Name ________________________________

Now answer Numbers 1 through 3. Base your answers on the poems “The Seed” and “By Myself.”

1. What is the MAIN question the author asks in “The Seed”?  
   A. Where do seeds grow well?  
   B. What do seeds need to grow?  
   C. How does a seed know what it will be?  
   D. Why do some seeds grow into flowers?

2. Which line from “By Myself” has words that appeal to the senses?  
   F. I’m a squeaky noise  
   G. When I’m by myself  
   H. And when I open my eyes  
   I. I’m a whatever I want to be

3. Which sentence BEST tells what the poem “By Myself” is about?  
   A. The author wishes she had a twin, but she is an only child.  
   B. The author can pretend to be whatever she wants, but she wants to be herself.  
   C. The author likes to be noisy, but she is not allowed to make noise in her house.  
   D. The author likes to pretend she is someone else, but when she dreams she is herself.
Now answer Numbers 4 through 10. Base your answers on the poems “Pencils” and “Sky-Fish.”

4. Read these lines from the poem “Pencils.”

Every word in your pencil is fearless ready to walk
the blue tightrope lines

Here, the author compares a pencil to a tightrope walker. The “blue tightrope lines” are
- the words in the pencil.
- the lines on a piece of paper.
- the sentences the pencil writes.
- the lines the pencil makes on paper.

5. Tell what the poem “Pencils” is about. Use details from the poem in your summary.

[Blank space for writing]
6 Read these lines from the poem “Pencils.”

There is a long story living
in the shortest pencil

What does the author MOST LIKELY mean by these lines?
A Some animals can live inside a pencil.
B Short pencils are more useful than long pencils.
C Writers should use short pencils to write long stories.
D Writers can use any kind of pencil to write down their thoughts.

7 In “Sky-Fish,” which words BEST describe what the lake looks like in the moonlight?
F bobbing bright
G glittered bright
H purpled-out
I shiny scales

8 Why does the author in “Sky-Fish” go fishing without poles or hooks?
A She forgot them at home.
B She is not fishing for real fish.
C She is not old enough to use them.
D She wants Uncle Stephen to catch fish for her.

9 In the poem “Sky-Fish,” what are sky-fish?
F starfish with shiny scales and tails
G fish that leap out of the water at night
H fish the author sees in the lake at night
I reflections of the sky in the water at night
How are the poems “Pencils” and “Sky-Fish” ALIKE? Use details from both poems to explain ways the poems are alike.
Now answer Numbers 1 through 3. Base your answers on the poems “The Seed” and “By Myself.”

1 What is the MAIN question the author asks in “The Seed”?
   A Where do seeds grow well?
   B What do seeds need to grow?
   C How does a seed know what it will be?
   D Why do some seeds grow into flowers?
   (LA.4.1.7.3)

2 Which line from “By Myself” has words that appeal to the senses?
   E I’m a squeaky noise
   F When I’m by myself
   G And when I open my eyes
   H I’m a whatever I want to be
   (LA.4.2.1.3)

3 Which sentence BEST tells what the poem “By Myself” is about?
   A The author wishes she had a twin, but she is an only child.
   B The author can pretend to be whatever she wants, but she wants to be herself.
   C The author likes to be noisy, but she is not allowed to make noise in her house.
   D The author likes to pretend she is someone else, but when she dreams she is herself.
   (LA.4.1.7.3)
Now answer Numbers 4 through 10. Base your answers on the poems “Pencils” and “Sky-Fish.”

4. Read these lines from the poem “Pencils.”

Every word in your
pencil
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Here, the author compares a pencil to a tightrope walker. The “blue tightrope lines” are

- the words in the pencil.
- the lines on a piece of paper.
- the sentences the pencil writes.
- the lines the pencil makes on paper.

(LA.4.2.1.7)

5. Tell what the poem “Pencils” is about. Use details from the poem in your summary.

Sample 2-point response: The poem is about all the great words you can write with a pencil. You can write a poem or a long story. You can use pencils to show your thoughts.
Read these lines from the poem “Pencils.”

There is a long story living
in the shortest pencil

What does the author MOST LIKELY mean by these lines?

A. Some animals can live inside a pencil.
B. Short pencils are more useful than long pencils.
C. Writers should use short pencils to write long stories.
D. Writers can use any kind of pencil to write down their thoughts.

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H. fish the author sees in the lake at night
I. reflections of the sky in the water at night
How are the poems “Pencils” and “Sky-Fish” ALIKE? Use details from both poems to explain ways the poems are alike.

Sample 4-point response: “Pencils” and “Sky-Fish” are both poems. Both poems are written in stanzas. They also both use figurative language to compare things. They make comparisons between two things that are not alike. For example, in “Pencils,” the author compares a pencil to a house with rooms. “The rooms in a pencil / are narrow / but elephants castles and / watermelons / fit in.” In “Sky-Fish” the author compares reflections in the lake at night to fish. “and our fingers / fished for moonfish, / but they slithered from our hands.”

Extended-Response Rubric

4 points
The answer shows that the student completely understands the task. The response is based on the text and is complete, correct, and provides needed examples and/or support.

3 points
The answer shows that the student understands the task. The response is correct and based on the text, but the support and/or examples may not be complete.

2 points
The answer shows that the student partially understands the task. The response is based on the text and mostly correct, but the information may be incomplete, too general, or lack support.

1 point
The answer shows that the student has limited understanding of the task. The response is incomplete, lacks support, and may not answer all parts of the question.

0 points
The answer shows that the student does not understand the task. The response is inaccurate, incomplete, or irrelevant.

(LA.4.2.1.5)