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| **7th Grade Reading** |
| **Standard** | **3.0 Items** |
| 7.6AExplain the influence of setting on plot developmentPre-req. Skills:* Identify setting
* Identify elements of plot structure
* Identify the importance of historical/cultural contexts.
* Explain the importance of historical/cultural contexts.
 | **STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “From Here to Sargasso” by Andrew S. Williams**9. How does the setting advance the plot of the story? 1. It allows the character to witness an uncommon event.
2. It gives the characters the opportunity to identify a problem.
3. It offers the characters a chance to develop new relationships.
4. It causes the characters to feel unsafe.
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|  | **2.0 Items** |
| 1. Underline the text evidence that identifies the setting. 2. Using the plot diagram below, identify the elements of plot in this story. 3. Read the excerpt below:  [insert text]1. Identify the historical or cultural context of the story.
2. Explain the impact the historical or cultural context has on the plot.
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| 7.6B Analyze the development of the plot through the internal and external responses of the characters, including their motivations and conflictsPre-req. Skills:* Identify elements of Plot
* Identify internal responses of characters
* Identify external responses of characters
* Analyze how setting influences character development
* Define types of conflict
* Define character motivations/traits
 | **3.0 Items** |
| **STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “From Here to Sargasso” by Andrew S. Williams**15. Why are the woman’s comments about the nest in paragraphs 6 through 10 important to the story? 1. They explain why it is problematic that the turtles are hatching early.
2. They establish that the woman is knowledgeable about the life cycle of turtles.
3. They reveal the significance of seeing the turtles hatch from their nest.
4. They show that the local residents think tourists disregard the safety of the turtles.

17. The narrator’s observations in paragraph 2 are important to the story because they - 1. Imply that Charlie values his personal interests more than family
2. Suggest that the narrator envies his brother
3. Illustrate the family’s desire to spend time together
4. Convey the mother’s anxiety about Charlie

**STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “The Fruit is Sweet” by Lynsey Steinberg**What motivated the narrator to purchase the flower seeds?How did the narrator’s attitude towards her mother change throughout the story? |
| **2.0 Items** |
| 1. Using the diagram below, identify the elements of plot in this story. 2. Read the following excerpt. [insert text]Underline the text that demonstrates an internal conflict.3. Read the following excerpt. [insert text]Underline the text that demonstrates an external conflict4. How does the setting advance the plot of the story?5. Define the following types of conflict and give an example.* Character vs. character
* Character vs self
* Character vs nature
* Character vs society

6. Read the following excerpt. [insert text] What motivates the narrator to return to the nest? 7. Read paragraphs 19-20 and 24. Underline evidence that describes Freddy the turtle.  |

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| 7.6CAnalyze different forms of point of view, including first-person, third-person omniscient, and third-person limited.Pre-req. Skills:* Identify the different forms of point of view
	+ First-person
	+ Third-person omniscient
	+ Third-person limited
 | **3.0 Items** |
| **STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “From Here to Sargasso” by Andrew S. Williams**14. Using the first-person point of view allows the author to-1. Describe the occasions importance to the local residents
2. Explain the narrator’s complex relationship with his mother
3. Present each character’s thoughts about the event
4. Help the reader feel closely connected with the narrator’s experience
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| **2.0 Items** |
| 1. Match the following examples of point of view to the term.

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| Jenny reached the sand where the water lapped onto the shore. She was devastated to think her turtles friends had gone on into the sea. | First-Person Point of View |
| Looking at the horizon, Charlie said, “Wow. So many miles away.” His mom replied, “Yes. It is such a long way to swim to reach their home.” Together they walked back to the car, remembering the great day at the beach. | Third-Person Omniscient Point of View |
| We hurry back to the nest, where a few other beach walkers have been drawn in as well. I could not believe my eyes… Turtles! | Third-Person Limited Point of View |

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| **Standard** | **3.0 Items** |
| 7.7ADescribe the structural and substantive differences between an autobiography or a diary and a fictional adaptation of it.Pre-req. Skills:* Identify the traits of:
	+ Autobiography
	+ Biography
	+ Diary/Memoir
 | **STAAR Reading released test 2016 -”The Fruit is Sweet” by Lynsey Steinberg**The reader can tell this passage is a memoir because - 1. It discusses the full span of the author’s life.
2. It is written from an outsider’s perspective.
3. It tells a brief story of a specific time in the author’s life from the author’s perspective.
4. It includes the thoughts and feelings of the author.
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| **2.0 Items** |
| Read the following excerpts. Label each excerpt as autobiography, biography, or memoir then underline the elements within each piece that justify your answer.

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| **From *Angela’s Ashes* byFrank McCourt**When I look back on my childhood I wonder how I managed to survive childhood at all. It was, of course, a miserable childhood: the happy childhood is hardly worth your while. Worse than the ordinary miserable childhood is the miserable Irish childhood, and worse yet is the miserable Irish Catholic childhood.  |  |
| **From *The Long Walk to Freedom* by Nelson Mandela**I was not born with a hunger to be free... It was only when I began to learn that my boyhood freedom was an illusion, when I discovered as a young man that my freedom had already been taken from me, that I began to hunger for it...I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the gloriousvista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can rest only for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my longwalk is not yet ended.  |  |
| **Summary of *Harry Houdini: a Magical Life* by Elizabeth MacLeod**Harry Houdini is still the world’s most famous magician -- thanks to his inventive tricks, death defying stunts and incredible talent for publicity. He claimed that he could escape from anything! The immigrant son of a rabbi, Harry overcame grueling poverty to overcome to become a one man phenomena, wowing audiences around the world... |  |

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| **Standard** | **3.0 Items** |
| Figure 19 DMake complex inferences about text and use textual evidence to support understandingPre-req. Skills:* Define text evidence
* Explain the elements of complex inferences, including multiple pieces of textual evidence and background knowledge.
* Explain the elements of an author’s craft and the impact of those elements on the piece.
 | **STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “From Here to Sargasso” by Andrew S. Williams**10. Which sentence shows that the narrator is aware of the feelings of others? 1. It doesn’t seem to be as strong, though, and the first turtle is putting an increasing amount of distance between them.
2. The baby turtle seems to be taking a break from his attempts to free himself from the nest.
3. We hurry back to the nest, where a few other beach walkers have been drawn in as well.
4. I can tell her mind is on my little brother, Charlie.

11A. Why doesn’t the narrator watch the other turtles hatch at the end of the story? 1. He is consumed by his thoughts about the first turtle’s destiny.
2. He doesn’t have the patience to observe such a long process.
3. He is concerned that his mother has started worrying again.
4. He doesn’t want to ruin the experience for the little girl.

11B. Underline and label the evidence within the text that supports the answer you selected in 11A. **STAAR Reading released test 2016 -”The Fruit is Sweet” by Lynsey Steinberg**44A. Which word best describes the author’s decision to buy the flower seed packets? 1. Thoughtful
2. Obsessive
3. Manipulative
4. Unplanned

44B. Underline and label the evidence within the text that supports the answer you selected in 44A. 45A. The author includes the description in paragraph 2 to convey that she - 1. Had difficulty understanding her mother’s fascination with gardening
2. Believed her mother’s constant gardening was an inconvenience
3. Resented that her mother paid so much attention to the plants
4. Appreciated some of the plants her mother grew more than others

45B. Underline and label the evidence within the text that supports the answer you selected in 45A. 48A. The author’s reaction when she found a morning glory vine in her pot suggests that she was - 1. Concerned that the other seeds might not grow
2. Eager to start growing more flowers
3. Certain that her mother would be pleased by her success
4. Surprised by how happy she felt when she saw the flower sprout

48B. Underline and label the evidence within the text that supports the answer you selected in 48A. 49A. When the author brought the flower seeds home, her mother reacted in a way that - 1. Forced the author to seek help elsewhere
2. Showed she was pleased by the author’s attempt to care for the seeds
3. Demonstrated her lack of interest in the author’s hobbies
4. Showed she expected the author to be responsible for the care of the seeds

49B. Underline and label the evidence within the text that supports the answer you selected in 49A. 50A. Read this sentence from the selection. I believe that patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet. The author begins and ends the selection with this idea in order to emphasize that - 1. Finding an interesting hobby may take many years
2. Positive results take time but are worth the wait
3. Many people focus on what they want in the present
4. Completing a long-term goal is difficult for most people
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| **2.0 Items** |
| Complete the following table. (Teacher note: The text evidence box provides you a space to put the most relevant text to support your answer. The background knowledge box provides you a place to put what you know about that topic/subject. The inference box is where your background knowledge is synthesized with the supporting evidence from the text.)**STAAR Reading released test 2016 - ”The Fruit is Sweet” by Lynsey Steinberg**

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| **Text Evidence** | **Background Knowledge** | **Inference** |
| Ex.) “I believe that patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet.” | It is really hard to wait for a long time for something you really want. It is also difficult when you are putting in hard work and not seeing any reward or product. | **The character realizes that waiting is hard, but sometimes the fruits of her labor are well worth the wait and time in the end.** |
|  |  | **Why does the narrator not know why she purchased the flower seeds?** |

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| **Standard** | **3.0 Items** |
| Figure 19 ESummarize, paraphrase, and synthesize texts in ways that maintain meaning and logical order within a text and across textsPre-req. Skills:* Identify main idea
* Identify supporting details that contribute to the main idea
* Define paraphrase
* Identify the difference between summary and paraphrase
 | **STAAR Reading released test 2016 - “From Here to Sargasso” by Andrew S. Williams**Write a summary of the text that maintains meaning and logical order.**STAAR Reading released test 2016 -”The Fruit is Sweet” by Lynsey Steinberg**46. What is the best summary of the selection?1. The author grew up watching her mother take pleasure in growing many kinds of plant,s but she did not share her mother’s interest in gardening. When she was a teenager, she decided to plant several flowers. After waiting several weeks, the author finally got to appreciate the joy of finding a sprouted seed.
2. The author describes how grew up surrounded by the many beautiful plants that her mother loved growing. One day the author bought flower seeds and planted them. The author realized the plant require care.
3. Growing plants gave the author’s mother's great joy and happiness, and she tried to share this experience with the author. The author was not interested in learning about gardening from her mother. One day the author decided to buy packets of flower seeds.
4. The author’s mother loved gardening and grew many different kinds of plants, especially tomatoes. When the author came home with packets of flower seeds, her mother told her she would have to grow them to on her own. After waiting several weeks, the author finally saw her flower seeds begin to grow.
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| **2.0 Items** |
| 1. Which of the following is the main idea of the selection?
2. Which of the following supporting details accurately contribute to the main idea?
3. What is paraphrasing?
4. What is the difference between summaries and paraphrases?
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