets tired easily. We could go in an airplane, but we need to save money, and it's like a tradition.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale
19	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>So, we can see here that a few minutes ago, they were cooking and having so much fun. They were probably thinking to bake something. Then, what's happening now, as we can see, is that they are playing around with the, with the dough. And the mother's probably thinking that, "This is really a disaster." But she's happy. She's really happy for them that they are having so much fun to bake with them. But it happened to be a disaster. And I think what's going to happen next is that they are going to shower or change clothes because they are really filled with dough.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale	
20	The student selects the photo of fingers on a lamp switch.	The description in the listening prompt corresponds to the photo of fingers on a lamp switch. The phrases “part of a lamp,” “presses, turns, or pulls” and “to make the lamp give off light” all provide clear support for the lamp switch as the correct answer choice.

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Item Position	Rationale	
21	Option C is correct	The description in the listening prompt best matches this photo, which shows a boy writing on a piece of wood. The language in the prompt that supports this answer choice is “right now he is marking a line on it.” This language does not apply to any of the other photos.
	Option A is incorrect	This photo shows a boy using a tool to see if a piece of wood is level, or even. This does not correspond to the language in the listening prompt, which describes a boy marking a line on a piece of wood.
	Option B is incorrect	This photo shows a boy cutting a piece of wood with a saw. The language in the prompt describes an action that “will help him know exactly where to cut the wood.” It does not describe the action in this photo of the boy actively cutting the wood.
	Option D is incorrect	This photo shows a boy carefully inspecting a piece of wood. This does not correspond to the language in the listening prompt, which describes a boy marking a piece of wood.

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Item Position	Rationale	
22	Option D is correct	In this section of the video, Aunt Clare explains to Brandon that the asphalt in the pits “helped protect the remains from rain and heat.” This answer choice best matches Aunt Clare’s explanation of why the fossils are in such good condition.
	Option A is incorrect	There is no language in this section to support the idea that the size of the animals from the Ice Age is the reason why the fossils are so well preserved.
	Option B is incorrect	The language in this section does not include any information about how the tar pits and fossils were first discovered. There is no support here for the idea that the recency of the excavation explains why the fossils are in good condition.
	Option C is incorrect	The listener learns very little from this section about the size and shape of the tar pits, except that they must be deep enough to have covered the bodies of all those animals. There is no language indicating that the fossils were preserved well because of the pits’ shape and depth.

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Item Position	Rationale	
23	Option A is correct	In this section of the video, Aunt Clare’s words and actions strongly support the idea that she is excited to introduce Brandon to the museum and the fossils it holds. She calls it “a very special museum.” And when Brandon says it doesn’t sound special, she cheerfully replies, “Wait and see.” It is clear from this context that Aunt Clare is enthusiastic about taking her nephew to see the fossils at La Brea.
	Option B is incorrect	The language in this section does not support the idea that Aunt Clare is surprised by Brandon’s preference for going to the beach. Instead, she seems confident that he will find the fossils at the museum to be interesting and fun to learn about. “Wait and see,” she tells him.
	Option C is incorrect	Aunt Clare is described here as already having answers to Brandon’s reactions and questions. This would mean that she is not confused by his comments and questions. From the beginning, she gives him information and answers that spark his interest, and she seems well prepared to convince him that what he calls “a museum about asphalt” can actually be very interesting and educational.
	Option D is incorrect	In this part of the video, Brandon and his aunt have not yet entered the museum. This answer choice is not supported by the context here.

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Item Position	Rationale	
24	Option C is correct	This section of the video describes what Brandon and his aunt do after they enter the museum. They look at the giant sloth and woolly mammoth fossils, Brandon learns how sticky the asphalt is, and they see the area where workers clean the fossils. This answer choice best identifies the main topic of the section.
	Option A is incorrect	This section of the video includes a brief description of the fossil lab where Aunt Clare and other volunteers work at the museum. But this is just one of the sights Brandon sees as he tours the museum. It is a detail mentioned in this section, but it is not what the section is mostly about.
	Option B is incorrect	There is no language in this section of the video indicating which fossil display Brandon likes best. There is no support for this answer choice.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no information given in this section about which exhibits are the most popular with visitors. The section describes what Brandon and his Aunt Clare see and do while they are at the museum.

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Item Position	Rationale	
25	Option A is correct	In this section, Aunt Clare shows Project 23 to Brandon and explains that it is a collection of 23 crates holding newly discovered fossils for the scientists to study. Referring to the crates, she says, “It will take years to excavate and examine the fossils inside them.” This answer choice corresponds to her explanation of what Project 23 is.
	Option B is incorrect	It is true that the fossils from Project 23 were discovered during the construction of a parking garage nearby. But Aunt Clare tells Brandon that after workers built crates around the fossils, the workers “moved the crates here, to the museum.” It is clear, then, that Project 23 is not an area located under a parking garage.
	Option C is incorrect	When Aunt Clare shows Project 23 to Brandon, they have already visited the display that teaches visitors about the asphalt and how sticky it is. This answer choice is about an exhibit different from Project 23.
	Option D is incorrect	In this section of the video, Aunt Clare says, “Let’s look outside” before leading Brandon to Project 23. This shows that Project 23 is not in the museum and provides support to determine this answer choice as incorrect.

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Item Position	Rationale	
26	Option B is correct	Originally, Brandon wanted to go to the beach for the day. However, from Brandon’s statement, the listener can tell that he has become very interested in seeing and learning more about the museum and its fossils. It is clear that he has changed his mind and now wants to spend the rest of the day at the museum instead of going to the beach.
	Option A is incorrect	Brandon’s statement expresses his desire to see other exhibits that he has not yet visited. It does not tell the listener anything about what Brandon finds most interesting at the museum.
	Option C is incorrect	Brandon’s statement is in response to Aunt Clare saying, “If you want, I think we have time to go to the beach now.” This shows that he would rather stay at the museum to see the rest of the exhibits than go to the beach. There is no language to support the idea that the museum is closing soon or that Brandon is concerned about that.
	Option D is incorrect	In this statement, Brandon is expressing that he wants to know more about what the museum holds, not that he already knows more than most visitors. His words make it clear that he is now finding his time at the museum to be more interesting and worthwhile as he learns more about what is there.

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Item Position	Rationale
27	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>Many of the animal fossils are from extinct animals, including Woolly Mammoths, Saber Tooth Cats and Giant Sloths. The fossils were formed when animals fell into asphalt or tar pits and got trapped as the tar covered them slowly. And when the animals died, the tar preserved and protected the remains of the animals, eventually becoming fossils. Three things that the visitors will be able to do is watch workers uncover fossils that are still covered in tar. They could try to get a metal rod out of tar, or they could look at the fossils of extinct animals.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale
28	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>If I was my teacher for a day, I would teach dividing fractions and Science, mostly. The rules I would have in my class would be no candy, no yelling, and that only one person can talk at a time. And if they don't listen to those rules, they would have to owe the entire recess because those are very important rules to me. And if they don't use appropriate hand-signals, well guess what, they won't be able to go do what they have to do. They have to use the right signals to do it. And if those kids don't listen to me, they will have to owe a lot of minutes in recess. Another rule is that if I catch anybody talking to their friends, they will have to get moved right away no matter what, no warning. And my favorite part of the day would be everything I get to tell the kids to do because I like being in charge and being a good role model. Sometimes. It depends.</p>

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Item Position	Rationale	
29	The student selects the pedestrian crossing sign and the duck crossing sign.	The description in the listening prompt corresponds to only the pedestrian crosswalk and duck crossing signs. The phrase “contain no letters or numbers” describes these two road signs and does not apply to any of the other signs shown.

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Item Position	Rationale	
30	Option B is correct	The description in the listening prompt best matches this photo, which shows a man, woman, and two children putting a suitcase and pool toys into the back of a car that is full. The prompt uses the phrase “a long day of fun,” which corresponds to the pool toys shown in this photo. The phrase “a lot of luggage and gear to cram into the back of the car” and the sentence “The kids hope that everything will fit” both correspond to how full the back of the car is in this photo.
	Option A is incorrect	This photo shows a man and a woman outside a home getting ready to put suitcases and a bike into the back of a car that is empty. The listening prompt includes the phrases “after a long day of fun” and “time to pack up the car and head home,” which do not correspond to this photo. It also says, “The kids hope that everything will fit,” and this photo does not show any children.
	Option C is incorrect	This picture shows a girl and her dog sitting comfortably in the back of a car that has already been packed. It does not match the listening prompt, which describes a family packing their car and hoping that they can get everything inside.
	Option D is incorrect	This photo shows a family outside a home getting ready to put some suitcases into the back of an empty truck with plenty of room. It does not correspond to the listening prompt, which says, “time to pack up the car and head home” and “The kids hope that everything will fit.”

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Item Position	Rationale	
31	Option B is correct	This section of the video describes Samantha changing her mind and deciding not to knock on the guest room door, because "Uncle Jesse was probably very tired from his flight back from France." Samantha does not want to disturb her uncle's sleep so early in the morning.
	Option A is incorrect	This section of the video indicates that Samantha wanted to sleep in, but her cat woke her up. This, however, is not the reason she decides not to knock on Uncle Jesse's door. These two things are unrelated.
	Option C is incorrect	There is no language in this section of the video to support the idea that Samantha must make breakfast for everyone.
	Option D is incorrect	In this section of the video, Samantha thinks that "Uncle Jesse was probably very tired from his flight back from France." This shows that she knows that Uncle Jesse is there. She does not knock on the door because she doesn't want to wake him. This answer choice is not supported by the context of the video.

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Item Position	Rationale	
32	Option A is correct	The language in this section of the video describes the mess that Harley made when he “jumped on the counter” and then “ran to the window, toppling a glass of water and the box of mix.” This caused the box to land “in a puddle of water on the counter.” This provides the context to show that Harley caused problems by making a big mess.
	Option B is incorrect	In this section, Samantha is already awake and in the kitchen. This answer choice is not supported by the context of the video.
	Option C is incorrect	Samantha feeds Harley early in this section of the video, before she tries to make pancakes and before Harley causes any problems. This answer choice is not supported by the context of the video.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no evidence in the video that points to Harley causing a problem by making noise that might wake up Uncle Jesse. This answer choice is not supported by the language in this section of the video.

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale	
33	Option D is correct	This section of the video states, "Suddenly, Harley jumped on the counter. He was staring at a bird outside." This text provides clear support for this answer choice.
	Option A is incorrect	Nothing is said in this part of the video to support the idea that Harley gets on the counter so that Samantha will feed him more food. Instead, the video makes it clear that Harley is interested in a bird outside.
	Option B is incorrect	This answer choice is not supported by the language in this section of the video. Harley is paying attention to the bird outside, not to Samantha and the box of pancake mix.
	Option C is incorrect	The events outlined in this part of the video tell that the "puddle of water" results from Harley "toppling a glass of water" when he jumps up and runs to the window. He does not get on the counter to drink from the puddle. He causes the puddle after he jumps on the counter.

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale	
34	Option C is correct	As soon as Uncle Jesse sees Samantha’s pancake batter, he says, “Yum! Crepes!” and “this batter looks absolutely perfect!” This gives Samantha a reason to feel good about the batter, and she is no longer disappointed. She goes on to enjoy making crepes with her uncle.
	Option A is incorrect	There is no suggestion in this section that Uncle Jesse invites Samantha to go out for breakfast at a restaurant. The two go on to make crepes for breakfast at home.
	Option B is incorrect	It is clear from Uncle Jesse’s own words that he cooks the crepes. He tells Samantha how he will “melt some butter,” “pour in some of this batter,” and when it is ready, “flip the crepe” while she makes a wish. Samantha does not do the cooking herself.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no language in this section of the video to support this answer choice. Uncle Jesse does not talk about cooking school at all.

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale
35	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>What I did, something nice for another person, was for my parents. My parents were busy, had a lot of stuff, a lot of plates, pans, spoons, stuff in the dishwasher. They needed to put it up, but they were, like, too tired to do it. So, I put them in the cabinet where we are supposed to. Why I did that? Because that was the kind thing to do, and I want my parents to be happy and I want them to be relaxed. My parents said, "You're so good. You're the best." So, how I felt was like happy that I made my parents happy, so when I do something nice for anybody, I feel happy, so the other person is feeling nice as well. So, we had some fun watching a movie after that.</p>

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale
36	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 4-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the grades 4-5 speaking scoring guide available on the TELPAS Released Test Questions webpage.</p> <p>First picture shows a man painting a house with a long stick, and it is daytime. The second picture shows two workers painting a building with a paint brush, and they are hanging from a string, and the man on the left has two buckets on his waist while the man on the right has one bucket on his waist. The two pictures are pretty similar because they are both painting with paint. The two pictures are pretty different because the second picture has two people while the first picture has one. In the first picture, the guy is using a long stick while the second picture the man are using paint brushes. And for the second picture, the man are hanging down the building, while the first picture, the guy is painting from the floor and he is not hanging from anything.</p>

TELPAS Spring 2025 Grades 4–5 Listening and Speaking Rationales

Item Position	Rationale
37	<p>The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 2-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the TELPAS Two-Point Speaking Rubric on the TELPAS Resources webpage.</p> <p>The question the teacher is probably asking the students is how many bones are in their hands or fingers because he is holding a skeleton, which demonstrates the bones in the human body, and all of the kids look like they are counting their fingers or like trying to see how many bones they have. That's the question that they are probably asking based on the information from the picture.</p>