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So now what??

Inspect it!

Examine the test for important details such as:

- Font type (Verdana, just like the real STAAR)
- Test format, designed to look like the real exam
- High Cognitive Complexity of items
- Different item types (multiple choice, gridded response, etc.)
- Alignment to the latest TEKS
- STAAR Readiness and Supporting Standards identified
- Process Skills identified



THEN ...

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- Administrators!
- Principals!
- Curriculum Directors!
- Assessment Coordinators!
- Pets! (not really :)

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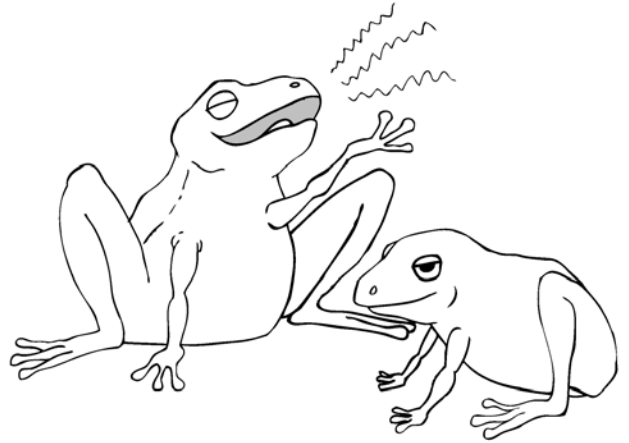
Jon Smith, Sales: jsmith@progresstesting.com
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Read "The Climb to Success" before answering the questions that follow.

The Climb To Success

by L. Lee Smith

1 Once upon a time, there was a big tree frog who bragged that he could climb higher than any other frog. He croaked loudly that he was the best all day and night long. The other tree frogs in the forest did not like the big boastful frog. They organized a climbing contest to see who was the best. The goal was to reach the top of the tallest tree in the forest.



2 A large crowd had gathered around the tree to watch the contest. No one in the crowd could believe that the frogs would climb so high. It was whispered that there was an owl's nest at the top of the tree. If the mother owl heard the frogs, she might catch them and feed them to her young. The crowd told the contestants, "It is too dangerous. The climb is too difficult. You mustn't try."

3 Five tree frogs entered the race. They were all large, except for one who was much smaller than the rest. The race began, and the big braggart frog took the lead. He was climbing higher and faster than the rest. As he climbed, he croaked, "I'm the best and no one can catch me!"

4 The other frogs continued to climb. They heard the braggart croaking above them. They heard the crowd below telling them to stop. Three of the frogs quit. The pressure was too great. They made their way back down the tree to safety. They warned the little frog that she should quit, too.

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5 The little frog kept climbing though she was far behind. The crowd yelled "Stop. The leader is too far ahead. You'll never win." But the little frog kept going.

6 The big boastful frog turned to laugh at the little frog. He was near the top and about to win. He croaked loudly to the little frog, "I'm the best climber there is. You can't beat me so stop trying."

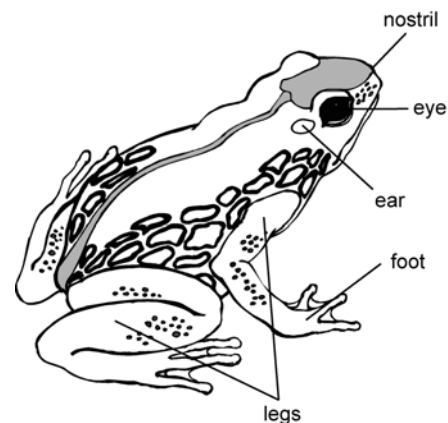
7 A mother owl heard a frog croaking loudly near her nest. She swooped down and caught the boastful frog in her claws. She smiled and flew back to her nest with dinner for her young.

8 Many in the crowd below said, "Serves him right. He was such a boastful frog. His loud croaking got him in trouble."

9 Others in the crowd shouted at the only contestant left. "Stop at once, they told the little frog. The owl will get you. You cannot succeed."

10 But the little frog kept going, silently climbing to the top of the tree. When she reached the top, she didn't stop to gloat or croak loudly. She turned around and climbed back down the very tall tree. When she got to the bottom, the crowd surrounded her. They asked her how such a little frog could climb so high. She didn't answer. They asked her again how she found the strength to reach her goal. Still she didn't respond.

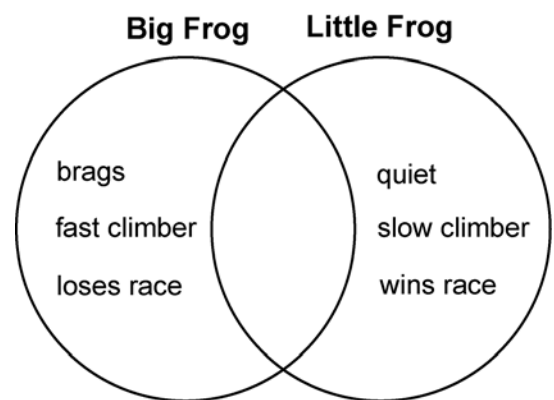
11 Finally, one of the little frog's cousins emerged from the crowd. He was laughing and said, "Don't waste your breath. The little frog is deaf. Luckily, she hasn't heard a word you've said all day!"



Use "The Climb to Success" to answer questions 1-5.

- 1 What probably would have happened if the little frog had heard the crowd?
- A She probably would have been caught by the mother owl.
 - B She probably would have climbed faster.
 - C She probably would not have kept climbing.
 - D She probably would have gotten eaten by the big frog.
- 2 What does the word gathered mean in paragraph 2?
- F Drew cloth into small folds
 - G Collected in one place
 - H Concluded or inferred
 - J Harvested or picked
- 3 Why did the author include the picture next to paragraphs 1 and 2?
- A To show readers that the big frog is a talented singer
 - B To show readers the difference between the little frog and the big frog
 - C To show readers that the little frog and the big frog are friends
 - D To show readers how similar in size the frogs are to each other

- 4 Using the picture next to paragraph 6, which body part is probably the most responsible for the small tree frog climbing to the top of the tree?
- F Legs
 - G Ears
 - H Nostrils
 - J Eyes
- 5 Look at the diagram of information from the selection.



Which of the following belongs in the part of the circles that overlap?

- A Afraid of the owl
- B Live in the tree
- C Enter the race
- D Cannot hear



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Item Number	Reporting Category	Readiness or Supporting	Content Student Expectation	Correct Answer
READING Selection 1				
1	2	Readiness	3.8 Fig.19 (D)	C
2	1	Readiness	3.4 (B)	G
3	2	Supporting	3.16 Fig.19 (D)	B
4	2	Supporting	3.16 Fig.19 (D)	F
5	2	Readiness	3.8 (B)	C

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