NeSA Text Dependent Analysis (TDA)
2016 Released Passage

Grade 6
Passage: Monarch Migration

Scoring Guide
In the story "Monarch Migration Celebration," Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana's character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

Writer's Checklist

In the passage, "Monarch Migration Celebration", Nana is an important character that impacts the plot. She inspires the narrator to find out where the monarchs have gone, she helps to organize the community around the monarch cause, and she consequently brings the monarchs back to the narrator's town. She is a very influential character.

First, Nana inspires the narrator to find out where the monarchs have gone. The passage states that when the narrator gets an assignment on the life cycle of the monarch butterfly, she is excited, and tells Nana. This shows that she is already passionate about monarch butterflies. Nana stimulates this interest when she tells the narrator about her experiences with the monarchs. She then plans with the narrator to find out where the monarchs have gone. In doing this, she inspires the narrator to find out where the butterflies have gone.

After Nana and the narrator do research on the monarch butterflies, they decide to organize the community to help save the monarchs. In the passage, Nana presents the idea to her garden club, who in turn convince the Parks and Recreation Board to plant a butterfly garden. This shows that she is very influential in organizing the community behind the monarch cause.

Because Nana puts so much hard work into the monarch cause, she helps put the monarch population back in the narrator's town. The passage states that one day the monarchs returned in a brilliant orange display of wings. Nana cried "tears of happiness" the day the butterflies returned. This shows that she was happy because her goal was finally accomplished.

In conclusion, Nana is a very influential character in "Monarch Migration Celebration". She inspires the narrator to investigate why the monarchs are disappearing, helps her to organize the community, and eventually brings back the monarch population. Without Nana's experience, knowledge, and support, the monarchs might have never come back.

Score Point 4

This response demonstrates exemplary analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. This response thoroughly addresses all parts of the task and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the text. Explicit ideas (she tells the narrator about her experiences with the monarchs... one day the monarchs returned in a brilliant orange display of wings...) and implicit ideas from the text (she is a very influential character... she is already passionate... she inspires the narrator... she is very influential in organizing the community behind the monarch cause) are thoroughly analyzed. Evidence is skillfully integrated through the synthesis of specific details and examples from the text. The relevant and accurate evidence chosen thoroughly supports the analysis that Nana is a very influential character in the story. Paraphrases and quotes are skillfully used. The response is well-focused and includes a purposeful introduction/thesis, body, and conclusion. The response skillfully demonstrates an appropriate organizational pattern and mode suited to the task. Precise word choice and content specific vocabulary are skillfully used to enhance ideas. Errors in conventions do not interfere with meaning.
Score Point 4

This response demonstrates exemplary analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. This response addresses all parts of the task and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the text by thoroughly analyzing the events in the story where Nana’s character impacts the plot. The analysis contains logical reasoning that thoroughly explains how Nana’s character impacts the plot (If Nana didn’t have her farm then the event when she said she saw hundreds of butterflies fly across her farm when she was a kid wouldn’t have happened, and the event where they decided to do something wouldn’t have happened...). Specific and accurate evidence from the story is integrated to thoroughly support the analysis. Although there is a slight misunderstanding of the text in the first sentence of the first body paragraph (Nana impacts the story’s plot because she had the farm, that the main character went to during the summer and saw the monarchs migrate), this is a misconstruing of an implicit idea in the text and does not contradict any explicit text facts. Information is consistently attributed to the text (In the story Nana says... in Monarch Migration Celebration it says...). The response is well-focused and includes a purposeful introduction, body paragraphs that move through each idea with evidence and analysis, and a conclusion that restates the ideas which have been developed. Content-specific vocabulary from the text is skillfully used, however precise word choice is only used occasionally. Though errors in conventions of standard English are present, these errors seldom interfere with meaning.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

**Writer’s Checklist**

Have you ever thought that a story wouldn’t be the same without one specific character? Well that’s what I think of Nana in this story. One reason is that if Nana hadn’t rememvered these stories, the narrator never would have thought of helping the monarchs. Also, if Nana hadn’t helped recruit people for the job, then the narrator and Nana would’ve had as much help. If Nana wasn’t there to help investigate, then it would be hard for everyone to believe a fifth grader. Let’s move onto reason number one.

If Nana hadn’t remembered the stories of when she was a child, it could’ve had a big impact on the story. For instance, she actually saw the monarchs, so the whole “seeing is believing” thing, we can check that box off because Nana saw the butter flys and believed it. Also, because Nana described her memory in such detail, saying, “It felt like you were standing in an orange cloud.” could’ve made the narrator feel bad for her and he wanted her to have that joyful feeling again. Adding onto that, Nana also said, “To be honest, I’ve never known what happened to the butterflies.” She also said, “But there do seem to be fewer monarchs fluttering around the neighborhood each summer.”. Then she hinted that they should try to find out what happened to them. Now onto reason two.

If Nana hadn’t helped recruit people for the job, they would have had to deal with having less volunteers. By presenting the idea to her garden club and the members of her book club, that alone could’ve been at least a third of the volunteers. Next as a cause of Nana convincing her gardening club to help, her gardening club convinced the Parks and Recreation Board to plant a butterfly garden next to the city fountain. Next we’re going onto reason number three.

My last reason is that if Nana hadn’t helped with the research it would’ve been hard to have everyone believe in a fifth grader to run that big of a project. If you are an older and/or successful human being you will have more credibility. Nana, being older, has more credibility. So, people will more likely trust her with a big project than a fifth grader. I’m not saying this is as important at all but, if there were some things the narrator couldn’t understand then Nana could’ve helped the narrator. Also, Nana’s enthusiasm for the project was a sure sign that she was going to help or that she approved of the idea. Sadly, I have to end this essay soon. So I’m coming to the conclusion.

See what I mean? If Nana wasn’t in the story then the show couldn’t have gone on. Reasons being because if she hadn’t remembered the childhood stories, the narrator never would’ve gotten the idea to save the butterflies. If she hadn’t helped recruit people they would’ve had less volunteers to go through with the project. Finally no one would have believed a fifth grader. I must end this essay now. That is my essay on how Nana impacts the plot.

---

**Score Point 3**

This response demonstrates effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses all parts of the task and demonstrates understanding of the text. Explicit ideas are analyzed through the presentation of direct quotes and examples from the text and implicit ideas text are presented primarily through analysis of what would have happened if Nana was not in the story (if Nana hadn’t helped recruit people for the job, they would have had to deal with less people...if Nana hadn’t helped with the research it would’ve been hard to have everyone believe in a fifth grader to run that big of a project). Details, examples, and quotes are integrated into the response. The evidence provided is relevant and accurate and supports the analysis that the story would not have been the same if Nana was not in it. Paraphrases and quotes attribute information to the text. The response is focused and includes a clear introduction, body, conclusion, and transitions. Precise word choice and vocabulary from the text are utilized. Errors in conventions seldom interfere with meaning.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

### Writer’s Checklist

In the story "Monarch Migration Celebration", Nana plays an important role in making this plot happen. I can name four ways that Nana made most of this story happen. Keep in mind, these are only four ways how she did this, and it may not be every single way she made this happen. But anyways, let's get into this.

One way that Nana played a big role in this story is that, according to paragraph two, Nana remembers when she was a girl out on the farm and the monarchs were a common sight. But later on, when she’s a grandma, she sees fewer and fewer monarchs roaming, so she gives out an idea of investigating where the monarchs have gone. This matters, because if Nana didn’t give out that idea, it’s likely that the monarchs would be gone in this story.

Another reason that Nana is important in this story is because, according to paragraph nine, Nana shared the new building of the Monarch Waystation to her book and garden club. This is important because the Monarch Waystation probably wouldn’t get this much attention if she didn’t share that with her book and garden club, because then the garden club wouldn’t have shared the news with the Parks and Recreation Board.

My third piece of evidence supporting that Nana makes most of this story come to life is that, according to paragraph eleven, Nana and the one girl or boy or other that we do not know the name of wrote a blog to get people’s attention about this situation. This also plays a big role because people across the county wouldn’t contact them, meaning no observations from them, no ideas from them, no reflections from them, and no email that tells them that the monarchs were on the move...from them.

But this one piece of evidence proves once and for all that Nana basically makes this story. Because without it, none of this would’ve happened.

If Nana wouldn’t have reminised in paragraph two, this whole thing wouldn’t even be in consideration. Normally I would explain why this matters right about now, but it’s basically self-explanatory with what I just said.

Four ways in how Nana is important in this story is because of her idea to investigate, her sharing the building of the Monarch Waystation to her book and garden club, her and what it’s like writing a blog about this whole situation, and her reminiscing. All of that holds this whole story together. Again, these ways may not the only ways Nana helped in this situation, it’s just that if I named all of them in this constructed response, I would run out of words.

### Score Point 3

This response demonstrates effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses all parts of the task and demonstrates understanding of the text. Explicit and implicit ideas from the text are analyzed (if Nana didn’t give out that idea [investigating where the monarchs have gone] it’s likely that the monarchs would be gone in this story...if she didn’t share that with her book and garden club... then the garden club wouldn’t have shared the news with the Parks and Recreation Board...[Nana] wrote a blog...email tells them that the monarchs are on the move). Evidence is integrated into the response with specific details that support the analysis. Paraphrasing is used that attributes information to the text (according to paragraph two...according to paragraph nine). The response is focused on how Nana’s character impacts the plot and includes a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. Precise word choice is used (roaming, reminised) and vocabulary from the story is used. Conventions of standard English are demonstrated.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

**Score Point 3**

**This response demonstrates effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills.** The response addresses all parts of the task and demonstrates understanding of the text. The response analyzes implicit and explicit ideas regarding Nana’s character impacts the plot (because of the history she had with monarchs. She remembered her childhood...She never knew what happened to the butterflies... They were determined to find out...they found tons of information Nana tried to put together...They recruited many people from their community to help). Specific evidence from the story is integrated into the response, drawing on details from three events in the story where Nana’s actions impact the plot. Quotations are used to attribute information to the text. The response is focused on the “reasons Nana impacted the plot.” A clear introduction, body, and conclusion are present. Precise word choice and vocabulary from the text are utilized. Errors in conventions are present, but they seldom interfere with meaning.
Score Point 2

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses the task and demonstrates a partial understanding of the text by partially analyzing the implicit and explicit ideas in the text. The analysis weakens as the response progresses. The analysis for the first point (She is a very important character in the story because she was determined to find out what happened to the butterflies) clearly implies Nana’s impact on the plot. The analysis for the second point (Nana is not hesitating to help save the butterflies) also gives an explanation of Nana’s impact. The last two body paragraphs become more of a summary of the story, and the attempted analysis for the fourth body paragraph (All of Nana’s hard work turned out to be amazing when she watched the butterflies migrate) does not relate to how her character impacts the plot. Evidence from the text is partially integrated. The integration is more effective in the first two body paragraphs, where the text evidence is used to support the analysis, but becomes less effective in the last half as the response lapses into summary. Quotations attribute information to the text. A partially focused response is generated and includes an introduction, body, and conclusion. Few transitions are used. Precise word choice and vocabulary from the text are occasionally used. Conventions of standard English are demonstrated.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

Writer’s Checklist

Nana’s character does help impact the plot in many ways. Some ways are that she uses team work to accomplish things, she is confident, she tries doing what is best for the community, and she gives it her all.

Nana always uses team work to accomplish things. In paragraph 9, it talks about how Nana talks to members in her garden club and book club and they all do something to help her out with bringing the Monarchs back. It says, “Nana’s garden club convinced the Park and Recreational club to plant a butterfly arden next to the city fountain. A few farmers donated a small section of their fields or planted milkweed in the ditches. Some of the teacher at the local school taught a unit on the monarch and its plight. The library put together a display of gardening and butterfly books. The editor of the local newspaper wrote an informative article on how to make our community monarch-friendly.” This is showing teamwork.

The next reason is that Nana is confident and won’t give up. She has that characteristic saying that she won’t give up and she keeps trying because the monarchs were part of her childhood and they all went missing and disappeared.

The third characteristic of Nana is that she is trying to do what is best, especially for the community. In paragraph 4, Nana is talking about almost all the monarchs are disappearing and she wants to help and figure out where they have gone and bring them back. It says, “To be honest, I’ve never known what happened to the butterflies,” Nana admitted. “But there does seem to be fewer monarchs fluttering each summer. Perhaps we should find out where they’ve gone.” At that last sentence, she says she wants to figure out where they went. This proves that she wants to do what’s best for everyone.

And finally, Nana gives it her all. She has been working hard to figure out where they went to bring them back for the community. It says in paragraph 6 that they went to the public library sitting next to eacother at the computer lounge because they were doing research about monarchs, and she also in paragraph 8 she says “We’ll need several people to help us. Let’s think. Who would be best to recruit?” Meaning she is trying to think about people who could help them accomplish their goal. But in the next paragraph it says she got her garden club and book club to help her. Nana is really trying to find and help the monarch butterflies.

These are all of Nana’s Characteristics in the story, she uses teamwork to accomplish her task, she is confident, she is trying to do what is best, and she gives it her all. This is what I believe her characteristics are.

Score Point 2

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses part of the task, but the response discusses Nana’s character traits rather than how her character impacts the plot, so the analysis (Nana always uses team work to accomplish things…Nana is confident and won’t give up…she wants to do what’s best for everyone…Nana gives it her all) fails to effectively address the task. While accurate evidence from the text is integrated, it is only partially relevant, as the analysis it attempts to support is somewhat off the mark. Quotes that attribute information to the story are used. A focused response is generated, with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. Appropriate transitions are used. Precise word choice and vocabulary from the story are used. Conventions of standard English are demonstrated.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

**Writer’s Checklist**

Nana is an important part of the story because without her she wouldn’t be able to inspire her grandchild to help the population of butterflies. Nana also helped recruit people to come help; she was able to support this by making groups to help her achieve the main goal: finding out where the butterflies went, and Nana was able to use her memories to help remember what she missed so that now she’s inspired to help get those memories back!

My first reason is found in paragraph 4. Nana says “To be honest, I’ve never known what happened to the butterflies.” And then Nana says perhaps we should try to find out where they’ve gone. Paragraph 4 is important because grandma asked the grandchild if she would like to help find out what happened to the butterflies.

My second reason is found in paragraph 8 and it talks about how grandma is going to recruit people to help out by build a ways to help, getting farmers to help, and by starting groups and clubs! This matters because now they have really started the production of saving the butterfly species!

My third reason is found in paragraph 11 and it says that Nana wrote a blog of their progress and it included photos and updates about the community’s efforts! This matters because this shows that Nana cares!

Those are the reasons Nana is an important part of the story!!!

---

**Score Point 2**

This response demonstrates partially effective analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response addresses the task and demonstrates a partial understanding of the text through a partial analysis of how Nana’s character impacts the plot (without her she wouldn’t be able to inspire her grandchild to help the population of butterflies... helped recruit people to come help... was able to use her memories). Some relevant and accurate evidence is used to partially support the analysis, but the integration is choppy and only partially effective. Quotes and paraphrases attribute information to the story. The response is partially focused. The last idea listed in the introduction is dropped (memories), and the third body paragraph introduces a different idea (Nana wrote a blog). The response occasionally uses precise word choice. Errors in conventions may interfere with meaning.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

### Writer’s Checklist

**Nana and the Monarchs**

Nana is the giver to her grandfather. She helps make places for the monarchs to stay. She spreads the idea around the community. To save make a place for Monarch, Nana was the one who sparked the idea. To make a Monarch Waystation. She really loves the Monarchs. Then remind her of when she was a kid.

Nana is just a loving lady who just wants to help the Monarchs. She has a huge impact on this plot. She is almost the main character. According to Monarch Migration Celebration, Nana talks to the city board to help also. Who place a fountain resorte for the Monarch.

At the end of the plot according to Monarch Migration Celebration, Monarch leave at the last bit of summer. Nana begun to cry, and huge her grandfather. That go on to show how much she feels this plot. That’s why Nana is important to this plot. She bring the meaning seeing is believing.

Nana and her grandfather show that with hard work and deticasin. You can do or be anything you want. With Nana and her grandfather the sky the limet. For know we are just going to say Nana is one of the best grandmothers. I bet her grandater is proud to call her that.

---

**Score Point 1**

This response demonstrates minimal analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response attempts to address the task. Ideas from the story are ineffectively analyzed in the first paragraph (She helps make places for the monarchs to stay. She spreads the idea around the community...Nana was the one who sparked the idea). The remainder of the response is primarily a short summary, with some comments about the lesson of the story at the end (Nana and her grandfather show that with hard work and deticasin. You can do or be anything...the sky the limet) which do not relate to the task. Evidence is minimally integrated into the analysis, and most of the text information provided is not relevant to the task. Paraphrases of the story do attribute information to the text. The response is minimally focused as the ideas that are somewhat disjointed. Conventions of standard English are ineffectively demonstrated. Many errors are present, some of which may seriously interfere with meaning.
In the story "Monarch Migration Celebration," Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana's character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

**Score Point 1**

This response demonstrates minimal analysis of text, use of evidence, and writing skills. The response minimally addresses the task and demonstrates a partial understanding of the text. Rather than being focused on the task, the response retells parts of the story and weaves in analysis for a variety of literary elements, including mood, theme, and imagery. Explicit and implicit ideas from the text are presented, but are not focused on an analysis of how Nana impacts the plot. Paraphrasing and quotes attribute information to the text. Although individual body paragraphs are somewhat focused, they are not clearly linked to an overall thesis or central idea, resulting in a minimally focused response overall. Precise word choice is occasionally used. Errors in conventions seldom interfere with meaning.
In the story “Monarch Migration Celebration,” Nana is an important character. Analyze how Nana’s character impacts the plot. Write a well-organized, structured response using specific evidence from the story to support your answer.

**Writer’s Checklist**

I got 3 ways hot to describe Nana in the story “Monarch Migration Celebration”. To begin, I’m going to be talking about Nana’s personality in the story. Her personality in the story is kind, helpful and friendly.

In addition to that, when Nana was a child she got to see the Monarch butterflies in her farm. She knew how they looked like, like her granddaughter did. So Nana and her granddaughter got to experience the feeling of the Monarch butterflies.

Finally, Nana got to spend time with her granddaughter that summer. They went to the library to research the butterflies. They did a migration celebration for the butterflies. Would you help her if she was your Nana?

---

**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. The responses first attempts to analyze Nana’s personality and then retells parts of the story. Ideas from the text are ineffectively analyzed. Little relevant and accurate evidence is provided to support an analysis of how Nana impacts the plot. The response is minimally focused. Errors in conventions may interfere with meaning.