2016 Released Items: Grade 5 Research Simulation Task

The Research Simulation Task requires students to analyze an informational topic through several articles or multimedia stimuli. Students read and respond to a series of questions and synthesize information from multiple sources in order to write an analytic essay.

The 2015 blueprint for PARCC’s grade 5 Research Simulation Task includes Evidence-Based Selected Response/Technology-Enhanced Constructed Response items as well as one Prose Constructed Response prompt.

Included in this document:

- Answer key and standards alignment
- PDFs of each item with the associated text(s)

Additional related materials not included in this document:

- Sample scored student responses with practice papers
- PARCC Scoring Rubric for Prose Constructed Response Items
- Guide to English Language Arts/Literacy Released Items: Understanding Scoring 2015
- PARCC English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment: General Scoring Rules for the 2016 Summative Assessment

Note:
The prose-constructed response item was scored with the 2015 rubric; therefore, please use the 2015 Understanding Scoring Guide and the 2015 Rubrics as reference guides. The general scoring rules document did not change from 2015 to 2016 so this information is the same.

This item set contains items with embedded multimedia (audio and/or video). The multimedia will NOT play when viewing the PDF through a browser window. To access the multimedia, download the PDF to your computer and open the file with Adobe Acrobat. Click the “play” arrow to start the multimedia for the item.
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<tr>
<th>Item Code</th>
<th>Answer(s)</th>
<th>Standards/Evidence Statement Alignment</th>
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Any combination of the following, with one answer for each topic:

1. How to share one’s culture:
   “Second, Peace Corps volunteers, through their work and friendships, help explain our American culture to people in other countries, from the types of music we enjoy to the foods we eat.” (p4)
   OR
   “Third, after Americans complete their Peace Corps service, they bring back what they learned about cultures where they lived.” (p4)

2. How to teach others:
   “Some teach students your age how to read and write in English.” (p2)
   OR
   “Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet.” (p2)
   OR
   “They have helped farmers grow crops, worked with small businesses to sell their products, and mentors to thousands of children.” (p5)
   OR
   “Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet.” (p2)

3. How to successfully sell homemade crafts:
   “Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet.” (p2)

4. How to appreciate differences in another’s culture:
   “Second, Peace Corps volunteers, through their work and friendships, help explain our American culture to people in other countries, from the types of music we enjoy to the foods we eat.” (p4)
   OR
   “Third, after Americans complete their Peace Corps service, they bring back with them many memories and share what they learned about cultures where they lived.” (p4)
   OR
   “This sharing helps Americans learn about and better understand people from other cultures.” (p4)

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<td><strong>TECR</strong></td>
<td><strong>6. What does it take to be a volunteer?</strong> Being a Peace Corps volunteer has been described as “the toughest job you’ll ever love.” That’s because Peace Corps volunteers in developing countries face daily challenges that they never have to deal with in America. Peace Corps volunteers live in the communities they serve. Sometimes this means living in a hut without running water. In other communities, it may mean living in a dormitory with students. Living with people from other countries helps volunteers learn new languages, discover new cultures, and make friends in their new communities. Living in the community has proven to be the key to Peace Corps success during the past 43 years.</td>
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<td><strong>PCR</strong></td>
<td>Refer to Grade 5 Scoring Rubric</td>
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| **EBSR (additional item)** | **Part A:** D  
**Part B:** C |
| **EBSR (additional item)** | **Part A:** B  
**Part B:** F |
| **EBSR (additional item)** | **Part A:** B  
**Part B:** F |
Passage:

Today you will research the Peace Corps. You will read the article “The Peace Corps Journey.” Then you will read the speech “Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy” and view the video A Call to Peace. As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about the Peace Corps so you can write an essay.

Read the article “The Peace Corps Journey.” Then answer the questions.

The Peace Corps Journey

by Jennifer Borgen

Can you imagine going to a school where your desk and the chalkboard are not in a classroom? How about waking up to a breakfast of fried spaghetti and boiled plantains? Would you like to learn to say “What’s up?” in Swahili? Many Peace Corps volunteers experience these things every day, all across the globe.

The first lesson Americans learn when they travel to the Philippines, Mongolia, Honduras, or 68 other countries to start work as volunteers is that life is very different around the world. Today, more than 7,500 Americans are serving as Peace Corps volunteers. Some teach students your age how to read and write in English. Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet. Still other Peace Corps volunteers show communities how to start recycling centers. The types of projects volunteers work on differ as much as the jobs your parents and friends’ parents do. These projects require some training, hard work, and a lot of learning on the part of everyone—the Peace Corps volunteer and the community—to make them successful.

In 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy challenged students at the University of Michigan to serve their country by living and working in developing countries. A few months later, John F. Kennedy became president, and he created the Peace Corps in 1961.

The Peace Corps has three main goals. First, it provides help to poor and developing countries around the world. Second, Peace Corps volunteers, through their work and friendships, help explain our American culture to people in other countries, from the types of music we enjoy to the foods we eat. Third, after Americans complete their Peace Corps service, they bring back with them many memories and share what they learned about cultures where they lived. This sharing helps Americans learn about and better understand people from other cultures. In all, the Peace Corps is about spreading peace and global friendship.

Since the Peace Corps was created, more than 171,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 137 different countries. They have been teachers and mentors to thousands of children. They have helped farmers grow crops, worked with small businesses to sell their products, and shown parents how to keep their babies healthy. More recently, they have helped schools develop computer skills and educated entire communities about HIV/AIDS.
What does it take to be a volunteer? Being a Peace Corps volunteer has been described as “the toughest job you’ll ever love.” That’s because Peace Corps volunteers in developing countries face daily challenges that they never have to deal with in America. Peace Corps volunteers live in the communities they serve. Sometimes this means living in a hut without running water. In other communities, it may mean living in a dormitory with students. Living with people from other countries helps volunteers learn new languages, discover new cultures, and make friends in their new communities. Living in the community has proven to be the key to Peace Corps success during the past 43 years.

Peace Corps volunteers serve in their communities for two years. It sounds like a long time, but many Peace Corps volunteers will tell you they wish they had more time because they have so many projects they’d like to complete. They will also tell you that even after their two years are up, their friendships with local people in their community, school, or businesses are friendships that will last forever.

And after finishing their two years in the Peace Corps, most volunteers continue to use their skills to serve others. Many famous Americans got their start as Peace Corps volunteers. Some have even gone on to become congressmen and senators, governors, diplomats, educators, doctors, writers, journalists, and more. Just this year, a former Peace Corps volunteer became an astronaut.

Although you have a few more years before you can apply to become a Peace Corps volunteer, you can still help others at home and in your community by volunteering. Start now by helping your neighbors with their yard or by getting your class to clean up a park. Helping others makes us feel good and lets us learn about ourselves, too. Later, the Peace Corps and the world will be waiting for you to share your skills and talents with others. Then you can start out on a journey of a lifetime as a Peace Corps volunteer.


Read the speech “Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy.” Then answer the questions.

Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy

*At 2:00 a.m. on October 14, 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy addressed students on the steps of the University of Michigan Union. In his speech, he challenged the students to give two years of their lives to help people in countries of the developing world. The following is a transcript of that speech.*

“I want to express my thanks to you, as a graduate of the Michigan of the East, Harvard University.

I come here tonight delighted to have the opportunity to say one or two words about this campaign that is coming into the last three weeks.
I think in many ways it is the most important campaign since 1933, mostly because of the problems which press upon the United States, and the opportunities which will be presented to us in the 1960s. The opportunity must be seized, through the judgment of the President, and the vigor of the executive, and the cooperation of the Congress. Through these I think we can make the greatest possible difference.

How many of you who are going to be doctors, are willing to spend your days in Ghana? Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world? On your willingness to do that, not merely to serve one year or two years in the service, but on your willingness to contribute part of your life to this country, I think will depend the answer whether a free society can compete. I think it can! And I think Americans are willing to contribute. But the effort must be far greater than we have ever made in the past.

Therefore, I am delighted to come to Michigan, to this university, because unless we have those resources in this school, unless you comprehend the nature of what is being asked of you, this country can’t possibly move through the next 10 years in a period of relative strength.

So I come here tonight to go to bed! But I also come here tonight to ask you to join in the effort . . .

This university . . . this is the longest short speech I’ve ever made . . . therefore, I’ll finish it! Let me say in conclusion, this University is not maintained by its alumni, or by the state, merely to help its graduates have an economic advantage in the life struggle. There is certainly a greater purpose, and I’m sure you recognize it. Therefore, I do not apologize for asking for your support in this campaign. I come here tonight asking your support for this country over the next decade.

Thank you.”

Senator John F. Kennedy October 14, 1960

Public Domain

Watch the video A Call To Peace.

Then answer the questions.

Public Domain
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The Peace Corps Journey
by Jennifer Borgen

1. Can you imagine going to a school where your desk and the chalkboard are not in a classroom? How about waking up to a breakfast of fried spaghetti and boiled plantains? Would you like to learn to say “What’s up?” in Swahili? Many Peace Corps volunteers experience these things every day, all across the globe.

2. The first lesson Americans learn when they travel to the Philippines, Mongolia, Honduras, or 68 other countries to start work as volunteers is that life is very different around the world. Today, more than 7,500 Americans are serving as Peace Corps volunteers. Some teach students your age how to read and write in English. Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet. Still other Peace Corps volunteers show communities how to start recycling centers. The types of projects volunteers work on differ as much as the jobs your parents and friends’ parents do. These projects require some training, hard work, and a lot of learning on the part of everyone—the Peace Corps volunteer and the community—to make them successful.

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5. Since the Peace Corps was created, more than 171,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 137 different countries. They have been teachers and mentors to thousands of children. They have helped farmers grow crops, worked with small businesses to sell their products, and shown parents how to keep their babies healthy. More recently, they have helped schools develop computer skills and educated entire communities about HIV/AIDS.

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by Jennifer Borgen

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by Jennifer Borgen

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Read the speech “Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy.” Then answer the questions.

Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy

1 At 2:00 a.m. on October 14, 1960, Senator John F. Kennedy addressed students on the steps of the University of Michigan Union. In his speech, he challenged the students to give two years of their lives to help people in countries of the developing world. The following is a transcript of that speech.

2 “I want to express my thanks to you, as a graduate of the Michigan of the East, Harvard University.

3 I come here tonight delighted to have the opportunity to say one or two words about this campaign that is coming into the last three weeks.

4 I think in many ways it is the most important campaign since 1933, mostly because of the problems which press upon the United States, and the opportunities which will be presented to us in the 1960s. The opportunity must be seized, through the judgment of the President, and the vigor of the executive, and the cooperation of the Congress. Through these I think we can make the greatest possible difference.

5 How many of you who are going to be doctors, are willing to spend your days in Ghana? Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world? On your willingness to do that, not merely to serve one year or two years in the service, but on your willingness to contribute part of your life to this country, I think will depend the answer whether a free society can compete. I think it can! And I think Americans are willing to contribute. But the effort must be far greater than we have ever made in the past.

6 Therefore, I am delighted to come to Michigan, to this university, because unless we have those resources in this school, unless you comprehend the nature of what is being asked of you, this country can’t possibly move through the next 10 years in a period of relative strength.

7 So I come here tonight to go to bed! But I also come here tonight to ask you to join in the effort . . .

8 This university . . . this is the longest short speech I’ve ever made . . . therefore, I’ll finish it! Let me say in conclusion, this University is not maintained by its alumni, or by the state, merely to help its graduates have an economic advantage in the life struggle. There is certainly a greater purpose, and I’m sure you recognize it. Therefore, I do not apologize for asking for your support in this campaign. I come here tonight asking your support for this country over the next decade.

9 Thank you.”

10 Senator John F. Kennedy October 14, 1960

Part A
Why does Senator Kennedy use the phrase in conclusion in paragraph 8 of the speech?

- A. to show an effect of something he described in the speech
- B. to highlight the most important part of the speech
- C. to introduce the final statement in the speech
- D. to contrast what he said in the speech

Part B
Which detail from the speech best supports the answer to Part A?

- A. “. . . this country can’t possibly move . . .” (paragraph 6)
- B. “But I also come here tonight . . .” (paragraph 7)
- C. “. . . therefore, I’ll finish it!” (paragraph 8)
- D. “There is certainly a greater purpose, . . .” (paragraph 8)
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Watch the video A Call To Peace. Then answer the questions.

**Part A**
Read the statement from the video.

“It enriches you so much, the positive, the negative, the weary, the frustrating, the sad, all of it; and it makes you so much better as a person.” (1:44-1:56)

What does the word *enriches* mean as it is used in the statement?

- A. improves
- B. supports
- C. tires
- D. worries

**Part B**
Which phrase within the statement best supports the reader in understanding the meaning of enrich?

- A. “the weary”
- B. “the sad”
- C. “all of it”
- D. “much better”
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by Jennifer Borgen

1. Can you imagine going to a school where your desk and the chalkboard are not in a classroom? How about waking up to a breakfast of fried spaghetti and boiled plantains? Would you like to learn to say "What’s up?!" in Swahili? Many Peace Corps volunteers experience these things every day, all across the globe.

2. The first lesson Americans learn when they travel to the Philippines, Mongolia, Honduras, or 68 other countries to start work as volunteers is that life is very different around the world. Today, more than 7,600 Americans are serving as Peace Corps volunteers. Some teach students how to read and write in English. Others teach groups of women how to use computers to sell their handmade crafts over the Internet. Still other Peace Corps volunteers show communities how to start recycling centers. The types of projects volunteers work on differ as much as the jobs your parents and friends parceled out. These projects require some training, hard work, and a lot of learning on the part of everyone—the Peace Corps volunteer and the community—to make them successful.

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Watch the video A Call to Peace. Then answer the questions.

A Call to Peace
Today you will research the Peace Corps. You will need to include "The Peace Corps Journey." Now you will take the survey, "Removal of Senator John F. Kennedy" and view the video "Call to Peace." As you read the survey, you will get information and answer questions about the Peace Corps as you can write on your copy

The Peace Corps Journey

Survey of Senator John F. Kennedy

A Call to Peace

Read the article "The Peace Corps Journey." Then answer the questions.

The Peace Corps Journey

by Jennifer Borgen

Can you imagine going to a country where your desk and the chalkboard are not a classroom? How about waking up to a breakfast of flat bread and Naples pancake? Would you like to hear a "What's up?" in Spanish? Many Peace Corps volunteers experience these things every day, all across the globe.

The Peace Corps teaches Americans how to work with people of other cultures. An American student's first contact with the people of a foreign country may be learning to speak with them, to listen to their words, and to understand their culture. The Peace Corps has trained thousands of volunteers, some of whom have made the decision to continue in their Peace Corps work after they have completed the Peace Corps. These volunteers continue to work in their Peace Corps work after they have completed the Peace Corps. These volunteers continue to work in their Peace Corps work after they have completed the Peace Corps. These volunteers continue to work in their Peace Corps work after they have completed the Peace Corps. These volunteers continue to work in their Peace Corps work after they have completed the Peace Corps.

What makes Peace Corps volunteers unique? A Peace Corps volunteer's job is not easy. They face many challenges in their work and often must adapt to new situations. However, they are motivated by a desire to make a difference in the world. They are passionate about helping others and are willing to put their own needs aside to help others.

How can Peace Corps volunteers make a difference? Peace Corps volunteers can make a difference by teaching English, providing medical care, building schools, and teaching basic skills such as reading and writing. They may also work with local governments to bring about change in areas such as health, education, and economic development.

Removal of Senator John F. Kennedy

A Call to Peace

Watch the video "Call to Peace." Then answer the questions.

A Call to Peace

Public Domain
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In the "Peace Corps" article, we learn that Peace Corps volunteers serve in their communities for two years. (paragraph 7)

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