



**Grade 3**  
**English Language Arts/Literacy**  
**Literary Analysis Task**

**2017 Released Items**

## **2017 Released Items: Grade 3 Literary Analysis Task**

The Literary Analysis Task requires students to read two literary texts that are purposely paired. Students read the texts, answer questions for each text and for the texts as a pair, and then write an analytic essay.

The 2017 blueprint for PARCC's grade 3 Literary Analysis Task includes Evidence-Based Selected Response/Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response items as well as one Prose Constructed Response prompt.

### **Included in this document:**

- Answer key and standards alignment
- PDFs of each item with the associated text(s)

### **Additional related materials not included in this document:**

- Sample scored student responses with annotations and practice papers
- PARCC Scoring Rubric for Prose Constructed Response Items
- Guide to English Language Arts/Literacy Released Items: Understanding Scoring

**PARCC Release Items Answer and Alignment Document**  
**ELA/Literacy: Grade 3**

<b>Text Type:</b> LAT																	
<b>Passage(s):</b> "Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup, Part I" and "Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup, Part II"																	
<b>Item Code</b>	<b>Answer(s)</b>	<b>Standards/Evidence Statement Alignment</b>															
VF824044	<b>Item Type: EBSR</b> <b>Part A:</b> C <b>Part B:</b> C	L 3.4.1 RL 3.1.1 RL 3.4.1															
VF824057	<b>Item Type: EBSR</b> <b>Part A:</b> C <b>Part B:</b> A	RL 3.1.1 RL 3.2.1 RL 3.3.2															
VF824051	<b>Item Type: EBSR</b> <b>Part A:</b> D <b>Part B:</b> B	RL 3.1.1 RL 3.3.1															
VF824067	<b>Item Type: EBSR</b> <b>Part A:</b> C <b>Part B:</b> B	L 3.4.1 RL 3.1.1 RL 3.4.1															
VF824068	<b>Item Type: EBSR</b> <b>Part A:</b> B <b>Part B:</b> D	RL 3.1.1 RL 3.3.1															
VF824060	<b>Item Type: TECR</b>  Select an event from each list in the chart to show the correct order of events in Part I and Part II of the story.  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Part I Events in Order</th> <th>Part II Events in Order</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>#1</td> <td>Lars is chased by huskies.</td> <td>Floe barks at the seals.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#2</td> <td>Lars rescues Floe from the drifting ice.</td> <td>Lars and Floe kayak toward town.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#3</td> <td>Lars gives some fish to Floe.</td> <td>Floe's mother hears him.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#4</td> <td>Floe protects Lars from the hunters.</td> <td>Floe gives Lars his collar as a gift.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Part I Events in Order	Part II Events in Order	#1	Lars is chased by huskies.	Floe barks at the seals.	#2	Lars rescues Floe from the drifting ice.	Lars and Floe kayak toward town.	#3	Lars gives some fish to Floe.	Floe's mother hears him.	#4	Floe protects Lars from the hunters.	Floe gives Lars his collar as a gift.	RL 3.1.1 RL 3.2.1
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VF824069	<b>Item Type: PCR</b>	RL 3.1.1 RL 3.7.1															

**Today you will read and think about two passages from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*. As you read these passages, you will gather information and answer questions about how the illustrations help you understand the passages so you can write an essay.**

Read Part I of the passage from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*. Then answer the questions.

from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*

by Hans de Beer

Part I

- 1** Lars, the Little Polar Bear, lived at the North Pole, where there are no trees or flowers, just ice and snow. Lars didn't mind. He loved to go for long walks across the ice, always wondering what he might find behind the next snow hill.
- 2** One day Lars walked even farther than usual, and he was very hungry. He lifted his nose and sniffed. There was a delicious smell in the air, but he didn't know what it was.
- 3** The delicious smell came from an igloo. That meant there were people! Lars's father had warned him to stay away from people. "They're dangerous!" he always said.
- 4** But the smell from the igloo was so tempting that Lars couldn't resist. He crawled closer, keeping well away from a team of sled dogs, who seemed to be fast asleep. Suddenly there was a growl. The huskies jumped up and strained at their leashes. The leashes snapped, and the whole team rushed at Lars, barking furiously.
- 5** Lars was lucky he had a head start. When the dogs saw they would never catch up with him, they lost interest and turned back. At last Lars could stop and catch his breath. He crawled into an ice cave and went to sleep.

- 6** He was woken by a strange noise. It sounded like a whimper, but Lars couldn't see where it came from. He walked over to a deep crack in the ice and peered down. There sat a sad little husky. Although the other dogs had given him a fright, he felt sorry for this little one.
- 7** "Don't be frightened," said Lars. "I'll help you!"
- 8** Lars started to push snow into the hole. He worked and worked until the pile of snow was big enough to let the little dog climb all the way out. But as soon as the puppy was back on firm ground he began to growl.
- 9** "Hey! I just helped you!" said Lars indignantly.
- 10** The puppy barked.



- 11** How ungrateful! thought Lars. He turned away in disgust, and bounded off towards the sea. The little dog ran after him. Lars ran across the chunks of ice until he had left the puppy far behind. The puppy sat down on a drifting piece of ice and howled pitifully.
- 12** "I would gladly help," Lars shouted to the puppy, "but I don't want to be growled at!"
- 13** The little dog looked embarrassed. "I won't growl," he said. "I promise. Please don't leave me!"
- 14** So Lars towed the puppy back to shore.

- 15** "What's your name?" he asked. "Mine's Lars."
- 16** "I'm Floe. Will you take me back to the igloo? I want my mother, and I'm hungry!"
- 17** "I'll take you home tomorrow, if it stops snowing," said Lars. "We can wait out the storm here."
- 18** Then Lars caught some fish and offered one to Floe, who gobbled it up.
- 19** "That wasn't as good as meat," Floe complained.
- 20** "You'll have meat again soon," said Lars.
- 21** He shovelled snow into a pile and they lay down to sleep behind it, sheltered from the icy wind.
- 22** The next morning Lars and Floe set off under a clear blue sky to find the igloo. But when they got there the dogs had gone, and snow had covered their tracks.
- 23** "I want my mother!" wailed Floe. Then he began to howl, louder than ever.
- 24** This time Lars understood why. He tried to comfort the little dog. "We'll find her," he said. "Tell me which way you were heading."
- 25** "To the town by the sea, where lots of people live."
- 26** "Oh, yes, I know it," said Lars. "Let's go."
- 27** The little polar bear and the puppy walked on and on. They didn't stop even when darkness fell. So they didn't see the hunters until it was almost too late! They had to duck down quickly behind some rocks.
- 28** The hunters came closer and closer. Suddenly Floe began to growl.
- 29** "Shh!" hissed Lars. "You'll give us away!"

**30** But the impetuous puppy jumped up and started barking.



**31** “Huh! It’s just a stray dog,” said one of the hunters, laughing. Then he and his friends got back on their snowmobiles and drove away.

**32** “Phew! You did the right thing, after all,” said Lars, “but I don’t think we should go any further tonight. We’ll find your mother tomorrow, Floe.”

Text & illustrations from LITTLE POLAR BEAR AND THE HUSKY PUP written and illustrated by Hans de Beer, published as KLEINER EISBÄR LASS MICH NICHT ALLEIN, copyright © 1999 by NordSüd Verlag AG, Zurich/Switzerland.

**1. Part A**

What is the meaning of **indignantly** as it is used in paragraph 9?

- A. sadly
- B. kindly
- C. angrily
- D. happily

**Part B**

Which idea in the story supports the answer to Part A?

- A. Lars is concerned that Floe is lost.
- B. Lars is eager to give Floe fish to eat.
- C. Lars is bothered that Floe growls at him.
- D. Lars is glad to rescue Floe from the deep crack.



**2. Part A**

What happens when Lars gets close to the igloo the first time?

- A. Lars meets Floe.
- B. Lars rescues Floe.
- C. Lars is chased by dogs.
- D. Lars finds a place to rest.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the story **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "The leashes snapped, and the whole team rushed at Lars, barking furiously." (paragraph 4)
- B. "He was woken by a strange noise." (paragraph 6)
- C. "He worked and worked until the pile of snow was big enough to let the little dog climb all the way out." (paragraph 8)
- D. "'I would gladly help,' Lars shouted to the puppy, 'but I don't want to be growled at!'" (paragraph 12)

**3. Part A**

Which statement explains why Lars helps Floe when they first meet?

- A. Lars would like a friend to talk to.
- B. Lars believes that the dog needs food.
- C. Lars is looking for someone to travel with.
- D. Lars is concerned because the dog is trapped.

**Part B**

Which sentence from the passage supports the answer to Part A?

- A. "When the dogs saw they would never catch up with him, they lost interest and turned back." (paragraph 5)
- B. "Although the other dogs had given him a fright, he felt sorry for this little one." (paragraph 6)
- C. "Then Lars caught some fish and offered one to Floe, who gobbled it up." (paragraph 18)
- D. "The next morning Lars and Floe set off under a clear blue sky to find the igloo." (paragraph 22)

Read Part II of the passage from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*. Then answer the questions.

from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*

by Hans de Beer

Part II

- 1 In the morning they walked to the sea. A pair of seals was basking on the shore. Floe charged at them, barking excitedly.
- 2 "Stop, Floe! Leave them alone!" shouted Lars, as the seals fled into the water.
- 3 Suddenly Floe stopped barking. "Lars! Look at this!" he yapped. He had found an old kayak.
- 4 "Kayaks belong to people," said Lars, looking anxious, "and people are dangerous." He sniffed the kayak all over. Then he said, "It's all right. Nobody has used this kayak for a long time. What a good find! Now we can travel twice as fast."



- 5 "Paddling a kayak isn't as easy as it looks," said Lars, as they wobbled across the water.
- 6 "Never mind," said Floe. "I think we're nearly there. Tonight we'll have meat for supper. Hooray!"
- 7 "Listen," said Lars sternly, "you're not to run off after meat! You must

stay close to me.”

- 8 In the twilight, as the kayak slipped silently towards the town, they both began to feel nervous.
- 9 “Don’t make a sound, Floe,” whispered Lars.
- 10 And for once Floe kept his mouth shut tight.



- 11 But the moment they stepped ashore, Floe cried, “I smell food!” And before Lars could stop him, he was gone!
- 12 What was Lars to do? As he stood wondering, he heard a shout: “Stop, thief!” and Floe ran past him with a funny chain hanging from his mouth. Lars ran after him. When they were at a safe distance from the town, Floe stopped and laid the funny chain at Lars’s feet.
- 13 “That smells good,” said Lars.
- 14 “Just wait till you taste it!” said Floe. “It’s not like fish at all.”
- 15 But the more Floe ate, the sadder he seemed to be. “Will I ever find my mother?” he said mournfully.
- 16 Then he lifted his little head and gave a desperate howl.
- 17 There he goes again, thought Lars. What could he do to keep the reckless little creature quiet?

- 18** Then Lars heard loud, excited barks. There was no time to run away. Suddenly he was surrounded by dogs, but they didn't hurt him. One of them was Floe's mother. She had heard her puppy howling and rushed to find him.
- 19** Floe told his mother how Lars had found him and brought him to the town.
- 20** "Thank you, Lars," she said. "Now you must let us take you home."
- 21** The two friends hopped onto the dogsled and were whisked away.
- 22** "This is more fun than kayaking," said Lars happily.
- 23** Lars's parents were amazed to see Lars jump off a dogsled, and even more amazed by the funny chain that Floe laid at their feet.
- 24** "Here's something that tastes much better than fish!" he told them.
- 25** Then he turned to Lars and said, "I want you to have my collar. It will help you remember me."
- 26** The dog team barked a farewell and sped away.
- 27** As Floe's sled disappeared over the horizon, Lars put down the collar, raised his head, and howled.
- 28** How strange it sounded, and how sad, thought his parents.
- 29** After that, Lars was often seen with a smile on his face and a bright red collar around his neck.

Text & illustrations from *LITTLE POLAR BEAR AND THE HUSKY PUP* written and illustrated by Hans de Beer, published as *KLEINER EISBÄR LASS MICH NICHT ALLEIN*, copyright © 1999 by NordSüd Verlag AG, Zurich/Switzerland.

**4. Part A**

What is the meaning of **anxious** as it is used in paragraph 4 in Part II of the story?

- A. quiet
- B. careful
- C. worried
- D. interested

**Part B**

Which detail from paragraphs 3 and 4 helps the reader understand the meaning of the word **anxious**?

- A. “. . . Floe stopped barking.” (paragraph 3)
- B. “. . . people are dangerous.” (paragraph 4)
- C. “. . . a good find!” (paragraph 4)
- D. “. . . we can travel twice as fast.” (paragraph 4)

Read Part I of the passage from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup* and Part II of the passage from *Little Polar Bear and the Husky Pup*. Then answer the questions.

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**5. Part A**

Based on Parts I and II of the story, what does Floe want most of all?

- A. to eat meat
- B. to find his family
- C. to make a lot of noise
- D. to have an adventure with Lars

**Part B**

Which idea from the story supports the answer to Part A?

- A. Floe gives Lars something new to eat.
- B. Floe says he will be nice if Lars will rescue him.
- C. Floe becomes excited when he finds the kayak.
- D. Floe makes noise to show that he wants his mother.

6. Select an event from each list in the chart to show the correct order of events in Part I and Part II of the story.

	Part I Events in Order	Part II Events in Order
#1	<input type="text" value="Choose..."/>	<input type="text" value="Choose..."/>
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#4	<input type="text" value="Choose..."/>	<input type="text" value="Choose..."/>

**Part I Events**

- Floe protects Lars from the hunters.
- Lars is chased by huskies.
- Lars rescues Floe from the drifting ice.
- Lars gives some fish to Floe.

**Part II Events**

- Floe gives Lars his collar as a gift.
- Floe's mother hears him.
- Floe barks at the seals.
- Lars and Floe kayak toward town.



7. Look at these pictures from Part I and Part II of the story.



Write an essay to explain how the pictures and words in the story provide details about the setting. Be sure to use evidence from both Part I and Part II in your essay.

