

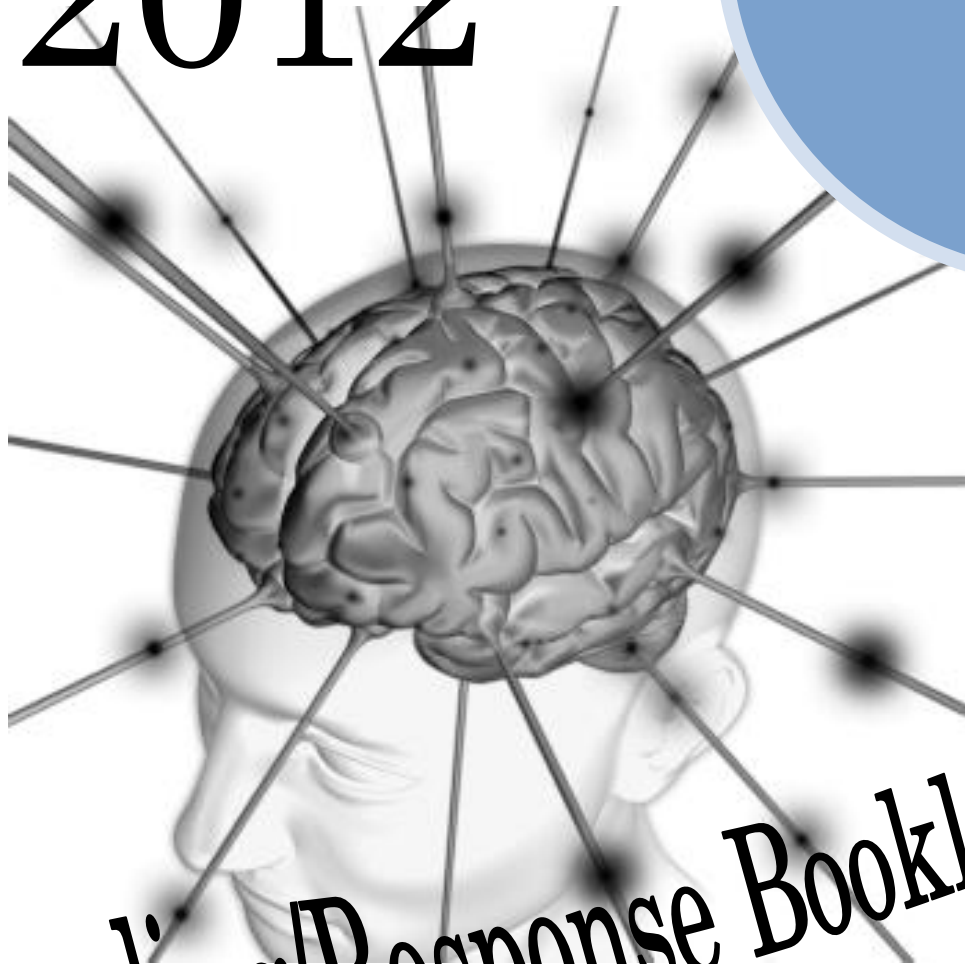
STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PATHWAY: \_\_\_\_\_

# English Language Arts

# 2012

# 9



## Reading/Response Booklet



MIDTERM EXAMINATION

# Language Arts



## ***Tips for Answering Selected Response Questions***

- 1. Reread parts of the reading passage, if necessary.**
- 2. Reread the question, if necessary.**
- 3. Choose the best answer for each question.**
- 4. Select only one answer for each question.**
- 5. Go to the next question if you get stuck on an answer. You should come back to the question at the end.**
- 6. Answer every question, even if you're not sure.**
- 7. Use any extra time to check your answers.**

## ***Tips for Answering Open-Response Questions***

- 1. Reread parts of the reading passage, if necessary.**
- 2. Reread the question, if necessary.**
- 3. Write as neatly as you can.**
- 4. Answer in complete sentences.**
- 5. Explain yourself clearly. Provide details and examples.**
- 6. Write what you think and why you think that. There are not always right or wrong answers.**
- 7. Go to the next question if you get stuck on an answer. You should come back to the question at the end.**
- 8. Answer every question, even if you are not sure.**
- 9. Use any extra time to check your answers.**
  - ✓ Do they say what you mean?**
  - ✓ Do they make sense?**
  - ✓ Are your spelling, punctuation, and capitalization appropriate?**

# **English Language Arts 9**

## **Section I**

### **Prose**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

# TEST

By Theodore Thomas

1       The car turned sideways. It was then his mother began to scream.

2       Robert Proctor was a good driver for so young a person. The turnpike\* curved gently ahead of him. Travel was light on this cool morning in May. He felt rested, but alert. He had been driving for two hours. The sun was bright but not glaring. The air smelled fresh and clean. He breathed in deeply. It was a good day for driving. He looked at the gray-haired woman sitting in the front seat with him. Her mouth was curved in a quiet smile. As she watched the trees and fields slip by on her side of the turnpike Robert Proctor looked back at the road. "Enjoying it, Mom?" he asked.

3       "Yes, Robert." Her voice was as cool as the morning. He listened to the smooth purr of the engine. Up ahead he saw a big truck. It was spouting smoke as it sped along the turnpike. Behind it was a blue convertible, content to stay in line. Robert Proctor noted this and put it in the back of his mind. He was slowly overtaking the car and the truck. He would reach them in another minute or two. It was a good morning for driving. He pulled up and began to pass the blue convertible. Though his speed was a few miles an hour above the turnpike limit, his car was under perfect control.

4       The blue convertible suddenly swung out from behind the truck without warning. It struck his car near the right front fender. His car was knocked to the shoulder next to the turnpike median strip. Robert Proctor was too wise to slam on the brakes. He fought the steering wheel to hold the car on a straight path. The left wheels sank into the soft left shoulder. The car seemed to pull toward the left. If it kept going that way, it might cross the island and enter the lane carrying cars coming from the other direction. Robert held on to the steering wheel. Then the left front wheel struck a rock, and the tire blew out. The car turned sideways. It was then that his mother began to scream. As the car turned, it skidded part way out into the oncoming lanes. Robert Proctor fought the steering wheel to right the car. But the drag of the blown tire was too much. His mother's scream rang steadily in his ears. As he strained at the wheel, he wondered how a scream could go on so long.

5       An oncoming car struck his car from the side, and spun him farther into the left-hand lanes. He was thrown into his mother's lap. She was thrown against the right door. It was locked and it held. With his left hand he grabbed the steering wheel. He pulled himself up. He turned the wheel to try to stop the spin so he could get his car out of traffic. His mother could not right herself. She lay against the door, her cry rising and falling with the spin of the car. The car began to slow down. In one of the spins, he twisted the wheel straight and headed down the left-hand lane. Before he could turn off the pike to safety, a car loomed ahead of him. The man at the wheel of that other car seemed unable to move. His eyes were wide and filled with fear. Beside him sat a girl with her head against the back of the seat. Soft curls framed her lovely face. She was asleep. It was not the fear in the man's face that reached Robert Proctor. It was the trust in the face of the sleeping girl. In a flash, the two cars sped closer to each other.

6       Robert Proctor had no time to change the direction of his car. The driver of the other car remained frozen at the wheel; Robert Proctor stared into the face of the sleeping girl. His mother's cry still sounded in his ears. He heard no crash when the two cars met head on at high speed. He only felt something push

into his stomach. Then the world went gray. Just before darkness came, he heard the scream stop. He knew then that he had been hearing one single scream. It had only seemed to drag on and on.

7 Robert Proctor seemed to be at the bottom of a deep, black well. There was a spot of faint light in the far distance. He could hear the rumble of a voice. He tried to pull himself toward the light and the sound, but the effort was too great. He lay still and gathered his strength to try again. The light grew brighter and the voice louder. When he tried again, he seemed to draw closer to the light and sound. He opened his eyes and looked at the man sitting in front of him.

8 "You all right, son?" asked the man. He wore a blue uniform. His round face was familiar. Robert Proctor moved his head slowly. He discovered that he was lying back in a chair. He could move his arms and legs. He looked around the room. Then he remembered. The man in the uniform saw the look in Robert's eyes. He said, "No harm done, son. You just took the last part of your driver's test."

9 Robert Proctor looked at the man. Though he saw the man clearly, he seemed to see the faint face of the sleeping girl in front of him. The uniformed man went on talking. "We hypnotized you to make you think you were in an accident. We do it to everybody these days before they get their driver's license. Makes better drivers of them. Makes drivers more careful for the rest of their lives. Remember it now? Coming in here and all?"

10 Robert Proctor nodded, thinking of the sleeping girl. She never would have awakened. She would have gone from her light sleep to the dark sleep of death. Worst of all would have been his mother's death. The uniformed man was still speaking. "So you think you're all set now. If you still want a driver's license, sign this application and we'll see."

11 Robert Proctor looked at the license application and signed it. He looked up to find two men in long white coats. They were standing one on each side of him. Somehow the sight of them made him angry. He started to speak but the uniformed man spoke first. "Sorry, son. You failed your license test. You're sick and need treatment."

12 The two men lifted Robert Proctor to his feet. He said, "Take your hands off me. What is this?"

13 The uniformed man said, "Nobody should want to drive a car after going through what you just went through. It should take months before you can even think of driving again. But you're ready to drive right now. Killing people doesn't seem to bother you. We can't let your kind run around loose any more. But don't you worry, son. They'll take good care of you. They'll fix you up." He nodded to the two men. They began to march Robert Proctor out.

14 At the door he spoke. His voice was so full of pleading the two men paused. "You can't really mean this," he said. "I must still be dreaming. This is all part of the test, isn't it?"

15 The uniformed man said, "No, son, but you can try again later." They dragged Robert out the door, knees stiff, feet dragging. As they pulled, his rubber heels slid along the two grooves worn in the floor.

**\*turnpike- a road for which a driver pays a fee for use**

**Selected Response:**

Shade the letter of the best answer for each question on the machine-scorable answer sheet provided.

1. “The sun was bright but not glaring. The air smelled fresh and clean” (Paragraph 2) is an example of which literary device?
  - (A) alliteration
  - (B) imagery
  - (C) metaphor
  - (D) personification
  
2. What does “loomed” (paragraph 5) mean?
  - (A) advanced
  - (B) appeared
  - (C) braked
  - (D) slowed
  
3. “He listened to the smooth purr of the engine” (paragraph 3) is an example of which literary device?
  - (A) alliteration
  - (B) imagery
  - (C) onomatopoeia
  - (D) metaphor
  
4. Which word best describes the author’s tone (author’s attitude)?
  - (A) disbelief
  - (B) humorous
  - (C) resentful
  - (D) tragic
  
5. “Her voice was as cool as the morning” (paragraph 3) is an example of which literary device?
  - (A) assonance
  - (B) imagery
  - (C) metaphor
  - (D) simile



6. "...blue convertible, content to stay in line." (paragraph 3) is an example of which literary device?
- (A) allegory
  - (B) atmosphere
  - (C) irony
  - (D) personification
7. What is the climax of the story?
- (A) the awakening
  - (B) the car crash
  - (C) the hypnotism
  - (D) the test failure
8. Which of the following is created by the line "The car turned sideways. It was then that his mother began to scream."? (paragraph 1)
- (A) irony
  - (B) resolution
  - (C) setting
  - (D) suspense
9. In the context of the story, why are all drivers hypnotized?
- (A) to control them during the test
  - (B) to influence decision-making
  - (C) to make better drivers of them
  - (D) to relax them before the test
10. What is the resolution of the story?
- (A) Robert gets his license
  - (B) Robert gets treatment
  - (C) Robert is jailed
  - (D) Robert wakes up

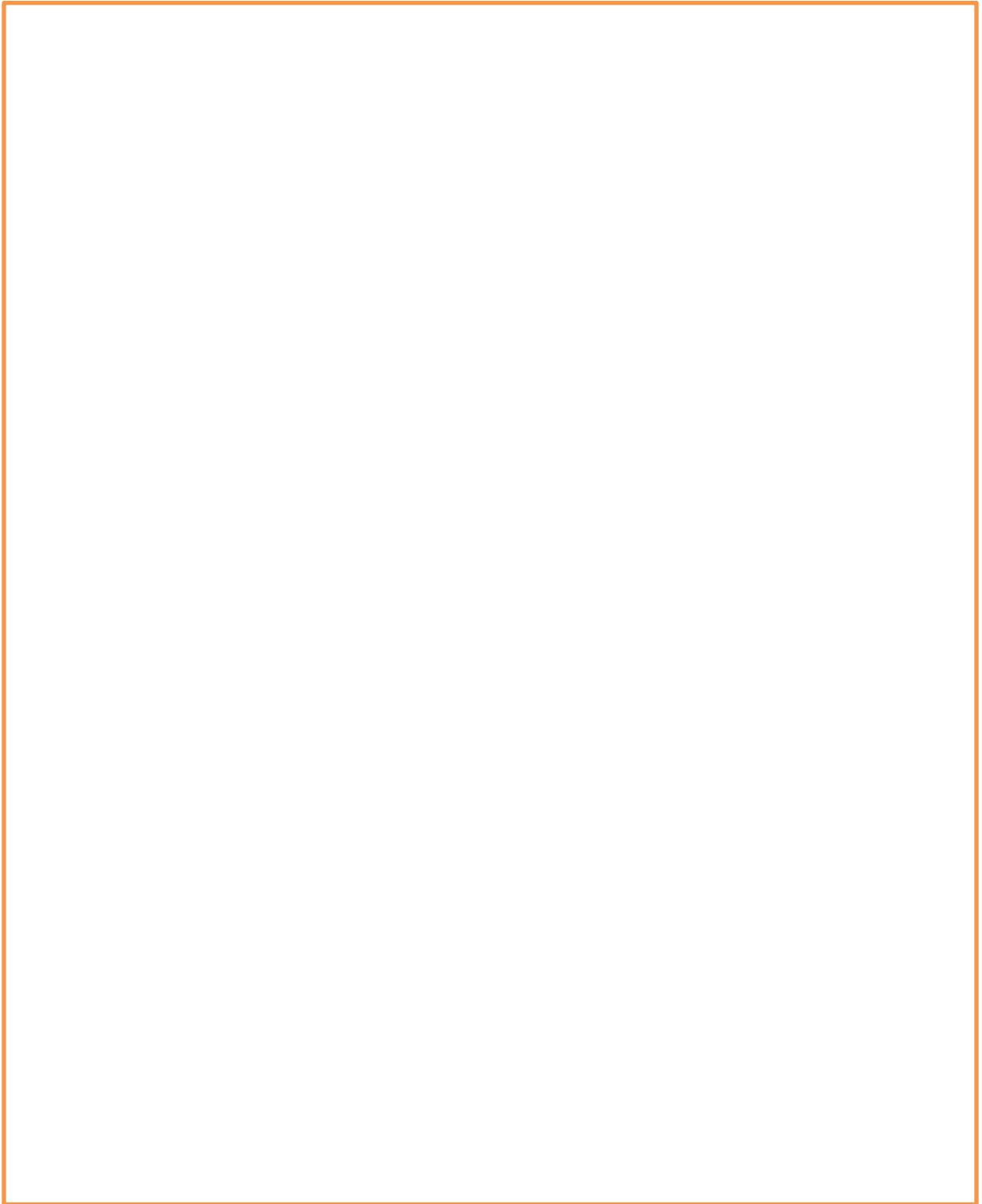








5. Create an advertisement, with a slogan, that promotes safe driving. Feel free to add color to your advertisement.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin orange border, occupying most of the page below the instruction. It is intended for the student to draw and write their advertisement within this space.

# Continue Working



# **English Language Arts 9**

## **Section II**

### **Poetic Text**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Why Did You Change?

By Nicholas Gordon

1     Why did you change? What did I do?  
      We were like brothers, and now  
      Your face is a wall without windows, while you  
      Abrogate what small claims you allow.

5     I don't understand what undid the sweet bond  
      That for years yielded nothing but joy.  
      I am who I was, and yet you respond  
      As though it were my aim to annoy.

      Perhaps there's no why when some untoward wind  
10    Whips away what we hold to our hearts.  
      Though bitter it be to leave loved ones behind,  
      It remains the most precious of arts.

**\*abrogate: cancel; abolish; revoke**

### Selected Response:

Shade the letter of the best answer for each question on the machine-scorable answer sheet provided.

1.     What form is this poem?
  - (A)    Ballad
  - (B)    Haiku
  - (C)    Narrative
  - (D)    Sonnet
  
2.     What does the word “yielded” (line 6) mean?
  - (A)    avoided
  - (B)    continued
  - (C)    produced
  - (D)    resisted
  
3.     What is the rhyme scheme?
  - (A)    abab
  - (B)    abba
  - (C)    abca
  - (D)    abcb

4. Which literary device is, “Your face is a wall without windows...” (line 3)?
- (A) alliteration
  - (B) onomatopoeia
  - (C) personification
  - (D) simile
5. What is meant by the phrase “sweet bond” (line 5)?
- (A) animosity
  - (B) friendship
  - (C) mentorship
  - (D) rivalry
6. From what perspective (point of view) is this poem written?
- (A) first person
  - (B) omniscient
  - (C) third person limited
  - (D) third person narrative
7. What is the tone (author’s attitude) in this poem?
- (A) angry
  - (B) hopeful
  - (C) outraged
  - (D) reflective
8. Which literary device is, “we were like brothers” (line 2)?
- (A) hyperbole
  - (B) metaphor
  - (C) personification
  - (D) simile
9. In the context of the poem, what are the things we might “hold to our hearts”?
- (A) obsessions
  - (B) possessions
  - (C) relationships
  - (D) secrets
10. Who is the target audience of the poem?
- (A) adults
  - (B) enemies
  - (C) friends
  - (D) siblings









