

Name _____

Date _____

Grade 4 Reading

Theme 6 Selection 3

“Skylark”

Read the selection, “Skylark”. Then, answer the following questions.

1. At the beginning of the story, why does the coyote come near the farm?

- a) The coyote wants to be friends with the children.
- b) The coyote is the family’s pet.
- c) The coyote is thirsty and is looking for water.
- d) The coyote wants to kill Moonbeam.

2. What happened as Papa raised his rifle to shoot the coyote?

- a) Caleb shouted “Coyote!”
- b) Sarah grabbed the barrel of the rifle to save the coyote.
- c) Papa told Caleb to put the animals in the barn.
- d) Anna went to get a drink of water for Sarah.

3. Who is telling the story?

- a) Sarah
- b) Caleb
- c) Anna
- d) Papa

4. The genre of this story is

- a) historical fiction
- b) fantasy
- c) biography
- d) nonfiction

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5. Why did Papa stop trying to put out the fire in the barn?

- a) He knew that he could build a new barn someday.
- b) He didn't have a hose long enough to reach the barn.
- c) He simply gave up.
- d) They didn't have enough water.

6. Which of the following is a generalization about "what life on the prairie was like".

- a) The prairie looked like a sea of grass.
- b) There were long periods without rain.
- c) Prairie life was often difficult, but at other times, it was enjoyable.
- d) Coyotes could wander onto your property.

7. After the fire, what do you think Papa and Sarah are talking about near the clothesline?

- a) They would begin to rebuild the barn right away.
- b) Sarah and the children would have to move to Maine until the farm is rebuilt.
- c) The whole family would have to leave the prairie forever and move to Maine.
- d) They would never be able to rebuild the farm again.

8. Why does everyone get cleaned up and wear their best clothes in the middle of the story?

- a) They hadn't bathed in a long time. It was bath day.
- b) They were going on a trip to Maine to visit the aunts.
- c) It was Sunday and they were going to church.
- d) They wanted to celebrate Sarah's birthday in a special way.

9. Which context clue, on p.695, helps you to know the meaning of the word **phonograph**?

- a) "He took the cloth away."
- b) "Suddenly, music filled the yard."
- c) "Papa walked up to her and held up his hand."
- d) "Sarah stared."

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Open-ended Response

In the story “Skylark”, Papa decided that the family should move to Maine until the farm could be rebuilt. Use at least 3 details from the selection to explain why this was or was not a good decision for the family.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Grade 4 Reading
Theme 6 Selection 3 “Skylark”
Answer Key and Eligible Content

Item Number	Correct Answer	Descriptor	Assessment Anchor
1	c	Inference	R4.A.1.3.1
2	b	Cause / Effect	R4.B.1.1.1
3	c	Inference	R4.A.1.3.1
4	a	Genre	R4.A.1.6
5	d	Inference	R4.A.1.3.1
6	c	Generalizations	R4.B.1.2.1
7	b	Inference	R4.A.1.3.1
8	a	Cause / Effect	R4.B.1.1.1
9	b	Context clues	R4.A.1.2.2
Open-ended		Inference	R4.A.1.3.1

Open-ended Rubric

3 points

Student demonstrates complete knowledge of inferring whether Papa’s solution to send the family to Maine was or was not a good decision, using at least 3 details from the story to support his/her answer.

2 points

Student demonstrates partial knowledge of inferring whether Papa’s solution to send the family to Maine was or was not a good decision, using 2 details from the story to support his/her answer.

1 point

Student demonstrates incomplete knowledge of inferring whether Papa’s solution to send the family to Maine was or was not a good decision, using only 1 detail from the story to support his/her answer.

0 points

Student’s response provides insufficient material for scoring or is inaccurate in all respects.

