

Grade 6 English Language Arts Sample Items (Reading)
Answer Key

Item #	Item Type	Point(s)	Standard	Rubric / Key	Scoring
1	Hot Text	1	RI.6.8	For this item, a full-credit response includes <ul style="list-style-type: none">“There are three main factors in surf forecasting: wind speed, area over which the wind blows, and how long it blows,” says Aucan.	The correct response receives 1 point
2	Multiple Choice	1	L.6.4	A	The correct response receives 1 point
3	Multiple Choice	1	RI.6.1	A	The correct response receives 1 point
4	Multiple Choice	1	RI.6.5	D	The correct response receives 1 point
5	Multiple Choice	1	RI.6.1	B	The correct response receives 1 point
6	Evidence-Based Selected Response	1	RI.6.2	Part A: C Part B: D	The correct response receives 1 point

**Grade 6 English Language Arts Sample Item (Writing)
Sample Responses**

Item #	Item Type	Standard	Rubric & Scoring
7	Writing Prompt	W.6.2	<p>Writing prompts are scored using the 10-point rubrics posted on the Portal. Each rubric has three domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose, Focus, and Organization (0-4 points) • Evidence and Elaboration (0-4 points) • Conventions of Standard English (0-2 points) <p>Sample responses and scores are included on the pages that follow.</p>

10-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
4	4	2

When a person thinks about art, they think about Leonardo Da Vinci and Salvador Dali. However, there is more to art than these classical paintings, such as art made of the Earth, street art, and unconventional art. These styles are commonly overlooked, but they are there and are very interesting. These are formats promise to amaze all who see them.

The first uncommon are is Earth art. Earth art is using materials one commonly finds outside. While this art may seem rag-tag, there are many great arts made from the Earth, particularly those of Andy Goldsworth. In Source 2, the documentary “Rivers and Tides,” one of his works is a curving line of ice. It sounds simple, but he painstakingly molds and freezes ice together, all in order to get a few precious moments when the sun shines and makes the ice glow with life. Another Andy Goldsworth piece is a rock cairn on the beach. Andy must be careful to construct this tall mound of rocks. Even so, the rocks usually fall, but Andy just claims that it helps him to get a feel for the rocks. Andy doesn’t always go on long journeys to create art. He can make art simply by standing in the rain. By standing in the rain, he creates a rain shadow and makes a small dry man-shaped patch on the ground. Earth art is very eco-friendly, all while making amazing art. (Source 2)

Earth art isn’t the only eco-friendly art out there. Street art is also very environmentally cautious while making beautiful creations. Suprisingly, most anything can be turned into street art. Once excellently exemplary example of this exceptional way of recycling is a patchwork quilt. Patchwork quilts are quilts made of scraps and remnants of material woven into quilt format. These quilts keep scrap materials out of landfills and into new patterns of wearable warmth. Another novel idea is that of Rubbish art. Rubbish art was Kurt Schwitters brain child that cleverly uses discarded materials in art. Rubbish art uses most items on the street by gluing them onto a piece of paper into collage form. Street art may seem to be an inferior art, but even Pablo Picasso used it. (Source 1) He grabbed a bike seat and handle bar, coated them with bronze, and molded them into a bull’s head. Art can be made anywhere, even on the streets!

An outstanding ideal way of making even more recyclable art is by using unusual materials. This form of art is all about recycling, as proven by a student at Bard High School – Early College with her 1,134 plastic straw dress. The objective of creating this dress was to draw peoples’ attention to recycling even the smallest of items. Another unconventional art piece was the hamster tube chandelier. By using old hamster tubes, the class saved a lot of new metal and glass for a regular chandelier. A final work was a student’s effort at the High School of Art and Design. It was a dress made of plastic bags and toy fish floating in them. The goal of this dress was to show a new style of fashion. Unconventional art can sometimes make the most delightful things. (Source 5)

Earth art, street art, and unconventional art are all eco-friendly in their own unique ways. A common objective of each is beauty in a novel way. From regular artists to art legends, they practice these paths of art. Many art pieces are recyclable, pretty, and new all over the place.

7-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
3	2	2

Many people when they find trash or other things in their house or on the streets they automatically throw it away or put it in the recycle bin. Others will pick it up and keep it or they will get creative and make something out of it.

One thing, you could do to be creative is making clothing and chandeliers out of found or recycled things. You can make a dress or a T-shirt from plastic straws glued together instead of throwing the straws away. Chandeliers can be made of hamster tubes, a handbag sewn together with bicycle tubes and light bulbs. Also, you can make clothing out of many soda cans stapled, glued, or taped together.

Another idea, is making sculptures out of nature from the woods and other places. You could use stones packed with mud to help the stones stay together. You may use something a lot lighter and thinner than stones like leaves, twigs, sticks, or broken branches from trees. Ice, mud, and sand all stick together very good so those would be easy to make a sculpture out of. Tree parts could work too, like the bark and the trunk's can be used for wood.

Lastly, if it is cold you might want to bundle up in a blanket or quilt. You may have old rags you used and instead of getting rid of them or throwing them away you could patch them all up together and make a quilt. Cloth would work too you could do the same process like you would do with the rags. Old scrapes, paper towels, toilet paper would all do well too all you have to do is patch, glue, or tape, or sew all the things together then their you go, you have made a quilt.

Some people just do not realize what you do with found and recycled things. You can make so many unique things you can do with old and broken things you find. The next time you find a piece of trash that you are about to throw away, stop and think about all the things you can do with that little piece of trash.

3-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
1	1	1

Earth Art is a wonderful thing. If you think about it you are only using natural resources to make amazing art.

Earth Art can be as simple as stacking rocks or painting on a rock with mud. Or freezing icicles together.

When you are creating Earth Art it's a good time to use your imagination. It is also a good time to experiment your thoughts.

When making Earth Art the sky is the limit. "or is it".