

Grade 4 PARCC Writing Tasks
Examining the Language

Literary Analysis

Identify a theme in “Just Like Home” and a theme in “Life Doesn’t Frighten Me”. Write an essay that explains how the theme of the story is shown through the characters and how the theme of the poem is shown through the speaker. Include specific details from the story and the poem to support your essay.

Questions for Discussions

What does this task require to students to understand and do?

What genre and type/form of writing does this task require?

What unit(s) of study support this type of writing?

What minilessons will help support your writers so that they can be successful?

How does the PARCC rubric match the task?

Research Task

(The following directions preface the articles and are repeated at the top of the next page, but they are separate from the actual directions.)

Today you will read ... As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions so that you can write an essay.

Your class has been studying about the survival of the ponies of Assateague Island. Using information from the articles and the video, describe the roles that both the horses and the humans play in the horses’ survival. Use the evidence from the articles and the video to support your answer.

Questions for Discussion

What does this task require to students to understand and do?

What genre and type/form of writing does this task require?

What unit(s) of study support this type of writing?

What minilessons will help support your writers so that they can be successful?

How does the PARCC rubric match the task?

Narrative Task

In “Those Wacky Shoes” a girl has to outsmart a pair of shoes. Think about the details the author uses to create the characters, settings, and events.

Imagine that you, like the girl in the story, find a pair of wacky shoes that won't come off. Write a story about how you find the pair of shoes and what happens to you when you are wearing them. Use what you have learned about the wacky shoes when writing your story.

Questions for Discussion

What does this task require to students to understand and do?

What genre and type/form of writing does this task require?

What unit(s) of study support this type of writing?

What minilessons will help support your writers so that they can be successful?

How does the PARCC rubric match the task?