# Table of Contents

Questions 1 – 7: Content Summary and Answer Key .......................................................... ii

Stimulus for Questions 1 – 7 .......................................................................................... 1

Question 1: Question and Scoring Guidelines ........................................................... 5
Question 1: Sample Responses ..................................................................................... 9

Question 2: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 13
Question 2: Sample Response .................................................................................... 15

Question 3: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 17
Question 3: Sample Responses .................................................................................. 19

Question 4: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 23
Question 4: Sample Response .................................................................................... 25

Question 5: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 27
Question 5: Sample Responses .................................................................................. 31

Question 6: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 35
Question 6: Sample Response .................................................................................... 37

Question 7: Question and Scoring Guidelines ......................................................... 39
Question 7: Sample Response .................................................................................... 41
## Grade 7 ELA
### Spring 2016 Item Release
#### Content Summary and Answer Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question No.</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Content Strand</th>
<th>Content Standard</th>
<th>Answer Key</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Multi-Select Item</td>
<td>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</td>
<td>Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.</td>
<td>D, E</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Multiple Choice</td>
<td>Craft and Structure</td>
<td>Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others.</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hot Text Item</td>
<td>Craft and Structure</td>
<td>Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others.</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Multiple Choice</td>
<td>Craft and Structure</td>
<td>Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Multi-Select Item</td>
<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
<td>Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</td>
<td>C, D</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Grade 7 ELA
Spring 2016 Item Release
Content Summary and Answer Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question No.</th>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Content Strand</th>
<th>Content Standard</th>
<th>Answer Key</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Multiple Choice</td>
<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
<td>Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Multiple Choice</td>
<td>Key Ideas and Details</td>
<td>Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Stimulus for Questions 1 – 7
Stimulus for Questions 1 – 7

The Not-So-Simple Life
by David Bjerklie

Everything from food to fuel must be brought to Antarctica

1. In Antarctica, you learn not to take anything for granted. Not even things as basic as food, water, or energy. The reason? Everything people depend on has to be shipped or flown into the continent. Why? There are no farms on the icy continent. The only plants are mosses and lichens. There are certainly no cows, pigs, or chickens. Whether your favorite food is pizza or burritos, all of the ingredients have to come from other continents. As for drinking water, special systems and a great deal of energy are needed to take the salt out of seawater to make it usable.

2. Then there is the matter of waste. The U.S. Antarctic Program is committed to reducing its impact—or footprint—on the Antarctic environment. That means that every bit of garbage a person might produce in a day has to be transported off the continent. That's true whether it's the wrapper from your candy bar or the green beans you didn't want to eat or the paper towels you used to wipe your hands.

3. McMurdo Station managers remind community members to adopt the values and habits of conservation. The station has put into place technology that helps it reduce its footprint. It starts with energy. The U.S. research base has partnered with its nearby neighbor, New Zealand's Scott Base, to share energy produced from three large wind turbines. Scott Base Kiwis—as the New Zealanders are called—get 100% of their power from wind, says power-plant manager Ron Blevins, while the American base gets about 35% of its energy from wind. The much larger U.S. base uses oil-fired generators to supply the rest of its energy needs. The waste heat produced by the generators is then used to warm many of its buildings.

4. Water-plant manager Paul Jones says it takes energy and special technology to remove the salt from seawater to produce drinking water. McMurdo uses about 45,000 gallons of water a day. People are encouraged to conserve water. At the South Pole Station, where snow and ice must be melted for drinking water, people are limited to two-minute showers twice a week!

5. The McMurdo base also has a wastewater treatment plant that takes care of sewage. Yubeca Bragg, who is an organic farmer in West Virginia during the Antarctic winter, manages the treatment plant. Bragg explains that sewage treatment depends on allowing microorganisms to break down the wastes until the liquid part of the waste can be safely released into the ocean. Between 150,000 and 180,000 pounds a year of the remaining solid waste, called sludge, is packed into containers and sent back to the U.S.
What’s on the Cargo Ships?

The people who live and work in McMurdo fly into and out of the continent along with their luggage and scientific equipment. But the food and fuel, machinery and supplies that keep the town running come in by cargo ships. There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo. The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled. . . . It takes 10 days to unload and reload the cargo ship and about 40 hours to unload the fuel. All fuel and supplies must be delivered during the short Antarctic summer. Nothing comes in or goes out during the long, dark Antarctic winter.

To live and work at the bottom of the world, whether you are there to study penguins or bake bread, requires very careful planning. And as visitors to Antarctica quickly discover, every plan always requires a backup plan—and a backup plan to the backup plan.

Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 1

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 1

How does the author ensure the claims made are reliable? Choose two answers.

☐ by using a question-and-answer format as an explanation, such as “Why? There are no farms on the icy continent.” (paragraph 1)

☐ by using descriptive language that appeals to readers’ emotions, such as, “The only plants are mosses and lichens. There are certainly no cows, pigs, or chickens.” (paragraph 1)

☐ by giving examples of how ideas in the passage relate to readers’ lives, such as “... people are limited to two-minute showers twice a week!” (paragraph 4)

☐ by offering information from experts as support, such as “Water-plant manager Paul Jones says it takes energy and special technology to remove the salt from seawater to produce drinking water.” (paragraph 4)

☐ by providing factual details as evidence, such as “Between 150,000 and 180,000 pounds a year of the remaining solid waste, called sludge, is packed into containers and sent back to the U.S.” (paragraph 5)

☐ by emphasizing key ideas to make ideas clear, such as “... every plan always requires a backup plan—and a backup plan to the backup plan.” (paragraph 7)

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Content Standard: Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is sound and the evidence is relevant and sufficient to support the claims.
Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for First Option: This is incorrect. The author uses questions and answers in the beginning of the passage to build background knowledge about the situation on Antarctica but does not use this technique to ensure sound reasoning throughout the passage.

Rationale for Second Option: This is incorrect. The author does not use descriptive language in this excerpt or throughout the passage and, if he did, that language would not serve the purpose of ensuring sound reasoning.

Rationale for Third Option: This is incorrect. The author gives specific examples to support claims and maintain sound reasoning, as shown in this phrase, but these examples and claims do not relate to readers' lives.

Rationale for Fourth Option: Key – The author uses the ideas of experts to support the reasoning throughout the passage regarding different resources.

Rationale for Fifth Option: Key – The author uses data that support the claim that people are working to reduce the environmental impact caused by living in Antarctica.

Rationale for Sixth Option: This is incorrect. The author does not emphasize ideas; however, in this phrase he repeats words to convey an idea. This is different than reinforcing a claim with repetition.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 1

Sample Responses
Sample Response: 1 point

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How does the author ensure the claims made are reliable? Choose two answers.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ by using a question-and-answer format as an explanation, such as “Why? There are no farms on the icy continent.” (paragraph 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ by using descriptive language that appeals to readers’ emotions, such as, “The only plants are mosses and lichens. There are certainly no cows, pigs, or chickens.” (paragraph 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ by giving examples of how ideas in the passage relate to readers’ lives, such as “… people are limited to two-minute showers twice a week!” (paragraph 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ by offering information from experts as support, such as “Water-plant manager Paul Jones says it takes energy and special technology to remove the salt from seawater to produce drinking water.” (paragraph 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ by providing factual details as evidence, such as “Between 150,000 and 180,000 pounds a year of the remaining solid waste, called sludge, is packed into containers and sent back to the U.S.” (paragraph 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ by emphasizing key ideas to make ideas clear, such as “… every plan always requires a backup plan—and a backup plan to the backup plan.” (paragraph 7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes on Scoring

This response receives full credit (1 point) because the student selected both correct answers. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select two correct answers.
Sample Response: 0 points

How does the author ensure the claims made are reliable? Choose **two** answers.

- ☐ by using a question-and-answer format as an explanation, such as “Why? There are no farms on the icy continent.” (paragraph 1)
- ☐ by using descriptive language that appeals to readers’ emotions, such as, “The only plants are mosses and lichens. There are certainly no cows, pigs, or chickens.” (paragraph 1)
- ☐ by giving examples of how ideas in the passage relate to readers’ lives, such as “… people are limited to two-minute showers twice a week!” (paragraph 4)
- ☐ by offering information from experts as support, such as “Water-plant manager Paul Jones says it takes energy and special technology to remove the salt from seawater to produce drinking water.” (paragraph 4)
- ✅ by providing factual details as evidence, such as “Between 150,000 and 180,000 pounds a year of the remaining solid waste, called sludge, is packed into containers and sent back to the U.S.” (paragraph 5)
- ✅ by emphasizing key ideas to make ideas clear, such as “… every plan always requires a backup plan—and a backup plan to the backup plan.” (paragraph 7)

Notes on Scoring

This response receives no credit (0 points) because the student chose one correct answer and one incorrect answer. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select **two** correct answers. Partial credit is not awarded.
Sample Response: 0 points

How does the author ensure the claims made are reliable? Choose **two** answers.

- [x] by using a question-and-answer format as an explanation, such as “Why? There are no farms on the icy continent.” (paragraph 1)
- [ ] by using descriptive language that appeals to readers’ emotions, such as, “The only plants are mosses and lichens. There are certainly no cows, pigs, or chickens.” (paragraph 1)
- [x] by giving examples of how ideas in the passage relate to readers’ lives, such as “. . . people are limited to two-minute showers twice a week!” (paragraph 4)
- [ ] by offering information from experts as support, such as “Water-plant manager Paul Jones says it takes energy and special technology to remove the salt from seawater to produce drinking water.” (paragraph 4)
- [ ] by providing factual details as evidence, such as “Between 150,000 and 180,000 pounds a year of the remaining solid waste, called sludge, is packed into containers and sent back to the U.S.” (paragraph 5)
- [ ] by emphasizing key ideas to make ideas clear, such as “. . . every plan always requires a backup plan—and a backup plan to the backup plan.” (paragraph 7)

**Notes on Scoring**

This response receives no credit (0 points) because the student selected two incorrect answers. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select **two** correct answers. Partial credit is not awarded.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 2

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 2

Which statement describes the author’s point of view in the passage?

A. Travel to Antarctica is prohibited during the winter months.
B. Alternative plans need to be made when visiting Antarctica.
C. Special effort and thinking ahead is required when spending time in Antarctica.
D. Research in Antarctica is important to learning more about how plants survive.

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Craft and Structure

Content Standard: Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: This is incorrect. Although it is mentioned that no ships come to or leave Antarctica during the winter, this does not describe the author's point of view about the not-so-simple life in Antarctica.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Although the author mentions that every plan needs a backup plan, this is not the focus of the passage and therefore does not support the author's point of view.

Rationale for Option C: Key – The author clearly believes that much effort and planning is required when spending time in Antarctica.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. This inference could be made based on the research being done in Antarctica, but the author does not express this point of view.
Sample Response: 1 point

Which statement describes the author’s point of view in the passage?

A  Travel to Antarctica is prohibited during the winter months.
B  Alternative plans need to be made when visiting Antarctica.
C  Special effort and thinking ahead is required when spending time in Antarctica.
D  Research in Antarctica is important to learning more about how plants survive.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 3

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 3

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A
Why does the author include information in What’s on the Cargo Ships?

A) to give an opinion about visiting the McMurdo Station
B) to identify the main differences between the summer and the winter in Antarctica
C) to explain how ships are used to carry supplies while also reducing waste in Antarctica
D) to give information about what kinds of supplies are mainly transported to McMurdo Station

Part B
Choose two sentences that best support your answer in Part A.

“There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo. The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled... It takes 10 days to unload and reload the cargo ship and about 40 hours to unload the fuel. All fuel and supplies must be delivered during the short Antarctic summer. Nothing comes in or goes out during the long, dark Antarctic winter.” (paragraph 6)

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Craft and Structure

Content Standard: Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others.

Scoring Guidelines

For this item, a full-credit response includes:

Part A
- Selection of C) to explain how ships are used to carry supplies while also reducing waste in Antarctica;
  AND

Part B
- Selection of “There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo.”;
  AND
- Selection of “The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled. ...” (1 point).
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 3

Sample Responses
Sample Response: 1 point

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

**Part A**
Why does the author include information in *What’s on the Cargo Ships*?

A) to give an opinion about visiting the McMurdo Station  
B) to identify the main differences between the summer and the winter in Antarctica  
C) to explain how ships are used to carry supplies while also reducing waste in Antarctica  
D) to give information about what kinds of supplies are mainly transported to McMurdo Station

**Part B**
Choose two sentences that best support your answer in Part A.

“There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo. The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled. . . . It takes 10 days to unload and reload the cargo ship and about 40 hours to unload the fuel. All fuel and supplies must be delivered during the short Antarctic summer. Nothing comes in or goes out during the long, dark Antarctic winter.” (paragraph 6)

**Notes on Scoring**

This response receives full credit (1 point) because the student selected the correct answer in Part A and both correct answers in Part B. To receive full credit for this item, all three correct selections must be made.
Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

Part A
Why does the author include information in What’s on the Cargo Ships?

A) to give an opinion about visiting the McMurdo Station

B) to identify the main differences between the summer and the winter in Antarctica

C) to explain how ships are used to carry supplies while also reducing waste in Antarctica

D) to give information about what kinds of supplies are mainly transported to McMurdo Station

Part B
Choose two sentences that best support your answer in Part A.

“There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo. The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled. . . . It takes 10 days to unload and reload the cargo ship and about 40 hours to unload the fuel. All fuel and supplies must be delivered during the short Antarctic summer. Nothing comes in or goes out during the long, dark Antarctic winter.” (paragraph 6)

Notes on Scoring

This response receives no credit (0 points) because the student chose the incorrect support in Part B for the correct answer in Part A. To receive full credit for this item, all three correct selections must be made.
Sample Response: 0 points

This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then, answer Part B.

**Part A**
Why does the author include information in *What’s on the Cargo Ships*?

A) to give an opinion about visiting the McMurdo Station

B) to identify the main differences between the summer and the winter in Antarctica

C) to explain how ships are used to carry supplies while also reducing waste in Antarctica

D) to give information about what kinds of supplies are mainly transported to McMurdo Station

**Part B**
Choose two sentences that best support your answer in Part A.

“There is one ship that brings fuel and another ship that brings cargo. The cargo ship takes back all of the waste, from construction materials to glass, paper, plastic, and metal that has been carefully recycled... It takes 10 days to unload and reload the cargo ship and about 40 hours to unload the fuel. All fuel and supplies must be delivered during the short Antarctic summer. Nothing comes in or goes out during the long, dark Antarctic winter.” (paragraph 6)

---

Notes on Scoring

This response receives no credit (0 points) because Part A is incorrect and Part B is correct, which makes the entire item incorrect. Correct support in Part B for an incorrect response in Part A cannot be counted as correct. To receive full credit for this item, all three correct selections must be made.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 4

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 4

What does the author mean by stating that McMurdo Station has helped reduce its footprint in Antarctica?

A. The amount of waste left behind by people in Antarctica has decreased.
B. The amount of energy used at McMurdo Station has been adjusted to meet needs.
C. The scientists have removed information that indicates people have been in Antarctica.
D. The researchers at McMurdo Station have left fewer impressions in the ground when walking.

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Craft and Structure

Content Standard: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: Key – The passage focuses on how McMurdo Station has reduced its footprints in Antarctica by lowering the amount of waste that is left there.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Although the passage does discuss sharing energy with New Zealand, this option does not show the whole picture of reducing footprints in Antarctica.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Although ships come to remove waste, there are still indications that people have been in Antarctica.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. This option is a literal interpretation of how one can reduce footprints in Antarctica.
Sample Response: 1 point

What does the author mean by stating that McMurdo Station has helped reduce its footprint in Antarctica?

- The amount of waste left behind by people in Antarctica has decreased.
- The amount of energy used at McMurdo Station has been adjusted to meet needs.
- The scientists have removed information that indicates people have been in Antarctica.
- The researchers at McMurdo Station have left fewer impressions in the ground when walking.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 5

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 5

Read the sentence from paragraph 2.
“The U.S. Antarctic Program is committed to reducing its impact—or footprint—on the Antarctic environment.”

Select two sentences from the passage that support this statement.

☐ “Whether your favorite food is pizza or burritos, all of the ingredients have to come from other continents.” (paragraph 1)

☐ “As for drinking water, special systems and a great deal of energy are needed to take the salt out of seawater to make it useable.” (paragraph 1)

☐ “That means that every bit of garbage a person might produce in a day has to be transported off the continent.” (paragraph 2)

☐ “The U.S. research base has partnered with its nearby neighbor, New Zealand’s Scott Base, to share energy produced from three large wind turbines.” (paragraph 3)

☐ “The people who live and work in McMurdo fly into and out of the continent along with their luggage and scientific equipment.” (paragraph 6)

☐ “Yubecca Bragg, who is an organic farmer in West Virginia during the Antarctic winter, manages the treatment plant.” (paragraph 5)

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Key Ideas and Details

Content Standard: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
**Scoring Guidelines**

Rationale for First Option: This is incorrect. This option explains that supplies need to come from other continents but does not support the idea that the program is committed to reducing its impact on the environment.

Rationale for Second Option: This is incorrect. This option refers to the logistics of the operations at McMurdo but does not demonstrate an effort to diminish environmental impacts.

Rationale for Third Option: **Key** – This option directly relates to the sentence in the stem and explains one important way the carbon footprint is reduced.

Rationale for Fourth Option: **Key** – This option explains how the energy sources are more environmentally friendly, which reduces the carbon footprint.

Rationale for Fifth Option: This is incorrect. This explains how people and their belongings reach Antarctica but, by particularly mentioning the air travel, this option does not discuss reducing the carbon footprint.

Rationale for Sixth Option: This is incorrect. This option identifies the person in charge of sewage treatment on McMurdo but does not support the statement made in the stem.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 5

Sample Responses
Sample Response: 1 point

Read the sentence from paragraph 2.
“The U.S. Antarctic Program is committed to reducing its impact—or footprint—on the Antarctic environment.”
Select two sentences from the passage that support this statement.

☐ “Whether your favorite food is pizza or burritos, all of the ingredients have to come from other continents.”
(paragraph 1)

☐ “As for drinking water, special systems and a great deal of energy are needed to take the salt out of seawater to make it usable.”
(paragraph 1)

☑ “That means that every bit of garbage a person might produce in a day has to be transported off the continent.”
(paragraph 2)

☑ “The U.S. research base has partnered with its nearby neighbor, New Zealand’s Scott Base, to share energy produced from three large wind turbines.”
(paragraph 3)

☐ “The people who live and work in McMurdo fly into and out of the continent along with their luggage and scientific equipment.”
(paragraph 6)

☐ “Yubecca Bragg, who is an organic farmer in West Virginia during the Antarctic winter, manages the treatment plant.”
(paragraph 5)

Notes on Scoring

This response receives full credit (1 point) because both answers selected are correct. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select two correct answers.
Sample Response: 0 points

Read the sentence from paragraph 2.
“The U.S. Antarctic Program is committed to reducing its impact—or footprint—on the Antarctic environment.”
Select two sentences from the passage that support this statement.

- “Whether your favorite food is pizza or burritos, all of the ingredients have to come from other continents.” (paragraph 1)
- “As for drinking water, special systems and a great deal of energy are needed to take the salt out of seawater to make it usable.” (paragraph 1)
- “That means that every bit of garbage a person might produce in a day has to be transported off the continent.” (paragraph 2)
- “The U.S. research base has partnered with its nearby neighbor, New Zealand’s Scott Base, to share energy produced from three large wind turbines.” (paragraph 3)
- “The people who live and work in McMurdo fly into and out of the continent along with their luggage and scientific equipment.” (paragraph 6)
- “Yubeca Bragg, who is an organic farmer in West Virginia during the Antarctic winter, manages the treatment plant.” (paragraph 5)

Notes on Scoring

This response receives no credit (0 points) because the student chose one correct answer and one incorrect answer. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select two correct answers. Partial credit is not awarded.
Sample Response: 0 points

Read the sentence from paragraph 2.
“The U.S. Antarctic Program is committed to reducing its impact—or footprint—on the Antarctic environment.”
Select two sentences from the passage that support this statement.

- [ ] “Whether your favorite food is pizza or burritos, all of the ingredients have to come from other continents.” (paragraph 1)
- [ ] “As for drinking water, special systems and a great deal of energy are needed to take the salt out of seawater to make it useable.” (paragraph 1)
- [ ] “That means that every bit of garbage a person might produce in a day has to be transported off the continent.” (paragraph 2)
- [ ] “The U.S. research base has partnered with its nearby neighbor, New Zealand’s Scott Base, to share energy produced from three large wind turbines.” (paragraph 3)
- [ ] “The people who live and work in McMurdo fly into and out of the continent along with their luggage and scientific equipment.” (paragraph 6)
- [x] “Yubecca Braeg, who is an organic farmer in West Virginia during the Antarctic winter, manages the treatment plant.” (paragraph 5)

Notes on Scoring

This response receives no credit (0 points) because the student selected two incorrect answers. To receive full credit for this item, a student must select two correct answers. Partial credit is not awarded.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 6

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Question 6

According to the passage, which fact limits the process of shipping to and from Antarctica?

A. Ships cannot travel to Antarctica during the winter.
B. The ships do not carry the belongings of researchers.
C. It takes much longer to unload cargo than to unload fuel.
D. Ships must transport waste from Antarctica to another location.

Points Possible: 1

Content Strand: Key Ideas and Details

Content Standard: Analyze the interactions between individuals, events, and ideas in a text (e.g., how ideas influence individuals or events, or how individuals influence ideas or events).

Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: Key – The fact that ships cannot travel to Antarctica during the winter is very limiting and necessitates that all fuel and supplies must be delivered in the summertime.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. The passage does not give evidence that this fact is limiting to the shipping process.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. The passage does not give evidence that this fact is limiting to the shipping process.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. The passage does not give evidence that this fact is limiting to the shipping process.
Sample Response: 1 point

According to the passage, which fact limits the process of shipping to and from Antarctica?

- **A** Ships cannot travel to Antarctica during the winter.
- **B** The ships do not carry the belongings of researchers.
- **C** It takes much longer to unload cargo than to unload fuel.
- **D** Ships must transport waste from Antarctica to another location.
Grade 7
English Language Arts
Spring 2016 Item Release

Question 7

Question and Scoring Guidelines
Scoring Guidelines

Rationale for Option A: **Key** – People are limited to short showers because they are being asked to conserve water. Water conservation is important because it takes so much energy to remove the salt from the water (or to melt the water) to make it usable for drinking, bathing and other uses.

Rationale for Option B: This is incorrect. Although the passage discusses how food and goods are shipped to the continent, the water is treated, not shipped in on cargo carriers.

Rationale for Option C: This is incorrect. Although a student may infer that the water used for showers is cold in Antarctica, this reasoning is not supported by the text.

Rationale for Option D: This is incorrect. Although showering does produce wastewater, this is not the main reason why people are limited to short showers.
Sample Response: 1 point

Why do the residents of McMurdo Station and South Pole Station need to take short showers?

- because so much energy is spent to make water usable
- because water has to be transported from other places
- because the water made from melting snow is cold
- because showering produces so much wastewater