8th Grade ELA NTI Day 4

Name: ______________________

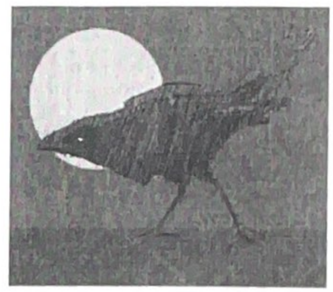
Working with Context Clues: The Raven

Below are the opening stanzas of Edgar Allan Poe's 1845 poem "The Raven." Read the passage and pay special attention to the underlined words. Complete the grid at the bottom of the page.

The Raven - Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore—
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping—rapping at my chamber door.
"'Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door—
Only this and nothing more."

Ah, distinctly I remember, it was in the bleak December,
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon the floor.
Eagerly I wished the morrow;—vainly I had sought to borrow
From my books surcease of sorrow—sorrow for the lost Lenore—
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels name Lenore—
Nameless here for evermore.



[illegible]	part of speech	What do you think it means?	What were your clues?
1. dreary			
2. pondered			
3. weary			
4. quaint			
5. lore			
6. chamber			
7. distinctly			
8. bleak			
9. wrought			
10. morrow			
11. vainly			
12. surcease			

D4. 8th Grade Science

What moves these big rocks across the desert floor? Hint: It isn't FOs

Scientist Richard Norris surveys one of several hundred rocks that have left trails as they moved across the surface of the Racetrack Playa in California's Death Valley National Park, Aug. 18, 2014. Louis Sahagun/Los Angeles Times/MCT

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK, Calif. — The cracking sounds were ferocious as an ankle deep, frozen lake broke apart under sunny skies. The normally dry lake bed here in Death Valley National Park is known as "the Racetrack Playa" — a playa being an area of flat dried-up land. As cousins Richard Norris and James Norris watched, a light wind began moving huge sheets of ice across the surface of the water.

Soon, that ice was sent ramming into large rocks weighing up to 200 pounds. Propelled by the ice masses, the rocks began to slide across the lake's slick, muddy bottom.

"My God, Jim, it's happening," Richard yelled, prompting James Norris to run and grab a camera. Their photos last Dec. 21 provided the final evidence in solving a mystery of the Racetrack Playa that has long puzzled visitors and scientists: What is it that moves rocks across flat dirt in the heart of the hottest, driest place on Earth?

An Incredible Stroke Of Luck Rocks of various sizes — some weighing 600 pounds or more — leave trails that wiggle like snakes or form complete loops or even rectangles. The trails are cut sharply into the ground but no other tracks are visible.

Various explanations for the rocks' movement have been proposed over the decades. Among them are hurricane-force winds when the lake's surface is covered with rain water, rocks carried across the mud by small rafts of ice, and even UFOs.

However, until the Norrises' incredible stroke of luck that day last December, no one had been able to prove anything definitively.

"I'm amazed," James Norris said, nodding toward the glistening playa earlier this month. "In a place where rainfall averages 2 inches a year, rocks are being shoved around" by processes "typically seen in arctic climes."
He added, "And the movement is incredibly slow. These rocks clock in at about 15 feet per minute."

One Study Said Dust Devils Did It Geologists have been studying the moving rocks since 1948, when the first scientific study suggested they were driven by small whirlwinds known as dust devils. One reason the mystery endured is that the movements are episodic. Often, there is no motion for decades until a precise series of natural events occurs.

The first requirement is rain in a parched climate. Next, temperatures must fall low enough to freeze the water before it evaporates. Then the sun has to come out and thaw the ice.

Finally, wind has to blow strongly enough to break the ice into floes — free-moving sheets — and move it across shallow water underneath. Even a light wind is enough to get the ice moving.

Physicist Ralph Lorenz, who had investigated playa rock movement for a decade, believed so strongly that ice floes were the cause that he erected time lapse cameras in the area about seven years ago. However, they failed to record the phenomenon.

The Norrises subscribed to a different theory — that hurricane-force winds were the cause.

Tracking Their "GPS Stones"

Richard Norris, 55, a biologist, and James Norris, 59, a research engineer, launched their "Slithering Stones Research Initiative" in 2011.

Over the next two years, they installed a weather station in the area. In addition, they placed 15 stones equipped with global positioning devices — a bit like a car's GPS — on the playa's pancake flat surface.

The "GPS stones" were specially engineered to record movement and velocity. They were stationed at the southern end of the playa, where rocks begin their strange journeys after tumbling down a cliff.

On Dec. 20, the two cousins returned to inspect the instruments. "We found the playa covered with ice," Richard Norris recalled. "We also noticed fresh rock trails near shards of thin ice stacked up along the shoreline."

following afternoon, "we were sitting on a mountainside and admiring the view when a light wind kicked up and the ice started cracking," Richard Norris said. "Suddenly, the whole process unfolded before our eyes."

A review of recent weather helped explain what the cousins saw: A rare winter storm had dropped about 1 1/2 inches of rain and 7 inches of snow on the region in late November. The playa was transformed into a shallow lake where the GPS stones recorded movements on sunny days with light winds following nights of subfreezing temperatures.

Captured On Camera

James Norris' photographs made the process clear. Panes of ice hundreds of feet across and as thin as 1/4-inch thick blew into the rocks. Then, the rocks slid along the slushy, slippery mud along paths determined by the direction and velocity of the winds.

The Norris cousins' fascination with Death Valley National Park began in the 1960s when their fathers — both well-known scientists — first took them there.

"Wouldn't our fathers have loved to have known this?" James Norris said of their discovery. He added that he almost felt a bit of regret, "because the mystery was no more."

The cousins first shared the news with Lorenz, who became one of the five authors of a report documenting the discovery published Wednesday. "While it takes away the mystery, it also underscores what an amazingly rare and wonderful" process "is at work there," Lorenz said.

Quiz

1 According to the article, which of the following about the Norris cousins is CORRECT?

(A) They helped confirm the phenomenon behind the movement of rocks.
(B) They have been studying the movement of rocks since 1948.
(C) They studied the phenomenon using time lapse cameras.
(D) They were the first to study the movement of rocks.

2 Select the paragraphs from the section "Tracking Their GPS Stones" that describes how the Norris cousins studied the movement of the rocks.

(A)Paragraphs 1&2
(B)Paragraphs 2&3
(C)Paragraphs 4&5
(D)Paragraphs 5&6

3 The article draws a connection between all of the following EXCEPT:

(A) Richard Norris and global positioning devices
(B) Ralph Lorenz and the playa rock movement
(C) James Norris' father and GPS stones
(D) movement of rocks and sheets of ice

4 What is one of the conditions necessary for the movement of rocks?

(A) melting of ice at a slow pace
(B) a high level of condensation
(C) a high level of evaporation
(D) freezing of rain water

Co-Curricular DAY 4 NTT Day 4

Return to Art, P.E., Computer, or Practical Living teacher.

Name: _____

Are You a Good Citizen?

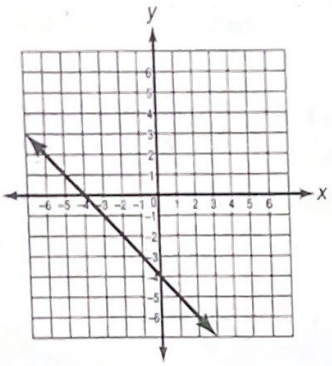
Directions: Write ways you can be a good citizen in your community. Our communities are dependent upon good citizens. What makes a good citizen? A Good Citizen...

Treats others and others' property with respect.	Cares about keeping the community clean.
Follows the rules and laws of a community.	Does the correct thing even when no one is looking.
Informs the proper authorities when something bad has happened.	Works to give back to the community and not just take from it.

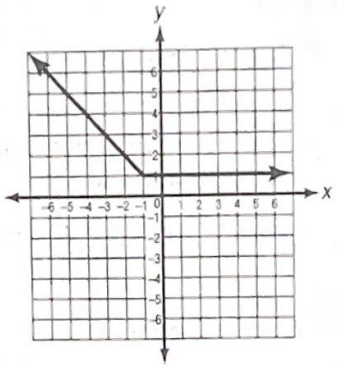
Name: _____

4. Which graph does **not** represent a function?

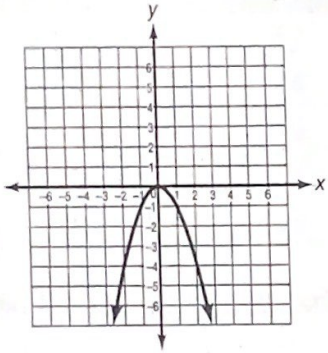
A.



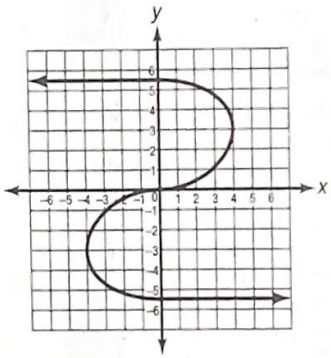
C.



B.



D.



5. The table below shows a relation.

x	-5	-3	-1	0	1
y	-3	-6	0	-3	3

A. Identify the domain and range for the relation above. Then list the domain and range in the boxes below and create a mapping diagram for this relation.

Domain **Range**

B. Is the relation also a function? Use your mapping diagram to explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

8th grade math NTI Day 4

Name: _____

Lesson Practice

Students may circle answers on multiple choice and write on this paper to answer #5.

Choose the correct answer.

1. The table shows that the total amount charged, in dollars, by a hot dog vendor is a function of the number of hot dogs purchased.

Vendor Charges

Number of Hot Dogs, x	Total Charge, y
1	\$2
2	\$4
3	\$6
4	\$8
5	\$10

What is the range of the function?

A. 5, 10

B. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

C. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

D. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10

2. Which set of ordered pairs represents a function?

A. $(-2, 1), (0, 1), (1, -2), (3, 4)$

B. $(-1, 5), (-2, 3), (-2, 1), (-3, -1)$

C. $(12, 36), (9, 27), (-6, 30), (9, 18)$

D. $(3, 17), (-2, 11), (1, 8), (3, 5)$

3. Which table does **not** represent a function?

A.

x	7	8	8	9	10
y	7	14	21	28	35

B.

x	−2	−1	0	1	2
y	−8	−1	0	1	8

C.

x	−8	−4	0	4	8
y	2	0	−1	−3	−5

D.

x	−10	−5	0	5	10
y	5	5	5	5	5

NTI

Day 4: Maynard / Shaw

Agriculture in Ancient Egypt

Agriculture was the foundation of the ancient Egyptian economy and vital to the lives of the people in this region of North Africa. Basic farming practices took root about 8,000 years ago, developing in the Delta Region of northern Egypt, and the fertile basin known as the Faiyum. However, there is evidence of early agriculture dating back more than 10,000 years.

Nile River and delta seen from orbit. Vegetation is marked in green, showing the contrast between nutrient-rich soil and the arid surrounding region. Photo: Jacques Descloitres/NASA. [click to enlarge]
Egyptologist and historian Margaret Bunson defines ancient Egyptian agriculture as "the science and practice of the ancient Egyptians ... that enabled them to transform an expanse of semi-arid land into rich fields after each inundation of the Nile." Inundation refers to the yearly flooding of the Nile River. When the Nile would spill over its banks, it would deposit nutrient-rich soil onto the land, allowing for the cultivation of crops. Without this flooding, Egyptian culture could not have taken hold in the Nile River Valley.

So fertile were the fields of Egypt that, in a good season, they produced enough food to feed every person in the country abundantly for a year. Better years produced a surplus, which was kept in state-owned grain storage units. This extra food could be used for trade or saved for times when food was less plentiful. A bad growing season was always the result of the Nile not flooding enough, or shallow inundation, no matter the amount of rainfall or other factors.

So important was the Nile flood that scholars believe many of the best-known Egyptian myths are linked to this annual natural cycle. The story of the death and return to life of the god Osiris, for example, is thought to dramatize the life-giving role of the Nile.

Tools and practices

The yearly flooding was the most important aspect of Egyptian agriculture, but people still needed to work the land. Fields had to be plowed and seeds needed to be sowed. Water also had to be transported to different areas, leading to the invention of the ox-drawn plow and improvements in irrigation.

Ancient Egyptian hoe and plow. Image: Popular Science Monthly. [click to enlarge]
Once the field was plowed, workers with hoes broke up the clumps of soil. With the ground properly prepared, seed was hauled to the field in baskets where workers filled smaller baskets or sacks from these larger containers. The most common means of sowing the earth was to carry a basket in one arm while flinging the seed with the other hand.

Canals

All of this work would have been for nothing, however, if the seeds did not receive sufficient water. While the inundation supplied the rich soil, water still needed to get to the fields, making efficient irrigation of the land extremely important. Irrigation canals were necessary to carry water from the river to outlying farms and villages, as well as to irrigate crops that were closer the river.
These canals were carefully engineered to efficiently irrigate acres and acres of land. Just as important, the placement of canals was never allowed to interfere with anyone else's crops or canals. It was the sacred responsibility of officials to ensure that water was not wasted, which included making certain that canals were kept in good working order.

Animal husbandry, crops and products

Most Egyptians lived on a mostly vegetarian diet. Staple crops of Ancient Egypt included chickpeas, lentils and a wheat-grain known as emmer. Lettuce, onions, garlic, sesame, corn, barley, papyrus, flax and the castor oil plant were also cultivated.

Meat was expensive and could not last long since there was no concept of refrigeration. It was therefore primarily reserved for nobility, the wealthy and for festivals and other special occasions. Livestock used for meat included cattle, lambs, sheep, goats and poultry. Pigs were regularly eaten in Lower Egypt, but usually shunned in Upper Egypt, where fish was the most common animal protein of the lower classes.
The Book of the Dead of the royal nanny of Bakay, or Papyrus of Bakay. Likely 15th century B.C. Photo: Wikimedia. [click to enlarge]

Some plants were used to make products rather than for eating, such as papyrus. Although it is most commonly recognized as a raw material for paper, papyrus was also used to make sandals, rope, toys, boxes, baskets, mats, window shades and even small fishing boats. The castor oil plant was crushed and made into lamp oil and was also consumed as a health tonic. Flax was processed into rope and clothing and sometimes used in the manufacture of footwear.

Among the most important crops was emmer, which was used in the production of beer, the most popular drink in Egypt, and bread, a daily staple of the Egyptian diet. After papyrus, emmer was probably the most important crop regularly grown in Egypt.

Farmers and trade

Individual farmers would make their living from their crops in a number of ways. Private landowners could do as they wished with their fields and livestock. Most farmers worked for others, typically tending the fields and surrendering the harvest to the noble owners, while keeping a small amount for personal use.
Agriculture was primarily done by men, but women and children of tenant farmers often kept small gardens to grow food for the family.

Agriculture and personal wealth

Farm products were an essential part of complex barter systems — the trading of goods for other goods and services rather than for money. This system existed on a modest scale throughout the villages of Egypt, but was also the practice in cities and in international trade. Egypt traded its agricultural produce to Mesopotamia, the Levant, India and Nubia among others in exchange for goods from these lands.
Crops were also harvested and stored at the local level and then a portion collected by rulers as a form of taxation. It was then moved to the Royal Granaries in the capital.

Following the annexation of Egypt by Rome about 2,100 years ago, Egypt served as the "breadbasket" of the Roman Empire. Egypt was increasingly called upon to supply food for that empire's ever-expanding reach.

Conclusion

Today, fields run by huge companies within Egypt are worked using huge tractors and other advanced technology. However, some of the old farming practices can still be seen in small farms and villages beyond the reach of modern Egypt.

Answer the following and return to either Mr. Maynard or Mr. Stamm

Day 4

1. Read the following paragraph from the section "Canals."

These canals were carefully engineered to efficiently irrigate acres and acres of land. Just as important, the placement of canals was never allowed to interfere with anyone else's crops or canals. It was the sacred responsibility of officials to ensure that water was not wasted, which included making certain that canals were kept in good working order.

Which of the following can be inferred from the paragraph above?

   a. Ancient Egyptian canals needed frequent repairs throughout the growing season to ensure maximum effectiveness.
   b. The ancient Egyptians were the first group of people to design and build canals for agricultural purposes.
   c. Ancient Egyptian society recognized the scarcity of water and its role as a crucial natural resource.
   d. Ancient Egyptian law severely punished those who were found to be wasting water or impeding anyone's ability to grow crops.

2. Read the following statement.

   Farmers who worked for landowners did not receive a sufficient amount of crops in return for their labor.

   Which sentence from the section "Farmers and trade" BEST supports the statement above?

   a. Individual farmers would make their living from their crops in a number of ways.
   b. Private landowners could do as they wished with their fields and livestock.
   c. Most farmers worked for others, typically tending the fields and surrendering the harvest to the noble owners, while keeping a small amount for personal use.
   d. Agriculture was primarily done by men, but women and children of tenant farmers often kept small gardens to grow food for the family.

3. Observe: What are three important details you observe the article? Elaborate by explaining why these details are important using evidence from the article to support your thinking.

NTI Day 4 - Writing - Grade 8, Enix

Practicing Voice/Figurative Language - Similes

Directions: Add at least seven words to finish each comparison. Think outside the box! How can you make these comparisons descriptive and unexpected!

Remember: A simile compares two unlike things using "like" or "as."

Ex: After staying up so late, I could not come up with any good comebacks to my arch nemesis' taunts. **My wit was as dull as an old knife, worn to a rounded edge over years of misuse and poor care.**

Here, the writer compares their wit (creativity in speaking) to an old knife and adds important descriptive details to make visual clearer for the reader.

1) Standing so close to the road, the truck rolling down the highway was as loud as

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2) The toddler, full of energy from her Halloween candy, bounced around the room like

---

3) My sister grabbed my arm and squeezed hard, and her fingernails dug into me, as sharp as

---

4) I left my hoodie at home, forgetting that my English classroom was as cold as

---

5) In my least favorite class, the time seemed to move as slowly as

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