# NY ELA Rehearsal Plus



REVISED

**Extended Response Question for Test 1** 



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Student's Name

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PAGE 2

## **D***irections* Read the story. Then answer the question.

## Marten's Mission



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Marten leaned on the window of the *U.S.S. Silverton* and looked out. He saw the bright blue glow of the Earth below them, and the beautiful stars of space sprinkled all around. What he really paid attention to, though, was the fleet of starships hovering over the planet. Marten looked at them and sighed miserably.

"What is the matter, sir?" asked his robot companion, Servo-44.

"I can't believe I'm stuck on this mission to fix some old satellite while there are so many great adventures out there in space," said Marten. He pointed to the other ships and added, "Almost the entire fleet is going out into deep space to search for Zanthos, but the *Silverton* is staying here, in the asteroids near Earth."

Servo-44 said, "Your feelings of disappointment do not compute. Our mission is practical and useful, and it is much safer than pursuing Zanthos. He is a cunning villain on the run from the law."

Test 1 - Book 2

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PAGE 3

"But our mission isn't *exciting!*" complained Marten, slinking away. He knew a robot couldn't understand the human need for adventure, or that adventure was the last thing Marten and the crew of the *Silverton* could expect to encounter.

He waited by the window until he heard a loud roaring sound, which he knew was the sound of dozens of engines powering up. One by one, the other ships zoomed out into the blackness of space, reaching out to the far ends of the galaxy.

Only after most of the fleet had left did the *Silverton* power up its own tiny engines and begin its slow, plodding trip to the nearby asteroid TNB-1163. There was no feeling of adventure at all, and most of the crew looked about as enthused as they would be going to the store to buy groceries. It was just another daily chore for them.

Marten, sighing, decided to pass the time folding laundry in his room. He began daydreaming. In his mind he could see himself piloting his own ship, chasing down the villain while Zanthos flew by in his glistening green craft, the *Hornet*.

9 Marten jumped when he heard knocking at his door and the sound of Servo-44 saying, "Sir?"

10 "What?" asked Marten eagerly, imagining his daydream coming to life. He began grabbing his cadet uniform and preparing for a thrilling space chase.

11 "We have arrived safely at asteroid TNB-1163, sir," Servo-44 reported.

12 "Great," said Marten with a gloomy sigh as he tossed his uniform back onto his bunk. "Thanks a LOT, Servo."

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Marten joined the other *Silverton* crew members as they donned their spacesuits and walked out onto the rough, rocky surface of the asteroid. He was still in a sour mood, but he always found it fascinating to walk on asteroids, and he reminded himself that most Earth kids never got that opportunity. Even if he was just helping to fix a satellite, it was still far better than being back home mowing the lawn or taking out the garbage.

PAGE 4

"We lost track of the satellite, so it could be anywhere on this asteroid," said Captain Ledbetter, the commander of the *Silverton*. "I want the scientists to begin setting up their repair equipment while the crew forms search parties to find the satellite."

- 15 Marten's face brightened at the idea of going on a search. It wasn't quite the search for Zanthos, but it was safer, and there was still a goal to achieve. As Servo had said, it was a practical and useful job, too. Marten tried to think of it as a treasure hunt and decided all at once that he wanted to be the crew member to find the lost satellite.
- 16 Sneaking away from the other search parties, Marten began racing up the stony hills of TNB-1163. As he ran, he imagined finding the satellite and reporting the news to the others. In his mind, he saw them congratulating him on his sharp eyes and quick thinking. Maybe he'd even get a promotion from cadet to second lieutenant!
  - As he came over a hill, Marten spotted something in the distance. It looked like a boulder, but most of the stones on the asteroid were very small. Plus, he could see the object reflecting the light from Earth, so he suspected it was made of metal. Thrilled to have found the satellite, Marten began running toward it. He ran so fast he nearly tumbled down a slope, but luckily he wasn't injured.
- 18 When Marten finally arrived at the object, though, he felt confusion. Most of the object was covered in dust, as if it had crashed onto the rocky planet a long time ago. Plus, it didn't look like any satellite he had ever seen. Rather, it looked like part of a spacecraft that had collided with the asteroid.
- 19 He reached out and carefully brushed the dust off the object. It was made of glistening green metal—it was part of the *Hornet*!

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Marten found himself breathless and panting for air. He couldn't believe he had just found evidence that Zanthos was close to Earth. But it made sense that the villain would hide where he wasn't expected, and he might even try to conquer the Blue Planet! Marten knew Zanthos had to be stopped—and quickly.



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- 21 Marten suddenly heard a sound coming from behind a rocky hill nearby. It sounded like a fusion wrench, one of the tools used for spacecraft repair. Could Zanthos still be here, fixing the *Hornet* for a flight to Earth?
- 22 Now more frightened than excited, Marten reached for the communicator he kept clipped to his belt. With a rush of dismay, he realized it was broken, cracked when he'd slid on the slope earlier.
- 23 "I've never been so nervous before," he said to himself.
- 24 "Your feeling of nervousness computes," said another voice. Marten swung around to find Servo-44 behind him, having followed him from the *Silverton*.
- 25 "Am I glad to see you!" said Marten. "There's no time to go back to warn the others. We have to stop this villain right now!"





## **Planning Page**

You may PLAN your writing for this question here if you wish, but do NOT write your final answer on this page. Your writing on this Planning Page will NOT count toward your final score. Write your final answer on Pages 8 and 9.





Test 1 - Book 2

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"Marten's Mission" is a story written in three parts. How does each part contribute to the rising action of the plot? Use details from all **three** parts of the story in your response.

In your response, be sure to do the following:

- describe the rising action of the plot
- explain the contribution of each part of the story
- use details from each part in your response

Write your answer in complete sentences.





 <b>STC</b> PA

# **Scoring Rubric**

## Extended-Response (4-Point) Holistic Rubric

Extended-response questions assess both reading and writing standards. Scores for extendedresponse questions are based on four overarching criteria: content and analysis; command of evidence; coherence, organization, and style; and control of conventions. Extended-response questions are scored on the rubric below, which incorporates these four criteria.

Criteria	CONTENT AND ANALYSIS: the extent to which the essay conveys ideas and information clearly and accurately in order to support analysis of topics or text		
Score of 4	Essays at this level:		
	• clearly introduce a topic in a manner that follows logically from the task and purpose		
	• demonstrate comprehension and analysis of the text		
Score of 3	Essays at this level:		
	• clearly introduce a topic in a manner that follows from the task and purpose		
	• demonstrate grade-appropriate comprehension of the text(s)		
Score of 2	Essays at this level:		
	<ul> <li>introduce a topic in a manner that follows generally from the task and purpose</li> </ul>		
	• demonstrate a confused comprehension of the text(s)		
Score of 1	Essays at this level:		
	• introduce a topic in a manner that does not logically follow from the task and purpose		
	• demonstrate little understanding of the text		
Score of 0	Essays at this level:		
	• demonstrate a lack of comprehension of the text or task		

Criteria	COMMAND OF EVIDENCE: the extent to which the essay presents evidenc from the provided texts to support analysis and reflection		
Score of 4	Essays at this level:		
	<ul> <li>develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, and details throughout the essay</li> </ul>		
Score of 3	Essays at this level:		
	• develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, and details throughout the essay		
Score of 2	Essays at this level:		
	• partially develop the topic of the essay with the use of some textual evidence, some of which may be irrelevant		
Score of 1	Essays at this level:		
	• demonstrate an attempt to use evidence, but only develop ideas with minimal, occasional evidence which is generally invalid or irrelevant		
Score of 0	Essays at this level:		
	• provide no evidence or provide evidence that is completely irrelevant		

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Criteria	COHERENCE, ORGANIZATION, AND STYLE: the extent to which the essay logically organizes complex ideas, concepts, and information using formal style and precise language			
	mormation using formal style and precise language			
Score of 4	Essays at this level:			
	<ul> <li>clearly and consistently group related information together</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>skillfully connect ideas within categories of information using linking words and phrases</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>provide a concluding statement that follows clearly from the topic and information presented</li> </ul>			
Score of 3	Essays at this level:			
	<ul> <li>generally group related information together</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>connect ideas within categories of information using linking words and phrases</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>provide a concluding statement that follows from the topic and information presented</li> </ul>			
Score of 2	Essays at this level:			
	<ul> <li>exhibit some attempt to group related information together</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>inconsistently connect ideas using some linking words and phrases</li> </ul>			
	• provide a concluding statement that follows generally from the topic and information presented			
Score of 1	Essays at this level:			
	• exhibit little attempt at organization			
	<ul> <li>lack the use of linking words and phrases</li> </ul>			
	• provide a concluding statement that is illogical or unrelated to the topic and information presented			
Score of 0	Essays at this level:			
	• exhibit no evidence of organization			
	<ul> <li>do not provide a concluding statement</li> </ul>			

Page **12** 

Criteria	CONTROL OF CONVENTIONS: the extent to which the essay demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling	
Score of 4	Essays at this level:	
	• demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with few errors	
Score of 3	Essays at this level:	
	• demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors	
	that do not hinder comprehension	
Score of 2	Essays at this level:	
	• demonstrate emerging command of conventions, with some errors that may hinder comprehension	
Score of 1	Essays at this level:	
	• demonstrate a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension	
Score of 0	Essays at this level:	
	• are minimal, making assessment of conventions unreliable	

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# Answer Key Rehearsal Test 1

### Test 1, Book 2

Question Type	Points	Common Core Learning Standard
Extended-Response	4	RL.6.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, chapter, scene, or stanza fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, or plot.

#### Use the 4-point extended-response holistic rubric for this question.

Extended-response sample answer:

In "Marten's Mission," the plot revolves around Marten, an astronaut aboard the U.S.S. Silverton. In Part 1, Marten is watching a fleet of starships fly away from Earth on an exciting adventure. He is disappointed to be aboard a ship that will stay close to "the asteroids near Earth." Part 1 sets the stage for the rising action by describing the mission of the ship. In Part 2, the plot begins to rise as the crew reaches the asteroid TNB-1163. The action rises as the crew walks onto the asteroid and Marten begins to get excited about his job. The action continues rising as he spots a glittering object in the distance and goes through some trouble—falling down a rocky slope—to reach it. Part 3 reaches the climax of the rising action as Marten reaches the glittering object only to discover it is not the lost satellite—but rather evidence that the evil Zanthos is on the asteroid, or was recently.