



NeSA Text Dependent Analysis (TDA)

2016 Released Passage

Grade 3

Passage: Elephant Talk

Scoring Guide

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

Grumble, stomp! Did you elephants can use thier five senses in many different ways? As you read on you can find out some interesting ways elephants can thier senses to communicate.

First, elephants can hear things in amazing ways. What if an elephant wanted to tell another elephant something but he couldn't see her? Problem solved! That elephant could make a very low noise toward the ground and the other elephant would use their soles of their feet to "hear" the message. It's like a phone without a screen! Also if a elephant spreads their ears it means "I'm in charge". It can also flap it's ears. That means that he or she is happy.

Also, elephants can use their touch to communicate in many different ways. When a mother wants their baby to do something she can use her smooth soft trunk. For example, if a mother wanted her baby to know that she cares she would pat the baby's head. She would also do another action to tell the baby something else. You see if the baby couldn't feel it he or she wouldn't know what to do.

Next, elephants can use thier noses to tell other elephants things. It can make a loud trumpet noise with it's trunk if the elephant senses danger. The elephant can also communicate with it's gray trunk by lifting it up. This specific action means "I'm not moving." These are some ways that elephants communicate with their trunks.

In conclusion, elephants can talk in many unique ways. Sometimes they use their trunk. Other times they use thier ears. Next time you visit the zoo and you see a elephant making a grunt or a rumble always remember that he or she is communicating!

1632/6000

Score Point 4

This response demonstrates exemplary analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response thoroughly addresses all parts of the task to explain how elephants use their senses to communicate. Following the order in the text, the writer analyzes implicit (*what if an elephant wanted to tell another elephant something but he couldn't see her? Problem solved.*) and explicit (*it can make a loud trumpet noise with it's trunk if the elephant senses danger*) ideas. The response demonstrates thorough understanding of the text and skillfully integrates specific evidence from the text. The response is focused on how "elephants can talk in many unique ways" and includes a purposeful introduction, body, and conclusion. Precise word choice is used skillfully to enhance ideas. Errors in conventions do not interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

Elephants communicate with each other by making noises or trumpets like snorting, thumping, grunting, rumbleling, and that means the elephants are talking to one and another. Elephants have a very strong communication to each other.

When elephants move it helps them communicate with other elephants in the herd. Some of the ways they can communicate to each other by movement is they may raise or lift there tail in the air or throw there trunk in the air to play. It also may lift it's head or spread it's ears wide to show that " I'm angry.

Elephants can use there trunk in many ways to communicate with the herd. Some of the ways they communicate is that the mother elephant teaches her youngly or her baby how to do stuff. they can also use there trunk to give a great big hug or wrap there trunks around each other. Sometimes these actions may help bond the herd together. Also using the sense of smell , elephants in a herd can keep track of where the elephants go. a trunk can also help an elephant by making loud sounds and they trumpet with there trunk if there is danger coming.

Elephants have a lot of ways to talk but, the main way they talk to the herd or other elephants is through sounds. Some of the sounds they make to communicate with is elephants have vocal and that's where it starts. The sound is deep because of the vocal cords. When the elephant makes a sound he or she can move there bodies head or ears to make the sound grow louder or softer. An elephant can also change how they talk to the herd by keeping there mouths closed or open while they talk. while they talk they keep there head up high or low to talk differently. If a elephant speaks lowly he or she will be able to speak and be heard for a longer distance. Elephants have very good hearing. They can hear the rumbles of an elephant over five miles away!!!! Very low sounds can keep members in a herd in touch if they can not see the members of the herd. Some elephants can make super-sounds that they can be felt into the ground. Elephants may be able to use the soles of there feet to help the elephants hear these sounds.

Elephants have very many ways to communicate throughlike there trunks, with there actions and there movemnt, with sound and many more ways to talk. Elephants can hear very high or low sounds about five miles away.

2449/6000

Score Point 3

This response demonstrates effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses the task and demonstrates understanding of the text. Many explicit and a few implicit ideas from the text are analyzed. Specific evidence is integrated into the response. The evidence is relevant and accurate and supports the analysis. Paraphrases and quotes are partially effective in attributing information to the text. The response is focused on how elephants communicate with each other and includes a clear introduction and body and a partially effective conclusion. Precise word choice and content-specific vocabulary are utilized. Errors in conventions seldom interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

Elephant Communication

Elephants communicate in so many ways. It is important for elephants to know how to communicate. They need to know how to talk by sound, trunk, and movements. Here are some words to know.

Elephants mostly talk like we do. They spread messages by sound. Deep rumbles are how they talk. Their rumbles can travel through the ground to get to elephants 5 miles away! Did you know fact: Moving their body, head, ears, or trunk change the sound of a elephant's tough rumble.

Sometimes a elephant talks with their trunk! One way to say, "I care about you," for moms is patting a baby! If a elephant wraps it's trunk around another elephant it says, "I love you!" When a lion comes, they trumpet to warn their herd.

The last language is movement! A elephant may raise it's tail or throw it's trunk to say, "Let's play!" If it raises it's head or spreads it's ears, it's mad so get away! If a elephant as been gone awhile, it comes back to it's herd and they will flap their ears. "Welcome back!"

If you go to Africa now, you'll know how elephants feel! Elephants love talking, but not by text!

1153/6000

Score Point 3

This response demonstrates effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses the task and demonstrates understanding of the text. Explicit (*They spread messages through sound*) and implicit (*Elephants mostly talk like we do...Elephants love talking, but not by text!*) ideas are analyzed. Specific evidence is integrated into the response. The evidence is relevant and accurate and supports the analysis that "elephants communicate in so many ways." Paraphrases and quotes attribute information to the text. The response is focused on how elephants communicate in many ways and includes a clear introduction and body and a partially effective conclusion. Precise word choice and content-specific vocabulary are utilized. Errors in conventions seldom interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

Elephants use their senses to communicate with each other by doing movements to express their feelings, such as flapping their ears to show that they are happy, or like trumpeting loudly.

Elephants use their body to communicate because they cannot talk and can't really show facial expressions. Their snorts, thumps, and rumbles show each other how they feel, what they want, and what they are thinking. They stomp their feet to send each other a message or warning and danger signal. Elephants welcome others like we do, they sort of celebrate by flapping their ears and turning about. They use many tones, such as low rumble [the most common noise].

I conclude that elephant talk is similar to our talk because everything we say and do means something, and we all do something for a reason, just like elephants do.

922/6000

Score Point 2

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response partially addresses the task by attempting to describe how "elephants use their senses to communicate with each other by doing [body] movements." The response demonstrates partial understanding of the text and partially analyzes explicit (*their snorts, thumps, and rumbles show each other how they feel*) and implicit (*Elephants use their body to communicate because they cannot talk and can't really show facial expressions...elephant talk is similar to our talk because everything we say and do means something*) ideas from the text. Evidence is partially integrated and the evidence provided partially supports the analysis. The response is partially focused and includes a partially effective introduction and body with a clear conclusion. Precise word choice and content-specific vocabulary from the text is occasionally utilized. Errors in conventions seldom interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

An elephant has many ways to communicate with one another. Elephants live in large groups such as a herd. The elephants often move to find new sources of food or water. Elephants have a strong communication systems so whether there far or close they always look out for each other.

The main way an elephant talks is through sound. Like a human elephants have vocal cords. This is where the sounds start. Deep in the throat. Scientists believe an elephant can change its sound it makes by moving its head and ears. An elephant can also change sound by opening and closing its mouth or keeping it shut. Holding its head high or low can change the pitch. An elephant can stomp and another elephant can hear it from over 20 miles away that's a long distance.

If an elephant spreads its ears it means it's in charge. If it flaps its ears it means it's happy. If it raises its tail it wants to play. If it swats its tail it means keep away. If it trumpets loudly it means an enemy is near. If it raises its trunk it means it's not moving. Elephants are very fascinating but I would make sure you stay away when it's swatting its tail. All animals have different ways to communicate and human beings are all different too.

1234/6000

Score Point 2

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses some parts of the task and demonstrates partial understanding of the text. The response is primarily a summary of parts of the text, including the chart, in which paraphrasing and quoting are used ineffectively. However, evidence is partially integrated and some relevant and accurate details are used to partially support the idea that elephants use their senses in many ways to communicate with each other. The response is partially focused and includes a partially effective introduction, body, and conclusion. Errors in conventions may interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

Did you know that elephants use their trumpet to tell them that there is danger. They live in herds. They call for their families to tell them that they are ok and where are they at. Elephants are very strong. Elephants have vocal cords just like us too. They can make different sounds by opening their mouths. Elephants make deep sounds. The mom uses its trumpet to teach their kids and pat their heads to show they care and to tell their kids to keep going in the herd of elephants. They use their senses to help them stay around their families so it can tell its family to leave. When they communicate they help them communicate. Elephants stomp their feet to say that they are trying to send a message to someone. They are just like humans in many different ways.

760/6000

Score Point 2

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. This low 2 response partially addresses the task of explaining how elephants communicate with their senses. The response demonstrates partial understanding of the text through restating some explicit ideas from the text. Some of the evidence provided is relevant and accurate and supports the analysis that elephants use their senses to communicate. The response is partially focused and contains a partially effective body and conclusion. Precise word choice and content-specific vocabulary from the text are occasionally utilized. Errors in conventions seriously interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

This is how elephants communicate.
First, they spread their ears meaning I am in charge.
Next, it flaps its ears meaning I am happy!!
Then, it raises its tail meaning I want to play.
Another thing is when it swats its tail meaning keep away!!!
Then, when it trumpets loudly it means an enemy is near.
Last, when it raises its trunk it means I am not moving.
So you see all of these actions help elephants talk to each other!!

426/6000

Score Point 1

This response demonstrates minimal analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response minimally addresses the task and demonstrates minimal understanding of the text. Explicit and implicit ideas are ineffectively analyzed as the response is a restatement of the information in the text with the addition of a minimal introduction and conclusion. Evidence is minimally integrated and paraphrasing is ineffective. Errors in conventions may interfere with meaning.

In "Elephant Talk," the author tells how elephants share information with each other. Explain how elephants use most of their senses to communicate. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the passage to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

There are ways that humans communicate like talking to each other or sending an e-mail, but elephants can't do that they can only communicate by making really low pitched sounds. If an elephant raises its tail "it wants to play" or when it trumpets loudly it means "an enemy in near". Now you know a few ways an elephant communicates.

330/6000

Score Point 1

This response demonstrates exemplary analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response minimally addresses the task and demonstrates minimal understanding of the text. A few explicit and implicit ideas from the text are present in the response, but are ineffectively analyzed. Little evidence is provided and is minimally integrated into the response. Paraphrases and quotes are used ineffectively. The response includes a partially effective introduction and conclusion. Precise word choice is minimally used. Errors in conventions may interfere with meaning.