

## Grade Six Sample Test Item—Reading

### Achievement Level: Standard Met

This question is based on the passage, “An Elephant’s “aha!” Moment,” printed above. The question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

#### Part A

What is **most likely** the author’s intent by mentioning that “the other elephants didn’t make the same connection” at the end of the third-to-last paragraph?

- A. to suggest that all elephants might not be smart
- B. to suggest that other elephants should not have been included in the experiment
- C. to persuade readers that further research on elephants would be a waste of time
- D. to emphasize that research has not proven that all elephants are able to solve problems using insight

#### Part B

Which sentence from the text **best** supports your answer in part A?

- A. “On the other hand, some scientists say elephants’ brains have different strengths.”
- B. “Scientists recently watched Kandula solve a problem in a way never before seen in elephants.”
- C. “In the seventh try, Kandula seemed to have been struck by the right idea and used insight to solve the puzzle.”
- D. “Reis, who teaches psychology at Hunter College in New York, told Science News that maybe it’s time to think differently about how elephants solve problems.”

#### Area

#### Reading

Demonstrating understanding of literary and nonfiction texts

#### Standard(s)

Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text (e.g., through examples or anecdotes).

#### Answer

Part A: Answer D  
Part B: Answer D

Note: Students must correctly answer both Part A and Part B in order to receive the point. There is no partial credit for answering just one part correctly.