

## PART 2—WRITING

### Unit 3—Responding to Texts

#### Lesson 10: Listen Up!

#### New York ELA Practice, pages 118 and 119

**Teacher’s Note:** When your students are prepared, read the following story to them. You will read the story twice. Instruct students to listen carefully the first time the story is read. On the second read, instruct students to take notes in the space provided in their workbooks.

### How Mowgli Joined the Wolf Family

adapted by Robyn Winchell

from *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Kipling

It was seven o’clock on a very warm evening when Father Wolf woke from his day’s rest. He scratched himself, yawned, and stretched. Mother Wolf lay with her nose dropped across her four squealing cubs. The moon shone into the mouth of the cave where they all lived.

“Come, Mother Wolf. It is time to hunt again.” They went to the mouth of the cave and sniffed the night breeze. Standing in the cave entrance, they watched the moon rise. Before long, Father Wolf heard the dry, angry whine of a tiger who had caught nothing.

“The fool!” said Father Wolf. “It is not wise to begin a night’s hunt with that noise! The tiger cannot sneak up on a wild animal if it makes such a whine!”

“It is not animals he hunts tonight,” said Mother Wolf. “It is Man.”

The bushes in front of the cave rustled a little, and Father Wolf got ready to spring. Then he stopped.

“A man cub,” he said. “Look!”

Directly in front of him, holding on to a low branch, stood a baby boy who could just walk. He looked into the eyes of Father Wolf and laughed.

“Is that a man’s cub?” asked Mother Wolf. “I have never seen one. Bring it here.”

Father Wolf’s jaws closed on the boy ever so gently. Without leaving so much as a tooth mark, he picked the boy up in his mouth and laid him down among the cubs.

“How little and how bold!” said Mother Wolf softly. The baby was pushing his way between the cubs to get close to the mother’s warm body. “And so this is a man’s cub. Was there ever a wolf family that could brag of a man’s cub among its children?”

“I have heard of such a thing, but never in our pack or in our times,” said Father Wolf. “He is altogether without hair, and I could easily hurt him with my strength. But see, he looks at me and is not afraid.”

## Workbook Answers

Just then the moonlight was blocked out of the cave. Shere Khan, the great tiger, pushed his head into the darkness and said, “I want my dinner. Give me the man cub. It is mine.”

“Wolves are a free people,” said Father Wolf. “We take orders from the Head of the Pack, not from some striped killer of cattle! The man cub is our cub now. Go away from this cave!”

The tiger’s roar filled the cave with thunder. Mother Wolf shook herself clear of the cubs and sprang forward. Her eyes were like two green moons in the darkness, facing the blazing eyes of Shere Khan.

“The man cub is mine. He shall come to no harm. He shall live to run with the Pack and hunt with the Pack!”

Years ago, when Mother Wolf ran with the Pack, she was known for her strength and bravery. The tiger might have faced Father Wolf, but he could not stand up against Mother Wolf when she was protecting her young.

Shere Khan backed his head out of the cave, growling softly. Mother Wolf paused and blinked at Father Wolf. She threw herself down, panting, among the cubs.

“The man cub came to us alone, at night, hungry, cold, and as helpless as our own cubs,” said Mother Wolf. “Yet, he was not afraid. We will keep him and protect him.” Then she curled her warm body around her tiny children—man cub and wolf cub, alike.

Father Wolf watched his family for a moment, then trotted out into the moonlight to begin his hunt for food.

## Lesson 11: Writing Out Answers

### Pages 121–124

1. Responses will vary. Possible response: The girls prepare for their camping trip by practicing putting up their tent.
  2. Responses will vary. Possible response: After the girls arrive at the campground, they realize they forgot to bring their tent.
  3. Responses will vary. Possible response: Brenda, Carlotta, and Carmen are going on a camping trip with some other girls. They want to be the first ones to get their tent set up, so they practice setting up their tent all week before the trip. When the day of the trip arrives, the girls get to the campground only to realize they left their tent in Carlotta’s backyard.
  4. Responses will vary. Possible response: Grandma wants to smile because she thinks it’s funny that, after spending so much time preparing for their trip, the girls forgot their tent. The girls were sure they’d be the first ones to get their tent set up, but because they forgot their tent, they’ll probably be the last.
  5. Responses will vary. Possible response: At the beginning of the story, the girls are excited for the trip. They practice setting up their tent, and on the drive to the campground, they talk about how much fun it will be to be the first ones to set up their tent. At the end of the story, the girls are most likely disappointed because they forgot their tent. Carlotta and Brenda look at Carmen “with frowns on their faces.”
- Responses will vary. Students should complete the organizer with two main events that fall between the first and last event in the chart.

# Listening Passage for New York ELA Practice Test Form A

## Circus Family

by Betsy Allen Smythe

Amanda felt great excitement as the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus returned home for its winter break. This winter, Amanda would learn how to play a new role in her family's acrobatic act.

Her sister Emily had grown too old for her place in the act. Amanda's family was a group of acrobats. They would tumble and jump off each other's hands, doing flips in the air. They would form a pyramid, with four members of the family on the bottom, three on the next row, then two, and finally Emily on top. As their pyramid fell to the ground, Emily would do a double flip and land on her feet, hands held high. By next spring's circus season, Amanda would be doing that double flip under the main tent, or the big top, of the circus.

The family had been part of the circus since 1933. They had previously performed in a smaller circus. Joining the Ringling Brothers meant they had come to the top of the circus world. That was six years ago. Amanda was then only two. Now it would be her turn in the spotlight. Emily was going to learn the high wire, working with another group. But first she would show Amanda how to be an acrobat.

The first week was hard. When Amanda got to the top of the pyramid, she was afraid. Her brother Harold caught her in the beginning. Harold was 14, and he was big and strong. He showed Amanda how to step on his hand, and then jump high, doing a back flip. He also would place 12-year-old Frank on his shoulders. Then they would lift Amanda to Frank's shoulders. On the given signal, Frank would jump off Harold and do a roll, while Amanda fell into Harold's arms. That trick seemed easy. But doing the double flip off the fallen pyramid was another matter.

Emily kept telling her sister it was easy. But the more Emily said it was easy, the more frightened Amanda became. By the second week, Amanda could jump off the pile and do one flip. Landing, though, was hard.

Once, Amanda woke up in the middle of the night and cried out, "Papa, I don't think I can do it!" But she had to do it. Papa was counting on her.

Two weeks before the circus was to begin its spring season, Amanda was still having problems. Then one night she had a dream. In it, she was falling. In her dream, she tucked her knees under her chin and did a double roll. Landing neatly on her feet, she threw her arms up in triumph.

She woke up the next morning feeling like she was ready. During practice, Amanda jumped easily off Harold's hand and did a perfect flip. Standing on Frank's shoulders, when he jumped to the ground and tumbled, Amanda fell into Harold's arms like she was born to do this. Finally, the family made the pyramid. Amanda climbed to the top and stood. She thought of her dream. The pyramid crumbled beneath her. And Amanda did a perfect double flip.

"Beautiful," Papa said. "Amanda, you are ready for the big top!"

# Listening Passage for New York ELA Practice Test Form B

## White Cloud

a Native-American folktale

retold by Morris Weaver

An old chief lived in a village with his three daughters. One of his daughters was much younger than the other two. She was beautiful and gentle, and she was loved much more than her sisters by everyone in the village.

For this reason, her older sisters were jealous and treated her in a cruel way. They made her wear robes that were old and eaten by moths. They cut her long black hair into jagged clumps with a bone knife. Then they smeared her face with ashes from the fire. But White Cloud kept her sorrow to herself and went about her chores with a gentle heart.

Like most of the other girls in the village, the two older daughters wanted to marry Strong Wind, a powerful brave who could make himself invisible. It was well known that Strong Wind planned to marry the first maiden who could see him as he came home in the evening. Many had looked, but no maiden had yet seen him.

Above all else, Strong Wind wanted a maiden who told the truth. The young man used a clever trick to test each girl's truthfulness. He had his sister walk along the shore with any girl who wanted to win him. Strong Wind's sister, Harvest Moon, could see him even when he was invisible. As her brother came home, she would ask the maidens if they could see him. Eager to be the wife of Strong Wind, they would say, "Yes. Oh, yes. I can see him." And Strong Wind, knowing they spoke without truth, would remain invisible and forget about them.

It happened one evening that the chief's two older daughters joined Strong Wind's sister along the shore. As the sun went down, Harvest Moon asked them, "Do you see Strong Wind coming home?"

"Oh, yes. We see him," the sisters said, jumping with excitement. Again, Strong Wind remained invisible, and the two older daughters went home with great disappointment.

The following day, White Cloud met Harvest Moon along the shore. She was determined to see Strong Wind.

Strong Wind's sister spoke kindly and gently to the girl as they walked along the great water. Soon Harvest Moon asked, "Do you see Strong Wind coming home?"

White Cloud answered with great sadness, "I'm trying so hard, but no, I don't see Strong Wind."

White Cloud had spoken the truth. As she spoke, a great wind tugged at her robe and tousled her hair. Sand swirled up from the shore line, and out of the swirl came the handsome form of Strong Wind. He took her hand, and as he did, her robe was changed to softest doeskin, her face was clean, and her shiny black hair grew long and waved in the breeze. The very next day, the young girl became Strong Wind's wife.

When Strong Wind heard of the cruel things White Cloud's sisters had done, he used his great power to turn them into aspen trees and to root them to the ground. And since that day, whenever Strong Wind and White Cloud approach, the leaves of all aspen trees shiver and tremble in fear.

## PART 2

### Unit 3 – Writing About Stories

#### Lesson 10: Listening and Note-Taking

#### New York ELA Practice, pages 100–103

**Teacher’s Note:** When your students are prepared, read the following article to them. You will read the story twice. Instruct students to listen carefully the first time the article is read. On the second read, instruct students to take notes in the space provided in their workbooks.

### An Amusing Island

by Charley Olson

Maybe you’ve been to Walt Disney World, Disneyland, or one of the Six Flags. You may have visited Jeeps or one of the several Adventurelands. You think you know amusement parks. Well, you should have gone to Coney Island when it was the number one amusement park in the country.

It all began many years ago, in the 1860s and 1870s. Coney Island was small, four miles long and a half-mile wide. It was in the southern part of Brooklyn. More rabbits lived there than people. That’s why it was called Coney Island, which means Rabbit Island in the Dutch language. However, once railroads were built to link Coney Island to the rest of New York City, people started moving in. The island also became popular with New Yorkers looking for a good time.

First, Coney Island had sandy beaches. Then people built restaurants, dance halls, and rides such as a merry-go-round. In 1895, Coney Island became America’s first amusement park. By 1904, three amusement parks took up much of the island.

Coney Island’s popularity soared during the first half of the 20th century. People needed a place to get away from daily life, and Coney Island was that place. You could eat one of Nathan’s Famous hot dogs. You could ride on the world’s largest roller coaster, the Cyclone. You could spend a day at the beach, then go to a dance hall or eat at a fancy restaurant. Coney Island had just about everything.

After World War II, however, Coney Island entered tough times. By the 1950s and 1960s, new parks such as Disneyland, Walt Disney World, and the Six Flags parks opened with newer, more modern rides. All three of Coney Island’s parks shut down. Some of the rides stayed open, as did Nathan’s. But large apartment buildings were built on land where the old parks had been. Coney Island wasn’t even an island anymore, because the city had filled in Coney Island Creek with dirt and built the Belt Parkway. As a place to find amusement, Coney Island seemed like a memory.

## Workbook Answers

In the 1980s, however, some people got together and formed a group called Coney Island USA. The purpose of the group was to bring Coney Island back as a popular place to visit. A new park was made from the rides that hadn't closed down. People built a baseball park that became home to the Brooklyn Cyclones, a minor league team. New money was put into Coney Island to restore the place and make it look as good as the newer parks.

Today, people have a choice of 30 rides, including the famous Cyclone. Nathan's still sells its famous hot dogs. In fact, every year Nathan's holds a World Champion Hot Dog Eating Contest. There's even an annual Mermaid Parade and a film festival. And on top of it all, there is the Coney Island Museum. Coney Island is now an impressive amusement park again. It's still the one and only Coney Island, a place rich in history, and home of the country's first great amusement park.

1. C The restaurants and dance halls at Coney Island are not specified as the nation's first (A and B). The railroad linked Coney Island to New York, but it wasn't the first railroad in the United States (D). Coney Island became America's first amusement park (C).
2. F The richness or poverty of Coney Island's history is not a measurable fact.
3. A By plugging in the answer choices, students should see that *bring back* makes the most sense.
4. H The other answer choices are details. The main idea of the passage is that Coney Island had popular attractions and is still open today.
5. Responses will vary. Possible response: I think that tourists will continue to visit Coney Island because they now have 30 rides and a film festival.

## Lesson 11: Responding to Short-Answer Items

### Page 106

- Responses will vary. Possible response: The shopkeeper sells Grandma a cantaloupe, a honeydew, and a quarter-pound of cherries.

## New York ELA Practice, pages 107–109

**Teacher's Note:** Reread "An Amusing Island" to your students before they answer questions 1 through 4.

1. Responses will vary. Possible responses include: Coney Island in the 1800s had more rabbits than people. Now it is a popular amusement park. In the 1800s it had rides such as a merry-go-round. Now it has 30 rides, including the famous Cyclone.
2. Responses will vary. Possible response: Coney Island had sandy beaches where visitors could swim, fancy restaurants where they could eat dinner, and dance halls where they could go to after dinner.
3. Responses will vary. Possible response: New parks such as Disneyland, Walt Disney World, and Six Flags opened with newer rides.
4. Responses will vary. Possible response: They built a baseball park and put money into the park to make it look as good as the newer parks.

# Listening Passage for NY ELA Practice Test Form A

## Grandma Moses

by Betty Bernitus

In 1939, the art world discovered the paintings of Anna Robertson Moses, better known as Grandma Moses. Grandma didn't start painting until she was 70 and, by the time she was famous, she was almost 80 years old. In the the last two decades of her life, she became one of the most famous painters in the world.

Grandma Moses usually painted outdoor scenes. Her pictures showed life as it was in an earlier time, when farming and small-town life were much simpler. Her color choice and childlike way of painting brought warm feelings to many people who saw her work. Because she was self-taught, she was labeled a "folk" painter. In other words, she was an uncommonly good artist who came from ordinary, common people.

Anna Robertson was born in 1860 on a farm in upstate New York. She married a worker on her parents' farm, and they moved to Virginia. They lived there for nearly 20 years. During that time, Anna helped her husband with the farm chores and gave birth to 10 babies. Because life was very difficult back then, only five of her children survived into adulthood. The couple and their family returned to New York in 1905, and continued farming.

Besides canning vegetables and preserving jams and jellies, Anna liked to embroider pictures to hang on walls. When she turned 70, arthritis, an illness where the joints in the hands swell, made it impossible for her to sew. That's when she turned to painting. She would sell the paintings of the countryside along with her jams and jellies.

In 1938, an art collector was passing through Hoosick Falls, a farm town close to the Vermont border. He saw Anna's paintings hanging in a drug store and bought all of them. He also convinced Anna he'd buy as many of her works as she could paint. Anna didn't think her paintings were such a big deal, but she enjoyed the work. The collector then got a New York art dealer to show her paintings to the public, and that's when Grandma Moses became famous.

Grandma Moses had a youthful energy that didn't have anything to do with age. She lived to be 101, and in the last 20 years of her life, she painted 1,600 pictures. Her works were sold for high prices to art collectors all around the world. Many of her pictures were also put on cards, calendars, and posters. Grandma Moses also appeared on television, and she impressed people with her common sense.

Some of the painters and art critics in Grandma Moses' day thought her popularity was overstated. But many other people loved her work, and people today continue to hang her paintings on their walls.

# Listening Passage for NY ELA Practice Test Form B

## Central Park

by Jim Brewer

Imagine that you are visiting New York City, the biggest city in the United States. And you are in Manhattan, the busiest part of the city, where millions of people live, work, and play. You feel crowded, and you want to be part of nature, away from the hustle and bustle. Relax, and visit Central Park.

Central Park is perhaps the most famous park in the world. It's certainly the most famous park in the United States. It is also the first specially made public park in a major American city. Construction on the park began in the 1850s, and the park was ready for the public in 1859. By 1865, more than seven million people were visiting Central Park each year. Today, that number has reached an amazing 25 million visitors yearly.

Manhattan is a small piece of land. It is only about 13 miles long and two miles wide. It's also the most densely populated area in the country. Yet Central Park, located in the heart of Manhattan, is about 843 acres big, and covers more than 50 city blocks. On those 843 acres are playgrounds, pathways, sporting fields, lakes, and more activities than one person could ever do in a day.

Kids are especially welcome in Central Park. There are twenty-one playgrounds in the park and, in the summertime, Central Park is home to a summer camp for vacationing school kids. There is also a carousel that offers children rides on wooden horses and carriages, along with actual horse-pulled carriages that take people through the park just as they did in the days before cars and trucks.

If that isn't enough, you can visit a statue of Alice in Wonderland, who was a character in a famous novel. You can also swim or boat, play different kinds of sports on all types of fields, and even go to a children's puppet theater.

Many visitors to Central Park also enjoy the zoo. Monkeys are the crowd favorite as they swing from tree to tree. The parrots are also a sight to see. They mock talking onlookers by screeching in their own language.

One last place people like to visit is Strawberry Fields. Many years ago, a musical group called The Beatles made many hit records. One of the most famous band members, John Lennon, lived alongside Central Park. He loved to visit the park and, after he died, his wife fixed a special part of the park in his honor. It's named after one of John's favorite songs, "Strawberry Fields Forever."

Remember that if you're in New York City, and you're in Manhattan, you are probably in one of the busiest places on Earth. If you want to escape from it all, head to Central Park and let your imagination run free.