

PARCC
ELA/Literacy
Released Item 2015

Grade 8
Narrative Task
Alternate Ending to Tale
5687

Sample Student Responses
(no annotations included)

The master then sees the horse's deed and in returned praised the old steed.

Then the master said to the horse "You will stay with me for the rest of your days and be fed well. But, may I asked how did you go about this task of capturing a lion?"

"I indeed had help from a friend," says the horse as he looks away embarrassed.

"Whoever it may be that helped you bring them to me!", the master said with a loud bolt of sternest in his voice.

The horse does what he is told as he nervously returns form getting the fox. The master smiles and shouts in a happy tone "Thank you Mr. Fox, for you have help my horse complete his task! And how

Continued

might I repay you for your kind deed?"

With a chuckle of humbleness the fox responds "Master, sir, the thought of me helping a friend is all the repayment I need."

"I must give you something in return. How would you like to live here alongside my horse for the rest of your days? You would be sheltered and fed daily," the master offers.

"Thank you very much Master, sir," says the fox as he kindly accepts the offer.

As the days went on Master kept to his promise to the horse, and to the fox. As for the lion, well he — his fur keeps Master warm every winter.

Scores**Anchor Paper 1****Written Expression
Score Point 4**

When they arrived, the horse nudged the master's door open with his nose, for he was too old to open it with his hooves as he used to. He started into the doorway, standing tall and proud with the fox at his side and lion at his rear.

When his master walked by the doorway, his eyes shifted from animal to animal and stood in shock. He first looked at his faithful horse, who looked young again with confidence radiating off of his matted grey fur. Then his eyes shifted to the fox, an animal he never thought would be sitting at the outskirts of his living room. Lastly, his eyes stopped on the lion and his facial expression contorted and gawked.

"You...You...You completed my task," the overweight balding man stumbled. "I did not expect such a thing."

The horse took this as a compliment rather than an insult. "Yes. And I have. Shall I go to the stable?"

"...You see, I did not think you would return when you left. So I bought another horse. I apologize, but I guess that's it. The stable is full." The master spat.

The horse stood shocked. No, he was not sad. No, he was not hurt. He was angry. He sprinted out the door, with the fox at his side, leaving the door open and the lion behind.

But maybe it was for the best, because the horse and the fox lived happily together forever. Without rejection or sorrows. Without false promises and avarice. The horse and his new friend were better than ever.

Scores

Anchor Paper 2

**Written Expression
Score Point 4**

When the master saw him he was dumbfounded and shocked. He was speechless. "I did what you said, master. May I come back in now?" asked the horse. "No, you did not do what I said." responded the master as he leanded over and glanced at the fox standing behind the horse. "Yes I did, master. You asked for a lion, and I have you one." said the horse. The lion was steadily roaring and trying his hardest to get untied from the horse's tail. "You did not. I said for you to bring me a lion, not bring me a lion with the help of a fox!" said the master very sternly. The horse looked away.

The horse began to turn away and walk down the steps when suddenly, his master kicked him in the leg and he tumbled down the steps. "You are worth nothing. Now give me the lion and leave." shouted the master. The horse sprang up and jolted at his master with fury. The lion, still tied to his tail, ripped the horse's tail off and sprung on the master before the horse could. He snatched him up and threw him on his back. In a hurry, the lion looked at the sky, raised his front legs up and flew out of sight.

From that day forward, the horse never saw his master again. He stayed in his master's house and even allowed the fox to live with him. "What a great life we have now!" said the fox with such excitement. The two became best of buds and lived happily ever after.

Scores**Anchor Paper 3****Written Expression
Score Point 3**

As soon the master saw the horse with the lion, his facial expression saddened.

"I know I said I would keep you if you brought back a lion but there is just no use for you anymore, I'm sorry." The master closed the door, leaving the horse shocked and disappointed. The horse walked away slowly back into the forest until morning came around again . Just as he decided to rest, a familiar voice called out to him.

"What are you doing back in the woods? You brought beck the lion just as your master told you. Was he not pleased?" The fox said as he walked up to the heart-broken horse.

"No, I did exactly what I was told but my master still will not take me back." answered the horse as he hung his head low.

"Hey, why don't you just stay with me? The woods aren't that bad. Come on, what else are you going to do?" The fox looked at the horse with pleading eyes.

Soon after, the horse agreed to live his life out with the fox which he did. As for the master, he never found another horse who was as strong and as loyal as that faithful horse he once had, which he had regreted letting him go for the rest of his life.

Scores**Anchor Paper 4****Written Expression
Score Point 3**

When the master opens the door to find his old horse dragging a rather large lion roaring of pain from slowly being pulled across the rocky field which the horse once plowed. The master in his overalls and boots grabbed his gun and with a bang! The lion lay on the ground dead. The master in a delighted voice spoke to the old horse: "You may stay with me, and have a good time as long as you live."

The master kept his promise and fed the horse well. Old Grey died only a few months after he caught the lion. The fox visited his best friend every day and told him about the new lion family.

Scores**Anchor Paper 5****Written Expression
Score Point 2**

In the ending of "The Fox and the Horse", the master was shocked and furious about the horse completing the task. "I didn't know such a weak horse could possibly ever deliver such a strong task", said the master. "Well believe it!" shouted the fox. "I am stronger than you thought master, and with the help of the fox I got the lion and brought it to you!" the horse argued. "Get out of here! I will not feed you until you die. You cannot stay here! I will not allow it, and I'm keeping the lion" yelled the master.

The horse and the fox left the farm, and never returned. They wandered the woods searching for another farm to go to. They never found that farm, but they never left each other's side. They found shelter here and there, and they ate when they found food. They became the best of friends. The horse got sick one day, and couldn't walk anymore. The fox never left his side until the day he died.

Score Point 2

Scores

Anchor Paper 6

**Written Expression
Score Point 2**

....So after all the pain and suffering the horse went through the horses owner till took him back and the horse was ablt to bring the fox and the lion to live with him and his owner and also the lion is now less gruppier and more loving and the fox doesnt play anymore tricks on anybody..

Score Point 1

Scores**Anchor Paper 7****Written Expression
Score Point 1**

The Master opened the door when he heard the lion "roar!" and he saw his hoarse, he shot the lion, and keep the hoarse and fed him well and did every thing he promised.

Scores**Anchor Paper 8****Written Expression
Score Point 1**

At the end I would put bigger things happening in the tale. I would make it so no one gets hurt and no one leaves because of somebody that hurt their feeling in the story but also I would make it so people grow up to be good people and not bad people because we all know that they can be good people. but sometimes they can do bad things. Also the story ended with them having a lot of money.

Scores

Anchor Paper 9

**Written Expression
Score Point 0**

The noise was scary
and took the lion some
where else and his owner
took care of him.

Scores

Anchor Paper 10

**Written Expression
Score Point 0**

Practice Set
P101 - P105

As the old horse dragged the lion through the forest he grew tired. His muscles began to tire. It took more and more effort for the horse to drag the lion.

Right as the horse was about to give up all hope of completing this task, the fox appeared from the bushes. As the fox took in the scene he said: " You can't give up now! Look at how close you are to your home."

With confusion the horse looked to where the fox was pointing. He saw his stables, and the old farm house. However, there was a horse trailer in the driveway. Right at that moment his owner walked toward the trailer with another man, they then shook hands. At the end of this the new man got in his car, and drove away.

That's when the horse realized that his master didn't think that he could complete this task. The horse then said: " No! I don't want to go back. My master doesn't care, or need me! I want to stay in the forest, and fend for myself."

The fox looked a little startled by the horse's outburst. Then, a moment later the fox said: "If you would like to stay in the forest I would be willing to help you. However, the forest is not an easy place to live. Are you sure that you want to stay?"

The horse took a moment to look back at his home before he replied: "Yes, I'm willing to learn."

"Ok" said the fox "Let's get to work!"

Then the two animals turned and walked into the forest, together.

After the master had untied the lion from the horses foot, the fox showed up. The horse then tried to explain that the fox had helped him and the master started to understand. He then kept the fox and the horse and fed them until they were dead.

Once the horse and his master met eyes, the horse knew that his master was very surprised. The master had expected for the horse to die off on his journey, or at least not return. For the master had already gotten himself a new horse, one that would be able to pull for much longer than he ever did. This troubled the horse. He still had a lion squirming around on his tail, that wanted to eat him for dinner. The lion said "I see the anger in your eyes, horse. No matter how loyal you were to this man, he lied to you to better himself. Let me be free, and I could put an end to your troubles." The lion still just wanted a good meal, and the horse was quite angry with his master, and he saw the other horse off in the distance. His master said "Please, my faithful horse, don't let me be eaten. I'll keep my word and feed you until death, only if you don't allow this here lion to feast upon me." The horse agreed. Proving to his master that even through lies and trouble, he'll always be loyal. His master started to feel something for the horse he never felt, realizing he was wrong to put his good horse through such troubles. Only the lion was becoming loose on the horses tail from clawing and grinding teeth on it. The lion soon got loose, only he didn't run for the horse, nor his master, but he ran back to where the fox has tricked him, with cold dark eyes, seeking revenge. The horse saw this, and thought that even though his master may still feed him, he felt as if this were something he needed to put to an end. Plus his master didn't care for him anyways, so what was the point in staying in a place where he's not truly welcome? Running after the lion, who almost swallowed the fox whole by the time the horse caught up, he yelled, "Wait! Take my life instead, for it is my fault you were brought into this mess in the first place, and my life's much shorter than the foxes. I am of no use to this world anymore. He at least has a purpose he's still seeking to find in life." The fox peered at the lion, saying "Thank you" with his swollen, teary eyes. The lion needed to hear not another word, and trotted towards the horse. He brought up a paw, clenched it around the horses head and "Baam!"..

The horse turned around to see his master there, smiling, with a shotgun in his hands.

The fox was a helpful friend because when the horse needed help the friendly fox came along to help him, and because the horse being a good actor and the fox being a good liar, the horse wouldn't be able to make his master proud all about trust the horse trusted the fox!

"You did it. Now that you have return I shall feed you the entire dinner."The horse was very pleased and didn't know how to react. He started to eat and then he thought about the fox that was out there without any food. He went out to find the fox. While he was looking he found 3 other foxes that look just like the fox that was his friend except two of them were much smaller. He found out that they were his wife and children. When he finally found the right fox he invited them all for dinner. The horse led the to his stall which was full of hay and it was even warmer then the cave where the fox lived. They were all very happy and they all ate until they could no more. They suddenly realized what time it was and the foxes made way for their home. The horse felt lomely again so he invited them to stay for the night. Fox said yes becasue his children loved the horse becasue they could jump on him since he was so big. They all stayed and when the peasant came out he didn't know how to react. But since he made a promise to the horse he let them all stay.

Practice Set

(order of scores: Written Expression, Conventions)

Paper	Score
P101	3,3
P102	1,1
P103	4,3
P104	0,0
P105	2,2