

ELA.09.SR.1.08.105 C1 T8

Sample Item ID:	ELA.09.SR.1.08.105
Grade/Model:	9/1
Claim:	1: Students can read closely and analytically to comprehend a range of increasingly complex literary and informational texts.
Assessment Target:	8: KEY DETAILS: Cite explicit text evidence to support inferences made or conclusions drawn about texts
Secondary Target(s):	n/a
Standard(s):	RI-1, RH-1, RST-1, RI-3, RH-3
DOK:	2
Difficulty:	E
Item Type:	Selected Response
Score Points:	1
Key:	"The tool is populated with NASA data dating back to 1950 and projected to 2050." AND "When NASA's Juno spacecraft launched on Aug. 5, 2011, users could look ahead to see the mission's five-year journey to Jupiter in a matter of seconds."
Stimulus/Passage(s):	"NASA Gives Public New Internet Tool To Explore The Solar System," by Dwayne Brown and Stephanie Smith. Sept. 02, 2011.
Stimuli/Text Complexity:	The Lexile and F-K are fairly high, most likely due to the vocabulary demands. However the information is fairly straightforward and students should be able to navigate the parts of the passage that have less familiar information. There is nothing terribly abstract about the ideas. Based on these sets of measures, this passage is recommended for assessment at grade 9. Please see the text complexity worksheet attached.
Acknowledgement(s):	http://www.nasa.gov/home/hqnews/2011/sep/HQ_11-288_System_Eyes.html
Item/Task Notes:	
How this task contributes to the sufficient evidence for this claim:	To successfully complete the item, students must correctly identify evidence from the text that supports an inference about the information presented in the text.
Target-Specific Attributes (e.g., accessibility issues):	

Stimulus Text:

Read the passage and then answer the question.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) leads research in space exploration and aeronautics.

NASA Gives Public New Internet Tool To Explore The Solar System

PASADENA, Calif. -- NASA is giving the public the power to journey through the solar system using a new interactive Web-based tool.

The "Eyes on the Solar System" interface combines video game technology and NASA data to create an environment for users to ride along with agency spacecraft and explore the cosmos. Screen graphics and information such as planet locations and spacecraft maneuvers use actual space mission data.

"This is the first time the public has been able to see the entire solar system and our missions moving together in real-time," said Jim Green, director of NASA's Planetary Science Division at the agency's Headquarters in Washington. "It demonstrates NASA's continued commitment to share our science with everyone."

The virtual environment uses the Unity game engine to display models of planets, moons, asteroids, comets and spacecraft as they move through our solar system. With keyboard and mouse controls, users cruise through space to explore anything that catches their interest. A free browser plug-in, available at the site, is required to run the Web application.

"You are now free to move about the solar system," said Blaine Baggett, executive manager in the Office of Communication and

Education at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif. "See what NASA's spacecraft see -- and where they are right now -- all without leaving your computer."

Users may experience missions in real-time, and "Eyes on the Solar System" also allows them to travel through time. The tool is populated with NASA data dating back to 1950 and projected to 2050.

The playback rate can be sped up or slowed down. When NASA's Juno spacecraft launched on Aug. 5, 2011, users could look ahead to see the mission's five-year journey to Jupiter in a matter of seconds.

Point of view can be switched from faraway to close-up to right "on board" spacecraft. Dozens of controls on a series of pop-up menus allow users to fully customize what they see, and video and audio tutorials explain how to use the tool's many options. Users may choose from 2-D or 3-D modes, with the latter simply requiring a pair of red-cyan glasses to see.

"By basing our visualization primarily on mission data, this tool will help both NASA and the public better understand complex space science missions," said Kevin Hussey, manager of Visualization Technology Applications and Development at JPL, whose team developed "Eyes on the Solar System."

"Eyes on the Solar System" is in beta release. It has been demonstrated at science conferences, in classrooms and at the 2011 South by Southwest Interactive Conference in Austin, Texas.

Designers are updating "Eyes on the Solar System" to include NASA science missions launching during the coming months, including GRAIL to the moon and the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity rover.

Item Stem:

Click on the two highlighted sentences that show that NASA makes predictions about the data space missions will generate before the missions occur.

Distractor Analysis:

KEY: "The tool is populated with NASA data dating back to 1950 and projected to 2050." AND "When NASA's Juno spacecraft launched on Aug. 5, 2011, users could look ahead to see the mission's five-year journey to Jupiter in a matter of seconds." In order for NASA to include projected data to 2050 and the five-year mission of a spacecraft that just launched, the agency must predict data from missions before the missions occur.

Worksheet: Text Complexity Analysis		
Title	Author	Text Description
NASA Internet Tool	NASA	Press release describing new tool available to the public



Recommended Placement for Assessment: Grade 9

The Lexile and F-K are fairly high, most likely due to the vocabulary demands. However the information is fairly straightforward and students should be able to navigate the parts of the passage that have less familiar information. There is nothing terribly abstract about the ideas. **Based on these sets of measures, this passage is recommended for assessment at grade 9.**

Qualitative Measures	Quantitative Measures
<p>Meaning/Purpose: <u>Moderately complex:</u> Straightforward press release/news article format.</p> <p>Text Structure: <u>Moderately complex:</u> The organization is fairly clear – an overview, then specific information, interspersed with a promotional-type information.</p> <p>Language Features: <u>Very complex:</u> The vocabulary is dense and highly technological. While exact understanding of all terms is not necessary, it does make for a more challenging read. There are many complex sentences with several subordinate phrases or clauses.</p> <p>Knowledge Demands: <u>Very complex:</u> A great deal of subject-specific information and some challenging technological concepts.</p>	<p>Common Core State Standards Appendix A Complexity Band Level (if applicable):</p> <p>Lexile or Other Quantitative Measure of the Text:</p> <p>Lexile: 1360L; above grade Flesch-Kincaid: 13.2 Word Count: 467</p> <p style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px;">Considerations for Passage Selection</p> <p>Passage selection should be based on the ELA Content Specifications targets and the cognitive demands of the assessment tasks.</p> <p>Potential Challenges a Text May Pose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility • Sentence and text structures • Archaic language, slang, idioms, or other language challenges • Background knowledge • Bias and sensitivity issues • Word count

Adapted from the 2012 ELA SCASS work