



***New York State
Testing Program***

2026

**English Language Arts Test
Writing**

Grade 7

Scoring Leader Materials

Training Set



Note to Scorers

You may notice that some questions in these scoring materials appear with a bracketed credit value showing the respective number of credits. This is due to a style change that was recently field tested; therefore, not all items will have the bracketed credit value. An example of what the bracketed credit value looks like is provided below for your reference.

Example: Stem of the question. [2]

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2-Credit Constructed-Response Rubric

Score	Response Features
2 Credits	<p>The features of a 2-credit response are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valid inferences and/or claims from the text where required by the prompt • Evidence of analysis of the text where required by the prompt • Relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, and/or other information from the text to develop response according to the requirements of the prompt • Sufficient number of facts, definitions, concrete details, and/or other information from the text as required by the prompt • Complete sentences where errors do not impact readability
1 Credit	<p>The features of a 1-credit response are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mostly literal recounting of events or details from the text as required by the prompt • Some relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, and/or other information from the text to develop response according to the requirements of the prompt • Incomplete sentences or bullets
0 Credits*	<p>The features of a 0-credit response are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A response that does not address any of the requirements of the prompt or is totally inaccurate • A response that is not written in English • A response that is unintelligible or indecipherable

- If the prompt requires two texts and the student only references one text, the response can be scored no higher than a 1.

* Condition Code A is applied whenever a student who is present for a test session leaves an entire constructed-response question in that session completely blank (no response attempted).

New York State Grades 6–8 Writing Evaluation Rubric

CRITERIA	NGLS	SCORE				
		4 Essays at this level:	3 Essays at this level:	2 Essays at this level:	1 Essays at this level:	0* Essays at this level:
CONTENT AND ANALYSIS: the extent to which the essay conveys ideas and information clearly and accurately in order to support analysis of topics or text(s)	W.2 R.1–9	—clearly introduce a topic in a manner that is compelling and follows logically from the task and purpose —demonstrate insightful analysis of the text(s)	—clearly introduce a topic in a manner that follows from the task and purpose —demonstrate grade-appropriate analysis of the text(s)	—introduce a topic in a manner that follows generally from the task and purpose —demonstrate a literal comprehension of the text(s)	—introduce a topic in a manner that does not logically follow from the task and purpose —demonstrate little understanding of the text(s)	—demonstrate a lack of comprehension of the text(s) or task
COMMAND OF EVIDENCE: the extent to which the essay presents evidence from the provided text(s) to support analysis and reflection	W.2 R.1–8	—develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples from the text(s) —sustain the use of varied, relevant evidence	—develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information and examples from the text(s) —sustain the use of relevant evidence, with some lack of variety	—partially develop the topic of the essay with the use of some textual evidence, some of which may be irrelevant —use relevant evidence with inconsistency	—demonstrate an attempt to use evidence, but only develop ideas with minimal, occasional evidence which is generally invalid or irrelevant	—provide no evidence or provide evidence that is completely irrelevant
COHERENCE, ORGANIZATION, AND STYLE: the extent to which the essay logically organizes complex ideas, concepts, and information using formal style and precise language	W.2 L.3 L.6	—exhibit clear organization, with the skillful use of appropriate and varied transitions to create a unified whole and enhance meaning —establish and maintain a formal style, using grade-appropriate, stylistically sophisticated language and domain-specific vocabulary with a notable sense of voice —provide a concluding statement or section that is compelling and follows clearly from the topic and information presented	—exhibit clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole —establish and maintain a formal style using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary —provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the topic and information presented	—exhibit some attempt at organization, with inconsistent use of transitions —establish but fail to maintain a formal style, with inconsistent use of language and domain-specific vocabulary —provide a concluding statement or section that follows generally from the topic and information presented	—exhibit little attempt at organization, or attempts to organize are irrelevant to the task —lack a formal style, using language that is imprecise or inappropriate for the text(s) and task —provide a concluding statement or section that is illogical or unrelated to the topic and information presented	—exhibit no evidence of organization —use language that is predominantly incoherent or copied directly from the text(s) —do not provide a concluding statement or section
CONTROL OF CONVENTIONS: the extent to which the essay demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling	W.2 L.1 L.2	—demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with few errors	—demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension	—demonstrate emerging command of conventions, with some errors that may hinder comprehension	—demonstrate a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension	—are minimal, making assessment of conventions unreliable

- If the prompt requires two texts and the student only references one text, the response can be scored no higher than a 2.
- If the student writes only a personal response and makes no reference to the text(s), the response can be scored no higher than a 1.
- Responses totally unrelated to the topic, illegible, or incoherent should be given a 0.
- A response totally copied from the text(s) with no original student writing should be scored a 0.

* Condition Code A is applied whenever a student who is present for a test session leaves an entire constructed-response question in that session completely blank (no response attempted).

Alice, an experienced beekeeper, and her two younger brothers, Carl and Bob, have recently bought an apiary. An apiary is a place where beehives are kept and managed. Alice, Carl, and Bob are moving the bees from the winter hives to the summer hives.

Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*

by Frank Lillie Pollock

- 1 It was hard work. The cases were made of heavy lumber, and the boys had to carry them away and stack them up neatly. Even when the hives were out, the cases, with their sawdust packing, were as much as they cared to handle.
- 2 And this juggling with their homes naturally irritated the bees greatly. The summer hives, different in shape and color from the cases that they had been used to, did not look homelike to them. They failed to recognize them. They hung about uncertainly in the air; they tried to enter cases that had not yet been unpacked; and this caused fighting with the guards. Some of them followed the big red cases and tried to enter them again. They grew vicious and stung, so that the apiarists¹ had to put on their gloves. But by degrees a few began to recognize the odor of their old homes, and set up the peculiar whirr that acts as a call to the whole colony. They flocked down on the entrances in clouds, and stood with heads down and wings vibrating fast in the air—fanning, as beekeepers call it—which is their invariable way of expressing great joy. . . .
- 3 Both the boys had stiff muscles that morning, but they had planned to inspect the bees thoroughly that day, and determined to go through with it. It promised to be a fine day, and the bees were getting enough honey to make them good-tempered; so they could be handled easily.
- 4 “I’m going to show you whether I can’t handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees,” said Alice when they went out, and she stopped before the first hive in the row. She was wearing the usual black-fronted veil, but no gloves, and she pulled her sleeves high up on her wrists.
- 5 The colony was a strong one, with scores² of bees coming and going. Alice gently blew a little smoke across the entrance, driving in the guards; then she blew a stronger puff. A frightened roar arose within. Panic spread through the hive instantly, for smoke is the only thing that bees fear. Alice waited half a minute and then removed the cover and pulled off the canvas quilt.
- 6 A flood of bees surged up between the frames, but she drove them down with a puff of smoke before they could take wing. Another strong puff, and she set down the smoker, and with a screw-driver pried loose the outside frame, next to the hive wall. . . .

- 7 Alice set down the frame, after looking to see that the queen was not upon it, and took out another. This was similarly full of brood,³ with a narrow rim of honey along the top. All the rest of the ten frames showed much the same condition, except the one next to the other wall of the hive, half of which was filled with fresh pollen, and half with newly gathered honey. . . .
- 8 Carl had no need of gloves for the first colony he opened. Instead of a crowded mass of bees, only a little cluster showed between the two center combs. Lifting one of them out, he spied the queen at once, walking over a small patch of brood about three inches in diameter. There were bees enough to cover only one comb well, and they were all huddled in this central space, trying desperately to build up their colony. These were yellow bees, at least half-bred Italians. . . .
- 9 A moment later Alice uttered an exclamation from the hive she had just opened.
- 10 "Here's something wrong!". . .
- 11 And, indeed, when the combs were taken out one by one there was no sign of either eggs or brood. The queen must have perished in the winter. These bees were all old ones from the last season, and they had no possibility of rearing any young. In a little while longer they would all have died, and they were well aware of their desperate state. They were intensely nervous and fierce-tempered, yet their indomitable⁴ instinct for work had led them to keep gathering honey. As they had no brood to feed it to, and adult bees eat little, they had accumulated almost two combs full of fresh honey from the willows and maples.
- 12 "Unite them with that weak colony I found just now," Carl proposed.
- 13 "Just what I was going to do," Alice returned.
- 14 Carl uncovered the weak colony again, while Bob pried off the bottom from the queenless one. Alice blew a little smoke on both colonies, then Bob carefully lifted the queenless hive and set it on top of the other, making a hive in two stories, with two sets of combs.
- 15 At first there was a little disturbance as the bees from the two colonies mixed. Several bees rolled out at the entrance, fighting furiously. Then all was quiet; a contented hum arose within. Lifting a corner of the quilt cautiously, Carl saw the queenless bees standing head downward on their combs, fanning with joy at finding themselves attached to a normal family.

16 “Now those two together should build up and do something, and neither of them would have been any good alone,” said Alice, with satisfaction.

¹**apiarists:** people who work with bees

²**scores:** large amounts

³**brood:** young, offspring

⁴**indomitable:** strong, determined

GUIDE PAPER 1

28

What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

In "Excerpt from Wilderness Honey", the Narrator shows that Alice is persevering, and brave. The text shows this by stating in paragraph 5 that "Alice gently blew a little smoke across the entrance, driving in the guards" And stating in paragraph 4 that "I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees," These pieces of evidence show how brave and persevering Alice is by her working extremely hard on keeping the bees, and herself safe. It shows that she's brave by her showing no hesitation when having to blow the smoke, which may anger the bees and cause a reaction from them.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text "Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*" to explain what the narrator shows about Alice's personality.

- *Alice is persevering, and brave*

The response provides evidence of analysis.

- *These pieces of evidence show how brave and persevering Alice is by her working extremely hard on keeping the bees, and herself safe*
- *It shows that she's brave by her showing no hesitation when having to blow the smoke, which may anger the bees and cause a reaction from them*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *"Alice gently blew a little smoke across the entrance, driving in the guards"*
- *"I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees,"*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

28 What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

The narrator shows that Alice is bold but confident in her work. According to the text "'I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees,'" said Alice when they went out, and she stopped before the first hive in the row. She was wearing the usual black-fronted veil, but no gloves, and she pulled her sleeves high up on her wrists." This proves that Alice is bold because she knows that the bees could sting her but chooses to go gloveless anyway. The text also states "'Now those two together should build up and do something, and neither of them would have been any good alone,'" said Alice, with satisfaction." This shows that Alice is confident because she fully believes what she is saying with little doubt.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text "Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*" to explain what the narrator shows about Alice's personality.

- *Alice is bold but confident in her work*

The response provides evidence of analysis.

- *Alice is bold because she knows that the bees could sting her but chooses to go gloveless anyway*
- *Alice is confident because she fully believes what she is saying with little doubt*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *"'I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees,'" said Alice when they went out, and she stopped before the first hive in the row. She was wearing the usual black-fronted veil, but no gloves, and she pulled her sleeves high up on her wrists."*
- *"'Now those two together should build up and do something, and neither of them would have been any good alone,'" said Alice, with satisfaction."*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 3

28

What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

The narrator shows that Alice is a leader. for example the text states, "I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees," and "Now those two together should build up and do something, and neither of them would have been any good alone," said Alice, with satisfaction." clearly this shows that Alice is a leader because she is the main character.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text "Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*" to explain what the narrator shows about Alice's personality.

- *Alice is a leader*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- "I'm going to show you whether I can't handle these black bees as painlessly as Italian bees,"
- "Now those two together should build up and do something, and neither of them would have been any good alone," said Alice, with satisfaction."

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 4

28

What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

It shows that Alice is knowledgeable. For example she says "I was already planning to do. Therefore she knew what to do before she was told

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text "Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*" to explain what the narrator shows about Alice's personality.

- *Alice is knowledgeable*

The response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- " *I was already planning to do*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

28

What does the narrator show about Alice’s personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

Alices personality is nice .

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*” to explain what the narrator shows about Alice’s personality.

- *Alices personality is nice*

The response does not provide two relevant details from the text for support.

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 6

28

What does the narrator show about Alice’s personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

And, indeed, when the combs were taken out one by one there was no sign of either eggs or brood. The queen must have perished in the winter. These bees were all old ones from the last season, and they had no possibility of rearing any young. In a little while longer they would all have died, and they were well aware of their desperate state. They were intensely nervous and fierce-tempered, yet their indomitable⁴ instinct for work had led them to keep gathering honey. As they had no brood to feed it to, and adult bees eat little, they had accumulated almost two combs full of fresh honey from the willows and maples.

“Unite them with that weak colony I found just now,”

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- “*Unite them with that weak colony I found just now,*”

This response does not provide a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Wilderness Honey*” to explain what the narrator shows about Alice’s personality.

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 7

28

What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

The narrator shows Alice's personality by showing how she feels and by showing her perspective and showing why she feels the way she does and why they need to do stuff her way instead of other people's way it also shows how caring and affectionate Alice really is especially from her perspective.

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *The narrator shows Alice's personality by showing how she feels and by showing her perspective and showing why she feels the way she does and why they need to do stuff her way instead of other people's way it also shows how caring and affectionate Alice really is especially from her perspective*

28

What does the narrator show about Alice's personality? Include your claim and use **two** details from the story to support your response.

They spend the summer together

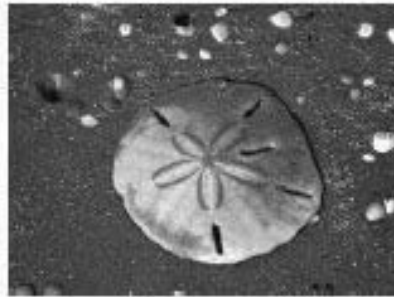
Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

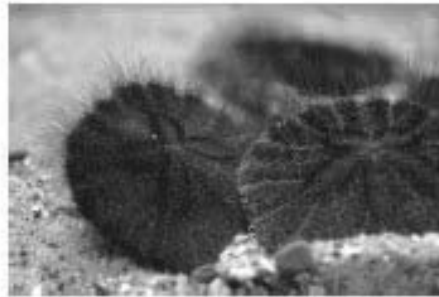
- *They spend the summer together*

Excerpt from “Digging for Dollars”

by Natalie Zaman



This is a sand dollar that would commonly be found on the beach.



These are sand dollars that would be found in the ocean.

- 1 Seabirds cry in the salty air as you stroll along the shore, seeking shells. What’s that? You stoop down to have a closer look, shading your eyes from the sun. Right under the surface of the water is a small round disk with a flower pattern in the middle—a sand dollar!
- 2 If you’ve ever been lucky enough to find one of these beauties on a shell hunt, what you’ve picked up is not the sand dollar itself, but its “test,” or skeleton.
- 3 Why is it so hard to find sand dollars? Well, besides the fact that they are wily¹ creatures that like to hide, their skeletons break very easily, so it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece.
- 4 Sand dollars are echinoids, a word that means “porcupine-like.” A live sand dollar’s delicate spines feel like velvet when picked up. On the muddy, sandy seafloor where the sand dollar lives, its coat helps it move around, keep clean, and collect food. The spines filter out sand particles and act as little shovels that dig into the sand, propelling the sand dollar over and under the seabed. They also help collect plankton and other tiny organic matter, the sand dollar’s favorite meal.
- 5 This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them! The “petaloid,” the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it’s made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out. These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe.
- 6 The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is. If you break open a sand dollar test, several small hard pieces will fall out. These are teeth! When a test dries out, the teeth become detached and loose inside. If you shake a test, those loose teeth will make a rattling sound.

7 On the seafloor, a sand dollar will stand on end, partially buried in the sand. Sand dollars are often found crowded together in “beds” because it’s easier for them to reproduce this way—hundreds might live together in only one square yard of space. There are male and female sand dollars (although you can’t tell them apart by sight), and they reproduce by expelling eggs and seed into the water to germinate.

8 Even when it’s alive, a sand dollar probably won’t look appetizing to you, and many sea creatures don’t consider it worthy of being on a menu either. To get away from those that do consider it dinner—snails, a kind of fish called skate, the occasional eel, and especially the starfish (who happens to be a cousin)—an adult sand dollar uses its spines and feet to burrow under the sand.

¹wily: sneaky

GUIDE PAPER 1

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The author of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" supports the claim that the sand dollar's feet are useful to the creature because the author tells the readers many examples of how they are helpful. For example, when the author is saying how, "These feet serve as the sand dollar's gills, to help it breathe." Shows while they are helping do many other things a sand dollars feet are also its life support. Furthermore, when the author says that the feet, "...also help collect plankton and other tiny organic matter, the sand dollar's favorite meal." Which shows that the sand dollar relays on their feet for a lot of things such as getting them food. Therefore, the author of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" helps to support the claim that the sand dollar's feet are useful to the creature by telling the reader many examples of why the sand dollars feet are so helpful.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

- *because the author tells the readers many examples of how they are helpful*

The response provides evidence of analysis.

- *while they are helping do many other things a sand dollars feet are also its life support*
- *the sand dollar relays on their feet for a lot of things such as getting them food*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe.”*
- *“...also help collect plankton and other tiny organic matter, the sand dollar’s favorite meal.”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The author of “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature by giving examples on what the feet can do. In paragraph 5 it says, “These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe.” This is one of the ways that the sand dollar’s feet are useful. In paragraph 6 it says, “The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.” The feet help to move the sand dollar and help it get food. This is another reason why the feet are helpful to the sand dollar. Both of these examples show how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature by giving examples on what the feet can do.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

- *by giving examples on what the feet can do*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe.”*
- *“The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 3

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The author states that the feet of a sand dollar many times and supports this claim by saying "These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe." showing that the feet are neccasary for survival. The author also writes "This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet" which shows that it also need it's feet to eat.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

- *showing that the feet are neccasary for survival*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“These feet serve as the sand dollar’s gills, to help it breathe.”*
- *“This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 4

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

In the “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” it states that they breath with their feet. In paragraph 5 it states" This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet". This shows that the sand dollars feet are very useful

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

- *it states they breath with their feet*

The response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- “ *This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet*”

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

In the excerpt from "digging for dollars" by Natalie Zaman the author supports a claim. The claim the author supports is why are feet useful to the sand dollar. the reason is the sand dollar moves eats and breathes with its feet. This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet. The “petaloid,” the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it’s made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out. That is why it is important for the sand dollar to have feet.

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response only provides one relevant detail from the text for support.

- *the sand dollar moves eats and breathes with its feet*

The response does not provide a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 6

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The sand dollars feet are useful becausee it helps it get food and it helps it walk.

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response only provides one relevant detail from the text for support.

- *The sand dollars feet are useful becausee it helps it get food and it helps it walk*

The response does not provide a valid inference from the text “Excerpt from *Digging for Dollars*” to explain how the author supports the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature.

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 7

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

sand dollars feet are useful because they biled sea beds.in the text it says" The spines filter out sand particles and act as little shovels that dig into the sand, propelling the sand dollar over and under the seabed."this shows that they can make sea beds to help other creators.

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *sand dollars feet are useful because they biled sea beds.in the text it says“ The spines filter out sand particles and act as little shovels that dig into the sand, propelling the sand dollar over and under the seabed.”this shows that they can make sea beds to help other creators*

43

How does the author of “Digging for Dollars” support the claim that the sand dollar’s feet are useful to the creature? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

Sand Dollars are very "willy" creatures that have many of the same functions as us, but at their feet and are only preyed on by, "snails, eels, starfish, and a fish called 'skate'".

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *Sand Dollars are very “willy” creatures that have many of the same functions as us, but at their feet and are only preyed on by, “snails, eels, starfish, and a fish called ‘skate’”*

Excerpt from “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”

by Gail Skroback Hennessey

1 A couple walking along a beach in western South Australia in 2006 spotted something unusual. A huge, solid, grayish glob was lying in the sand. At first they thought it was a tree stump or a rock, but the crusty, waxy lump was something much better: whale vomit.

2 Think you’d be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated¹ whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they’re big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.

Sweet Ambergris

3 The nicer-sounding name for whale vomit is ambergris. It comes from the French term *ambre gris*, meaning “gray amber.” Specifically, it is vomit from a sperm whale. Ambergris is made of all the things that sperm whales can’t digest, including the beaks of squid and cuttlefish, a sperm whale’s favorite foods. . . .

4 Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating. Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best.

5 Back in 1972, the U.S. Congress passed the Marine Mammals Protection Act to safeguard marine mammals, including sea otters, walruses, and manatees. With this law, the use of ambergris in perfumes was banned. The Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list, meaning whales, and what they vomited, were protected. Today, many countries (including the United States, as of 2001) are allowing the sale and purchase of ambergris, because vomit isn’t a living organism and no whale is typically harmed in obtaining the material. Prime collecting areas for ambergris include the shores of China, Japan, Africa, North and South America, and the Bahamas and other tropical islands. . . .

6 As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!

¹desiccated: dried up

GUIDE PAPER 1

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

An important lesson of “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” that the reader should take into account, is that not everything is as it seems. This is shown in paragraph 2 of the article when the article explains, “Think you’d be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they’re big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.” showing how you would think to be distraught when discovering something whale puke, but it turns out that whale puke is actually very valuable, teaching the reader there is always more than one side to a story. The article teaches the reader that not everything is as it seems a second time in paragraph four, when the author explains why sperm whale puke is so valuable! The author writes, “Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.” this further explains to the reader that even if you think something is just a gross lump to you, it could be a luxury to another person, because of the fact that whale puke is actually used for expensive perfume. the detail from the article also teaches the reader that and that not everything is as it seems further supporting my claim.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *not everything is as it seems*

The response provides evidence of analysis.

- *you would think to be distraught when discovering something whale puke, but it turns out that whale puke is actually very valuable, teaching the reader there is always more than one side to a story*
- *even if you think something is just a gross lump to you, it could be a luxury to another person*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“Think you’d be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they’re big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

In the "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" there is an important message. One message that can be applied to this article is just because something doesn't look the most appealing, doesn't mean it doesn't have value. The author informs the reader of ambergris's purpose, and how it benefits humans. "Ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That's because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating(Hennessey 4)". This evidence proves that even though ambergris doesn't look the best, it is very valuable. Perfumes are very popular, and there are many fragrance businesses. Ambergris, or whaler vomit, helps maintain the scent of the perfume no matter how it interacts with your body. The author also backed up their claim in paragraph 6. "As for that couple... who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound(14.5 -kg) wad... and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!(Hennessey 6)". This evidence proves how valuable ambergris is.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *just because something doesn't look the most appealing, doesn't mean it doesn't have value*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That's because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating(Hennessey 4)”*
- *“As for that couple... who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound(14.5 -kg) wad... and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!(Hennessey 6)”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 3

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

An important lesson of "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls," is that even though something so disgusting looks useless, it can actually be useful and very valuable without one knowing. A piece of evidence to prove my claim is, "Think you'd be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated¹ whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they're big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable." (Hennessey, paragraph 2). This piece of evidence also proves my claim correct. "Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that." (Hennessey, paragraph 4).

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *even though something so disgusting looks useless, it can actually be useful and very valuable without one knowing*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“Think you’d be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated¹ whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they’re big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 4

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

An important lesson from "FLOATING GOLD" is that something random that you find can be worth alot more than you think in pargraph 2 it says "think youd be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of whale poke the couple who found it was thrilled not because there vomit fans but becace such a find can actually be quiet valuable"

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *something random that you find can be worth alot more than you think*

The response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- *“think youd be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of whale poke the couple who found it was thrilled not because there vomit fans but becace such a find can actually be quiet valuable”*

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

An important lesson of “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” is that being in the right place in the right time can be very valuable

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *being in the right place in the right time can be very valuable*

The response does not provide two relevant details from the text for support.

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 6

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

for you to go outside more often this is shown in paragraph 6 where a couple made 750,000 dollars off of their find on a beach shown here"As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!".

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- *“As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!”*

The response does not provide a valid inference to explain an important lesson from the text of “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 7

44

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The niceer sounding name fr a whale vomit is ambergris. and back in 1972, the U.s congerss passed the marine mammals protecton.

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *The niceer sounding name fr a whale vomit is ambergris. and back in 1972, the U.s congerss passed the marine mammals protecton*

What is an important lesson of “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

An important lesson of "Exerot from Floating Gold, Drangon Spittle, Whale's Perals" is be carefull how you use the ambergris .

One reason to support to be carefull how you use the ambergris is important becuase if you find whale vomit somewhere be carefull where you use it or put it becuase it could be dangerous in some places

Two deatails that support my answer are in paragraph 5 it says " With this law, the use or ambergris in perfume was banned ." This proves how you should be carefull whileusing it becuase if somone sees you using anything with ambergris in it you could be in serious truble . Another reason that supports my answer is in paragraph 4 it says " Thats because ambergris is used as fixtive , a chemical ." This proves how you should be carefull while using ambergris becuase chemicals always arent so safe when you use them. This supports how an important lesson of "Exerot from Floating Gold, Drangon Spittle, Whale's Perals" is be carefull how you use the ambergris.

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *An important lesson of “Exerot from Floating Gold, Drangon Spittle, Whale’s Perals” is be carefull how you use the ambergris . One reason to support to be carefull how you use the ambergris is important becuase if you find whale vomit somewhere be carefull where you use it or put it becuase it could be dangerous in some places Two deatails that support my answer are in paragraph 5 it says “ With this law, the use or ambergris in perfume was banned .” This proves how you should be carefull whileusing it becuase if somone sees you using anything with ambergris in it you could be in serious truble . Another reason that supports my answer is in paragraph 4 it says “ Thats because ambergris is used as fixtive , a chemical .” This proves how you should be carefull while using ambergris becuase chemicals always arent so safe when you use them. This supports how an important lesson of “Exerot from Floating Gold, Drangon Spittle, Whale’s Perals” is be carefull how you use the ambergris*

GUIDE PAPER 1

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The most likely reason that the author includes para 3 and 4 is so that the readers can understand more clearly what ambergris is and why some may think that its very valuable and some may find it disgusting but in reality is kind of use ful as it states in the text "Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating." People might find ambergris useful so when they buy their perfumes and ect, after having it for maybe years. Once you use it it wont go to waste and just smell like alcohol. Another piece of evidence to support my claim is " Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best."and "As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000" This supports my claim because it shouls how valuable and expensive it is, so if you stumble upon ambergris/whale puke you may be able to sell it .

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *so that the readers can understand more clearly what ambergris is and why some may think that its very valuable and some may find it disgusting but in reality is kind of use ful*

The response provides evidence of analysis.

- *People might find ambergris useful so when they buy their perfumes and ect, after having it for maybe years. Once you use it it wont go to waste and just smell like alcohol*
- *it shouls how valuable and expensive it is, so if you stumble upon ambergris/whale puke you may be able to sell it*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating.”*
- *“ Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best.”*
- *“As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The most likely reason the author included paragraphs 3 and 4 is to tell us what ambergris is and how it is used. In paragraph 3 it says "The nicer-sounding name for whale vomit is ambergris. It comes from the French term *ambre gris*, meaning gray amber." It also says "Ambergris is made of all the things that sperm whales can't digest." This tells us why they included paragraph 3 in this text. They included it to tell us why they call it ambergris and what it is made from. In paragraph 4 it says "ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume and some of the most expensive perfumes." This tells us why they included paragraph 4 in the text. They included it because it tells us what ambergris was used for before and how they used it.

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *to tell us what ambergris is and how it is used*

The response provides a sufficient number of concrete details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“The nicer-sounding name for whale vomit is ambergris. It comes from the French term *ambre gris*, meaning gray amber.”*
- *“Ambergris is made of all the things that sperm whales can’t digest.”*
- *“ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume and some of the most expensive perfumes.”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 3

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The author uses paragraphs 3 and 4 to explain why whale vomit is so valuable. On example it says "It is used in making the most expensive perfumes." Another example says "It so rare that most perfumes are made of chemical versions".

Score Credit 2 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *to explain why whale vomit is so valuable*

The response provides a sufficient number of relevant details from the text for support as required by the prompt.

- *“It is used in making the most expensive perfumes.”*
- *“It so rare that most perfumes are made of chemical versions”*

This response includes complete sentences where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 4

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

The author included these to explain the vomit and how they turned it into a perfume and why the nickname i floating gold for example "Nicknamed floating gold ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume"

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *to explain the vomit and how they turned it into a perfume and why the nickname i floating gold*

The response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- *“Nicknamed floating gold ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume”*

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

to show that whale vomit isnt a bad thing and it is valuable.

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response provides a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

- *to show that whale vomit isnt a bad thing and it is valuable*

The response does not provide two relevant details from the text for support.

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 6

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

floating gold ambergirs has long been used in the making of perfum and same of the most expensive perfumes.
and the author talking about

Score Credit 1 (out of 2 credits)

This response only provides one concrete detail from the text for support.

- *floating gold ambergirs has long been used in the making of perfum and same of the most expensive perfumes*

The response does not provide a valid inference from the text to explain the most likely reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Excerpt from *Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls*”.

This response includes a complete sentence where errors do not impact readability.

GUIDE PAPER 7

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

they included it because they wanted the reader to know some facts

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *they included it because they wanted the reader to know some facts*

45

What is the **most likely** reason the author includes paragraphs 3 and 4 in “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? Include your claim and use **two** details from the article to support your response.

the author put 3 and 4 cuz of the name people can get growst out by throue up so she or he put the nicknamed for it.

Score Credit 0 (out of 2 credits)

This response does not address any of the requirements of the prompt.

- *the author put 3 and 4 cuz of the name people can get growst out by throue up so she or he put the nicknamed for it*

Possible Exemplary Response:

Over 70% of the earth is covered by oceans. A central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” is that the sea holds great mysteries and learning about its unique creatures can enrich our lives.

In the article *Digging for Dollars*, Natalie Zaman develops her ideas by sharing information about sand dollars. While sand dollars do not offer monetary benefits, they are sought after by beach visitors everywhere as a rare find. Zaman tells us that sand dollars are fragile, and that “their skeletons break very easily, so it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece.” If you find a sand dollar on the beach, you may not even consider their origin as living creatures, as they look like a pretty ornament. However, Zaman informs us that the bleached sand dollars we find on the beach “is not the sand dollar itself, but its... skeleton.” And in its natural habitat “sand dollars are often found crowded together in beds,” standing on end! What a strange and unexpected sight that must be!

Zaman further develops the idea that the sea holds great mysteries by sharing fascinating facts about sand dollars. Rather than feeling brittle, a live sand dollar’s “delicate spines feel like velvet when picked up.” The intricate flower design you may be familiar with on sand dollars “are really holes through which feet come out” that serve as gills and help the sand dollar breathe. There are additional feet in the creases on the underside of sand dollars, which “help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.” All these details point to the complexity of these tiny sea creatures and gave me a new-found respect for them as engineering marvels.

Whales are another mysterious creature of the sea. Unlike sand dollars, whales have historically provided economic value to humans, so they enrich us in different ways than sand dollars. Gail Skroback Hennessey develops her ideas by describing the economic value offered by sperm whale vomit, or ambergris. Ambergris presents as a “crusty, waxy lump” washed ashore, “made of all the things that sperm whales can’t digest, including the beaks of squid and cuttlefish.” The value of ambergris comes from its chemical properties. Ambergris is used in the production of expensive perfumes, “used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating.” To demonstrate the value of ambergris, the couple introduced by Hennessey at the beginning of the article, who found a blob of whale vomit on the beach were able to sell their find for a quarter of a million dollars!

Both by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” share the mysteries and unique characteristics of a small sampling of sea creatures. Think of how much more there is to learn about the secrets of the deep!

Possible Details to Include:

- Other relevant text-based details

Score Credits:

Apply 4-credit holistic rubric.

GUIDE PAPER 1a

46

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

In the article "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" the author provides a central idea which is that all sea creatures are unique and different in their own way and this central idea is supported with evidence. In the text the author says, "This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!" (Dollars Paragraph 5). By referring to the quote the author is saying how the sand dollar is unique for doing everyday tasks (eating, breathing, etc) with only its feet. To add on, the author also says, "The "petaloid," the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it's made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out. These feet serve as the sand dollar's gills, to help it breathe" (Dollar Paragraph 5). By referring to this quote the author is saying how the feet of the sand dollar actually lets it breathe.

In the article "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the author provides a central idea which is that all sea creatures are unique and different in their own way and this central idea is supported with evidence. In the text the author says, "ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that" (Whale's Paragraph 4). By referring to the quote the author is saying how something we would think as gross (whale vomit) is actually a valuable item used for expensive perfume. To add on, the author also says, "As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!" (Whales Paragraph 6). By referring to this quote the author is saying how the whale vomit has great value costing 750K for.

Both articles share a common central idea but don't share the way the author developed it. The author of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" developed the central idea by explaining the unique features of the sea dollar and how it breathes through its feet. On the other hand, the author of "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" developed the central idea by explaining how something produced by a whale has great value.

GUIDE PAPER 1b

To sum up, in the articles "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" both authors share a central idea in the making of these articles and both authors provide evidence to prove this.

Score Credit 4 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that follows logically from the task and purpose.

- *In the articles "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" both authors share a central idea in the making of these articles and both authors provide evidence to prove this*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate analysis of the texts.

- *all sea creatures are unique and different in their own way*
- *the sand dollar is unique for doing everyday tasks (eating, breathing, etc) with only its feet*
- *the feet of the sand dollar actually lets it breathe*
- *something we would think as gross (whale vomit) is actually a valuable item used for expensive perfume*
- *the whale vomit has great value*
- *developed the central idea by explaining the unique features of the sand dollar and how it breathes through its feet*
- *developed the central idea by explaining how something produced by a whale has great value*

The response develops the topic with relevant, well-chosen details from the texts, and sustains the use of varied, relevant evidence.

- *"This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!"*
- *"The "petaloid," the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it's made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out. These feet serve as the sand dollar's gills, to help it breathe"*
- *"ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that"*
- *"As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!"*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole.

- *In the article*
- *In the text*
- *By referring to the quote*
- *To add on*
- *On the other hand*
- *To sum up*

GUIDE PAPER 1c

The response establishes and maintains a formal style, using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

- *all sea creatures are unique and different in their own way*
- *everyday tasks*
- *great value*
- *unique features*

The response provides a concluding statement that follows from the topic and information presented.

- *To sum up, in the articles “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” both authors share a central idea in the making of there articles and both authors provide evidence to prove this*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with few errors.

- *there articles*
- *reffering*
- *dolar*
- *only its feat*
- *lets it breath*
- *dont*
- *dolalr*
- *explaing*

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

have you ever wondered what extraordinary things you can find near the ocean ? in "Excerpt from digging for dollars" and "excerpt from floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's pearl ?" both authors talk about interesting things you can discover near the ocean.

In "Excerpt from digging for dollars" the authors claim is sand dollars. in the text it says "Sand dollars are echinoids, a word that means porcupine - like " in the text it gave a brief explanation about sand dollars name. in the text it also says " this creature moves, eats, and breaths with its feet -and has lots of them" the author wrote down things about what the creature can do do and in the rest of the article the author writes a description of the sand dollar.

In "Excerpt from floating Gold, Dragon spittle, whale's pearls ?" the authors main claim is whales and Ambergris. in the text it says " ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing" in the text it explains what ambergris is which is the intro of the rest of the details which means its a main detail. in the text it also says " the marine mammals protection act placed the whale on the endangered species list, meaning whales, and what they vomited, were protected." the text evidence explains how the whale and its embergris are important but since many people want it, they had to put a limit to that for the animals safety.

In "excerpt from digging for dollars" the author developed the claim by talking more about the animals description. in the text it says "on the sea floor , a sands dollar will stand on the end, partially burried in the sand." the text detail is in paragraph 7 where the author explains more interesting facts about the sand dollar. in "Exerpt from floating gold, dragon spittle, whale's pearl ?" the author develops her claim by first explaining the use and what is embergris but then talks about what people are doing about the embergris. in the text it says " today many countries (including the united states, as of 2021) are allowing the sale and purchase of embergris, because vomit isn't a living orgnism and no whale is typically harmed in obtaining material." the text evidence is the last important detail the author uses to end her excerpt, in the begining she/he talked about a description about the sand dollar then talked about what humans are doing because of the situation of the famouse ambergris.

in conclusion both authors focussed on one main thing but both developed the article differently through out the text.

Score Credit 4 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that is compelling and follows logically from the task and purpose.

- *have you ever wondered what extraordinary things you can find near the ocean ? in “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “excerpt from floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s pearl ?” both authors talk about interesting things you can discover near the ocean*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate analysis of the texts.

- *in the text it gave a brief explanation about sand dollars name*
- *the author wrote down things about what the creature can do and in the rest of the article the author writes a description of the sand dollar*
- *in the text it explains what ambergris is which is the intro of the rest of the details*
- *the whale and its ambergris are important but since many people want it, they had to put a limit to that for the animals safety*
- *the author explains more interesting facts about the sand dollar*
- *the author develops her claim by first explaining the use and what is ambergris but then talks about what people are doing about the ambergris*
- *in the begining she/he talked about a description about the sand dollar then talked about what humans are doing because of the situation of the famouse ambergris*

The response develops the topic with relevant, well-chosen details from the texts, and sustains the use of varied, relevant evidence.

- *“Sand dollars are echinoids, a word that means porcupine - like ”*
- *“ this creature moves, eats, and breaths with its feet -and has lots of them”*
- *“ ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing”*
- *“ the marine mammals protection act placed the whale on the endangered species list, meaning whales, and what they vomited, were protected.”*
- *“on the sea floor , a sands dollar will stand on the end, partially burried in the sand.”*
- *“ today many countries (including the united states, as of 2021) are allowing the sale and purchase of ambergris, because vomit isn’t a living orgnism and no whale is typically harmed in obtaining material.”*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the skillful use of appropriate and varied transitions to create a unified whole and enhance meaning.

- *In the text it says*
- *It also says*
- *The author develops her claim by first [...] but then talks about*
- *The text evidence is the last important detail*
- *In conclusion*

The response establishes and maintains a formal style using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

The response provides a concluding statement that follows clearly from the topic and information presented.

- *in conclusion both authors foccused on one main thing but both developed the article differently through out the text*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *extrodinary*
- *the authors claim is*
- *what the creature can do do*
- *its a main detail*
- *vommitted*
- *embergris*
- *animals description*
- *burried*
- *Exerpt*
- *orgnism*
- *begining*
- *famousse*
- *fococused*
- *through out*
- Capitalization

GUIDE PAPER 3a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

The central idea shared by “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” is animals have their own uniqueness. the central idea is developed defferently in each article because in the “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” they develope the idea by statingg facts on how the creature has its own way in looks and how it help the creature while in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” they develope the claim by showing how rare it it and how it helps humans make perfumes.

in “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” it explains the central idea by sating how it helps the animal, and not really how it benifeits humans.

one example from “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” states, “The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.” and also states, “This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!”

stating on how its body help the creature stay alive and just helps the creature.

in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” they show the central idea by talking about how it benifets humans, also that it’s rare to find the vomit of a sperm whale.

while in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” it states, “Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.” and also states, “ Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best.”

in this it sates how the whale voimt a trait for sperm whales can be valuable for humans although it is a rare thing to find.

all together they both have the central idea that animals have uniqe traits but just show the differently, one shows how it helps the animal the other show how it benifeits humans.

GUIDE PAPER 3b

Score Credit 4 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that follows logically from the task and purpose.

- *The central idea shared by “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” is animals have their own uniqueness. the central idea is developed defferently in each article because in the “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” they develope the idea by statingg facts on how the creature has its own way in looks and how it help the creature while in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” they develope the claim by showing how rare it is and how it helps humans make perfumes*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate analysis of the texts.

- *it explains the central idea by sating how it helps the animal, and not really how it benifeits humans*
- *its body help the creature stay alive and just helps the creature*
- *they show the centrrol idea by talking about how it benifets humans, also that it’s rare to find the vomit of a sperm whale*
- *the whale voimt a trait for sperm whales can be valuable for humans although it is a rare thing to find*

The response develops the topic with relevant, well-chosen details from the texts, and sustains the use of varied, relevant evidence.

- *“The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.”*
- *“This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.”*
- *“ Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best.”*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole.

- *The central idea shared*
- *developed defferently in each article*
- *one example*
- *also states*
- *by talking about*
- *also*
- *while in*
- *in this it sates how*
- *all together*

GUIDE PAPER 3c

The response establishes and maintains a formal style, using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

The response provides a concluding statement that is compelling and follows clearly from the topic and information presented.

- *all together they both have the central idea that animals have unqiue traits but just show the differently, one shows how it helps the animal the other show how it benifeits humans*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *defferently*
- *develope*
- *statingg*
- *how rare it it*
- *sating*
- *benifeits*
- *how its body help the creature*
- *centrral*
- *voimt*
- *uniqe*
- *just show the differently*
- *the other show how*
- Capitalization

GUIDE PAPER 4a

46

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

A central idea shared by "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" is that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other. In "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars", the author writes about sand dollars and how they are unique and special with their own traits such as their feet that are quite interesting and used in a way no other organism would. In "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the author writes about how Sperm whales have their own unique vomit, it may sound gross but people found a special use to this substance making it discreetly special.

In "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" the author portrays the central idea that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other by displaying the way sand dollars use their unique feet like no other. The author wrote, "This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them! The "petaloid," the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it's made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out." Their unique feet are special to them allowing them to do so much with them too, proving that they hold their own kind of special. The author also wrote, "To get away from those that do consider it dinner—snails, a kind of fish called skate, the occasional eel, and especially the starfish (who happens to be a cousin)—an adult sand dollar uses its spines and feet to burrow under the sand." This is another example the author wrote on how sand dollars use their feet in again a quite unique way that is custom and special to themselves, supporting the central claim.

In "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the author shows the central idea that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other by explaining the way a Sperm Whale's puke is more than a vomit. The author writes, "Nicknamed "floating gold," ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That's because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating." This "useless substance" is far from that and so little can be so useful and special making these whales so unique whether the thought of it seems unpleasant or not. The Excerpt also states, "Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best." This shows that even their replacements for the vomit doesn't work as well because of the unique traits of the whale vomit are so special and unique to their own.

GUIDE PAPER 4b

In conclusion both authors in "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" portray the central idea that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other. These authors wrote about different animals and their own traits that serve unique purposes to themselves, making this central idea true

Score Credit 3 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that follows from the task and purpose.

- *A central idea shared by "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" is that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other. In "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars", the author writes about sand dollars and how they are unique and special with their own traits such as their feet that are quite interesting and used in a way no other organism would. In "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the author writes about how Sperm whales have their own unique vomit, it may sound gross but people found a special use to this substance making it discreetly special*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate analysis of the texts.

- *no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other by displaying the way sand dollars use their unique feet like no other*
- *Their unique feet are special to them allowing them to do so much with them too, proving that they hold their own kind of special*
- *sand dollars use their feet in again a quite unique way that is custom and special to themselves*
- *The author shows the central idea that no matter the size, everything holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other by explaining the way a Sperm Whales puke is more than a vomit*
- *This "useless substance" is far from that and so little can be so useful and special making these*
- *whales so unique whether the thought of it seems unpleasant or not*
- *even their replacements for the vomit doesn't work as well because of the unique traits of the whale vomit are so special and unique to their own*

The response develops the topic with relevant details from the texts, and sustains the use of relevant evidence, with some lack of variety.

- *"This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them! The "petaloid," the flower pattern on top of the sand dollar, has a border that looks like it's made of tiny lines, but these are really holes through which feet come out."*
- *"To get away from those that do consider it dinner—snails, a kind of fish called skate, the occasional eel, and especially the starfish (who happens to be a cousin)—an adult sand dollar uses its spines and feet to burrow under the sand."*

GUIDE PAPER 4c

- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating.”*
- *“ Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best.”*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole.

- *the author portrays*
- *The author wrote*
- *proving*
- *The author also wrote*
- *in again a quite unique way*
- *This is another example*
- *by explaining*
- *The Excerpt also states*
- *This shows*
- *In conclusion*

The response establishes and maintains a formal style using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

- *used in a way no other organism would*
- *discreetly special*
- *Their unique feet are special to them*
- *Custom and special to themselves*

The response provides a concluding statement that follows from the topic and used information presented.

- *In conclusion both authors in “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” portray the central idea that no matter the size, every-thing holds something special within themselves that is unique to themselves and no other. These authors wrote about different animals and their own traits that serve unique purposes to themselves, making this central idea true*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *themselves*
- *auhtor*
- *thier*
- *whether the though of it*
- *unpleasent*
- *Excerpt*

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

The central idea shared by "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" is that You never know what you will find, but sometimes it could be rare without you even knowing so. The two Excerpts may have the same central idea, but the author's develop the idea differently.

In the "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" by Natalie Zaman, the author develops the idea with anatomy of the creature. For instance, the author explains the anatomy of the Sand Dollar's legs to show just how important they are. Proof of this statement is another statement from the "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" which is, "The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is." The author also explains how rare it is to find an intact Sand Dollar with this statement, "Why is it so hard to find sand dollars? Well, besides the fact that they are wily¹ creatures that like to hide, their skeletons break very easily, so it's rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece." Overall, the author of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" develops the central idea with anatomy facts.

In the "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by Gail Skroback Hennessey, the author develops the central idea with market, or manufacturing facts. For instance, in the text it said how Ambergris was used, which was, "Nicknamed "floating gold," ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that." This statement shows what Ambergris is used for, hence manufacturing. Another statement told us how much money the Ambergris was valued at for the couple, which was, "As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!" This statement shows the value of ambergris and how shocking th find, hence sales. Overall, the author of "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" develops the central idea with sales and manufacturing facts.

In the end, both "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" develops the central idea quite nicely, even if they both did it in differents manors.

Score Credit 3 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that follows from the task and purpose.

- *The central idea shared by “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” is that You never know what you will find, but sometimes it could be rare without you even knowing so. The two Excerpts may have the same central idea, but the author’s develop the idea differently*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate analysis of the texts.

- *the author develops the idea with anatomy of the creature*
- *the author explains the anatomy of the Sand Dollar’s legs to show just how important they are*
- *The author also explains how rare it is to find an intact Sand Dollar*
- *the author of “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” develops the central idea with anatomy facts*
- *In the “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skroback Hennessey, the author develops the central idea with market, or manufacturing facts*
- *This statement shows the value of ambergris and how shocking th find*

The response develops the topic with relevant details from the texts, and sustains the use of relevant evidence, with some lack of variety.

- *“The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is.”*
- *“Why is it so hard to find sand dollars? Well, besides the fact that they are wily1 creatures that like to hide, their skeletons break very easily, so it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece.”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that.”*
- *“As for that couple walking the beach of South Australia who came across the ambergris? Well, it was a 32- pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!”*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole.

- *For instance*
- *Proof of this statement*
- *The author also explains*
- *Overall*
- *Another statement*
- *This statement shows*
- *In the end*

The response establishes and maintains a formal style using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

- *anatomy of the creature*

The response provides a concluding statement that follows from the topic and information presented.

- *In the end, both “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” develops the central idea quite nicely, even if they both did it in different manors*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *hence manufacturing [...] hence sales*
- *th*
- *different manors*
- Capitalization

GUIDE PAPER 6a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

A central idea shared by “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” by Natali Zaman and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skroback Hennessey is the ocean has many rare things. In the article “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” the central idea is developed by explaining why sand dollars are so rare, and in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” the central idea is developed by tell what propertes whale vomit has that makes it so expensive.

In the article “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” the central idea is developed by explaining why sand dollars are so rare. The text states, “their skeletons break very easily, so it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece” (3). Their skeletons are very delacet which means finding one in the wild whole is very rare. The text also said, “they are wily creatures that like to hide”(3). Not only are they very fragile, they are also very hard to find. Because of all of this, finding a sand dollar whole in the wild is very rare.

This is defrent them how they developed the central idea in “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skroback Hennessey. They developed the central idea by saying what proprites whale vomit had that made it so useful and expencive. The text states, “Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating” (4). Because of how rare it is and what it does, whale vomit can sell for a lot of money. They also said, “Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best”(4). Because of the proporites is has, Many companies are using synthetic meterial insted, but nothing can beat whale vomite. The resone whale vomite is used and the proprites it has manys it rare and expensive.

“Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” by Natali Zaman and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skroback Hennessey but have similer central ideas developed in difrent ways. One is about what proprites whale vomit had that made it so useful and expencive, and the other is about why sand dollars are so rare. I have never seen a sandollar or whale vomite and I don’t know if I ever will. I do know that the ocean has a lot of rare and amazing creatuers out there waiting to be seen.

GUIDE PAPER 6b

Score Credit 3 (out of 4 credits)

This response clearly introduces a topic in a manner that follows from the task and purpose.

- *A central idea shared by “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” by Natali Zaman and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skrobback Hennessey is the ocean has many rare things*

The response demonstrates literal understanding of the texts.

- *Their skeletons are very delicate which means finding one in the wild whole is very rare*
- *Not only are they very fragile, they are also very hard to find*
- *Because of all of this, finding a sand dollar whole in the wild is very rare*
- *They developed the central idea by saying what properties whale vomit had that made it so useful and expensive*
- *Because of how rare it is and what it does, whale vomit can sell for a lot of money*
- *Because of the properties it has, many companies are using synthetic material instead, but nothing can beat whale vomit. The reason whale vomit is used and the properties it has makes it rare and expensive*

The response develops the topic with relevant details from the texts, and sustains the use of relevant evidence, with some lack of variety.

- *“their skeletons break very easily, so it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece”*
- *“they are wily creatures that like to hide”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating”*
- *“Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best”*

The response exhibits clear organization, with the use of appropriate transitions to create a unified whole.

- *In the article*
- *The text states*
- *The text also said*
- *This is deferent*
- *because of how*
- *Not only*
- *Because of all this*

The response establishes and maintains a formal style using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.

GUIDE PAPER 6c

The response provides a concluding statement that follows from the topic and information presented.

- *Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” by Natali Zaman and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skrobback Hennessey but have similer central ideas developed in difrent ways. One is about what proprites whale vomit had that made it so useful and expencive, and the other is about why sand dollars are so rare.I have never seen a sandollar or whale vomite and I don’t know if I ever will. I do know that the ocean has a lot of rare and amazing creatuers out there waiting to be seen*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *explaning*
- *dollors*
- *by tell what proprities*
- *delacet*
- *defrent*
- *proprites*
- *expencive*
- *proporites*
- *useing*
- *meteriel*
- *insted*
- *vomite*
- *resone*
- *manys*
- *similer*
- *difrent*
- *sandollar*
- *creatuers*

GUIDE PAPER 7a

46

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

Have you ever wondered what some things are that you see in the ocean? In the articles "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" by: Natalie Zaman and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by: Gail Skroback Hennessey are about a few different things you find in the ocean and why they are. They are different in the way that they talk about different animals. Zaman was talking about sand dollar's and how they live and can be sacrificed as food, while Hennessey was talking about whale vomit, and how it is used in a few products we could use.

In an "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" by: Natalie Zaman she writes about sand dollars and how they are very fragile animals, and can be occasionally eaten. On the other hand they are technically "human" because they eat, sleep, and breathe. The text states, "This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!" (5). Sand dollar's are unique creatures because they breathe through their feet. The feet help you do more than just breathing they also help you move food. They said that "The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is" (6). As said in this paragraph Sand dollars are a unique and fragile creature found in our environment.

In the "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by: Gail Skroback Hennessey whale's are more common in beaches than you would think. Occasionally while walking on the beach you may find a waxy bump near a tree, and my friend that would mean you are looking at whale vomit (aka floating gold). Whale vomit can be used to make certain things such as perfume. The excerpt states, "Nicknamed "floating gold," ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That's because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating" (4). After ambergris was used in perfume they had an act enforced. This act was passed by the U.S. Congress where "...the Marine Mammals Protection Act to safeguard marine mammals, including sea otters, walruses, and manatees. With this law, the use of ambergris in perfumes was banned" (5). As stated in the text "floating gold" was very well liked to be in product such as perfume. This was hurting the animals, so they had to put a ban on all ambergris products.

As you can see, "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" by: Natalie Zaman and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by: Gail Skroback Hennessey stated the great and not so great things animals have done. If there were one thing I'd want you to take away is that some things in the oceans are fragile while others are a little gross.

GUIDE PAPER 7b

Score Credit 2 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that follows generally from the task and purpose.

- *Have you ever wondered what some things are that you see in the ocean? In the articles “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” by: Natalie Zaman and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by: Gail Skrobback Hennessey are about a few different things you find in the ocean and why they are*

The response demonstrates a literal comprehension of the texts.

- *They are different in the way that they talk about different animals*
- *she writes about sand dollars and how they are very fragile animals, and can be occasionally eaten*
- *they are technically “human” because they eat, sleep, and breathe*
- *Sand dollar’s are unique creatures because they breathe through their feet*
- *The feet help you do more than just breathing they also help you move food*
- *Sand dollars are a unique and fragile creature found in our environment*
- *“floating gold” was very well liked to be in product such as perfume. This was hurting the animals, so they had to put a ban on all ambergris products*

The response develops the topic of the essay with relevant details from the texts, and sustains the use of relevant evidence, with some lack of variety.

- *“This creature moves, eats, and breathes with its feet—and it has lots of them!”*
- *“The lines on the underside of the sand dollar are grooves where more feet come out. These, along with the spines, help the sand dollar move around and push food to the center of its body where its mouth is”*
- *“Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating”*
- *“...the Marine Mammals Protection Act to safeguard marine mammals, including sea otters, walruses, and manatees. With this law, the use of ambergris in perfumes was banned”*

The response exhibits some attempt at organization, with inconsistent use of transitions.

- *On the other hand*
- *The text states*
- *As said in this paragraph*
- *As stated in the text*
- *As you can see*

The response establishes but fails to maintain a formal style, with inconsistent use of language and domain-specific vocabulary.

- *my friend that would mean you are looking at whale vomit*
- *the great and not so great things animals have done*

GUIDE PAPER 7c

- *the great and not so great things animals have done*
- *If there were one thing I'd want you to take away is that some things in the oceans are fragile while others are a little gross*

The response provides a concluding statement that follows generally from the topic and information presented.

- *As you can see, "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" by: Natalie Zaman and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by: Gail Skrobback Hennessey stated the great and not so great things animals have done. If there were one thing I'd want you to take away is that some things in the oceans are fragile while others are a little gross*

The response demonstrates grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.

- *sand dollar's*
- *sacraficed*
- *ocasionally*
- *breather through their feet*
- *enviornment*
- *whale's are more common*
- *ised*
- *inforced*
- *very well liked to be in product*
- *prducts*

What is a central idea shared by "Digging for Dollars" and "Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls"? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

In both articles, "Excerpt from Floating, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls", and "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" Both authors share similar central ideas. In both of these passages the authors context the use of the beach, sand, and things that are typically rare to find along the shoreline that happens to few people. To support this claim, in the text of "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" it states, "Because such a find can actually be quite valuable" (Hennessey, 2). This quotation explains when finding whale puke on the shoreline happens it can be quite rare and actually valuable. To further support this claim,

In the text of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" it states, "If you've ever been lucky enough to find one of these beauties on a shell hunt, what you've picked up is not the sand dollar itself, but its "test," or skeleton." This quotation explains how when you find one of these sand dollars that it is a rare find that not many people come across in a lifetime. That is how both of the authors from the articles share similar central ideas in some ways.

In both the articles "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the Authors share some similar ideas but there is also some differences between the main ideas. The author of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" explains more of what the sand dollar does or the creature. In the text it states, "Sand dollars are echinoids, a word that means "porcupine-like." A live sand dollar's delicate spines feel like velvet when picked up. On the muddy, sandy seafloor where the sand dollar lives, its coat helps it move around, keep clean, and collect food. The spines filter out sand particles and act as little shovels that dig into the sand, propelling the sand dollar over and under the seabed. They also help collect plankton and other tiny organic matter, the sand dollar's favorite meal." (Zaman,4). This quotation explains what the sand dollar does for the creature and not how valuable or rare it is as much as just explaining what its used for.

In "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" by Gail Skrobach Hennessey, the article focuses more on the rarity side and the average price side as in "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" it says what it can do for the creature. In the text it states. "Think you'd be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they're big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable." (Hennessey, 2). This quotation explains the value of the object as in the other article it focuses on what it can do. In conclusion that is how both articles share similarities and differences.

Score Credit 2 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that follows generally from the task and purpose.

- *In both articles, “Excerpt from Floating, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”, and “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” Both authors share similar central ideas. In both of these passages the authors context the use of the beach, sand, and things that are typically rare to find along the shoreline that happens to few people*

The response demonstrates a literal comprehension of the texts.

- *when finding whale puke on the shoreline happens it can be quite rare and actually valuable*
- *when you find one of these sand dollars that it is a rare find that not many people come across in a lifetime*
- *both of the authors from the articles share similar central ideas in some ways*
- *This quotation explains what the sand dollar does for the creature and not how valuable or rare it is as much as just explaining what its used for*
- *In “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” by Gail Skrobback Hennessey, the article focuses more on the rarity side and the average price side as in “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” it says what it can do for the creature*

The response partially develops the topic of the essay with the use of some textual evidence, some of which may be irrelevant.

- *“Because such a find can actually be quite valuable”*
- *“If you’ve ever been lucky enough to find one of these beauties on a shell hunt, what you’ve picked up is not the sand dollar itself, but its “test,” or skeleton.”*
- *“Sand dollars are echinoids, a word that means “porcupine-like.” A live sand dollar’s delicate spines feel like velvet when picked up. On the muddy, sandy seafloor where the sand dollar lives, its coat helps it move around, keep clean, and collect food. The spines filter out sand particles and act as little shovels that dig into the sand, propelling the sand dollar over and under the seabed. They also help collect plankton and other tiny organic matter, the sand dollar’s favorite meal.”*
- *“Think you’d be unhappy to stumble across a big pile of desiccated whale puke? The couple who found it was thrilled—not because they’re big vomit fans, but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.”*

The response exhibits some attempt at organization, with inconsistent use of transitions.

- *In both the articles*
- *This quotation explains*
- *To further support this claim*
- *That is how*
- *In conclusion*

The response establishes but fails to maintain a formal style, with inconsistent use of language and domain-specific vocabulary.

- *rarity side and average price side*

The response provides a concluding statement that follows generally from the topic and information presented.

- *In conclusion that is how both articles share simalaraties and differences*

The response demonstrates emerging command of conventions, with some errors that may hinder comprehension.

- *Whal's Pears*
- *Ecerpt*
- *these passeges*
- *contex*
- *typicly*
- *dind*
- *qoutation*
- *shorline*
- *valuble*
- *tgeese*
- *differnces beetween*
- *what the sand dollar does or the creature*
- *what its used for*
- *simalaraties*

GUIDE PAPER 9a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

“Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” central idea is the sea creatures leave on shore and how it valuable. The text states from “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” “it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece.” This shows that there valuable. Also “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” it states “but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.” it tells us how whale vomit is valuable.

Score Credit 2 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that follows generally from the task and purpose.

- *“Excerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” central idea is the sea creatures leave on shore and how it valuable*

The response demonstrates a literal comprehension of the texts.

- *This shows that there valuable*
- *it tells us how whale vomit is valuable*

The response partially develops the topic of the essay with the use of some textual evidence, and uses relevant evidence with inconsistency.

- *“it’s rare to find a sand dollar all in one piece.”*
- *“but because such a find can actually be quite valuable.”*

The response exhibits little attempt at organization.

- *The text states*
- *Also*

GUIDE PAPER 9b

The response lacks a formal style, using language that is imprecise for the texts and task.

- *the sea creatures leave on shore*

The response does not provide a concluding statement.

The response demonstrates emerging command of conventions, with some errors that may hinder comprehension.

- *the sea creatures leave on shore*
- *how it vauable*
- *there valuable*
- *vauble*
- Capitalization
- Punctuation

GUIDE PAPER 10a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls by "Gail Skroback Hennessey " are heavyand. Excerpt from Digging for Dollars by "Natalie Zaman"are light.This central idea developed differently in each article because one is heavy and one is light.

In Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls The whale voment is very heavy by all they stuff they eat. In the text it says, " Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!"(pg 6).This quote proved that The whale voment is very heavy by all they stuff they eat because they are big whale and they need to eat. In the it says, "Ambergris is made of all the things that sperm whales can’t digest, including the beaks of squid and cuttlefish, a sperm whale’s favorite foods. . . ." (pg2). This quote proved the whale voment is very heavy by all they stuff they eat because they proble have a big stoum to fill.Both quote show that The whale voment is very heavy by all they stuff they eat because they proble have a big appatipe .

In Excerpt from Digging for Dollars The sand dollar's are a small a your hand.In the text it says, " Sand dollars are often found crowded together in “beds” because it’s easier for them to reproduce this way— hundreds might live together in only one square yard of space."(pg7).This quote prove that The sand dollar's are a small a your hand because they can fit so meny of sand dollar'sin one yard.In the text it says, " To get away from those that do consider it dinner—snails, a kind of fish called skate, the occasional eel, and especially the starfish (who happens to be a cousin)—an adult sand dollar uses its spines and feet to burrow under the sand."(pg8).This quote prove that The sand dollar's are a small a your hand because they eat sails.Both quote show that The sand dollar's are a small a your hand there a lot in one little area and if they have a big mouth they can eat bigger stuff.

This central idea developed differently in each article because one is heavy and one is light. Excerpt from Digging for Dollars by "Natalie Zaman"are light. Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls by "Gail Skroback Hennessey " are heavyand.

Score Credit 1 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that does not logically follow from the task and purpose.

- *Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls by “Gail Skroback Hennessey” are heavyand. Excerpt from Digging for Dollars by “Natalie Zaman”are light.This central idea developed differently in each article because one is heavy and one is light*

GUIDE PAPER 10b

The response demonstrates little understanding of the texts.

- *The whale vomit is very heavy by all the stuff they eat*
- *The whale vomit is very heavy by all the stuff they eat because they are big whale and they need to eat*
- *the whale vomit is very heavy by all the stuff they eat because they proble have a big stoum to fill. Both quote show that The whale vomit is very heavy by all the stuff they eat because they proble have a big appatipe*
- *The sand dollar's are a small a your hand because they can fit so meny of sand dollar's in one yard*
- *The sand dollar's are a small a your hand because they eat sails*
- *The sand dollar's are a small a your hand there a lot in one little area and if they have a big mouth they can eat bigger stuff*

The response demonstrates an attempt to use evidence, but only develops ideas with minimal, occasional evidence, which is generally invalid or irrelevant.

- *“Well, it was a 32-pound (14.5-kg) wad of the stuff, and it reportedly sold for a whopping \$750,000!”*
- *“Ambergris is made of all the things that sperm whales can't digest, including the beaks of squid and cuttlefish, a sperm whale's favorite foods. . . .”*
- *“Sand dollars are often found crowded together in “beds” because it's easier for them to reproduce this way— hundreds might live together in only one square yard of space.”*
- *“To get away from those that do consider it dinner—snails, a kind of fish called skate, the occasional eel, and especially the starfish (who happens to be a cousin)—an adult sand dollar uses its spines and feet to burrow under the sand.”*

The response exhibits little attempt at organization.

- *In Excerpt*
- *In the text it says*
- *This quote prove*

The response lacks a formal style, using language that is imprecise for the texts and task.

- *One is heavy and one is light*

The response provides a concluding statement that is illogical or unrelated to the topic and information presented.

- *This central idea developed differently in each article because one is heavy and one is light. Excerpt from Digging for Dollars by “Natalie Zaman” are light. Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls by “Gail Skroback Hennessey” are heavy and*

The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension.

- *heavy and*

GUIDE PAPER 10c

- *voment*
- *they stuff*
- *they are big whale*
- *In the it says*
- *all they stuff*
- *proble*
- *big stoum to fill*
- *Both quote show*
- *appatipe*
- *the sand dollar's a small a your hand*
- *meny*
- *they eat sails*
- Capitalization
- Punctuation

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

The central idea of "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Perals" is about protecting whales because the article states that in 1972 the Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list due to the ambergris in perfumes, the ambergris in perfumes was banned. The central idea of "Excerpt from Digging for Dollars" is all about the sand dollars because the whole article is saying "the sand dollars..." over and over again. In the "Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" the Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list due to the ambergris in perfumes, the ambergris in perfumes was banned and the "Excerpt from Digging Dollars" is saying "the sand dollars..." over and over again. are the main reasons how are the central ideas.

Score Credit 1 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that does not logically follow from the task and purpose.

- *The central idea of “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Perals” is about protecting whales*

The response demonstrates little understanding of the texts.

- *in 1972 the Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list due to the ambergris in perfumes, the ambergris in perfumes was banned*

The response demonstrates an attempt to use evidence, but only develops ideas with minimal, occasional evidence, which is generally invalid or irrelevant.

- *the Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list*

The response exhibits little attempt at organization.

- *The central idea of “Excerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Perals” [...] The central idea of “Excerpt from Digging for Dollars”*

The response lacks a formal style, using language that is imprecise for the texts and task.

- *the whole article is saying*
- *over and over again*

- *are the main reasons how*

The response provides a concluding statement that is illogical or unrelated to the topic and information presented.

- *are the main reasons how are the central ideas*

The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension.

- *central*
- *Perals*
- *prectecting*
- *the main reasons how are the central ideas*

GUIDE PAPER 12a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

The central idea of the "EXcerpt from Digging for Dollars" and "EXcerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale's Pearls" both start with sea crecher and they both start expanding. by saying two people seeing it there they start with how rare they both are and on uncommand then they start telling facts about it that how they are both expanded by it

Score Credit 1 (out of 4 credits)

This response introduces a topic in a manner that does not logically follow from the task and purpose.

- *The cental idea of the “EXcerpt from Digging for Dollars” and “EXcerpt from Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls” both start with sea crecher and they both start expanding*

The response demonstrates little understanding of the texts.

- *by saying two people seeing it there they start with how rare they both are and on uncommand then they start telling facts about it that how they are both expanded by it*

The response provides no evidence.

The response exhibits little attempt at organization.

The response lacks a formal style, using language that is imprecise for the texts and task.

- *sea crecher*
- *start expanding*
- *how rare they both are*

The response does not provide a concluding statement.

GUIDE PAPER 12b

The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension.

- *cental*
- *crecher*
- *uncommand*
- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Sentence structure

GUIDE PAPER 13a

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from both articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from both articles to support your response

the central idea is Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating. Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best. Back in 1972, the U.S. Congress passed the Marine Mammals Protection Act to safeguard marine mammals, including sea otters, walruses, and manatees. With this law, the use of ambergris in perfumes was banned. The Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list, meaning whales, and what they vomited, were protected. Today, many countries (including the United States, as of 2001) are allowing the sale and purchase of ambergris, because vomit isn’t a living organism and no whale is typically harmed in obtaining the material. Prime collecting areas for ambergris include the shores of China, Japan, Africa, North and South America, and the Bahamas and other tropical islands. . . . On the seafloor, a sand dollar will stand on end, partially buried in the sand. Sand dollars are often found crowded together in “beds” because it’s easier for them to reproduce this way—hundreds might live together in only one square yard of space. There are male and female sand dollars (although you can’t tell them apart by sight), and they reproduce by expelling eggs and seed into the water to germinate.

Score Credit 0 (out of 4 credits)

This response demonstrates a lack of comprehension of the texts or task.

- *the central idea is Nicknamed “floating gold,” ambergris has long been used in the making of perfume—and some of the most expensive perfumes, at that. That’s because ambergris is used as a fixative, a chemical that absorbs the scents and helps keep them from changing or evaporating. Today, because it is so rare and expensive, many companies use synthetic chemicals, instead of ambergris, in their perfumes. But real ambergris often still works the best. Back in 1972, the U.S. Congress passed the Marine Mammals Protection Act to safeguard marine mammals, including sea otters, walruses, and manatees. With this law, the use of ambergris in perfumes was banned. The Marine Mammals Protection Act placed the whale on the endangered species list, meaning whales, and what they vomited, were protected. Today, many countries (including the United States, as of 2001) are allowing the sale and purchase of ambergris, because vomit isn’t a living organism and no whale is typically harmed in obtaining the material. Prime collecting areas for ambergris include the shores of China, Japan, Africa, North and South America,*

GUIDE PAPER 13b

and the Bahamas and other tropical islands. . . . On the seafloor, a sand dollar will stand on end, partially buried in the sand. Sand dollars are often found crowded together in “beds” because it’s easier for them to reproduce this way—hundreds might live together in only one square yard of space. There are male and female sand dollars (although you can’t tell them apart by sight), and they reproduce by expelling eggs and seed into the water to germinate

46

What is a central idea shared by “Digging for Dollars” and “Floating Gold, Dragon Spittle, Whale’s Pearls”? How is this central idea developed differently in each article? Use details from **both** articles to support your response.

In your response, be sure to

- identify a central idea shared by the articles
- explain how the central idea is developed differently in each article
- use details from **both** articles to support your response

the story is about th whale puke

Score Credit 0 (out of 4 credits)

This response demonstrates a lack of comprehension of the texts or task.

- *the story is about th whale puke*



Grade 7
English Language Arts Writing

Scoring Leader Materials
2026 Training Set