

## READING

### PASSAGE 1

Read the following passage about a teenager at a pizza shop. Then answer questions 1–8 in your answer booklet.

## The Pizzeria

by Mark Binder

The boy peered in the window, just above the cardboard sign that read Help Wanted. His stomach was rumbling. Except for the guy behind the counter, the pizzeria was empty. That was good. It would be harder if other kids were around.

The bell over the door jingled as he opened it. Behind the counter, a man looked up and then back at the magazine he was reading.

The boy walked over to the counter.

"What do you want?" said the man without looking up.

"You sell slices?"

The man looked at the boy. "Sign says slices. We sell slices." The menu sign listed prices for whole pies, slices, grinders, gyros, and drinks.

"Pepperoni slices?" the boy said.

A nod. "You got money?"

"How much?" the boy said. He reached into his pocket and brought out a dollar.

"That's enough," the man said. He took the dollar.

"Isn't pepperoni extra? It says on the sign."

The man peered over at the boy, whose

head didn't quite come up to the top of the register. "O.K., fine. You got a quarter?"

The man rang up the sale and dropped the money into the register. He grabbed a cutter and walked three steps to a cold pie behind a glass sneezeguard. With two quick motions, he cut a V-shaped slice out of the wheel and dropped it into a small, black pan. Reaching into a bin, he pulled out a handful of pepperoni and sprinkled it liberally over the slice. Then he turned, walked two more steps, tugged open the oven's door, and slid the tray in.

"How come you put it in a pan?" the boy said.

The man looked at the boy for a moment and then replied, "Because of the pepperoni. I put it straight in the oven, the crust cooks faster than the top, and your pepperoni doesn't get hot."

The boy nodded. The man walked two steps back to his magazine.

"My slice ready yet?" the boy said.

"Nope." The man didn't look up.

"How do you know?"

"I know," said the man.

"You ever burn any?" said the boy.

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The man looked up and raised an eyebrow. "Nope."

The boy nodded. "You're in here all the time, huh?"

The man shrugged. "I own the place. It's mine."

"You ever go on a vacation?"

"Ha!" The man laughed and then gave a deep grin. "I can't. I leave here, I don't make any money. I don't make any money, I can't pay the rent. I can't pay the rent, I can't have my store."

"You do deliveries?" the boy said.

"Nah." The man shook his head. "Too much insurance and competition. How come you're not in school?"

"In-service training," the boy said. "Half-day for kids."

The man walked two steps from his magazine, opened the oven, took a metal peel from the wall, and fished out the pan. He shut the oven door, slipped the pan onto the counter beside the register, and hung the peel back on the wall. Using a potholder, he picked up the pan and slid the slice onto a paper plate.

"You want a drink?" he said, setting the plate and two napkins on the counter beside the register.

"Water," the boy said, reaching for his slice. "And you got hot pepper?"

"You haven't even tried it," the man said, taking a cup, dunking it into an ice machine, and holding down a button on the soda machine.

"I like my pizza spicy," the boy said.

Shaking his head, the man waited until the paper cup was full and then put an aluminum shaker on the counter next to the water.

The boy dusted the slice with a layer of crushed pepper and then, picking up his cup, plate, and napkins, walked to the table nearest the front door. He began eating immediately.

The man went back to his magazine and read until he finished his article. Then he looked up and watched as the boy sipped his water and ate his pizza. When he was done, the boy picked up the paper plate, cup, and napkins and dropped them into the trash can.

"So?" said the man, shrugging.

"It was good," said the boy. "I still like hot pepper."

The man smiled. The boy walked to the counter. "You got anything for dessert?"

"Dessert?"

"You know, ice cream or maybe a frozen candy bar?"

The man shook his head. The boy frowned. "Too bad. That would be good in the summer, a candy bar, the kind that gets real stiff and cracks when you freeze it. Are you always here alone?"

The man looked around the store, back and forth, and then craned his head slightly to look under the counter. He said, "Except for the customers."

"How come you don't have somebody working for you?" the boy said.

"How come you're asking?" the man said.

"You got that sign in the window." The boy pointed with his thumb.

## READING

"Somebody who works here, they have to work like it's theirs, you know? I own the place, so it's mine. But somebody else?" The man shrugged. "It's easier this way. Less headaches."

"What happens when it gets busy?" said the boy. "When you have a lot of customers?"

"Doesn't much," said the man. "I go a bit nuts."

"How much you pay?" said the boy.

"Not much," said the man. "A buck above minimum wage."

"What about tips?" said the boy.

"Tips?" The man laughed. "Who tips?"

"You put out a cup, you know? Something's better than nothing. Could use some music in here, too."

"Music?" The man raised an eyebrow. "I like it quiet."

"Kids my age like music," the boy said. "If they have music, they're more likely to buy pizza."

"O.K., Mister Idea Man," said the man, "you know so much, you open your own pizza place."

"That costs money," the boy said. "I don't have any. Not much anyway. Does it cost a lot?"

"Plenty," the man said. "Everything in here costs. That's why I only give you two napkins. You put napkins on the table, they use them for spills and for tissues. Everything costs."

"Spare me the sob story," said the boy, raising his hand. Then he immediately frowned. "Sorry."

"No," the man said, waving his hand away. "It's O.K." He picked up his magazine and thumbed through it.

The boy stood for a moment and turned toward the door. Then he stopped and turned back. "So?"

"So?" said the man, looking up again.

"I can do after school and weekends and evenings until I have to go home."

"O.K.," said the man. He reached behind him, took the rag from the oven door handle, and tossed it across the room to the boy.

The boy caught it. "What?"

"Wipe that table," the man said.

"Customers like clean tables. You want music, you buy the radio; you show me the receipt. You leave here, you take it with you. You come in clean and you wash your hands a lot. If you're going to be late, you call."

"Can I put out a tip cup?" the boy said.

The man nodded. "Sure, why not."

Then he wiped his right hand on his apron and stuck it toward the boy. The boy took it, and they shook.

Then, without saying another word, the boy took the rag and began wiping the table he'd been sitting at, while the man behind the counter opened another magazine.

## READING

### MULTIPLE-CHOICE ITEMS

#### A.1.6.1

1. Why did the author most likely write this passage?
- A to explain a boy's goals in life
  - B to describe a boy's day
  - \* C to tell about a boy getting a job
  - D to show what kind of food a boy likes

#### A.1.1.2

2. Which word is an antonym for liberally?
- A carefully
  - \* B sparingly
  - C quickly
  - D slowly

#### B.1.1.1

3. Which word **best** describes the owner?
- A supportive
  - \* B businesslike
  - C thoughtless
  - D friendly

#### B.1.1.1

4. Which **best** describes the theme of this passage?
- \* A Determination is needed to reach a goal.
  - B The business world is competitive.
  - C People cannot be trusted.
  - D Some things are not worth pursuing.

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### A.1.3.1

5. When the owner says he does **not** deliver because of too much competition, he is referring to
- A challenges made by customers.
  - \* B rivalries with other pizzerias.
  - C battles with employees.
  - D contests with other restaurants.

### B.2.2.1

6. Which **best** describes the point of view used in the passage?
- A first person point of view, told by two characters
  - B first person point of view, told by one character
  - \* C third person point of view, told by a narrator with a limited understanding of the characters
  - D third person point of view, told by a narrator who knows the thoughts and feelings of all characters

### B.1.1.1

7. Which word **best** describes how the boy and the owner feel about each other at the end of the passage?
- A thrilled
  - B critical
  - \* C tolerant
  - D concerned

## READING

**OPEN-ENDED ITEM**

### B.1.1.1

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

[illegible]

## READING

### ITEM-SPECIFIC SCORING GUIDELINE

#### Item #8

This item will be reported under Category B, Interpretation and Analysis of Fictional and Nonfictional Text.

#### Assessment Anchor:

B.1 Understand components within and between texts.

#### Specific Eligible Content addressed by this item:

B.1.1.1 Interpret, compare, describe, analyze, and/or evaluate the relationships among the following within fiction and literary nonfiction:

##### Plot

Interpret, compare, describe, analyze, and/or evaluate elements of the plot (conflict, rising action, climax and/or resolution).

#### Scoring Guide:

Score	In response to this item, the student—
3	demonstrates complete knowledge of understanding elements of plot by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved and by using at least two examples from the passage to support the explanation.
2	demonstrates partial knowledge of understanding elements of plot by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. (Example: Student explains the main conflict of the passage and how it is resolved and uses one example from the passage to support the explanation.)
1	demonstrates incomplete knowledge of understanding elements of plot by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. (Example: Student explains the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved without using any examples from the passage to support the explanation.)
0	gives a response that provides insufficient material for scoring or is inaccurate in all aspects.
Non-scorable	BLK (blank)...No response or written refusal to respond or too brief to determine response OT..... Off task/topic LOE ..... Response in a language other than English IL ..... Illegible

#### Example — Top Scoring Response (3 Points)

##### Main Conflict and Resolution and Examples

The main conflict in the passage is that the boy wants a job in the pizzeria, but is not confident he will get it. The conflict is resolved when the owner of the pizzeria hires the boy. For example, the boy peers through the window, probably to see if there were other people in the pizzeria before he enters. The boy asks the owner about the Help Wanted sign. The owner finally hires the boy and tosses the boy a towel so he can begin right away.

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### OPEN-ENDED ITEM RESPONSES

#### B.1.1.1 Response Score: 3

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

The main conflict in this story is that the owner of the pizzeria doesn't have anyone who works with him because he thinks it's too much of a hassle. He also never has a full shop & never has money to do anything. Then this boy comes along & gets a piece of pizza & gives the owners some ideas that will bring more customers to his pizzeria. His first suggestion was to get someone else to work with him. His second suggestion was put a radio in the pizza shop so kids his age would be attracted to buy the pizza. The final suggestion was to get a tip jar & put it out so if people like the pizza they can put a tip in the tip jar. How this situation is resolved is that the boy asks for a job at the pizza shop. The reason he did was so the owner could have someone there with him, instead of being alone all the time. He also thought with his good ideas & the owners good cooking skills they could make the pizzeria the place to be.

The student has given a complete answer to the task by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved ("the owner of the pizzeria doesn't have anyone who works with him. . ." and "with his [the boy's] good ideas & the owners good cooking skills they could make the pizzeria the place to be") and by using two examples from the passage ("His first suggestion was to get someone else to work with him" and "His second suggestion was put a radio in the pizza shop. . .") to support the explanation. This item requires the student to provide both the conflict and the resolution as a unit in order to receive full scoring consideration.



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**B.1.1.1 Response Score: 2**

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

The main conflict in the story is That the boy wants a job at the pizzeria but isn't sure if He can get it. He sees the sign that says Help wanted but th man doesn't seem to want help. The conflict is resolved when the boy asks for the job, and The man says yes.

The student has given a partial answer to the task by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved (“... the boy wants a job at the pizzeria but isn’t sure if He can get it” and “... the boy asks for the job, and The man says yes”) and by using one example from the passage (“He sees the sign that says Help wanted . . .”) to explain the response. This item requires the student to provide both the conflict and the resolution as a unit in order to receive full scoring consideration.

## READING

### B.1.1.1 Response Score: 2

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

The main conflict in the passage is how the boy is trying to get to know the pizza place and is trying to ask for a job. For example when the boy says, "you do deliveries?" And also when the boy asks if the owner has dessert or music because that would attract customers. The boy also asks if the owner has a tip jar and the owner says, "no". So that is the main conflict in the story.

The student has given a partial answer to the task by using two examples from the passage ("the boy says, 'you do deliveries?' " and "the boy asks if the owner has dessert or music because that would attract customers") to imply an explanation of the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved without explicitly explaining the conflict and its resolution. The response does state what the conflict is ("trying to ask for a job") but it does not give the resolution. This item requires the student to provide both the conflict and the resolution as a unit in order to receive full scoring consideration.

## READING

### B.1.1.1 Response Score: 1

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

The boy walks into the pizzeria and orders a slice of pepperonie pizza. The man behind the counter which was the owner tells the boy a dollar but with the pepperonie it's an extra 25 cents then the boy asked about the "help wanted" sign and the owner says that he can have the job and it pays a little over minmium wage.

The student has given an incomplete answer to the task by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved ("the boy asked about the 'help wanted' sign and the owner says that he can have the job") without using any examples from the passage to support the explanation. This item requires the student to provide both the conflict and the resolution in order to receive full scoring consideration.

## READING

### B.1.1.1 Response Score: 1

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

A boy comes into a pizza store and wants to take a job there. The boy took the man's hand, and they shook.

The student provides an incomplete answer to the task by explaining the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved ("A boy comes into a pizza store and wants to take a job there" and "The boy took the man's hand, and they shook") without using any examples from the passage to support the explanation. This item requires the student to provide both the conflict and the resolution in order to receive full scoring consideration.

## READING

### B.1.1.1 Response Score: 0

8. Explain the main conflict in the passage and how it is resolved. Use at least two examples from the passage to support your explanation.

The boy was hungry. He went to the Pizzeria. But it is empty. He wanted a slice of pizza. That why and what happen.

The student's response is inaccurate because the information given is irrelevant to the task.