

Session 1—Reading

Directions

In this part of **ELAP Plus Third Edition**, you will read four passages:

- The Legend of Arachne
- The Men on the Moon
- Cooper’s Costume
- Building a Neighborhood Garden

There are multiple-choice questions for you to answer after each passage. Refer to the passage as often as you need to. Then fill in the circle of the best answer to each question.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

Read this letter to the editor. Then answer questions 19 through 24.

Building a Neighborhood Garden

Dear Editor,

1 I am writing this letter to tell the people of Smithville that our town should start a neighborhood garden in the empty lot at the corner of Main Street and Thompson Street. Building this neighborhood garden would help Smithville in a number of ways.

2 The lot has been empty for a number of years, and it is dirty and filled with garbage. This is a problem because this corner is one of the first areas people see when they drive into our town. This dirty lot might make people think the whole town is dirty, which is not the case. If we built a neighborhood garden, people would drive into town and see something wonderful. We could plant some bushes and flowers that bloom throughout the year. The neighborhood garden would make our town a prettier place.

3 Another reason why a neighborhood garden would be good for our town is that it would bring together different people. The citizens who work on the garden will meet new people. They will get to know their neighbors. Having a neighborhood garden would give our town a place for people to make friends.

4 A neighborhood garden would also allow us to grow many kinds of fruits and vegetables. The town could sell some of the fruits and vegetables at the weekly farmer's market during the summer. This would help pay for the cost of plants and water for the garden. The rest could be given to the local soup kitchen to make healthy meals.

5 Finally, I believe that a neighborhood garden would give the people of Smithville something they could be proud of. The garden would be beautiful and useful. People in Smithville will have a place to show off when their friends and families visit. The garden might even bring in visitors from nearby cities and towns. I believe the garden will be a very popular attraction!

6 In conclusion, I believe that building a neighborhood garden would be wonderful for our town. The garden would help nearly everyone in Smithville in some way. Of course, building this garden will also take a lot of time and hard work. However, I feel all this hard work will be worth it in the end!

7 I think the town council should talk about this idea at their next meeting. I am asking citizens who are interested in starting a neighborhood garden to join me at that meeting and show their support for this idea.

Sincerely,

Jason Roberts

19 Which sentence from the letter **best** states the main idea?

- (A) “Building this neighborhood garden would help Smithville in a number of ways.” (paragraph 1)
- (B) “The citizens who work on the garden will meet new people.” (paragraph 3)
- (C) “People in Smithville will have a place to show off when their friends and families visit.” (paragraph 5)
- (D) “I think the town council should talk about this idea at their next meeting.” (paragraph 7)

20 What structure does the author use in paragraph 2?

- (A) chronology
- (B) cause and effect
- (C) compare and contrast
- (D) problem and solution

21 Read this sentence from the letter.

I believe the garden will be a very popular attraction!

What does “attraction” mean as it is used in this sentence?

- (A) a beautiful area
- (B) a successful business
- (C) a place people like to visit
- (D) a spot where people can rest

Session 2—Reading and Writing

Directions

In this part of **ELAP Plus Third Edition**, you will read three passages:

- On Top of the World: Sir Edmund Hillary
- All About Sea Glass
- Alex's Buried Treasure

Then you will write about what you read.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

Read this story. Then answer questions 29 through 31.

Alex's Buried Treasure

1 Every year, I visit my grandmother in a small town near the coast in Connecticut. When I visited her this year, I noticed an assortment of round, smooth stones on a table in her hallway. The stones were unusual looking, not like any other stones I had seen. Each stone was a soft shade of light blue, green, brown, or white. The frosted stones had no hard edges.

2 “Grandmother, where did you find all these strange stones?” I asked.

3 She laughed as she selected one of the stones. “These are not stones, Alex. They are actually small pieces of glass,” she said.

4 Then Grandmother introduced me to sea glass. Regular glass can be sharp and dangerous, but sea glass has been shaped and smoothed by the ocean waves. I chose a piece of green sea glass and rubbed it between my fingers. The beautiful glass was smooth and cool in my hand.

5 “That piece most likely came from an old soft drink bottle,” Grandmother explained. “I find it incredibly fascinating to think about where each piece of glass might have come from. Many of them may have tumbled in the oceans for years before they washed up on the beach. They might have come from shipwrecks or from people picnicking on the beach 100 years ago. Maybe they journeyed from the coast of England.”

6 The sea glass intrigued me. So when Grandmother asked me if I would like to start my own collection of sea glass, I immediately jumped at the chance. I imagined the piles

of smooth glass that I would find and began planning how I would display them.

7 The next morning, we woke up very early. The sun was barely peaking over the horizon when we arrived at the beach. As we strolled up and down the narrow strip of sand, Grandmother told me to look at the sand intently. Pieces of sea glass hid among the sand, seaweed, shells, and water. Grandmother suddenly knelt down. When she straightened, she displayed a small piece of blue sea glass in the palm of her hand.

8 “Oh my,” Grandmother announced excitedly. “What a gorgeous piece! I don’t have any other pieces in this shade. Blue is very rare. It might have come from an old medicine bottle or a bottle used for ink.”

9 A few minutes later, Grandmother spotted a brown piece of glass. Each time, she picked up the glass and held it up to the light of the sun. Then she carefully rinsed off the glass and placed it into her bag.

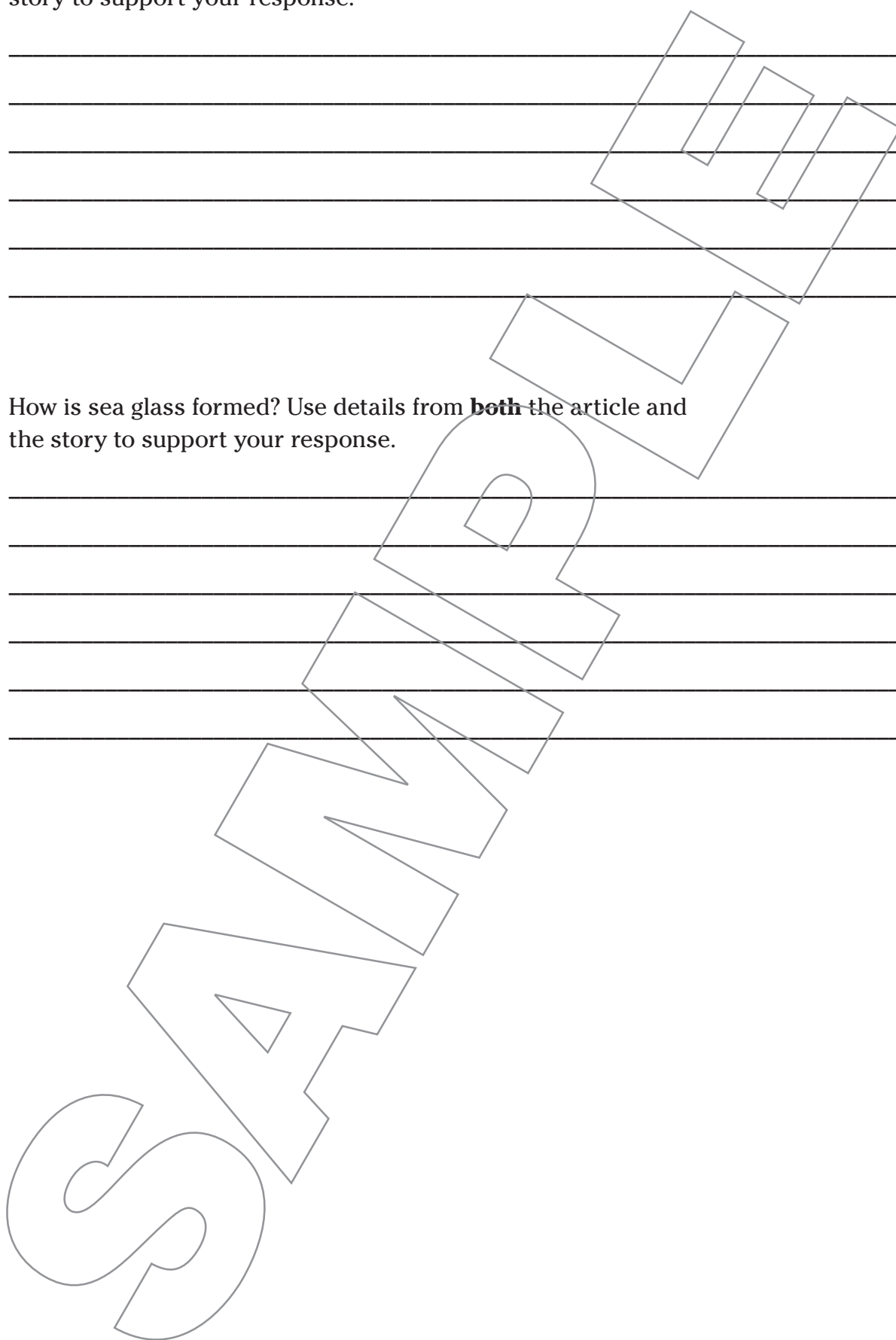
10 After searching for over an hour, I began to feel dejected. Starting my collection was turning out to be much more difficult than I had anticipated. I continued to comb the area, but my own bag remained empty. After another hour, Grandmother patted my shoulder.

11 “Let’s go home. We will hunt again next year.” Grandmother said gently.

12 Walking toward the car, I continued to scan the sand, not wanting to leave any sea glass undiscovered. Then I saw something green sticking up from the sand. Round and

29 How would you describe Alex? Use at least **two** details from the story to support your response.

30 How is sea glass formed? Use details from **both** the article and the story to support your response.



31

How was the way Alex and his grandmother collected sea glass similar to or different from the way the author of the article suggested collecting sea glass? Use details from the story and the article to support your response.

In your response, be sure to do the following:

- tell how Alex and his grandmother collected sea glass
- tell how the author of the article suggests collecting sea glass
- compare and contrast these methods
- include facts from both passages to support your answer

20 horizontal lines for writing a response.