

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

**3–5**  
**English Language Arts/Literacy**  
**Test Booklet**

*Student Tutorial*

TEST BOOKLET SECURITY BARCODE



**Directions:**

Today, you will be taking the 3–5 English Language Arts/Literacy Student Tutorial. The following tasks are provided for you to practice with the different kinds of questions and response types that will be included in the PARCC Assessments. These items and passages are from the practice tests and sample sets. To experience the passages and the full set of accompanying items, please go to practice tests and sample sets at <http://parcc.pearson.com/>.

Throughout the tutorials you will see hints to help you answer questions and understand the directions. The hints are in boxes at the top of the item pages. These hints are not part of the actual test, but available only in the tutorials. The directions below will be used during the actual test. During the tutorial, please make sure you understand the directions, and ask your teacher if you have any questions.

Read each passage and all items carefully. Some items will ask you to choose one answer, while others will ask you to choose more than one answer. You may look back at the passage or passages as often as necessary.

Mark your answers by filling in the circles in your Test Booklet. Do not make any stray marks in the Test Booklet. If you need to change an answer, be sure to erase your first answer completely.

To answer a question that asks you to pick one answer, fill in the circle as shown in your Test Booklet.

(A) ● (C) (D) (E) (F) (G)

To answer a question that asks you to pick more than one answer, fill in the circles as shown in your Test Booklet.

(A) ● ● (C) ● ● (F) (G)

**Today you will read the story “A Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience.” Pay close attention to the actions of the characters and the events in the story. Answer the questions to help you prepare to write a narrative story.**

Read the story “A Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience.” Then answer questions 1 through 3.

## A Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience

*by Sandra Beswetherick*

- 1 It was my idea to invite Derrick, the new kid in our neighborhood, on our annual father-and-son weekend trip. Derrick had never been camping or fishing.
- 2 “Great idea!” Dad said. “It’ll be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for him, one he’ll never forget.”
- 3 Dad and I didn’t realize how true that would turn out to be.
- 4 The car blew a tire on the way to our campsite. Not an impressive start.
- 5 “A minor setback, that’s all,” Dad said as Derrick and I tumbled out of the car to help.
- 6 It was dark by the time we reached the campsite, got the boat into the water, and set up the tent. There was a stiff, icy breeze blowing off the lake.
- 7 Derrick shivered as he examined the sky. “That isn’t snow, is it?”
- 8 “Snow?” I said.
- 9 “It never snows in March!” Dad protested.
- 10 But those big flakes fell fast and heavy, blanketing the ground.
- 11 I burst out laughing. Derrick grinned. But Dad was horrified. He hustled us into the tent so we wouldn’t catch pneumonia<sup>1</sup> or something. But first he made sure we didn’t track any snow into the tent with us.
- 12 “We need to keep the floor dry,” Dad insisted. “There’s nothing worse than sleeping in wet sleeping bags.”

<sup>1</sup>catch pneumonia—get sick

- 13 He passed out sandwiches after we settled in. "Minor setback," he assured Derrick. "The snow should be gone tomorrow." Dad reached for the large bottle of cola to pour us each a drink.
- 14 Maybe the cola was warm, or maybe it had been jostled too much, because when Dad opened it, that bottle erupted like Mount Vesuvius. Cola overflowed like lava. Dad dropped the bottle. It rolled across the tent floor spewing its contents, and we ended up perched on our sleeping bags like castaways adrift<sup>2</sup> in a cola sea.
- 15 Derrick clapped both hands over his mouth. His face turned red, and his cheeks ballooned out as if *he* were about to explode, too. From behind his hands came the snuffling and snorting of trapped laughter.
- 16 I tried to keep a straight face, out of respect for Dad—not just because he'd insisted that we keep the tent floor dry, but because he'd wanted this trip to be perfect.
- 17 "Minor setback," Dad muttered as we soaked up cola with our towels.
- 18 The next morning dawned bright and beautiful, much to Dad's relief. Derrick stood at the water's edge, admiring the clear still lake, the tree-lined shore, and the cloudless sky.
- 19 "Wait until you catch your first fish, Derrick," Dad said as he got the boat ready. "That's an experience you won't forget." Dad turned to me. "Right, Steve?"
- 20 "Right, Dad," I answered.
- 21 "And wait until you taste some fried, freshly caught fish for breakfast," Dad said. "Right, Steve?"
- 22 "Right, Dad," I said, although I thought Dad was trying a little too hard.
- 23 But Derrick didn't catch his first fish. In fact, none of us felt even a nibble on our lines. This wasn't a minor setback for Dad. This was a major disaster.
- 24 The silence grew. The still air settled hot and heavy.
- 25 I leaned over the side of the boat. "Fishy," I sang into the depths of the lake. "Come on, I know you're down there." It sure beat sitting around in silence. And we weren't catching any fish anyway.

<sup>2</sup>adrift—floating

- 26 Derrick joined in. "Fishy," he crooned, looking down into the water. "Here, fish, fish." When he turned back to me, his eyes were bulged, his mouth was puckered, and he was gulping down air the way a fish gulps water. The perfect fish-face!
- 27 I let out a whoop and made a fish-face of my own, my open hands on either side of my head for gills. "Fishy!"
- 28 Derrick and I turned our fish-faces toward Dad. There sat Dad with the goggled eyes and downturned frown of his favorite fish, the largemouth bass. "Fishy, fishy, bite my hook," he chanted in a throaty voice, "so I can take you home to cook."
- 29 Derrick hooted with laughter and fell into the bottom of the boat. Dad's bass frown upturned into a grin.
- 30 Lucky that Dad's mood improved when it did, because it was about then that the boat started sinking.
- 31 "Mr. Adams," Derrick asked, "should there be this much water in your boat?"



- 32 "Holy mackerel!" Dad yelled. He reached for the motor. "You guys, bail<sup>3</sup>!"
- 33 We barely reached shore, the boat sloshing with water.
- 34 That night, as we sat around the campfire toasting marshmallows, Derrick admitted he'd been worried about coming on the trip. "But it's been incredible," he said. "I'll never forget it. Thanks for inviting me."
- 35 "You're welcome," said Dad. "We're glad you came."

<sup>3</sup>bail—scoop water out of the boat

36 "I wonder what will happen next?" Derrick asked, putting another marshmallow on his stick.

37 "Yeah," I said. "I wonder."

38 As for Dad, he smiled a brave smile.



"A Once-in-a-Lifetime Experience" by Sandra Beswetherick from Highlights for Children Magazine's March 2006 issue, copyright © 2006 by Highlights for Children, Inc., Columbus, Ohio. Used by permission.

**HINT: Multiple-choice items appear with four answer options. These items, which require a single response, will not identify the specific number of responses needed. Read all items and answer choices carefully to determine the number of responses needed.**

**1. Part A**

Read paragraph 14 from the story.

Maybe the cola was warm, or maybe it had been jostled too much, because when Dad opened it, that bottle erupted like Mount Vesuvius. Cola overflowed like lava. Dad dropped the bottle. It rolled across the tent floor spewing its contents, and we ended up perched on our sleeping bags like castaways adrift in a cola sea.

What does **that bottle erupted like Mount Vesuvius** mean as used in the paragraph?

- Ⓐ The cola bottle was open and floating in the water.
- Ⓑ The cola was bubbling and spilling out.
- Ⓒ The cola bottle was moving around.
- Ⓓ The cola was hot.

**Part B**

Which detail from the paragraph supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ “. . . the cola was warm . . . .”
- Ⓑ “. . . jostled too much . . . .”
- Ⓒ “. . . overflowed like lava.”
- Ⓓ “. . . perched on our sleeping bags . . . .”

**HINT: Look back at the passage or passages as many times as necessary to select the best possible response.**

**2. Part A**

Read the sentence from paragraph 15 of the story.

Derrick clapped both hands over his mouth.

Why does Derrick cover his mouth with his hands?

- Ⓐ He does not want to show his feelings.
- Ⓑ He is making an angry face.
- Ⓒ He is covering a sneeze.
- Ⓓ He does not feel well.

**Part B**

Which detail from paragraph 15 **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- Ⓐ "His face turned red. . . ."
- Ⓑ ". . . his cheeks ballooned out . . . ."
- Ⓒ "From behind his hands . . ."
- Ⓓ ". . . snorting of trapped laughter."

**HINT: Multiple-select items will require more than one answer. Pay careful attention to the directions to see if more than one answer is required. An item may direct you to select two best answers. Part B in this item asks for two details from paragraphs 28 through 33.**

### 3. Part A

Derrick and the narrator start to make fish faces. How does this affect what happens next in the story?

- Ⓐ It helps Dad feel better, and he joins in.
- Ⓑ It upsets Dad, and the boat almost sinks.
- Ⓒ It surprises Dad, and he lets go of the motor.
- Ⓓ It leads Dad to a solution, and they catch fish.

### Part B

Choose **two** details from paragraphs 28 through 33 that support the answer to Part A.

- Ⓐ “. . . his favorite fish, the largemouth bass.”
- Ⓑ “Fishy, fishy, bite my hook,’ he chanted. . . .”
- Ⓒ “Dad’s bass frown upturned into a grin.”
- Ⓓ “. . . the boat started sinking.”
- Ⓔ “. . . should there be this much water in your boat?”
- Ⓕ “We barely reached shore. . . .”

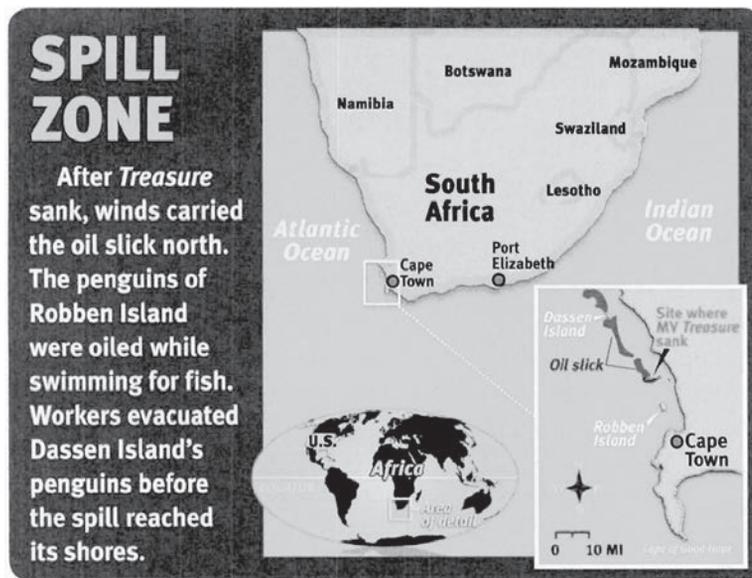
**Today you will research how penguins are rescued after a large oil spill. You will read three articles. As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about the rescue of penguins so you can write an essay.**

Read the passage from the article by Lauren Tarshis titled "The Amazing Penguin Rescue." Then answer question 4.

## from "The Amazing Penguin Rescue"

by Lauren Tarshis

- 1 Imagine you are an African penguin living on an island in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. You live with tens of thousands of other penguins on a rocky beach. It's a typical day there in June—cold and windy. The beach echoes with penguin noises, barks and honks and brays. Some of your fellow penguins fight for territory. Others cuddle with their mates and dote on their chicks.



"The Amazing Penguin Rescue" by Lauren Tarshis and map graphic from Storyworks' April/May 2011 issue. Copyright © 2011 by Scholastic, Inc. Used by permission of Scholastic, Inc.

- 2 You're hungry, so you head down to the water's edge. You waddle on tiny feet, and your wings are too stubby for flying. But in the water, you can swim faster and dive deeper than any bird on Earth. As you plunge into the sea, your wings become powerful underwater propellers. You shoot through the water at 12 miles an hour, a black-and-white blur, snatching sardines from the surface,

swallowing them whole, then catching more. Your thick feathers protect you from the freezing water.

- 3 You stay in the sea for hours until your belly is full. Then you turn to head back to shore.
- 4 That’s when something goes wrong.
- 5 As you come to the surface for air, the water feels unfamiliar. It is thick, and it burns your eyes. You try to swim away, but suddenly your wings are too heavy to lift and you can barely propel yourself. Your body wobbles and rolls. You feel bitterly cold. You shiver and gasp for breath.
- 6 What you don’t know is that just hours ago, a cargo ship called *Treasure* hit a reef and split apart. As it sank, 1,300 tons of toxic crude oil gushed into the sea. Oil surrounds your breeding ground—the largest African penguin breeding ground in the world.
- 7 You are not the only penguin that has become soaked with the poisonous oil. Thousands of others have been trapped in the massive oil slick.
- 8 The impact of oil on a penguin (or any bird) is immediate and devastating. You are shivering because the oil has caused your layers of feathers to separate. Freezing water now lashes at your sensitive skin. Your eyes hurt because the oil has burned them. Your wings are heavy because they are coated with oil.
- 9 But your instinct for survival is strong. Somehow you struggle back to shore, fighting the waves and the current. The trip, usually effortless, is an agonizing ordeal. You manage to stagger onto the beach and back to your nest. You lick and peck at your feathers, desperate to clean them. Finally you give up. There is nothing to do but stand there, terrified, dazed, and silent.

### **Strange Creatures**

- 10 Then the beach is invaded by enormous creatures.
- 11 They are humans, but you don’t know that. You have never seen a human before. These men and women know what you don’t: that this oil spill is a catastrophe for you and your species. Some of them have devoted their lives to helping birds like you, birds caught in oil spills and other human-made disasters. They have helped with bird rescues around the world. All they care about is saving your life.
- 12 But how could you know this?
- 13 As the humans swarm the beach, you are overcome with panic. A man catches you. You lash out viciously with your powerful jaws and razor-sharp beak. You bite his arm, ripping his skin through the fabric of his thick coat. He doesn’t let

go. You strike again, biting his leg, inflicting a wound that will leave a scar for the rest of his life. But he cares more about you than himself. All across the beach, dozens of people are capturing penguins, enduring excruciating bites and wing slaps as they load you and the other penguins into crates. It is painful, exhausting work. The sight of all of these scared and injured penguins is heartbreaking to the humans. Some—grown men and women—fight tears.

- 14 But they don't give up. Tens of thousands of penguins are in danger. And they intend to save every single one.
- 15 Ten miles from the island, outside the city of Cape Town, a team of workers and volunteers has transformed a warehouse into a penguin rescue center. They have worked with astonishing speed. The warehouse holds hundreds of round enclosures, each large enough for 100 penguins. There are additional areas where penguins will be washed. One room is filled with ten tons of frozen fish, the amount needed daily to feed the penguins. Acquiring this enormous quantity of fish every day will be one of the workers' great challenges.
- 16 Actually, everything is a challenge. Simply getting one penguin to eat is a monumental task. In the wild, penguins hunt for sardines and gobble them up while they are still alive and wriggling. These penguins won't accept the dead fish offered by human hands; workers have to force-feed them. They must restrain a penguin, pry its beak open, and shove the fish down its throat. Feeding one penguin can take an hour. Feeding all of the penguins takes an army of workers 15 hours.
- 17 And then there is the smell that fills the warehouse—a combination of penguin droppings, dead sardines, and human sweat. It is a stench so powerful that many people throw up when they first arrive.
- 18 But not even the smell keeps people away.
- 19 As news of the rescue effort spreads, hundreds, and then thousands, of volunteers flock to the warehouse, eager to help. They are a diverse group, including rich women from fancy neighborhoods and poor teenagers from Cape Town's streets. Some have experience helping wildlife; some have never even owned a pet. All of them have one thing in common: a mission to save as many penguins as possible.

"The Amazing Penguin Rescue" by Lauren Tarshis and map graphic from Storyworks April/May 2011 Issue. Copyright © 2011 by Scholastic, Inc. Used by permission of Scholastic, Inc.

Read the article by Dyan deNapoli titled "The Amazing Penguin Rescue."  
Then answer question 4.

## The Amazing Penguin Rescue

by Dyan deNapoli



Photograph of oil-soaked African Penguin, Cape Town, South Africa (Image Id: 00062903035), copyright © by AP Photo/IFAW, John Hrusa. Used by permission

- 1 The summer of 2000, I had just finished my rounds tending to the New England Aquarium's 60 penguins when I got an urgent call from South Africa. The manager of SANCCOB, a seabird rescue center in Cape Town, was on the line. The region's penguins were in trouble. The cargo ship *MV Treasure* had sunk off the coast of Cape Town, creating an oil spill. Thirteen hundred tons of fuel oil were flowing near Robben Island, right in the middle of the African penguins' primary habitat. In a matter of days, thick, toxic liquid had covered

about 20,000 penguins. Without swift help, the seabirds would have no chance for survival.



Photograph of penguins in holding pool (Image Id: 00062802671), copyright © by AP Photo/Obed Zilwa. Used by permission.

- 2 SANCCOB had launched a massive rescue operation for the oiled penguins. Volunteers were showing up by the thousands, but they had no experience. The center needed penguin keepers to train the volunteers. Would I help?
- 3 Two days later, I boarded a plane to South Africa. I was about to take part in what would become the largest animal rescue operation ever attempted.

### **A Startling Silence**

- 4 Just outside Cape Town, a large warehouse had been turned into a rescue center for the oiled penguins. The rescuers had set up makeshift pools, which held about 100 oiled birds each. Hundreds of pools covered the floor.
- 5 When I first walked into the building, I couldn't believe my ears. Normally, African penguins are vocal birds. I expected to walk in to a chorus of honking and squawking. Instead, the center sounded like a library. Only the hushed voices of people could be heard. The penguins were dead silent.
- 6 I felt overwhelmed. My heart ached for the distressed birds. Cleaning them all seemed like an impossible task. But we had to carry on like doctors in an emergency room. There was no time for doubt.

### **Bird Bath**

- 7 Cleaning oil off a penguin isn't easy. It takes two people—one to hold the penguin, another to do the washing. The bird is sprayed with a degreaser and scrubbed with warm, soapy water. Delicate areas around the face must be

brushed with a toothbrush. Then the bird gets rinsed under a hose. The whole process takes about an hour. Even with more than 12,500 volunteers, it took a month to bathe all 20,000 birds at the center.



Photograph of penguins being released after rescue (Image Id: 00072102471), copyright © by AP Photo/Jon Hrusa. Used by permission.

### The Spreading Spill

8 While workers bathed penguins at the rescue center, another crisis was developing. Oil from the spill had started moving north toward Dassen Island. Tens of thousands of penguins were in the oil's path. But we already had our hands full with 20,000 recovering birds. Supplies were running low. If any more birds were oiled, we wouldn't have enough resources to save them.

9 One researcher came up with an idea: What if the Dassen penguins were temporarily moved out of harm's way? The method had never been tried before. Experts decided to give it a chance. Workers rounded up a large number of the penguins on Dassen Island and released them near Port Elizabeth, 500 miles away. The hope was that by the time the seabirds swam home, the oil would be gone. The plan worked! Another 20,000 penguins were saved.

### Amazing Rescue

10 The entire penguin rescue operation took about three months. In the end, more than 90 percent of the oiled penguins were successfully returned to the wild. In a previous large-scale penguin rescue, only half of the oiled birds survived. We could hardly believe that our efforts worked!

11 But for me, the most inspiring part was the work of the volunteers. Rescuing penguins isn't glamorous. The stench of the rescue center—a mix of penguin droppings and dead fish—made people feel sick. The scratches and bites of

terrified birds covered volunteers' arms. As the Penguin Lady, I'm used to facing such hazards to care for the animals I love. What I didn't realize was how many other people care for penguins too.

"The Amazing Penguin Rescue" by Dyan de Napoli as told to Natalie Smith from SuperScience Magazine's January 2012 issue. Copyright © 2012 by Scholastic Inc. Used by permission of Scholastic, Inc

**HINT: Some items will refer to multiple passages. Pay careful attention to the directions, and refer to the passages as many times as necessary to select the best possible response.**

Refer to the passage from the article by Lauren Tarshis titled “The Amazing Penguin Rescue” and the article by Dyan deNapoli titled “The Amazing Penguin Rescue.” Then answer question 4.

#### 4. Part A

Which sentence **best** states a difference between how information is presented in the article by Lauren Tarshis and how information is presented in the article by Dyan deNapoli?

- Ⓐ The article by Tarshis puts the reader in the role of a penguin affected by an oil spill event, while the article by deNapoli tells how a person was affected by an oil spill event.
- Ⓑ The article by Tarshis focuses on statistics to provide more information about an oil spill event, while the article by deNapoli shares the emotional effects on rescuers after an oil spill event.
- Ⓒ The article by Tarshis tells about the cause of an oil spill event, while the article by deNapoli highlights the process used to clean the penguins affected by an oil spill event.
- Ⓓ The article by Tarshis offers details about the experience of the rescuers who assist after an oil spill event, while the article by deNapoli discusses the causes of an oil spill event.

**Part B**

Select **two** details from the articles that support the answer to Part A. Select one detail from the article by Lauren Tarshis and one detail from the article by Dyan deNapoli.

- Ⓐ "As it sank, 1,300 tons of toxic crude oil gushed into the sea." (from the article by Tarshis)
- Ⓑ "You are not the only penguin that has become soaked with the poisonous oil." (from the article by Tarshis)
- Ⓒ "And they intend to save every single one." (from the article by Tarshis)
- Ⓓ "I was about to take part in what would become the largest animal rescue operation ever attempted." (from the article by deNapoli)
- Ⓔ "The rescuers had set up makeshift pools, which held about 100 oiled birds each." (from the article by deNapoli)
- Ⓕ "It takes two people—one to hold the penguin, another to do the washing." (from the article by deNapoli)

Read the article “Update on Penguin Rescue Efforts from Oil Spill in South Atlantic.” Then answer question 5.

## Update on Penguin Rescue Efforts from Oil Spill in South Atlantic

- 1 This is a follow-up to an earlier diary about the threat posed by oil spilled by a freighter that broke up off Nightingale Island, home to approximately half of the world’s endangered Northern Rockhopper penguin population.
- 2 Here is a brief recap of key events. On March 16, for reasons no one has been able to determine, a fully loaded freighter containing soybeans slammed into the rocks off Nightingale Island in the Tristan da Cunha archipelago (a World Heritage site) in the south Atlantic. The freighter broke in half and sank, dumping at least 1500 tons of fuel oil in the seas, which formed a heavy oil slick around the island, threatening marine life. The penguins attracted the most attention as they are critically endangered. Because of the remote location, it took wildlife rescue teams nearly a week to reach the island by boat and set up operations. Wildlife biologists estimate that half of the 20,000 penguin colony have had some exposure to the oil and over 300 oiled penguins have already died.
- 3 Thanks to outreach and updates by marine biologist David Guggenheim, the difficult wildlife rescue operation is starting to get broader attention by NGOs<sup>1</sup> and the media. CNN has finally covered the story.
- 4 This tragedy has been filled with unsung acts of heroism large and small. I want to sing their praises.
- 5 Shortly after the freighter ran aground, the cruise ship Prince Albert and fishing vessel Edinburgh responded to the distress signal and assisted in the difficult task of evacuating the 22 crew members of the MS Oliva (Valetta) before it broke apart and sank. A rescue team from the Prince Albert used small pontoon vessels to reach the stricken ship, navigating rough seas and rocks in the process. The crew members were brought to the Edinburgh, which was small enough to dock on the island.
- 6 The residents of the island and the wildlife rescue teams have been working around the clock to save the penguins and other marine animals affected by

<sup>1</sup>NGOs—nongovernmental organizations

the oil. There are four major tasks required to save the penguin colony and other affected wildlife.

- 7 (1) Locate and retrieve oiled animals. This means using small boats in heavy seas to find the animals in the water, on rocks, and in remote coves. While plucking the penguins from the water is relatively easy, getting to the animals on sea-splashed and oil-covered rocks is quite another matter.
- 8 At last report, over 3000 oiled penguins have been rescued, along with sea birds and seals.
- 9 (2) Treat the affected animals as quickly as possible to reduce ingestion of oil. This requires washing the feathers with detergent to remove oil and then coaxing them to drink fluids, vitamins and charcoal to absorb ingested oil. It is a labor of love that means working every waking hour for the residents and several dozen wildlife rescue specialists.
- 10 Once treated the less severely affected penguins are taken to the island's swimming pool, which has been emptied, partially filled with fresh water, and cleaned frequently.
- 11 The more severely affected penguins and other sea birds are being taken to warehouses and specially built sheds. These animals require more care and observation. They also must be kept warm with heaters or infrared bulbs to prevent pneumonia. The freighter crew has been spending their time building the pens and rehabilitation sheds.



Tina Glass Tristan da Cunha Photo  
Portfolio [www.tristandc.com](http://www.tristandc.com)

- 12 (3) Pen and house the rest of colony to prevent exposure to oil. With molting season ending, the penguins' instinct is to head for the seas to forage for food.
- 13 (4) Feed the entire colony of 20,000 penguins. A large fishing vessel has been working continuously since the crisis began to fish for the penguins. The seas have been particularly rough and island residents have emptied their freezers to feed the birds. By the way, fishing is the primary occupation among residents. When they donate the contents of their freezers, they are emptying their own larders<sup>2</sup> and wallets.

<sup>2</sup>larders—pantry

"Update on Penguin Rescue Efforts from Oil Spill in South Atlantic" — Public Domain

**Directions:**

Some questions will ask you to provide a written response to the passages you have read. You may plan your response using scratch paper. Be sure to write your response in the box provided in your test booklet. Work on scratch paper, crossed-out work, or writing that falls outside of the box will not be scored.







