

# Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program

# TCAP

## English Language Arts Grade 3 Item Release



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**Passage Information**

Passage Code: TN938982	Passage Title:	
Reporting Category:	Grade Level: 3	
Lexile Level: 0	Flesch-Kincaid: 0	
Passage Accnum 1: VR013066	Passage Accnum 2:	

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**Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. Make sure you answer all of the questions. Mark your answers in your test booklet.**

## Excerpt from “Hike”

by Susan Yoder Ackerman

- 1 We have the best kid job in the world, my brother Axel and I — playing with puppies. All through the sunny Alaska summer, that’s what we do.
- 2 Our family raises sled dogs. In the winter Mom and Dad take people mushing. That’s driving over the snow in a dog sled, and it’s super fun! But I like the summer even more. That’s when Bella has her pups.
- 3 Sled dogs are a mix of different breeds. Before the puppies are born, we never know exactly how they will look. But we do know they will grow up to be strong dogs who love to run. That’s what it means to be a sled dog.
- 4 When the pups were born, I was so excited. Axel was nice; he said, “Zoey, you pick first.”
- 5 That’s when I saw my favorite — little Jip. His tiny nose was black in a white face. His ears and head were black too. It looked like he was wearing a hood to keep him warm in the snow — a perfect dog for northern winters!
- 6 Axel chose one that was light brown all over. He called her Sunshine. Bella didn’t mind that we picked up her puppies and played with them. After all, the dogs and the people in this family are all part of the same pack. We see it that way, and so do the dogs.
- 7 Every chance I had, I cuddled little Jip in my arms. I kissed his nose and scratched his ears. I wrapped him in a T-shirt and carried him around. I rubbed his back and played with the little pads on his feet. I let his warm, wet tongue lick my fingers.
- 8 Axel did the same with Sunshine — and not just because it’s fun to play with puppies. Getting them used to human touch makes a good sled dog, Dad says.
- 9 When Jip was eight weeks old and still just a roly-poly ball of fur, he got his first collar and his first job. It wasn’t much of a job. All he had to do was toddle around for a few minutes every day with a light leash dragging behind him. Of

course, he wanted to turn around and bite it and play with it! That's a puppy for you! But he was getting used to the feel of something behind him.

10 When he was ten weeks old, I started teaching Jip to come when he was called. It was also time to try out a puppy-sized harness around his body. The harness can be a little heavy, so we left it on for just a short time each day to let him get used to it. Jip didn't mind. It seemed like another game to him.

11 Later, I put Jip's harness on him at mealtime. I tied it to a heavy chair. I placed his food bowl just far enough away that when he ate, he pulled the line tight.

12 Even though it would be so many months before he pulled a sled, Jip was getting the feel of a harness tight across the chest.

13 The pups grew fast! When they were four months old, we tied our old shoes to their harnesses. They ran ahead of us, dragging the light weights. Sunshine was a little afraid, so Axel had to take it slow. But Jip loved it.

14 Axel and I worked together. Some days he'd run ahead of Jip, while I ran behind. When I yelled "Whoa!" Axel would stop and I'd jump on the shoe Jip was dragging. Then I'd praise my puppy for stopping. After we caught our breath, I'd yell "Hike," and we'd all start running again. Other days I'd run ahead, with Axel following Sunshine, teaching her the commands for stop and go.

15 Like wolves, sled dogs have a strong instinct to chase anything that's moving. And that includes chipmunks, mice, and squirrels! We started teaching the command "On by!" That means leave the rabbit alone! A sled dog must ignore distractions and stay on the trail.

16 Soon the short summer was over. The first snowstorm buried the world in white. The pups were so happy! They are made for snow and ice.

Excerpt from "Hike" by Susan Ackerman, from *Click Magazine*, Jan 2015. Copyright © 2015, Carus Publishing Company. Used by permission of Cricket Media Inc. via Copyright Clearance Center.

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**Item Information**

Item Code:	TN156596	Position No:	1	Grade Level:	3
Standard Code:	3.RI.KID.3	Item Accnum:	VR013692		
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:				
Passage Code 1:	TN938982	Passage Code 2:			
Standard Text:	Describe the relationship between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect.				
Reporting Category:	2: Reading: Informational Text				
Correct Answer:	B	DOK Level:	2	Item Type:	O

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Which happens **first** in the text?

- A.** Zoey picks Jip to train.
- B.** Bella has her puppies.
- C.** Jip gets his first collar.
- D.** Axel and Zoey teach command words.

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN856571	Position No: 2	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.FL.VA.7a.i	Item Accnum: VR014618	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN938982	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.		
Reporting Category: 3: Reading: Vocabulary		
Correct Answer: D,B	DOK Level: 2	Item Type: O

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The following item has two parts. Answer Part A and then answer Part B.

**Part A**

What does distractions mean as it is used in paragraph 15?

- A.** rocks on the trail
- B.** commands for “stop” and “go”
- C.** praise from humans
- D.** things that are not important

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage supports the correct answer to Part A?

- A.** “Then I’d praise my puppy for stopping.” (paragraph 14)
- B.** “Like wolves, sled dogs have a strong instinct to chase anything that’s moving.” (paragraph 15)
- C.** “We started teaching the command ‘On by!’” (paragraph 15)
- D.** “The first snowstorm buried the world in white.” (paragraph 16)

**Item Information**

Item Code: TN256626	Position No: 3	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.RI.KID.2	Item Accnum: VR013694	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN938982	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.		
Reporting Category: 2: Reading: Informational Text		
Correct Answer: D,F,C	DOK Level: 3	Item Type: O

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The following item has two parts. Answer Part A and then answer Part B.

**Part A**

What are **two** actions Zoey does to help the puppies learn how to be good sled dogs?

- A.** explains the work that sled dogs do
- B.** tells Jip he is fast
- C.** names animals that sled dogs like to chase
- D.** teaches Jip to come when he is called
- E.** tells the reader about Alaska
- F.** takes care of Bella’s puppies to get them used to human touch

**Part B**

What message can be learned from the answers to Part A?

- A.** It is easy for people to train sled dogs.
- B.** Old dogs cannot be trained to be sled dogs.
- C.** Sled dogs need people to train them.
- D.** Sled dogs work quickly.

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN056646	Position No: 4	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.RI.KID.2	Item Accnum: VR014650	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN938982	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.		
Reporting Category: 2: Reading: Informational Text		
Correct Answer: C,E	DOK Level: 2	Item Type: O

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Select **two** central ideas from the text.

- A.** Sled dogs can be trained by adults.
- B.** People in Alaska often train dogs in the winter.
- C.** Sled dogs go through many steps when training as puppies.
- D.** Mother dogs train puppies.
- E.** Training sled dogs can be fun.

**Passage Information**

Passage Code: TN699057	Passage Title:
Reporting Category:	Grade Level: 3
Lexile Level: 0	Flesch-Kincaid: 0
Passage Accnum 1: VR013065	Passage Accnum 2:

**Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. Make sure you answer all of the questions. Mark your answers in your test booklet.**

## Doodlebug & Dandelion: Pinwheel Charles

by Pamela Dell

- 1        "A package from Borneo!"<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Pinkley announced with a wide smile. "For you two."
- 2        Doodlebug and Dandelion came hurrying to see what they had gotten this time. Every year, to celebrate National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day on April 2, Aunt Pearl sent wonderful, exotic gifts from her adopted homeland.
- 3        "I hope she sent me one of those feathered warrior headdresses!" Doodlebug exclaimed, tearing into the package.
- 4        "Read Aunt Pearl's note first," Mrs. Pinkley said, "*before* opening your gifts."
- 5        Impatiently, Dandelion began reading aloud: "Dearest Niece and Nephew, I know you two prefer filbert<sup>2</sup> butter sandwiches to peanut butter, but you know me! The one thing I really miss here on the world's third-largest island is National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day — and those scrumptious sandwiches. So celebrate for me! Niece, a shawl for you. And for you, Nephew, something a little different."
- 6        Dandelion looked up at Doodlebug.
- 7        "What?" he said. He did not like the sound of this.
- 8        "I've had figurines made of Charles," Dandelion continued, giggling.
- 9        Doodlebug groaned. Charles was Aunt Pearl's pet — a bearded pig.
- 10       "They are just delightful, and I knew you would want one for your very own. Enjoy, darlings! Until I see you next, your PB & J-loving Aunt Pearl."
- 11       Putting the letter aside, Dandelion unwrapped her new shawl. It was a rich gold color with zigzag bands of other colors and fringed ends. "Hey, I really like this!"

<sup>1</sup> **Borneo:** the third-largest island in the world, located in Asia

<sup>2</sup> **filbert:** a nut used in desserts and baking



she said, trying it on.

12 Frowning, Doodlebug pulled his own present out of a small box. It was Charles, all right. The figurine was standing on its hind legs, though. And it was wearing a beanie with a big pinwheel on top.

13 Doodlebug read the little note Aunt Pearl had enclosed. "Put him by your window and on breezy days when his pinwheel spins, he'll snort like the dickens!"

14 Dandelion and Mrs. Pinkley laughed uproariously, but Doodlebug did not find it funny at all.

15 "Who wants a snorting-pig statue?" he moaned. "Wanna trade, Dandelion?"

16 "No way!" Dandelion was still laughing.

17 "Well!" Mrs. Pinkley said. "What fun! Now you two put on your manners and go write thank-you notes. I'll mail them as soon as you're finished." With that, she went off to practice her bongo drums.

18 "What am I supposed to do with an overweight oinker in a beanie?" Doodlebug fumed. "How can I write a thank--you note for something I don't even want?"

19 Dandelion shrugged as she headed upstairs. "Good luck!"

20 Three days later, Doodlebug still hadn't started his thank-you note. His mother was not pleased. Until he finished that chore, she told him, he was not allowed out of his room. Dandelion was there trying to coach him when Boggington Bogsworth the Third walked in.

21 "Yo, people!" Bog said. "What's up?"

22 Doodlebug had no time to answer before Bog spied Pinwheel Charles. Doodlebug had tossed the figurine into his junk box, which was full of old toys.

23 "Hey, this is crazy cool!" Bog said, picking Charles out of the box. "If you don't want it, I'll take it."

24 Doodlebug looked surprised. "You like that thing?" he said.

25 "It's killer," Bog replied. "I already know what I'm going to do with it!"

26 Doodlebug watched Bog admiring his newfound treasure, "Sorry, Bog", he said finally. "I like it too much to give it away."

27 "Doodlebug!" Dandelion said.

28 "I do!" Doodlebug insisted, glaring at her.

29 "You only like it now because Bog thinks it's neat."

30 Doodlebug stubbornly refused to answer.

31 "Here's what I'm thinking," Bog spoke up. "If you don't have any better ideas, let's nail the ol' bearded pig to the front of the Boggington Flyer and take it for a spin!" The Flyer was Bog's eggplant purple go-cart.

32 "Really?" Doodlebug looked more cheerful than he had in days. In his head, suddenly, the words of his thank-you note were forming. "O.K.! Let me just finish writing this."

33 As Bog and Dandelion waited, Doodlebug scribbled:

Dear Aunt Pearl,

Thank you for the crazy cool gift. I'm letting my friend Bog decorate his go-cart with it. We're going to take Charles on the ride of his life!

Love,

Doodlebug

34 Minutes later Dandelion cheered as Doodlebug and Bog cruised down a slope in the Boggington Flyer, whooping with joy in the high winds.

35 Pinwheel Charles snorted and spun madly, perfectly, exquisitely all the way downhill.

"Doodlebug & Dandelion: Pinwheel Charles" by Pamela Dell, from *Spider Magazine*, April 2009. Copyright © 2009 by Carus Publishing Company. Used by permission of Cricket Media Inc. via Copyright Clearance Center.

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN629094	Position No: 5	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.FL.VA.7a.ii	Item Accnum: VR013860	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN699057	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Determine the meaning of the new word formed when a known affix is added to a known word.		
Reporting Category: 3: Reading: Vocabulary		
Correct Answer: A	DOK Level: 2	Item Type: O

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**Read this sentence from the paragraph 3.**

**“I hope she sent me one of those feathered warrior headdresses!”**

Based on the meaning of the suffix **-ed**, what does the word feathered mean?

- A.** having feathers
- B.** like feathers
- C.** without feathers
- D.** needing feathers

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN056770	Position No: 6	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.RL.CS.6	Item Accnum: VR013691	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN699057	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Distinguish reader perspective from that of the narrator or the perspectives of the characters and identify the point of view of a text.		
Reporting Category: 1: Reading: Literature		
Correct Answer: A,C	DOK Level: 3	Item Type: O

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The following item has two parts. Answer Part A and then answer Part B.

**Part A**

What is Bog’s point of view toward the statue of Charles?

- A.** He thinks the statue is great.
- B.** He thinks the statue cannot be used.
- C.** He thinks the statue is poorly made.
- D.** He thinks the statue is not for him.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage **best** supports the correct answer to Part A?

- A.** “Put him by your window and on breezy days when his pinwheel spins, he’ll snort like the dickens!” (paragraph 13)
- B.** “Doodlebug had no time to answer before Bog spied Pinwheel Charles.” (paragraph 22)
- C.** “Doodlebug watched Bog admiring his newfound treasure.” (paragraph 26)
- D.** “Pinwheel Charles snorted and spun madly, perfectly, exquisitely all the way downhill.” (paragraph 35)

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN356713	Position No: 7	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.RL.KID.3	Item Accnum: VR014620	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1: TN699057	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Describe characters in a story and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.		
Reporting Category: 1: Reading: Literature		
Correct Answer: D	DOK Level: 2	Item Type: O

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In paragraph 33, what does the word scribbled show about Doodlebug?

- A.** He does not know how to write well.
- B.** He is drawing a bunch of circles.
- C.** He is painting with a paint brush.
- D.** He is writing very fast so he can go outside.

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**Item Information**

Item Code:	TN156778	Position No:	8	Grade Level:	3
Standard Code:	3.RL.KID.2	Item Accnum:	VR013693		
Passage Title 1:		Passage Title 2:			
Passage Code 1:	TN699057	Passage Code 2:			
Standard Text:	Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures; determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the text.				
Reporting Category:	1: Reading: Literature				
Correct Answer:	B,D	DOK Level:	3	Item Type:	O

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The following item has two parts. Answer Part A and then answer Part B.

**Part A**

What message does Doodlebug learn in the story?

- A.** Sisters are full of surprises.
- B.** Some items are worth more than what is first believed.
- C.** Having friends is important.
- D.** Unpleasant jobs should not be avoided.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage supports the correct answer to Part A?

- A.** "‘I hope she sent me one of those feathered warrior headdresses!’ Doodlebug exclaimed, tearing into the package." (paragraph 3)
- B.** "Charles was Aunt Pearl’s pet — a bearded pig." (paragraph 9)
- C.** "Three days later, Doodlebug still hadn’t started his thank-you note." (paragraph 20)
- D.** "‘Thank you for the crazy cool gift.’" (paragraph 33)

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN203213	Position No: 9	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.FL.SC.6I	Item Accnum: VR013766	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1:	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue.		
Reporting Category: 5: Conventions		
Correct Answer: D	DOK Level: 1	Item Type: O

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Which change, if any, is needed to the underlined text?

**"Before going outside," said the teacher, "please put on your coats."**

- A.** "Before going outside" said the teacher "please put on your coats."
- B.** "Before going outside, said the teacher, please put on your coats."
- C.** "Before going outside" said the teacher, please put on your coats.
- D.** No change

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**Item Information**

Item Code: TN354536	Position No: 10	Grade Level: 3
Standard Code: 3.FL.SC.6j	Item Accnum: VR013829	
Passage Title 1:	Passage Title 2:	
Passage Code 1:	Passage Code 2:	
Standard Text: Capitalize appropriate words in titles.		
Reporting Category: 5: Conventions		
Correct Answer: B	DOK Level: 1	Item Type: O

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Which change, if any, is needed to the underlined text?

**Maurice Sendak wrote a famous book called Where the Wild Things are.**

- A.** Where the wild things are
- B.** Where the Wild Things Are
- C.** Where The Wild Things Are
- D.** No change