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# ***New York State Testing Program***

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## **English Language Arts Test Reading/Writing**

Grade **6**

**2009 Practice Set**



31

Complete the chart below by naming two people who helped Ryan achieve his goal. Then describe how each person helped him. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Person Who Helped Ryan	How the Person Helped Ryan
Dennis Dascario, Ryan's dad.	Dennis helped Ryan by training with him. Dennis also hiked Mount Whitney with Ryan. When Ryan wanted to turn back, Dennis convinced and encouraged him to keep going. Without Dennis, Ryan wouldn't have made it to the top.
Sue Fenante, Ryan's aunt	Sue was the one who told Ryan about the hike in the first place, and explained to him that it was for good causes, like the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. Sue also invited him on a nine hour hike at Half-Dome Mountain in Yosemite National Park.

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What challenges did Ryan overcome to successfully climb Mount Whitney? Use details from the article to support your answer.

One challenge Ryan overcame was that his legs started to ache not long after he started hiking, but he and his dad stopped occasionally for five minute breaks along the trail. Another challenge he had to overcome was the thin mountain air, which made him lose his appetite. He kept eating though, because he didn't want to lose energy. Training was also a challenge, because nine-hour hikes and bike rides through hills aren't easy, and are very tiring. The last problem was that when he got tired on Mount Whitney, he wanted to turn back, but his father encouraged him not to.

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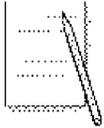
Describe what Natalya likes and what she dislikes about taking care of her animals. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Some things Natalya likes ~~about~~ the barn are that she feels happy and refreshed when she is done working in the barn. She says it's a place for her to work <sup>on</sup> ~~put~~ strength, and feel good about who she is and not who she could be. She even loves to see the 23 chickens, 15 chicks, one duck, and three ducklings! One thing she does not like about the barn is the chores. Sometimes she wants to just lie down and take a nap. But she likes the barn more than she dislikes it.

The main characters in "Climbin' Ryan" and "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" help other people in different ways. Would you prefer to help people the way Ryan does or the way Natalya does? Write an essay in which you explain which way you would prefer and why. Use details from both articles to support your answer.

In your essay, be sure to

- tell which way of helping people you prefer
- explain why you prefer that way of helping people over the other way
- include details from both articles to support your answer



Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

I really do love nature, whether it's helping up a mountain or raising animals in a barn, but I would ~~rather~~ do what Natalya in "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" does. I would rather use my money to help people all around the world than limit it just to America. I'd feel better to know that I'm helping cancer in America and somewhere else in the world. It makes me feel happier to help people all over the world, because I know I'm improving the lives of people everywhere, not just in America. Yes, it's good to care the sicknesses of Americans, like Ryan in "Climbin' Ryan," but how about trying to help the whole world instead? I would feel a lot more



31

Complete the chart below by naming two people who helped Ryan achieve his goal. Then describe how each person helped him. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Person Who Helped Ryan	How the Person Helped Ryan
Ryan Dusciano's father	Helped him continue up Mt. Whitney.
Sue Fenote	let him go on a nine hour training hike.

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What challenges did Ryan overcome to successfully climb Mount Whitney? Use details from the article to support your answer.

Some of the challenges that Ryan had to overcome were: He had to eat when not hungry, short breaks and thin air.

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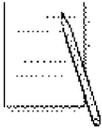
Describe what Natalya likes and what she dislikes about taking care of her animals. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Some of the things Natalya's likes are:  
helping people around the world, and caring  
for her chickens and duck. Some of  
Natalya's dislikes are: going to the  
barn after school, and doing chores.

The main characters in "Climbin' Ryan" and "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" help other people in different ways. Would you prefer to help people the way Ryan does or the way Natalya does? Write an essay in which you explain which way you would prefer and why. Use details from both articles to support your answer.

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If I could help people I would help like Ryan. The reason I would rather help like Ryan is because I don't like to sit home and take care of chickens and stuff. Also I think it is alot funer to climb a mounitian than sell eggs.

**31**

Complete the chart below by naming two people who helped Ryan achieve his goal. Then describe how each person helped him. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Person Who Helped Ryan	How the Person Helped Ryan
His dad	His dad helped him train, and walked with him and encouraged him to keep going.
His Aunt Sue	She invited Ryan to go on a nine-hour training hike at Half Dome Mt. in Yosemite National Park with her.

**32**

What challenges did Ryan overcome to successfully climb Mount Whitney? Use details from the article to support your answer.

Ryan overcame a lot of challenges. One of them was that he had to keep going without stopping (except for the occasional 5 min. breathers.) Another challenge was the air. The higher they went up, the thinner the air was. It made him lose his appetite, but he knew he had to eat to keep up his strength. Those were some of the challenges Ryan overcame.

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Describe what Natalya likes and what she dislikes about taking care of her animals. Use details from the article to support your answer.

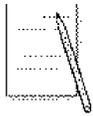
Natalya likes a lot of things about taking care of animals. One thing she likes is that she gets to do something she's good at, and she feels good and powerful. Another thing she likes is that after she goes to the barn, she feels refreshed and happier.

She also dislikes some things about taking care of animals. Some things she dislikes are having to go out to the barn everyday after school. Those are the things she likes and dislikes.

The main characters in "Climbin' Ryan" and "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" help other people in different ways. Would you prefer to help people the way Ryan does or the way Natalya does? Write an essay in which you explain which way you would prefer and why. Use details from both articles to support your answer.

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If I had to chose, I would chose Natalya's way for many different reasons. One of them is, in Ryan's way, you have to be athletic and in good health to be able to do it. Almost anyone can do Natalya's way. Another reason is that, in Natalya's way, you can do it anytime. In Ryan's way, you have to wait for another event comes up before you can do it. Other reasons are that, in Ryan's way, you have to give the money to

the certain organization that is holding the event. In Natalya's way, you can give the money to any organisation you want. These are some reasons why I like Natalya's way of fundraising, better than Ryan's.

31

Complete the chart below by naming two people who helped Ryan achieve his goal. Then describe how each person helped him. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Person Who Helped Ryan	How the Person Helped Ryan
his dad Aunt Sue	the way they helped him was to teach him how to climb

32

What challenges did Ryan overcome to successfully climb Mount Whitney? Use details from the article to support your answer.

The challenges that  
he overcome was  
climbing mount Whitney  
for 13 mile

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Describe what Natalya likes and what she dislikes about taking care of her animals.

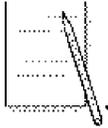
Use details from the article to support your answer.

The STUFF she likes to do is send the money to the people that don't have any. The STUFF she dislikes about her animals is when she has to care about them

The main characters in “Climbin’ Ryan” and “Natalya’s Happy Hugged Hens” help other people in different ways. Would you prefer to help people the way Ryan does or the way Natalya does? Write an essay in which you explain which way you would prefer and why. Use details from both articles to support your answer.

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I will prefer Natalya because she cares a lot about people and her animals.

**31**

Complete the chart below by naming two people who helped Ryan achieve his goal. Then describe how each person helped him. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Person Who Helped Ryan	How the Person Helped Ryan
Aunt Sue	She helped him train by letting Ryan go on the nine-hour training hike at the half dome.
Ryan's dad	When Ryan got tired and didn't want to climb the mountain any more his dad kept encouraging him to keep going.

32

What challenges did Ryan overcome to successfully climb Mount Whitney? Use details from the article to support your answer.

Ryan overcame lots of challenges. First of all, he overcame his training even though his legs were aching. Second of all, when he was climbing the mountain and got tired he kept going.

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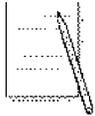
Describe what Natalya likes and what she dislikes about taking care of her animals. Use details from the article to support your answer.

Natalya likes and dislikes taking care of her animals. First of all, she loves seeing the hens, 15 new chicks and her three ducklings. Second of all, she doesn't like going straight to work. She wishes she could take a long nap after a long day of school.

The main characters in "Climbin' Ryan" and "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" help other people in different ways. Would you prefer to help people the way Ryan does or the way Natalya does? Write an essay in which you explain which way you would prefer and why. Use details from both articles to support your answer.

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Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

In "Climbin' Ryan" and "Natalya's Happy Hugged Hens" the main characters both help other people but in different ways. I would prefer helping people like Natalya did.

I would prefer selling eggs like Natalya and just donating the money to a good cause.

First of all, it's easy even though you have to constantly work.

Second of all, it's fun getting to see little baby chicks every day.

I would prefer Natalya's way instead of Rayn for many of reasons. First of all, I couldn't want to climb a mountain and have to wear really hot clothes. Second of all, I'm really afraid of heights and I would panic.



# 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE READING/WRITING

## PRACTICE SET ANSWER KEY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>cluster score points</b>	<b>cluster score</b>
<b>PS 1</b>	(0-5)	
<b>PS 2</b>	(0-5)	
<b>PS 3</b>	(0-5)	
<b>PS 4</b>	(0-5)	
<b>PS 5</b>	(0-5)	