

Local Assessment Item Bank

Reading

Grade 2

Literary Text Assessment 7

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

This assessment is designed to provide information about reading comprehension skills. It contains a reading passage with multiple choice, short answer, and constructed response items. Read the passage and then mark the bubble with the correct answer on the multiple choice items. Write responses to the short answer and constructed response items in the box provided.

Refer back to the passage as necessary. You may mark up the passage in any way that is helpful in answering the items.

Read this story about a giant. Then answer the questions.

The Unhappy Giant

Kate Williams

Once upon a time there was an unhappy giant. The other giants roamed around the countryside, pulling trees out of the ground and throwing huge rocks at each other for fun. The unhappy giant just stayed in his cave, crying.

The other giants did not notice. But one day a bird flew into the cave. She was seeking shelter from the rain.

“Why are you crying?” she asked the giant.

“Because I hate being so big,” said the giant. “I’m always hungry. When I go looking for food, people scream and run away. The other giants are boring. All they want to do is make a big mess. I wish I could be small, like you!”

“Well,” said the bird, “my best friend is a wizard. Maybe he can help you. Follow me.”

The bird led the giant to a beautiful forest. There, sitting under an oak tree, was a wizard. The rain had soaked the wizard’s long gray beard and blue robe. He was drawing something in the mud with a stick. He looked cross.

“Excuse me,” said the giant.

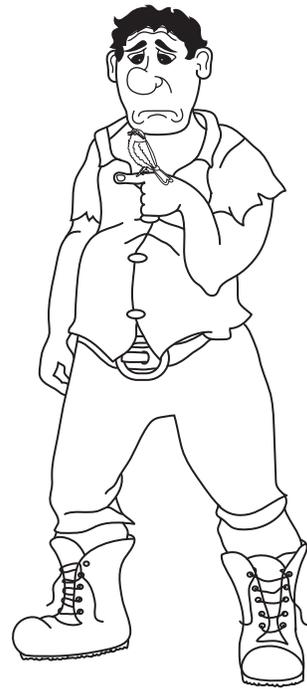
“I’m busy doing a spell,” said the wizard.

“Well, when you finish, can you please make my wish come true?”

The wizard waved his stick in the air. Suddenly, the rain stopped falling. The sun came out. The wizard’s cloak and beard were dry.

The wizard looked up at the giant. “I suppose you want to be even bigger and stronger,” he said. “I bet you want to be able to make an ocean with your tears. I bet you want to knock over a mountain when you sneeze.”

“Actually, no,” replied the giant. “I want to be smaller. I want to eat a few berries for dinner instead of a whole cow. I want to be able to go



places without scaring everyone. I want my voice to be quiet and gentle instead of loud like thunder.”

“Hmmm,” said the wizard. He looked around and saw the little bird sitting on a bush.

He whispered something. It sounded like, “Ibbety doo, ibbety dee.”

Suddenly, the giant felt very strange. He felt like a balloon that was losing its air. He looked down at the ground. It was a lot closer than it used to be! His body was covered with feathers. He looked down at his feet. They had claws instead of shoes. He opened his mouth.

“Cheep, cheep!” he said.

He had turned into a bird. He raised his wings and tried to fly, but he fell over.

“No, like this!” said the bird that had brought him there.

Soon, *two* birds were flying through the forest. They were singing and swooping as the wizard watched them go.

1 Which word has the **same** ending sound as his?

- Ⓐ sneeze
- Ⓑ rocks
- Ⓒ cross
- Ⓓ wish

2

The other giants roamed around the countryside...

In the first paragraph, what is the meaning of the word roamed?

- Ⓐ swam
- Ⓑ looked
- Ⓒ farmed
- Ⓓ traveled

3 Which word means the **same** as wish?

- Ⓐ fear
- Ⓑ hope
- Ⓒ word
- Ⓓ spell

4 What is one thing that the other giants do for fun?

- Ⓐ pop balloons
- Ⓑ play hide and seek
- Ⓒ throw rocks
- Ⓓ change the weather

5 The unhappy giant is in two different places in this story. What are the two places?

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6 What does the wizard do **before** he waves his stick in the air?

- Ⓐ He makes the sun come out.
- Ⓑ He draws in the mud.
- Ⓒ He whispers something.
- Ⓓ He makes an ocean.

7 How does the giant **most** likely feel at the end of the story? Use details from the story.

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8 Which words **best** describe the wizard?

- Ⓐ friendly but sneaky
- Ⓑ wise but lazy
- Ⓒ gentle but strong
- Ⓓ cross but kind

- 10** What problem was making the wizard grumpy?
- Ⓐ His spells had stopped working.
 - Ⓑ Some giants had messed up his home.
 - Ⓒ He wanted to be big like a giant.
 - Ⓓ The rain was bothering him.

- 11** Why does the bird fly into the cave?
- Ⓐ She wants to get out of the rain.
 - Ⓑ She is looking for the unhappy giant.
 - Ⓒ She is looking for the wizard.
 - Ⓓ She is escaping the other giants.

- 12** The wizard whispers “Ibbety doo, ibbety dee” to
- Ⓐ stop the rain.
 - Ⓑ make the giant small.
 - Ⓒ make himself stronger.
 - Ⓓ change the bird’s size.

- 13** What happens when the wizard waves his stick in the air?
- Ⓐ A beautiful forest appears.
 - Ⓑ He knocks over a mountain.
 - Ⓒ The rain stops and he gets dry.
 - Ⓓ A bird appears and sits on a bush.

- 14** When the wizard casts his spell, the giant turns into a
- Ⓐ monster.
 - Ⓑ balloon.
 - Ⓒ bird.
 - Ⓓ wizard.

- 15** What happens **last** in the story?
- Ⓐ The giant feels very strange.
 - Ⓑ The wizard sees the bird on a bush.
 - Ⓒ The wizard gets dry.
 - Ⓓ The two birds fly away.