

Practice Booklet

Grade 5 Language Art Performance Task

Name of Student: _____

Name of School: _____

Language Arts Performance Task

General Instructions:

This paper has two parts: Part 1 has four (4) questions and Part 2 requires you to write a story.

Instructions to Begin

You will read two sources which are passages. In the space provided to you, write the important points from each of the sources. It will help you to have your important points to look at while answering the questions in Part 1 and for writing your story in Part 2. You may look back at any of the sources.

Source 1

A Light Pollution Study Near You

by Noreen Grice

Thousands of years ago, people looked up at the starry night sky and saw thousands of twinkling stars. They imagined star patterns and star gods; the night sky was a major part of their lives. Ancient sky watchers timed the rising of certain stars or sky patterns and used them as a sky calendar to help decide when to plant and harvest certain crops. . . . Today, the nighttime sky has changed, and for some people it has almost disappeared. If you live in a big city, ask yourself, “What looks brighter . . . the lights in the buildings or the lights in the sky?” The answer most likely will be that the lights in the buildings are brighter than the stars. Businesses that operate at night must have lighting, that’s obvious. But now let’s add in light from street poles and highways, security lights, sports fields, and lit billboards. When you combine all these sources of light, you have so much that it actually illuminates the night sky and makes it hard to see the stars. A satellite photograph of North America . . . shows that the most populated areas—particularly Boston; New York; Washington, DC; Chicago; Los Angeles; and generally along the east and west coasts—have the lightest output at night. Here, it is almost impossible to do any sky watching at night. “Light pollution” is the term that describes the effect of artificial lights on the night sky. But there are concerns even greater than just the increased difficulty of seeing stars. Some studies of light pollution show environmental impacts, with changes in animal behavior and plant growth. For example, birds blinded by lights glowing

in high-rise office buildings have become disoriented and flown into the buildings. . . . If you live in a light-polluted area, try this simple technique for naked-eye viewing: Cup your hands around your eyes to block out some of the unwanted background light. How much better is your view now?

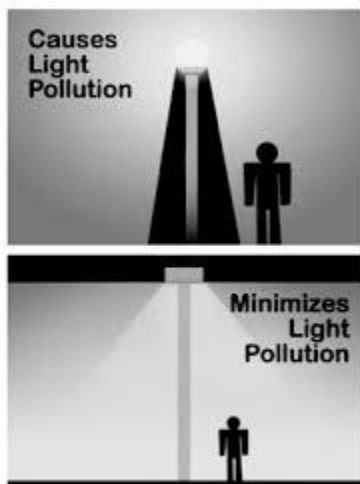
“A Light Pollution Study Near You” by Noreen Grice, from *Odyssey*. Copyright 2005 by Carus Publishing Company. Reprinted by permission of Carus Publishing Company via Copyright Clearance Center.

Source 2

Sources of Light Pollution

by Renee Bauer

Light pollution happens when artificial lights make it hard to see the night sky. Most light pollution is caused by outdoor lights, such as street lamps. Many outdoor lights shine upward or sideways. This light escapes upward. It scatters and brightens the night sky. The brightness makes the sky harder to see. Air pollution can also cause light pollution. Air pollution happens when harmful particles are released in the air. These particles can harm people, plants, and animals. The particles also make light pollution even worse. They make more light scatter at night. Outdoor lights that send all light downward reduce light pollution. These lights are called full cut-off lights. They are called full cut-off lights because they give no direct up light. Another way to reduce light pollution is to use less powerful lamps or bulbs. Look at the diagram below. The top shows an example of poor outdoor lighting. The light shines upward and sideways, which causes light pollution. The bottom shows an example of good outdoor lighting. The light shines downward. This minimizes light pollution.



“Sources of Light Pollution” by Renee Bauer. Written for educational purposes.

Write the important points from the sources.

These points will not be scored.

Source 1	Source 2

Instructions for Part 1

Now that you have read the sources, answer the questions below. Your answers will be scored. You may refer to the important points you made, as well as the sources. Your answers to these question will help you write your story in Part 2.

Questions

1. For each of the following statements, indicate using a tick whether the statement is supported by Source 1 or Source 2. (Both sources may apply in some instances.)

Statements	Source 1	Source 2
1. Light pollution is caused by artificial lights.		
2. Light pollution is as a result of Air pollution.		
3. Pollution affects plant and animals		
4. Some lights reduce light pollution.		

2. Which source makes better use of the test feature compare and contrast? Explain your choice by giving **two (2)** supporting details from the source.

3. What is the main idea of source 1? Explain your answer by giving **two (2)** supporting details from the source.

4. Which source better demonstrates **cause and effect**? Justify your answer?

Instruction for Part 2

You will now review your important point and write your story. You may also look back at the answer you wrote in Part 1. Read the task and the information about what to include in your story and then begin your work.

Task

