

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

# Ohio Achievement Tests



## Reading Student Test Booklet May 2009

*This test was originally administered to students in May 2009.*

*Not all items from the May 2009 administration will be released in this document. According to Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3301.07.11:4(b) . . . not less than forty percent of the questions on the test that are used to compute a student's score shall be a public record. The department (of education) shall determine which questions will be needed for reuse on a future test and those questions shall not be public records and shall be redacted from the test prior to its release as public record.*

*This publicly released material is appropriate for use by Ohio teachers in instructional settings. This test is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards for English Language Arts.*

# Acknowledgments

## Reading

### **Selection 1: Rikki-Tikki-Tavi**

“Rikki-Tikki-Tavi” in The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling, public domain.

### **Selection 2: Green Buildings**

By Sarah Ives, from National Geographic Kids News, April 21, 2004.

### **Selection 6: On Big Sandy River**

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**Directions:**

Today you will be taking the Ohio Grade 6 Reading Achievement Test. Three different types of questions appear on this test: multiple choice, short answer and extended response.

There are several important things to remember:

1. Read each question carefully. Think about what is being asked. Look carefully at graphs or diagrams because they will help you understand the question.
2. For short-answer and extended-response questions, use a pencil to write your answers neatly and clearly in the space provided in the answer document. Any answers you write in the Student Test Booklet will not be scored.
3. Short-answer questions are worth two points. Extended-response questions are worth four points. Point values are printed near each question in your Student Test Booklet. The amount of space provided for your answers is the same for all two- and four-point questions.
4. For multiple-choice questions, shade in the circle next to your choice in the answer document for the test question. Mark only one choice for each question. Darken completely the circles on the answer document. If you change an answer, make sure that you erase your old answer completely.
5. Do not spend too much time on one question. Go on to the next question and return to the question skipped after answering the remaining questions.
6. Check over your work when you are finished.
7. When you finish the test, you may not go on to any other section of the Student Test Booklet.

## Rikki-Tikki-Tavi

Rudyard Kipling

1 This is the story of the great war that Rikki-tikki-tavi fought singlehanded, through the bathrooms of the big bungalow in Segowlee cantonment.<sup>1</sup> Darzee the Tailorbird helped him, and Chuchundra the Muskrat, who never comes out into the middle of the floor, but always creeps round by the wall, gave him advice, but Rikki-tikki did the real fighting.

2 He was a mongoose, rather like a little cat in his fur and his tail, but quite like a weasel in his head and his habits. His eyes and the end of his restless nose were pink. He could scratch himself anywhere he pleased with any leg, front or back, that he chose to use. He could fluff up his tail till it looked like a bottle brush, and his war cry as he scuttled through the long grass was: *Rikk-tikk-tikki-tikki-tchk!*

3 One day, a high summer flood washed him out of the burrow where he lived with his father and mother, and carried him, kicking and clucking, down a roadside ditch. He found a little wisp of grass floating there, and clung to it till he lost his senses. When he revived, he was lying in the hot sun on the middle of a garden path, very draggled indeed, and a small boy was saying, "Here's a dead mongoose. Let's have a funeral."

4 "No," said his mother, "let's take him in and dry him. Perhaps he isn't really dead."

5 They took him into the house, and a big man picked him up between his finger and thumb and said he was not dead but half choked. So they wrapped him in cotton wool, and warmed him over a little fire, and he opened his eyes and sneezed.

6 "Now," said the big man (he was an Englishman who had just moved into the bungalow), "don't frighten him, and we'll see what he'll do."

7 It is the hardest thing in the world to frighten a mongoose, because he is eaten up from nose to tail with curiosity. The motto of all the mongoose family is "Run and find out," and Rikki-tikki was a true mongoose. He looked at the cotton wool, decided that it was not good to eat, ran all round the table, sat up and put his fur in order, scratched himself, and jumped on the small boy's shoulder.

8 "Don't be frightened, Teddy," said his father. "That's his way of making friends."

9 "Ouch! He's tickling under my chin," said Teddy.

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<sup>1</sup>**cantonment:** temporary living quarters

# R

## Reading

10 Rikki-tikki looked down between the boy's collar and neck, snuffed at his ear, and climbed down to the floor, where he sat rubbing his nose.

11 "Good gracious," said Teddy's mother, "and that's a wild creature! I suppose he's so tame because we've been kind to him."

12 "All mongooses are like that," said her husband. "If Teddy doesn't pick him up by the tail, or try to put him in a cage, he'll run in and out of the house all day long. Let's give him something to eat."

13 They gave him a little piece of raw meat. Rikki-tikki liked it immensely, and when it was finished he went out into the veranda and sat in the sunshine and fluffed up his fur to make it dry to the roots. Then he felt better.

14 "There are more things to find out about in this house," he said to himself, "than all my family could find out in all their lives. I shall certainly stay and find out."

15 He spent all that day roaming over the house. He nearly drowned himself in the bathtubs, put his nose into the ink on a writing table, and burned it on the end of the big man's cigar, for he climbed up in the big man's lap to see how writing was done.



Use the selection to answer questions 1 – 9.

1. According to the narrator, a mongoose is most similar in behavior to which of these animals?
  - A. a weasel
  - B. a muskrat
  - C. a tailorbird
  - D. a house cat
  
2. Which event leads Rikki-tikki-tavi to the family?
  - A. Rikki-tikki-tavi fights a great war.
  - B. Rikki-tikki-tavi escapes from a cage.
  - C. A flood washes Rikki-tikki-tavi out of his burrow.
  - D. Teddy's father offers Rikki-tikki-tavi a piece of raw meat.
  
3. Which detail from the selection best describes Rikki-tikki-tavi's personality?
  - A. "He was a mongoose, rather like a little cat in his fur and his tail ... ."
  - B. "... he opened his eyes and sneezed."
  - C. "... he is eaten up from nose to tail with curiosity."
  - D. "He looked at the cotton wool, decided that it was not good to eat ... ."
  
4. Describe the attitude of Teddy's father and then the attitude of Teddy's mother toward Rikki-tikki-tavi. Support your description of each attitude with a specific detail from the selection.

Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (4 points)

5. Why does Rikki-tikki-tavi want to stay in the bungalow?
- A. He wants to repay the family for saving his life.
  - B. He needs a safe place to stay until he feels better.
  - C. He believes he will find interesting things to explore.
  - D. He knows there is something dangerous in the bathroom.

6. "One day, a high summer flood washed him out of the burrow where he lived with his father and mother, and carried him, kicking and clucking, down a roadside ditch. He found a little wisp of grass floating there, and clung to it till he lost his senses. When he revived, he was lying in the hot sun on the middle of a garden path, very **draggled** indeed ... ."

What does the word **draggled** mean in the last sentence above?

- A. having had a good time
- B. well-rested and feeling fit
- C. soiled by water and mud
- D. locked inside a cage or yard



7. Below are three characteristics of Rikki-tikki-tavi labeled A, B and C. The significance of characteristic A is given. Explain the significance of characteristics B and C, making sure to label your answers.

Characteristic A: "He could scratch himself anywhere he pleased with any leg, front or back, that he chose to use."

Significance of  
Characteristic A: The  
significance of this  
characteristic is that Rikki  
is flexible.

Characteristic B: "This is the story of the great war that Rikki-tikki-tavi fought singlehanded ... ."

Characteristic C: "Rikki-tikki looked down between the boy's collar and neck, snuffed at his ear, and climbed down to the floor ... ."

In your **Answer Document**, explain the significance of characteristics B and C.  
(2 points)

8. "The motto of all the mongoose family is 'Run and find out,' and Rikki-tikki was a **true** mongoose."

Which word in the following thesaurus entry would best replace **true** in the sentence above?

**true** *adjective* faithful, sincere, honest, worthy, careful, accurate, precise, absolute, model, genuine, real, authentic, actual, appropriate, proper, suitable

- A. sincere
- B. careful
- C. precise
- D. genuine

# R

## Reading

9. Who is telling the story in this selection?
- A. Teddy
  - B. Teddy's father
  - C. a third-person narrator who observes only the actions of the characters in the story
  - D. a limited omniscient narrator who reports everyone's actions but only one character's thoughts



## Green Buildings

Sarah Ives

1            These days a green building means more than just the color of the paint. Green building can also refer to environmentally friendly houses, factories, and offices.

2            Green building means “reducing the impact of the building on the land,” Taryn Holowka of the U.S. Green Building Council in Washington, D.C., said.

3            According to Holowka, buildings account for 65 percent of total U.S. electricity use.

4            But green buildings can reduce energy and water use. Also, the buildings are often located near public transportation such as buses and subways, so that people can drive their cars less. That could be good for the environment, because cars use lots of natural resources, such as gasoline, and give off pollution.

5            Green buildings are often built on previously developed land, so that the buildings don’t destroy forests or other wild habitats.

6            Marty Dettling is project manager for a building that put these ideas into action. The Solaire has been called the country’s first green residential high-rise building.

7            According to Dettling, “We’ve reduced our energy consumption by one-third and our water by 50 percent.”

8            The Solaire cuts energy in part by using solar power.

9            “On the face of the building we have what are called solar panels. The solar panels absorb the sun’s energy and convert it to electricity,” Dettling explained.

10           The Solaire also has lights that automatically turn off when people leave the room. Plus, the building has lots of windows. This allows people to use the sun for light instead of lamps during the day.

11           The Solaire cuts water by re-using it. The building takes water from the sink and shower and puts it in the toilets.



# R

## Reading

- 12 While not everyone lives in a green building, Holowka said that kids can help make “regular” homes greener. You can recycle, turn off the water faucet when you’re not using it, and turn off lights when you’re not in the room.

Use the selection to answer questions 10 – 14.

10. Based on information in the selection, what is one benefit of constructing green buildings?
- A. Green buildings account for 65 percent of American electricity use.
  - B. Green buildings are built using recycled materials.
  - C. Green buildings preserve natural habitats.
  - D. Green buildings cost less to build.
11. Describe two characteristics of the Solaire that qualify it as a green building.

Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

12. “Also, the buildings are often located near public **transportation** such as **buses** and subways ... .” (Paragraph 4)

Based on the way the words **transportation** and **buses** are used in the sentence above, which word pair completes the analogy?

**TRANSPORTATION : BUSES ::**

- A. sun : light
- B. color : green
- C. subways : cars
- D. recycle : energy



13. "According to Dettling, 'We've reduced our energy **consumption** by one-third and our water by 50 percent.'" (Paragraph 7)

Which sentence from the selection helps the reader determine the meaning of **consumption**?

- A. "Green building means 'reducing the impact of the building on the land' ... ."
- B. "But green buildings can reduce energy and water use."
- C. "'The solar panels absorb the sun's energy and convert it to electricity,' Dettling explained."
- D. "The building takes water from the sink and shower and puts it in the toilets."

14. Which sentence describes how this selection is organized?

- A. It follows how something develops over time.
- B. It introduces an idea and includes an example of that idea.
- C. It describes a topic and gives pros and cons about that topic.
- D. It explains the causes and effects that occur when something changes.

On the May 2009 Grade 6 Reading Achievement Test, items 15–20 are field-test items, which are not released.

Items 21–38 have not been slated for public release in 2009.



## On Big Sandy River

Effie Waller Smith

- 1 The sun-bathed hills were beautiful,  
The day was rich and fair  
The wind was blowing fresh and cool,  
The atmosphere was rare.
- 2 When merry and light hearted in  
A "Jack-boat"<sup>1</sup> painted red  
Seeking some far off woodland scene  
We up the Sandy sped.
- 3 Far up the rippling, winding stream  
We found a pleasant spot,  
'Twas beautiful in the extreme —  
Hid from the sunbeams hot.
- 4 The branches of the sycamore  
With spreading branches wide  
Made a lovely archway o'er  
The river from each side.
- 5 We pushed our boat toward the shore  
And caref'ly tied her to  
A drooping branch of sycamore  
Which near the water grew.
- 6 Along the shady, sandy bank  
Where grew the peppermint  
Among the willows tall and rank<sup>2</sup>  
We left our deep feet's print.
- 7 On a large rock smooth and bare  
We stopped awhile; and ate  
A most delicious dinner there  
Which we'll not soon forget.

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<sup>1</sup>"Jack-boat": a name for a boat used in the early 1900s originating in Newfoundland, Canada

<sup>2</sup>rank: very overgrown

# R

## Reading

- 8 When shadows of the evening showed  
Upon the mountain green  
Our painted boat we lightly rowed  
Adown the rippling stream.
- 9 With happy minds we homeward went  
Thinking we would never  
Forget the pleasant day we'd spent  
On dear old Sandy River.

Use the selection to answer questions 39 – 43.

39. How does the speaker describe the mood in stanza 1?
- A. as cold and lonely
  - B. as fun and exciting
  - C. as distant and quiet
  - D. as perfect and inviting

40. Which word from stanza 8 describes the direction in which the travelers steered the Jack-boat?
- A. showed
  - B. Adown
  - C. rippling
  - D. lightly



41. How does the author describe the spot where the travelers first step out of their boat?
- A. It is filled with abundant growth.
  - B. It is smooth and bare.
  - C. It is well-maintained.
  - D. It is often traveled.

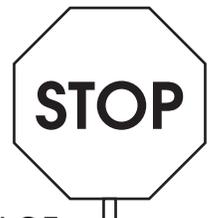
42. Identify two characteristics that make this selection a poem.

Write your answer in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

43. "With happy minds we **homeward** went"

In the line above, what does the word formed by the root word **home** and the suffix **-ward** mean?

- A. in the direction of home
- B. one who owns a home
- C. without a home
- D. like a home



R