

Read the passage and answer Questions 1 through 7.

Excerpt from *Emma*

by Jane Austen

- 1 Emma Woodhouse, handsome, clever, and rich, with a comfortable home and happy disposition, seemed to unite some of the best blessings of existence; and had lived nearly twenty-one years in the world with very little to distress or vex her.
- 2 She was the youngest of the two daughters of a most affectionate, indulgent father; and had, in consequence of her sister's marriage, been mistress of his house from a very early period. Her mother had died too long ago for her to have more than an indistinct remembrance of her caresses; and her place had been supplied by an excellent woman as governess, who had fallen little short of a mother in affection.
- 3 Sixteen years had Miss Taylor been in Mr. Woodhouse's family, less as a governess than a friend, very fond of both daughters, but particularly of Emma. Between *them* it was more the intimacy of sisters. Even before Miss Taylor had ceased to hold the nominal¹ office of governess, the mildness of her temper had hardly allowed her to impose any restraint; and the shadow of authority being now long passed away, they had been living together as friend and friend very mutually attached, and Emma doing just what she liked; highly esteeming² Miss Taylor's judgment, but directed chiefly by her own.
- 4 The real evils, indeed, of Emma's situation were the power of having rather too much her own way, and a disposition to think a little too well of herself; these were the disadvantages which threatened alloy³ to her many enjoyments. The danger, however, was at present so unperceived, that they did not by any means rank as misfortunes with her.
- 5 Sorrow came — a gentle sorrow — but not at all in the shape of any disagreeable consciousness. — Miss Taylor married. It was Miss Taylor's loss which first brought grief. It was on the wedding-day of this beloved friend that Emma first sat in mournful thought of any continuance. The wedding over, and the bride-people gone, her father and herself were left to dine together, with no prospect of a third to cheer a long evening. Her father composed himself to sleep after dinner, as usual, and she had then only to sit and think of what she had lost.

- 6 The event had every promise of happiness for her friend. Mr. Weston was a man of unexceptionable character, easy fortune, suitable age, and pleasant manners; and there was some satisfaction in considering with what self-denying, generous friendship she had always wished and promoted the match; but it was a black morning's work for her. The want of Miss Taylor would be felt every hour of every day. She recalled her past kindness — the kindness, the affection of sixteen years — how she had taught and how she had played with her from five years old — how she had devoted all her powers to attach and amuse her in health — and how nursed her through the various illnesses of childhood. A large debt of gratitude was owing here; but . . . the last seven years, the equal footing and perfect unreserve which had soon followed Isabella's⁴ marriage, on their being left to each other, was yet a dearer, tenderer recollection. She had been a friend and companion such as few possessed: intelligent, well-informed, useful, gentle, knowing all the ways of the family, interested in all its concerns, and peculiarly interested in herself, in every pleasure, every scheme of hers — one to whom she could speak every thought as it arose, and who had such an affection for her as could never find fault.
- 7 How was she to bear the change? — It was true that her friend was going only half a mile from them; but Emma was aware that great must be the difference between a Mrs. Weston, only half a mile from them, and a Miss Taylor in the house; and with all her advantages, natural and domestic, she was now in great danger of suffering from intellectual solitude. She dearly loved her father, but he was no companion for her. He could not meet her in conversation, rational or playful.
- 8 The evil of the actual disparity in their ages (and Mr. Woodhouse had not married early) was much increased by his constitution and habits; for having been a valetudinarian⁵ all his life, without activity of mind or body, he was a much older man in ways than in years; and though everywhere beloved for the friendliness of his heart and his amiable temper, his talents could not have recommended him at any time.

¹ **nominal:** in name only

² **esteeming:** regarding highly

³ **alloy:** dilute; reduce the purity of

⁴ **Isabella:** Emma's older sister

⁵ **valetudinarian:** someone overly anxious about his or her health

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1 In paragraph 3, what does the phrase “shadow of authority” suggest about the relationship between Emma and Miss Taylor?

- A. Miss Taylor had kept constant watch over Emma.
- B. Miss Taylor had been saddened by Emma’s attitude.
- C. Miss Taylor had little control of Emma’s behavior.
- D. Miss Taylor had been jealous of Emma’s carefree life.

2 How does the author’s choice of words in paragraph 4 impact the tone of the passage?

- M. They create a judgemental tone by implying that Emma is uncaring and believes her character is superior to others.
- P. They support an expectant and mildly suspenseful tone by implying that Emma is likely to have her character tested.
- R. They create a reassuring tone by indicating that Emma’s strong sense of self will help her overcome challenges.
- S. They support a conceited tone by indicating that Emma’s upbringing will ensure her a place in high society.

3 Which set of statements **best** summarizes the passage?

- A. Emma is pleased that her governess has married and has every promise of happiness. However, after the wedding Emma is saddened by the prospect of having only her father to dine with in the evenings.
- B. Emma is pretty, clever, rich, and happy. The wedding of Miss Taylor, her governess, prompts Emma to recall with fondness the loving care and attention Miss Taylor provided over the years.
- C. Emma is a privileged, happy young woman who has had a carefree life. She is faced with the prospect of feeling lonely, perhaps for the first time, when her governess and good friend marries and leaves the household.
- D. Emma is very close to her governess, Miss Taylor, who has been a good friend since Emma was a young child. After Miss Taylor marries, Emma worries about how she will get along with her father, whose personality is very different from Emma’s.

**TCAP Practice Test Standards Alignment and Key – ELA Grade 8
(2019–2020)**

Subpart 1	Key	Standard
1	B	8.RI.CS.4
2	D or S	8.RI.CS.4
3	C	8.RI.CS.6
	Prompt	8.W.TTP.2
Subpart 2		
1	C	8.RL.CS.4
2	B or P	8.RL.CS.4
3	C	8.RL.KID.2
4	A D or M D	8.RL.CS.6
5	D or S	8.RL.KID.3
6	C	8.RL.CS.4
7	A A or M A	8.RL.KID.2
8	A or M	8.RI.CS.4
9	D	8.RI.IKI.8
10	A B or M B	8.RI.CS.6
11	B or P	8.RI.CS.4
12	D	8.RI.KID.2
13	A or M	8.RI.KID.3
14	A,E	8.RI.KID.2
15	C or R	8.L.CSE.2
16	D	8.L.CSE.1
17	C or R	8.L.CSE.2
18	B	8.L.CSE.2
19	A or M	8.L.CSE.1
20	D	8.L.CSE.1
21	C or R	8.L.KL.3