

Grade Three Sample Test Item—Reading

Achievement Level: Standard Exceeded

This question is based on the poem, “Waiting for Change,” on pages 11 and 12. The question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

Part A

Click on the sentence that **best** explains what the use of the character’s actions shows about the relationship between the speaker and the events in the poem.

- A. The events change the speaker.
- B. The events follow a mistake made by the speaker.
- C. The events would have happened without the speaker.
- D. The events happen because of the actions of the speaker.

Part B

Click on the line from the poem that **best** illustrates the relationship made in part A.

this seed is the beginning of something grand.
I push the seed into the soil.
Later I scrub my hands and nails,
I look at the corner of the garden
but to my eye nothing has changed.
Light rain begins to fall as I drift off to sleep,
the seed begins to sprout! The plant rises above the
earth,

Area	Reading Demonstrating understanding of literary and nonfiction texts
Standard(s)	Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
Answer	Part A: D Part B: The line, “I push the seed into the soil.”