



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PAWS Reading Grade 7

Released Items With Data

Craft and Structure

Copyright © **2016** by the Wyoming Department of Education.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the Wyoming Department of Education.

Portions of this work were previously published.

Printed in the United States of America.

Reading Released Items with Data Introduction Page / Data Definitions

This Released Items with Data document provides a subset of items from the 2015 administration of the PAWS test. The data for an item is on the page that follows that item. The following provides definitions for the data fields on the data page.

Passage Information:

Passage Accnum: Vendor identification code assigned to the passage

Title: Title of the passage/stimulus

Passage Ext. ID: Identification code assigned to the passage

Passage/Text Type: Mode or genre of passage (i.e.: informational/expository)

Item Information

Title: Title of the passage/stimulus the item belongs to

Passage/Text Type: Mode or genre of passage

2012 WyCPS Domain: Reporting category of the state content standards

2012 WyCPS Standard: State content standard

Item Code: Identification code assigned to the item

Admin: The year an item is administered

Item Type: The mode in which a student responds (MC means multiple-choice)

Correct Answer: The option letter (A, B, C, or D) that corresponds to the correct answer

Item Dok: The item's Depth of Knowledge designation, also called Cognitive Complexity;

- 1 - Recall and reproduction
- 2 - Skills and concepts
- 3 - Strategic and extended thinking

Total N-count: Number of students counted as taking the test in which the item appears during the listed administration (Includes item omissions)

Pvalue/Mean Score: For a multiple-choice item, the percent of students choosing the correct answer

Score Analysis

MC Row: Answer options available for students to choose from (including those who do not choose any option); an asterisk designates the correct answer

%Choosing Row: Percent of students choosing an option (or omitting)

Item Notes: Area where user can make notes

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--|-------------------------|----------|
| Passage Acnum: | VH090724 | Title: | Do We Rely on Search Engines Too Much? YES | Passage Ext. ID: | WYR37P34 |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository | | | | |

Do We Rely on Search Engines Too Much?

Our reliance on search engines and the Internet is changing the way we process information. The question is whether that is a good thing or a bad thing.



YES

by Nicholas Carr, The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains

- 1 Who doesn't love Google?¹ In the blink of an eye, the search engine delivers useful information about pretty much any subject imaginable. I use it all the time, and I'm guessing you do too.
- 2 But I worry about what Google is doing to our brains. What really makes us intelligent isn't our ability to find lots of information quickly. It's our ability to think deeply about that information. And deep thinking, brain scientists have discovered, happens only when our minds are calm and attentive. The greater our concentration, the richer our thoughts.
- 3 If we're distracted, we understand less, remember less, and learn less.
- 4 That's the problem with Google—and with the Internet in general. When we use our computers and our cellphones all the time, we're always distracted.
- 5 The Net bombards us with messages and other bits of data, and every one of those interruptions breaks our train of thought. We end up scatterbrained. The fact is, you'll never think deeply if you're always Googling, texting, and surfing.
- 6 Google doesn't want us to slow down. The faster we zip across the Web,

¹ Google: a popular Internet search engine

clicking links and skimming words and pictures, the more ads Google is able to show us and the more money it makes. So even as Google is giving us all that useful information, it's also encouraging us to think superficially. It's making us shallow.

- 7 If you're really interested in developing your mind, you should turn off your computer and your cellphone—and start thinking. Really thinking. You can Google all the facts you want, but you'll never Google your way to brilliance.

From The New York Times Upfront, October 4, 2010 © 2010 by Scholastic Inc. Reprinted by permission of Scholastic Inc.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---|-------------------------|----------|
| Passage Accnum: | VH090725 | Title: | Do we Rely on Search Engines Too Much? NO | Passage Ext. ID: | WYR37P35 |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository | | | | |

NO

by Peter Norvig, Director of Research, Google Inc.

- 1 Any new information technology has both advocates and critics. More than 2,000 years ago, the classical Greek philosopher Socrates complained that the new technology of writing “will create forgetfulness in the learners’ souls because they will not use their memories.”
- 2 Today, Google is the new technology. The Internet contains the world’s best writing, images, and ideas; Google lets us find the relevant pieces instantly.
- 3 Suppose I’m interested in the guidance computers on Apollo spacecraft in the 1960s. My local library has no books on that specific subject—just 18 books about the Apollo missions in general. I could hunt through those or turn to Google, which returns 45,000 pages, including a definitive encyclopedia article and instructions for building a unit.
- 4 Just as a car allows us to move faster and a telescope lets us see farther, access to the Internet’s information lets us think better and faster. By considering a wide range of information, we can arrive at more creative and informed solutions. Internet users are more likely to be exposed to a diversity of ideas. In politics, for example, they are likely to see ideas from left and right, and see how news is reported in other countries.
- 5 There’s no doubt the Internet can create distractions. But 81 percent of experts polled by the Pew Internet Research Project say the opportunities outweigh the distractions.
- 6 Socrates was wrong to fear the coming of the written word: Writing has improved our law, science, arts, culture, and our memory. When the history of our current age is written, it will say that Google has made us smarter—both individually and collectively—because we have ready and free access to information.

From The New York Times Upfront, October 4, 2010 © 2010 by Scholastic Inc. Reprinted by permission of Scholastic Inc.

00 Read this statement.

Google may be more concerned with its own success than with the negative effects users might experience.

Which sentence from “Yes” best shows that the author would agree with the statement?

- A) But I worry about what Google is doing to our brains.
- B) The fact is, you’ll never think deeply if you’re always Googling, texting, and surfing.
- C) Google doesn’t want us to slow down.
- D) The faster we zip across the Web, clicking links and skimming words and pictures, the more ads Google is able to show us and the more money it makes.

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Title: | Do We Rely on Search Engines Too Much? YES |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others. |
| Item Code: | VH145458 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2015 | MC | D | 2 | 659 | 0.543 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|------|
| MC | A | B | C | D* | Omit |
| %Choosing | 14.416 | 22.155 | 9.105 | 54.325 | 0 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 What does the word “advocates” mean as used in Paragraph 1 of “No”?

- A) People who convince others to try something new
- B) People who advise others of their legal rights
- C) People who analyze the cost of business
- D) People who support an idea or cause

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | Do we Rely on Search Engines Too Much? NO |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VH145473 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2015 | MC | D | 2 | 659 | 0.613 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|------|
| MC | A | B | C | D* | Omit |
| %Choosing | 22.003 | 9.256 | 7.436 | 61.305 | 0 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Which of these is the main purpose of Paragraph 2 in “No”?

- A) To explain how to use Google
- B) To oppose an opinion about Google
- C) To highlight the importance of Google
- D) To describe the information found using Google

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Title: | Do we Rely on Search Engines Too Much? NO |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how the author distinguishes his or her position from that of others. |
| Item Code: | VH145489 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2015 | MC | C | 2 | 672 | 0.533 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|------|
| MC | A | B | C* | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 2.083 | 20.238 | 53.274 | 24.405 | 0 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Read Paragraph 7 of "Yes."

If you're really interested in developing your mind, you should turn off your computer and your cellphone—and start thinking. Really thinking. You can Google all the facts you want, but you'll never Google your way to brilliance.

Read Paragraph 6 of "No."

Socrates was wrong to fear the coming of the written word: Writing has improved our law, science, arts, culture, and our memory. When the history of our current age is written, it will say that Google has made us smarter—both individually and collectively—because we have ready and free access to information.

Which sentence best describes how the tones of the paragraphs are different?

- A) The tone in "Yes" is cautious, while the tone in "No" is optimistic.
- B) The tone in "Yes" is distressed, while the tone in "No" is excited.
- C) The tone in "Yes" is surprised, while the tone in "No" is relieved.
- D) The tone in "Yes" is gloomy, while the tone in "No" is grateful.

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | Do We Rely on Search Engines Too Much? YES / Do we Rely on Search Engines Too Much? NO |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository / Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VH145500 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2015 | MC | A | 3 | 672 | 0.531 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| MC | A* | B | C | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 53.125 | 14.435 | 11.458 | 20.536 | 0.446 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Which graphic organizer, if added, would most help the reader understand the information presented in “Yes” and “No”?

- A) A timeline listing important dates in the history of search engines
- B) A T-chart listing the advantages and disadvantages of using search engines
- C) A pie chart showing the amounts of time students spend using the Internet
- D) A line graph showing yearly increases in Internet speed

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Title: | Do We Rely on Search Engines Too Much? YES / Do we Rely on Search Engines Too Much? NO |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository / Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.5 Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas. |
| Item Code: | VH145507 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2015 | MC | B | 2 | 672 | 0.769 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| MC | A | B* | C | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 6.399 | 76.935 | 10.565 | 5.952 | 0.149 |

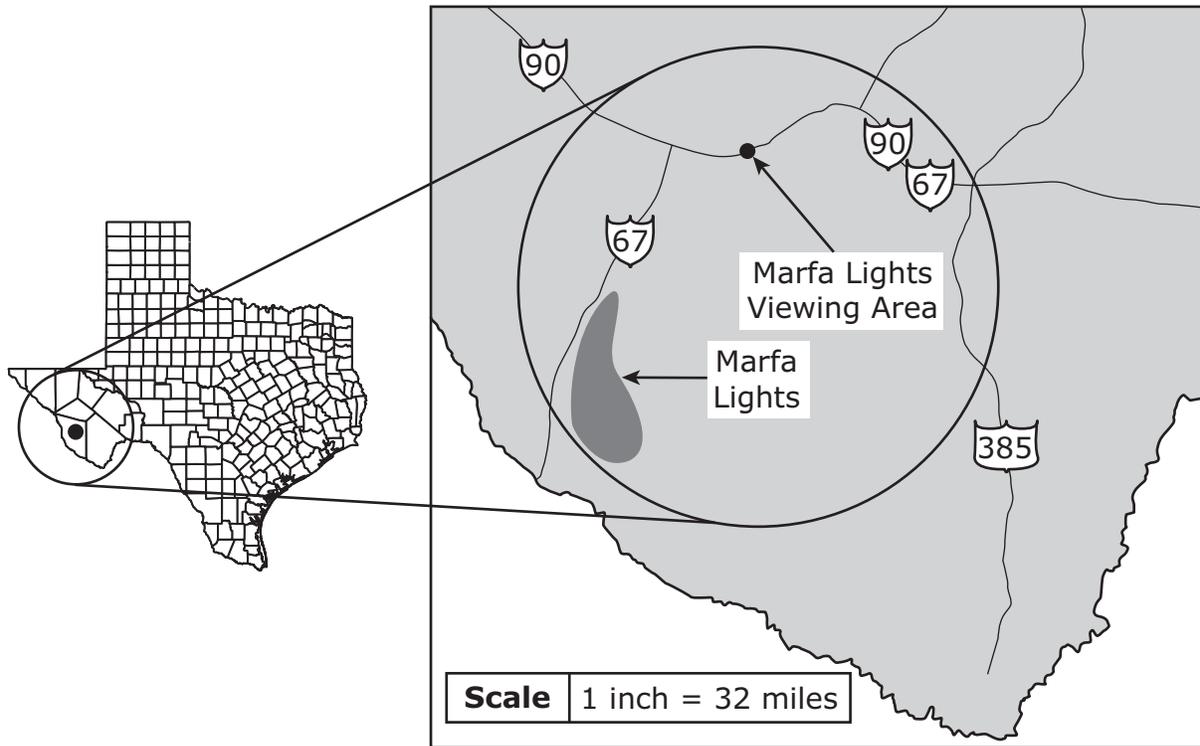
| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Passage Accnum: VF497449 | Title: The Mysterious Marfa Lights | Passage Ext. ID: WYR17P07 |
| Passage/Text Type: Informational/Expository | | |

The Mysterious Marfa Lights

- 1 The desert plains near the tiny town of Marfa are known for their distant, lonely splendor. Javelina,¹ prickly pear cacti, tarantulas, and even odd-looking roadrunners are not unusual in the vast, dusty landscape of West Texas. Although visitors might find these sights to be unusual, most residents of this region would not even blink at seeing a wild boar or a hairy spider. However, one occurrence in this part of the Lone Star State captivates residents and visitors alike: the mysterious Marfa lights.
- 2 The phenomenon was first documented in 1883. Robert Ellison, a cowboy who was driving cattle in the Chihuahuan Desert of West Texas, first thought the strange lights in the distance might be Apache campfires. He never found the source of the lights twinkling in the distance, even after hours of searching. Ellison had to give up; the cattle he was herding began to stampede!
- 3 The lights appear today just as Ellison described them more than a century ago, as lights that vary in size. Sometimes, the Marfa lights softly glow. At other times, they suddenly intensify into bright points of light. Observed as white, red, green, blue, yellow, or orange, the lights randomly divide and move quickly away from one another, flitting about like fireflies on the desert horizon. People can see them from thirty to forty miles away.
- 4 During the years, researchers have documented more than seventy-five different explanations for the harmless but eerie Marfa lights. Investigators have attributed the lights to reflected light from headlamps of cars and trucks on local highways, but this theory does not explain how the lights appeared before any roads were ever built. It has been suggested that the lights are from the coats of rabbits that are being chased by predators. These coats are covered in a luminescent dust, which would explain why the lights are so random and unpredictable, but not how high they ascend—or even where the glowing dust might come from. Some scientists suggest that the lights are reflections from mica, a reflective rock common in the region, but this theory does not identify the source of the reflected lights. The lights could be caused by swamp gas, but the land is arid, not damp and humid. Another explanation involves electrostatic charges in the atmosphere, but the lights last too long for that theory to be valid.
- 5 So far, one of the most widely accepted explanations is that warm and cool layers of the atmosphere mix, which bends light across a large distance. This is one theory that does not seem to have any explanations to the contrary.

¹ javelina: wild, hooved mammals that resemble pigs



- 6 For more than a hundred years, Texans have enjoyed speculating about the source of the lights. Whatever their cause, the lights are now a popular tourist attraction. The Texas Department of Transportation recently established a public viewing site for the Marfa lights on Highway 90 about eight miles east of the town of Marfa. There, on dark Texas nights, tourists can park their cars and delight in watching the lights for hours. Whether the mystery is ever solved, one thing seems certain: the Marfa lights will continue to generate more theories about the source of these lights and fascinate curious tourists for many years to come.

00 Read this sentence from Paragraph 1 of the passage.

Although visitors might find these sights to be unusual, most residents of this region would not even blink at seeing a wild boar or a hairy spider.

What does the writer mean by using the phrase “would not even blink” in the sentence?

- A) The residents are fond of boars and spiders.
- B) The residents are accustomed to seeing strange animals.
- C) The residents rarely see visitors to their area.
- D) The residents simply stare at the local wildlife.

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | The Mysterious Marfa Lights |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VF497711 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2013 | MC | B | 3 | 670 | 0.661 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| MC | A | B* | C | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 14.179 | 66.119 | 7.164 | 12.388 | 0.149 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Read this sentence from Paragraph 4 of the passage.

These coats are covered in a luminescent dust, which would explain why the lights are so random and unpredictable, but not how high they ascend—or even where the glowing dust might come from.

Which word is a synonym for “luminescent”?

- A) visible
- B) radiant
- C) multicolored
- D) breathtaking

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | The Mysterious Marfa Lights |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VF497686 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2013 | MC | B | 2 | 670 | 0.424 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| MC | A | B* | C | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 19.701 | 42.388 | 31.94 | 5.821 | 0.149 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Read this sentence from Paragraph 4 of the passage.

During the years, researchers have documented more than seventy-five different explanations for the harmless but eerie Marfa lights.

What does this description suggest about the lights?

- A) The popularity of the lights will fade in the future.
- B) The cause of the lights will be discovered soon.
- C) They are interesting but not worrisome.
- D) They are a threatening recent event.

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | The Mysterious Marfa Lights |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VF497819 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2013 | MC | C | 2 | 670 | 0.675 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| MC | A | B | C* | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 7.91 | 21.045 | 67.463 | 3.284 | 0.299 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Read this sentence from Paragraph 1 of the passage.

However, one occurrence in this part of the Lone Star State captivates residents and visitors alike: the mysterious Marfa lights.

Which is the best synonym for “captivates” in this sentence?

- A) inspires
- B) irritates
- C) fascinates
- D) distracts

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Title: | The Mysterious Marfa Lights |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone. |
| Item Code: | VF497701 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2013 | MC | C | 2 | 668 | 0.719 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| MC | A | B | C* | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 12.575 | 5.389 | 71.856 | 10.18 | 0 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |

00 Which idea from the passage is best supported by Paragraph 3?

- A) The lights constantly change in unpredictable ways.
- B) The lights attract a variety of wildlife to the site.
- C) The lights have been feared for many years.
- D) The lights are visible only on clear nights.

| Item Information | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Title: | The Mysterious Marfa Lights |
| Passage/Text Type: | Informational/Expository |
| 2012 WyCPS Domain: | Craft and Structure |
| 2012 WyCPS Standard: | RI.7.5 Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to the development of the ideas. |
| Item Code: | VF497794 |

| Admin: | Item Type: | Correct Answer: | Item Dok: | Total N-count: | Pvalue/Mean Score: |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------------------|
| Spring 2013 | MC | A | 2 | 668 | 0.796 |

| Score Analysis | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| MC | A* | B | C | D | Omit |
| %Choosing | 79.641 | 8.383 | 7.784 | 4.192 | 0 |

| Item Notes |
|------------|
| |