

Session 1—Reading

Directions

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

- The Many Ways of Learning
- The Red-Headed League
- Say “No” to Alaskan Oil Drilling
- Updating the Dictionary
- Snow Days

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 story. Then answer questions 8 through 14.

The Red-Headed League

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
an adaptation

1 When I arrived at the home of my friend Sherlock Holmes I found him conferring with a gentleman in the study. The man was rather nondescript save a shock of bright orange hair, the likes of which I have seldom seen. When I entered, Holmes paused to introduce us. “Dr. Watson,” he said to me, “I would like to introduce you to my new client, Mr. Jabez Wilson, who has brought to my attention quite a curious tale. Have you heard of the Red-Headed League?”

2 I had to admit that I had not. As Holmes explained—with Mr. Wilson listening attentively and nodding his approval—the Red-Headed League was a little-known organization designed to financially assist red-headed men. Mr. Wilson had discovered the organization quite by accident and had profited greatly by it. Every day for some weeks he has reported to the League headquarters where he sat in a quiet room for two hours and leisurely copied entries from the encyclopedia.

3 “It seemed a pointless task,” noted Mr. Wilson, “but I was paid very generously for it. I made more each day than I’d earn in a week tending to my shop downtown.” Mr. Wilson continued to explain that he is the proprietor and manager of a small photography studio. When he was pursuing his strange job for the Red-Headed League, his able assistant, Mr. Vincent Spaulding, watched the shop. “He is a fine young man,” commented Mr. Wilson. “He works practically for free out of his love for the business, and, coincidentally, it was he who informed me of the existence of the Red-Headed League.”

4 I grew impatient with this seemingly inconsequential story and asked Mr. Holmes

if he didn’t have more pressing cases to investigate. Holmes, however, waved at me dismissively and said he felt compelled to pursue this curious case. His first questions involved Mr. Spaulding. Mr. Wilson, admitting little knowledge of Spaulding’s personal life, offered to bring Holmes and me to the photography studio to meet him. I was reluctant, but Holmes insisted I go along.

5 On our trip to the studio, Holmes looked around himself curiously. He noted that the studio sat right next to the Bank of London, and, while walking between the buildings, he tapped on the sidewalk with his cane. I thought this behavior was strange and admonished him to be more serious. He only gave me a wry smirk and continued about his business.

6 When we arrived at the shop, we were surprised to see it locked. Mr. Wilson was particularly puzzled and began to knock aggressively on the door, calling out for Spaulding to open up. Finally, Mr. Spaulding appeared, apologizing profusely and explaining that he had been busy in the basement developing photographs. I accepted this, but Holmes looked over Mr. Spaulding with a critical eye, noting the young man’s filthy clothing. Indeed, it looked as though he’d been covered in dirt, but this fact did not inspire anything in me except a vague sense of distaste.

7 Our meeting with Mr. Spaulding was surprisingly brief. I would have assumed Mr. Holmes would ask many penetrating questions about the nature of the Red-Headed League, but he only chatted with young Spaulding. I pulled aside Holmes and reprimanded him for losing focus on

his case, but he replied only with a smirk, reassuring me he knew exactly what he was doing. I, on the other hand, was not as certain. As we departed the shop, he again tapped the sidewalk with his cane, as though listening to the nature of the sound it made.

8 I could only groan at Holmes's nonsensical behavior. Worse, as soon as we arrived at his house, he made a stunning—and exasperating—pronouncement. “Dr. Watson, summon the Bank of London's president and Constable Jones at once,” he told me. “We have a bank robbery to thwart!”

9 At last I'd had enough of his bizarre behavior and wild theories. “Mr. Holmes, I must protest! I don't see any basis for this sort of alarm, or for your theories, which seem entirely unrelated to the case at hand,” I said.

10 To this rebuke he replied simply, “You don't see because you aren't looking—now hurry!” Falling on my tireless faith in Holmes, I obeyed his order. Two hours later we were seated in the basement of the Bank of London with the president Mr. Merryweather, the police officer Peter Jones, and Mr. Jabez Wilson. We waited, and waited, and waited. Finally, I complained to Holmes, but he just raised a hand to silence me, and then pointed to the floor near which we sat. “Do you hear that?”

11 Sure enough, there was a vague scraping sound beneath the ancient stone floor of the basement. It grew louder and louder until it seemed only inches away from us. Whispering, Holmes told Constable Jones to be on the ready. We prepared for action, and, a moment later, a chisel cracked through the floor, breaking open a hole. From this hole popped none other than Mr. Vincent Spaulding, covered with dirt! I leapt back with surprise, but Holmes and Constable Jones leapt forward to apprehend the young man.

12 As Constable Jones took the would-be bank robber to prison, the rest of us looked with disbelief at Holmes, and I asked how he had determined this surprising crime was about to occur. “Elementary, Dr. Watson,” he said. “It only made sense that Mr. Spaulding invented the ridiculous Red-Headed League to get Mr. Wilson to leave the photography studio each day. During that interval, Mr. Spaulding would disappear into the basement to dig a tunnel stretching toward this bank vault. I was able to confirm the presence of the tunnel by the hollow sound of my taps on the sidewalk, and deduced Mr. Spaulding's excavations by his dirty clothes.”

13 At last, I had to laugh, because once again the uncanny Sherlock Holmes had amazed us all.

8 Why was Jabez Wilson offered a job with the Red-Headed League?

- (A) to contact Holmes for assistance
- (B) to teach Watson about the group
- (C) to get him out of his shop each day
- (D) to gain his help in planning a tunnel

Session 2—Reading and Writing

Directions

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

- The Fisherman and the Jinni
- The Case for Locally Grown Foods
- Why Eating Locally Grown Foods Isn't Necessary

Then you will write about what you read.

Now turn the page and begin.

SAMPLE

Why Eating Locally Grown Foods Isn't Necessary

by Tim Stabler

1 Lately it seems like everywhere I turn I read another story about the so-called local food movement. Supporters of the local food movement call themselves “locavores.” They believe in eating locally grown food as much as possible. They urge people not only to buy from local farmers but also to grow food in their own backyards and community gardens.

2 Don't get me wrong; I'm the first to admit that I enjoy stopping by the farmers' market once in a while to purchase a fresh, juicy tomato. Where I live in New York, fresh, locally grown tomatoes are easy to find in July and August. But in the winter—not so much. What's a guy to do when he wants a slice of tomato on his sandwich in January? The saying goes, “An apple a day keeps the doctor away.” If I become a locavore, I guess my health will be in good shape in autumn, but what about the other three seasons? Because certain fruits and vegetables are available only in certain seasons, making the decision to eat only locally grown foods is simply impractical. But this is not the only problem with locavores' argument.

3 Many locavores argue that international trade and the shipment of food around the world are bad for the environment. They cite “food miles” in the thousands and highlight the amount of greenhouse gases the vehicles that carry these foods produce. In a report in *Environmental Science & Technology*, however, researchers Christopher L. Weber and H. Scott Matthews challenged this idea. They stated that the movement of food “represents only 11% of life-cycle [greenhouse gas] emissions.” In fact, they found that food production actually produces more greenhouse gases—about 83%. Thus, all those people who buy into the local food movement and start growing their own food may actually do more harm to the environment than good. Weber and Matthews also determined that, when it comes to lowering greenhouse gases, where food comes from may not be as important as what people eat. For example, the production of red meat creates about 150% more greenhouse gases than chicken or fish. Therefore, simply switching one day's worth of red meat to chicken-, fish-, or vegetable-based dishes results in a greater decrease in greenhouse gases than buying locally.

4 Others argue that people can save money by producing their own food. This simply isn't true. Different regions throughout the United States have just the right climate, soil, and other factors necessary to grow particular crops. As a result, those regions often specialize in growing one type of crop in mass quantities. Often they are also able to grow more food on less land. Consider how difficult it would be to grow citrus fruits, which thrive in Florida's hot, humid climate, in the much colder state of Maine. Likewise, apples, which grow well in the cool Northeast, would have a much harder time growing in Florida. Creating the correct growing environment for crops that don't normally grow in a certain region would require more land, fertilizers, and chemicals, all of which would increase costs.

- 41 How does Tim Stabler support his claim that the shipment of food is not bad for the environment? Use at least **two** details from the article to support your response.

- 42 Explain how Tim Stabler contradicts Anita Diaz's statements about how buying locally grown foods helps reduce greenhouse gases. Use at least **two** details from "Why Eating Locally Grown Foods Isn't Necessary" to support your response.

43

In “The Case for Locally Grown Foods” and “Why Eating Locally Grown Foods Isn’t Necessary,” the authors discuss the movement of foods and how this movement affects the environment. Using details from **both** articles, explain the conflicting arguments the authors present regarding this topic. Then, explain which argument you believe is stronger.

In your response, be sure to do the following:

- explain how Anita Diaz addresses this topic
- explain how Tim Stabler addresses this topic
- explain which argument is stronger
- use details to support your answer
