

In the Directions for Administration, the examiner will read:

(SAY) Turn to Page 10. You will now read two passages and answer some questions about each passage. When you come to the stop sign on Page 17, you will be finished with this section of the test. You may review this section only, but do not return to the Listening section or go on to the next section. When you are finished, put your pencil down, close your test booklet so the front cover is on top, and look up.²

Pause.

(SAY) Does everyone understand the directions?

Pause to answer any procedural questions the students may have.

(SAY) You may begin.

In the Test Booklet³, the students will see:

Directions

Read the passage. Then answer Question 12. Fill in the correct circle on your answer sheet.

Carolus Linnaeus



Carolus Linnaeus was a Swedish scientist who lived during the 1700s. He developed a way to name the world's plants and animals. This system of identifying and classifying all living things is still being used today.

Linnaeus was born in Sweden in 1707, and as a child, he loved all types of nature, especially plants. In fact, he loved plants so much that he studied them his entire life. As an adult, Linnaeus worked in Sweden as a doctor and teacher. Like other doctors at that time, he studied plants to make new medicines that cured diseases.

Linnaeus' work was difficult because there was not a single way to organize and name the world's plants and animals. Different people named plants and animals in different ways. It was confusing when one living thing had two different names.

¹ Reading is a section within a Listening, Reading, Writing / Global Theme NYSESLAT Session.

² Only one passage and one item are presented here as a sample.

³ During each of the Reading sections, students read two passages, which may be short, medium, or long, and answer a series of 3–6 questions associated with each passage. The questions for each passage progress in difficulty based on the Performance Level Descriptions (PLDs). Not all PLDs are represented with each passage. Only one passage and one item are presented here as a sample. For more information, please see NYSESLAT Webinette Series on EngageNY at <https://www.engageny.org/content/nyseslat-webinettes>.

In his writings, Linnaeus developed his own system to identify and classify the world's plants and animals. To improve the system, he and his students traveled throughout the world discovering and studying many new living things. They carefully organized the information from their observations. Then, they used Linnaeus' system to name each plant and animal.

Linnaeus's classification system for plants and animals was so successful that it is used even today. Linnaeus is now known as the father of the modern classification system for naming the world's living things.

12 Read these sentences from the passage again.

“Linnaeus was born in Sweden in 1707, and as a child, he loved all types of nature, especially plants. In fact, he loved plants so much that he studied them his entire life. As an adult, Linnaeus worked in Sweden as a doctor and teacher.”

Which phrase helps tell where Linnaeus worked as a doctor?

- A In 1707
- B Loved plants
- C As an adult
- D In Sweden

TARGET OF MEASUREMENT:
TOM.R.5–6.2

Students can identify words, phrases, or sentences that *signal* or describe *key details*, sequence, connections, relationships, and/or conclusions in a grade-level text.

HOW ITEM MEASURES TOM.R.5–6.2

This item requires students to identify a phrase from a grade-level text that *signals a key detail*. In this item, “In Sweden” signals where Carolus Linnaeus worked as a doctor.

HOW ITEM TARGETS THE ENTERING PERFORMANCE LEVEL

This item requires students to identify, with substantial support, short phrases in a grade-level text that *signal key details*. In this item, substantial support is provided by having the student only read three sentences from the passage, which include the language in the answer choices.

KEY: D

WHY “D” IS CORRECT: Students who select “D” are able to identify a short phrase from the passage that signals the key detail telling where Linnaeus worked as a doctor.

WHY OTHER CHOICES ARE INCORRECT: Answer choices A, B, and C are other short phrases from the passage excerpt that provide other key details.