

Grade 3 / Constructed Response Student Samples

→ INFORMATIONAL PERFORMANCE TASK

Item Prompt ITEM #2644	Which source most likely has the most useful information about the kinds of work that astronauts do while they are in space? Explain why this source most likely has the most useful information about the kinds of work that astronauts do while they are in space. Support your explanation with two details from the source.
Claim, Target, and Standards	Smarter Balanced Claim and Target: Claim 4: Research, Target 3. INFORMATION/SOURCES: Distinguish relevant/irrelevant information. Focus Standards for Target 3: RI-7, RI-9, W-8 DOK: 4
Key Elements	Source # 1 (What is an Astronaut?) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Astronauts fix things that become broken on the spaceship.• Some astronauts are pilots who know how to fly airplanes. They learn how to turn the spaceship and how to guide it through space.• Some astronauts are leaders and are in charge of all the people on the ship. They make sure that everybody is doing the right job.



Response is an evidence-based explanation that correctly identifies the most useful source AND includes two details from that source that support this evaluation and that explains why each detail supports the idea that it is the most useful source.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

Source 1 gives more information because it tells how Astronauts study about space. It is interesting how Astronauts work in space. This story is interesting. Astronauts fix other things to learn how to fly their rockets. So if they crash they can fix their rocket. Astronauts study to be like space doctors. They do this to help others when their hurt. These are two jobs that source 1 says Astronauts learn to do.

RATIONALE

This response correctly identifies Source #1 as having the most useful information about the kinds of work that astronauts do while they are in space. It mentions two types of work that they do: fixing things and being space doctors. It further elaborates on these details by describing why astronauts need to do each of these things. This response receives a score of 2 since it identifies the correct source, provides two details, and explains why astronauts need to know how to do each of these jobs.



Response is an evidence-based explanation that correctly identifies the most useful source AND includes one detail from that source that support this evaluation and that explains why the detail supports the idea that it is the most useful source.

or

Response is an evidence-based explanation that correctly identifies the most useful source AND includes two details from that source that support this evaluation but does not explain why each detail supports the idea that it is the most useful source.

or

Response is an evidence-based explanation that does not identify a source or correctly identify the most useful source but includes two details from the correct source and that explains why each detail supports the idea that it is the most useful source.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

Source 1 has the most information about the kinds of work that astronauts do while inspace because it says astronauts study the stars and it says they lift heavy things.

RATIONALE

This response receives a score of 1. It correctly identifies Source #1 as the most useful, and provides two relevant details: astronauts study the stars, and they lift heavy things. In order for this response to be a 2 it would need to include some additional elaboration of the evidence explaining how each of these details support the conclusion that Source #1 has the most useful information about the kinds of work that astronauts do while they are in space.



Response is an explanation that is incorrect, irrelevant, insufficient, or blank.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

In the second article because it tells more information
tthan the first one also because it's a little bit longer
than the first one

RATIONALE

This response receives a score of 0 for multi-
ple reasons. It identifies the incorrect source
of information and does not state any details
from the source. The response comments on
the source's length instead of its content. The
information provided to justify the choice of
Source #2 is not relevant to the question.

Grade 3 / Constructed Response Student Samples

→ INFORMATIONAL PERFORMANCE TASK

Item Prompt ITEM #2645	Explain why it is hard to be an astronaut. Give two reasons, one from source 1 and one from source 2. For each reason, include the source title or number.
Claim, Target, and Standards	<p>Smarter Balanced Claim and Target: Claim 4: Research, Target 4. USE EVIDENCE: Cite evidence to support opinions based on prior knowledge and evidence collected.</p> <p>Focus Standards for Target 3: RI-1, RI-6, RI-7, RI-9, W-1b, W-8</p> <p>DOK: 3</p>
Key Elements	<p>Source #1 (What is an Astronaut?)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A person who wants to be an astronaut has to study for years.• There are many things an astronaut must learn to do before going into space for the first time.• Astronauts train for hundreds of hours.• Being in space is work for astronauts.• Astronauts must be healthy and eat right.• They have to exercise and be in good shape.• Astronauts have many adventures, but they work hard, too. <p>Source #2 (Life in Space)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• They have many years of school and special training.• A lot of strange things happen to the body when it feels weightless and floats for that long.• Astronauts sometimes feel sick in space.• Being in space also changes how blood flows in the body.• Their faces get puffy and their necks get bigger.• At the same time, less blood flows to their legs, making them skinny. They call this condition "bird legs."• The heart does not have to work as hard to pump blood in space. A muscle that does not work hard gets weaker and smaller.• Astronauts' other muscles and their bones can get weaker, too.• Astronauts have to do exercises when they are in space.• It takes time for them to get back their Earth legs and learn how to live with gravity again.



Response is an evidence-based explanation that provides two pieces of evidence from different sources that support this claim and that explain how each example supports the claim. Student cites the source for each example.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

It is hard to be a astronaut because in source 1 it says that you have to study stars and the earth. They also need to be a scientist because they do not go up there to dilly dally they go up in space to learn about the stars, moon, sun and other places. In source #2 it says that if you go up in space to long then come back down to earth it will be hard to get used to gravity. It also says less blood flows to your legs and more blood flows to your face then it gets puffy.

RATIONALE

This response provides key details from each source that are clearly identified and support the idea that it is hard to be an astronaut. Each idea is further explained and elaborated on, so the connection to the main idea is evident. The detail from Source #2, "if you go up in space to long ... it will be hard to get used to gravity," is backed up by describing the physical effects that the lack of gravity has on your body.



Response is an evidence-based explanation that provides two pieces of evidence from a single source that supports this claim and that explains how that example supports the claim. Student cites the source.

or

Response is an evidence-based explanation that provides only one piece of evidence from a single source that support this claim and that explains how that example supports the claim. Student cites the source

or

Response is an evidence-based explanation that provides two pieces of evidence from different sources that support this claim and that explain how each example supports the claim. Student does not cite sources.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

Source #1 it is hard to be a astronaut because you have to train for hundreds of hours and study a lot. Source #2 it is hard to be a astronaut because a muscle that does not work hard gets smaller and weaker.

RATIONALE

This response receives a score of 1. It provides key details that are clearly identified from each source. Although the response states relevant details, the prompt also asks for an explanation of why it is hard to be an astronaut. The response would need to include elaboration of how these details support the main idea to receive a score of 2.



Response is an explanation that is incorrect, irrelevant, insufficient, or blank.

SAMPLE RESPONSE

It is hard to be a astronaut because you would not like how your blood go up in your brian. Also because you would leave your family and you would not like people to call you bird legs. Also if you go out of space with a ponytail the rubber band would be stuck on the spaceship. When you go back to earth you need how to learn to live with gravity?

RATIONALE

This response receives a score of 0 because of the lack of citations as well as containing insufficient explanations and irrelevant details. There are no key ideas from Source #1, and the details presented can only loosely be traced back to Source #2. There is an attempt to discuss the effects of low gravity, but the detail is never clearly stated and the information is insufficient to explain the connection. This text also includes irrelevant details such as leaving your family, and rubber bands used for ponytails.