

## Session 1—Reading

### ***Directions***

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

- A Freedom Train
- Esperanza's Paintings
- The Chrysler Building
- The Parts of a Tree
- A Life Lesson

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

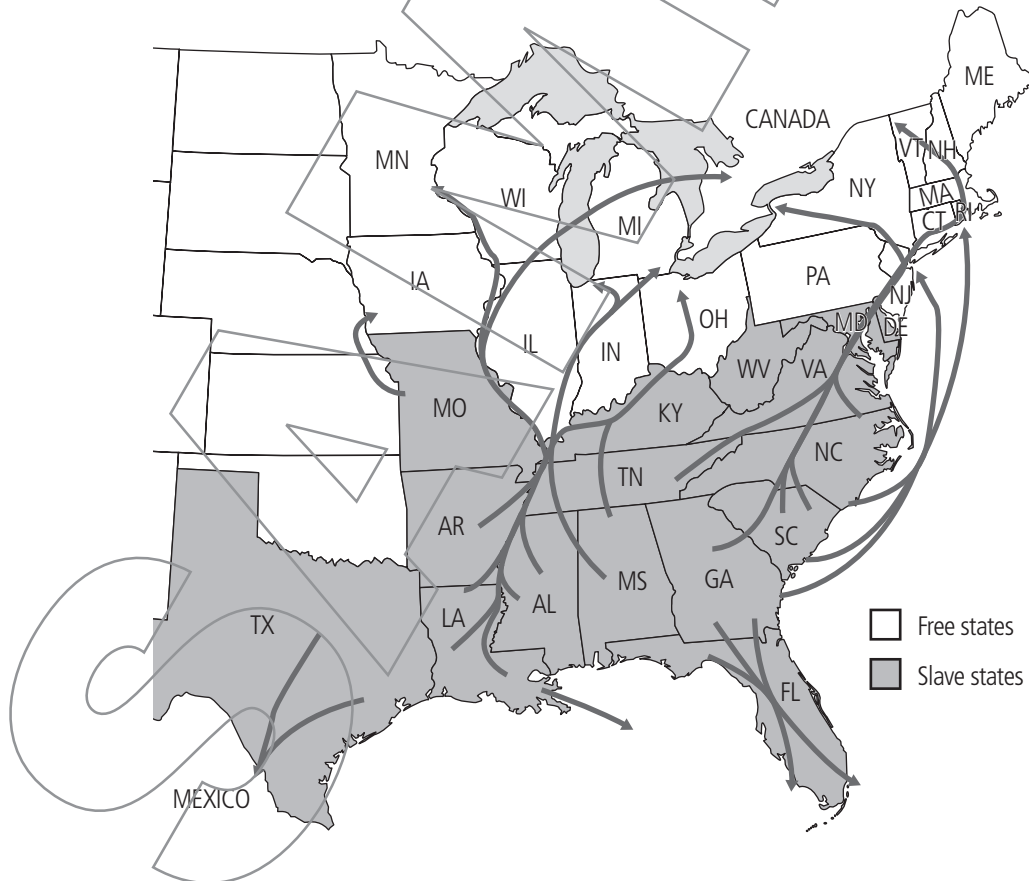
Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

Read this article. Then answer questions 1 through 7.

# A Freedom Train

- 1 What do you think of when you hear the words “underground railroad?” You might think of a subway train whizzing by under a city street or an old train chugging along on tracks leading deep into the earth. The real Underground Railroad was nothing like these trains, however. It was not under the ground—and it was not even a train!
- 2 About 300 years ago in the 1700s, slavery was common throughout most of the United States. However, some people believed that slavery was wrong. These people wanted slaves to be free. Many of these people lived in states in the North. These states passed laws to end slavery by the middle of the 19th century, which was about 1850. These states became known as “free states.” Most states in the South allowed slavery to continue. These states were called “slave states.”
- 3 An enslaved person’s life was difficult and often heartbreaking. Enslaved people in the South were forced to work long hours, often on farms, in the hot sun. Most lived in small, rundown shacks and did not have enough food to eat. Families were sometimes separated. A slave’s owner might sell the slave’s children to someone in a different area. This way of life was too much for some slaves to bear. They dreamed of being free. Some slaves decided to run away and travel to a free state.



2 What information is included in **both** the article and the map?

- (A) the split between slave states and free states
- (B) the use of rivers in planning escape routes
- (C) the years when slavery was finally ended
- (D) the number of enslaved people who escaped

3 Which sentence from the article **best** supports the idea that station owners were determined to help escaped people?

- (A) “Slaves followed many different routes when moving from one station to another.” (paragraph 6)
- (B) “Most Northerners believed that slavery was wrong, but they did not want to break the law to help a runaway slave.” (paragraph 4)
- (C) “Enslaved people in the South were forced to work long hours, often on farms, in the hot sun.” (paragraph 3)
- (D) “People hid slaves in cellars, in barns, and even under floorboards to keep them safe.” (paragraph 5)

4 According to the passage, how was the Underground Railroad important?

- (A) It helped many people escape from slave states.
- (B) It led to the end of slavery in the Northern states.
- (C) It settled the disagreement over slavery in the South.
- (D) It kept a balance between free states and slave states.

## Session 2—Reading and Writing

### ***Directions***

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

- The Science Fair
- Abigail Adams: A Life in Letters
- The Pros and Cons of High-Speed Rail

Then you will write about what you read.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

Read these letters. Then answer questions 41 and 42.

# The Pros and Cons of High-Speed Rail

Dear Editor,

1 There's been talk of building a high-speed railway station in our town. This system is much faster than an ordinary train, and it would connect our town to two nearby cities. Some people are concerned about how this might affect our community. However, I believe that this is a great opportunity for our citizens. Constructing a high-speed rail station would benefit our town in many ways.

2 Building a high-speed rail system would create hundreds of jobs. Workers would be needed to construct the railway. Later, more workers would be needed on the trains and at the railway station. In addition, people could look for jobs in the city without having to move. This would help many people in our area who have been out of work.

3 A high-speed rail system would make it easier and faster for people to travel to and from the nearby cities. This would increase tourism to our town, which could help local businesses bring in more customers. It would also allow our citizens to visit friends and family in the cities more often. I know that this would make travel more convenient for my extended family.

4 The system would help our planet too. High-speed rail trains can hold hundreds of people. Taking the train would decrease the number of vehicles on our streets and highways. This would cut down on pollution and help keep our air clean. It would also decrease traffic and make our roads safer.

5 This system could also make travel more enjoyable. People wouldn't need to worry about finding directions or dealing with traffic. They could relax, knowing that the train will get them where they need to go on time.

6 Because of these advantages, I think our local government should consider building a station in our town. I encourage all citizens who are in favor of this plan to send letters of support to our town council. Let our leaders know that you believe that a high-speed rail system is a practical solution to many of our town's problems.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Lopez

Dear Editor,

1 I am writing in response to a letter you printed last week. Sylvia Lopez wrote a letter encouraging people to support the construction of a high-speed rail station in our town. There are many benefits to this plan, but I don't think that Ms. Lopez has considered the drawbacks.

2 Ms. Lopez is right in that the construction of the high-speed rail system would create many jobs. However, she does not consider that the system could also take jobs away from local businesses. Companies in our town could lose workers who hope to make more money by taking a job in a nearby city. Also, there is no way to know if the system will increase tourism. Passengers may not choose to stop in our town. They may just ride the train from one city to another.

3 The system could help our planet by cutting the number of vehicles on the road. Still, a large number of people would need to use the train before we saw any real benefits. Ms. Lopez also doesn't consider the fact that some people prefer to drive. Many people would rather be in their own vehicles than ride a train filled with other passengers. Therefore, there is no certainty that the train will help reduce air pollution or cut down on traffic.

4 Ms. Lopez also doesn't discuss the cost of such a large project. Railway developers would pay for most of the system, but some of the money would need to come from our town. This would most likely raise taxes for homeowners, which many people, including myself, would oppose. Also, local leaders would need to find a spot for this new station in the center of town. Businesses in this area would need to find new locations or close up shop. This could lead to lost jobs.

5 I think that Ms. Lopez brings up a number of good points. A high-speed rail system could help our town if people used it often. My concern is that she doesn't mention any of the problems that a high-speed rail system could create. I'm not saying that this station couldn't help our town. All I'm saying is that citizens need to understand the facts before they make a decision that could affect our town for years to come.

Sincerely,  
Paul Barnes

**41**

What conclusion about Paul Barnes can the reader make? Use **two** sentences from his letter to support your response.

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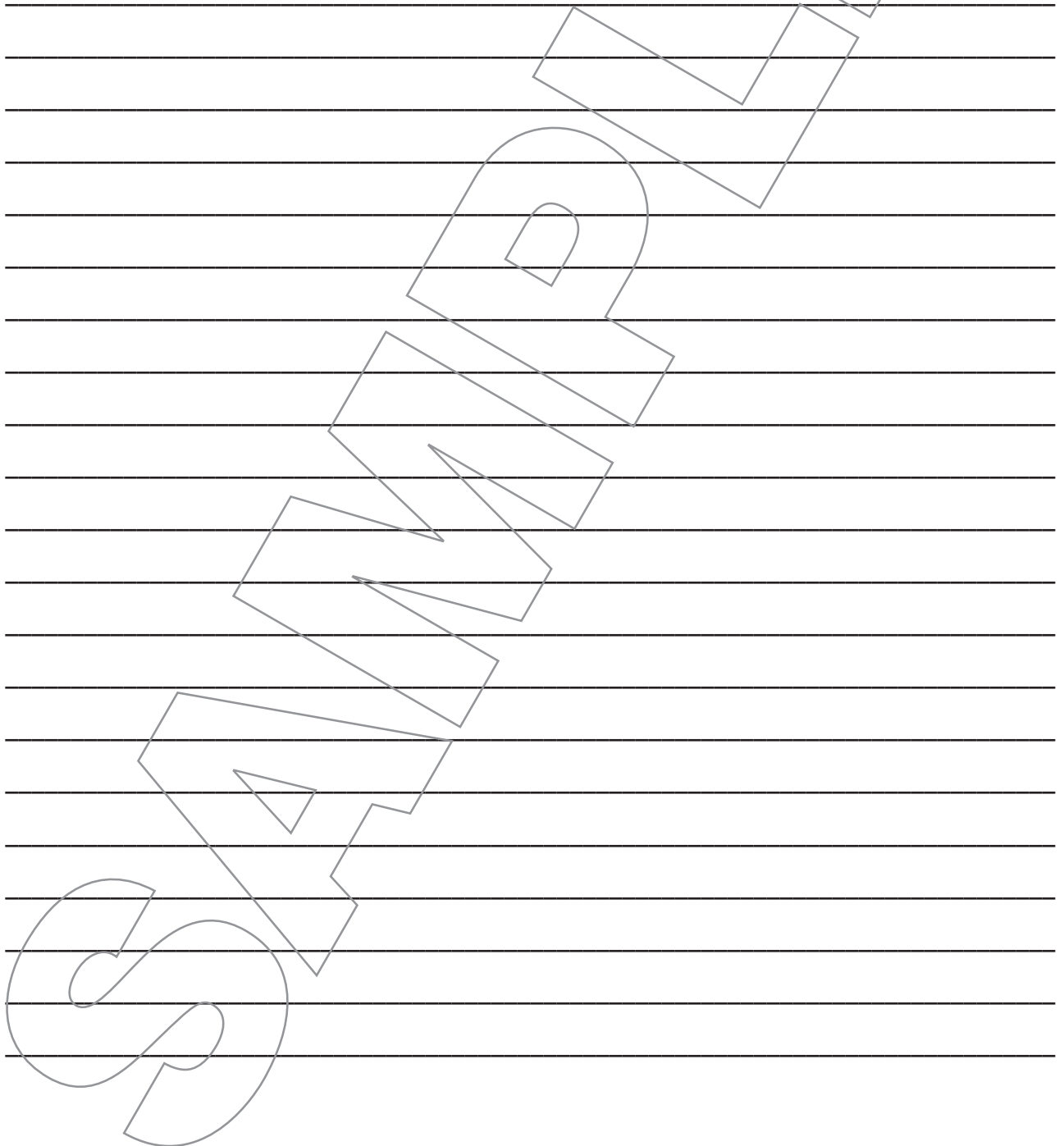
SAMPLE

42

After reading both letters, in what ways are they similar and different? How are those similarities and differences related to each author's point of view? Use examples from **both** letters to support your answer.

In your response, be sure to do the following:

- tell how the letters are the same
- tell how the letters are different
- explain how these similarities and differences relate to each author's point of view
- use examples from both letters to support your answer



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