

ZB **Zaner-Bloser**
NEXT GENERATION ASSESSMENT PRACTICE
English Language Arts / Literacy

Student Edition

Grade 7
Informative/Explanatory

Name _____

Date _____

PART I: Close Reading

Your Task

You will examine three sources about the life of Abraham Lincoln. Then you will answer three questions about what you have learned. In Part 2, you will write an article about how Abraham Lincoln's image changed throughout the years.

Steps to Follow

In order to plan and write your article, you will do all of the following:

1. Examine three sources.
2. Make notes about the information from the sources.
3. Answer three questions about the sources.

Directions for Beginning

You will have 35 minutes to complete Part I. You will now examine three sources. Take notes because you may want to refer to them while writing your article. You can re-examine any of the sources as often as you like. Answer the questions in the spaces provided.

“Abraham Lincoln Has His Neck Shortened”

When Abraham Lincoln was invited to give a speech in Brooklyn, New York, in February 1860, he was already famous throughout Illinois, but practically no one in the East knew who he was or what he looked like. For two years, Easterners had read about Lincoln as some sort of anti-slavery man from the distant west.

The presidential election of 1860 was fast approaching, and Lincoln, as a possible Republican candidate, wanted to increase his popularity. Hoping to introduce himself to hundreds of new voters, Lincoln eagerly accepted the invitation to the East. He wrote a powerful speech opposing slavery. Then he boarded the train in Springfield, Illinois, for the long trip across the country.

When Lincoln arrived in New York, he was surprised to learn that so many people had bought tickets for his speech that it had been moved from a small Brooklyn church to a New York City college. Now Lincoln would speak at the largest auditorium in the entire region—the Great Hall at Cooper Union.

Lincoln got to town rumpled and exhausted. “His clothes were travel-stained and he looked tired and woe-begone,” remembered a New Yorker. His form-fitting suit was badly

wrinkled, and his one piece of luggage was old and covered with dust. Worst of all, his homely face, unruly uncombed hair, and awkward manner shocked those who greeted him. Nevertheless, his admirers, New York Republicans who served as his escorts through town, decided to have Lincoln photographed. If the cameraman could make Lincoln somewhat handsome, perhaps he could win more votes.

By 1860, photography had been popular in the United States for about fifteen years. Photographs were rare and precious, and portraits could only be made by professional camera operators in carefully lit studios. Lincoln had sat in front of the camera only sixteen times before.

On the morning of February 27, 1860, Lincoln was taken to the gallery operated by the city’s most famous photographer, Mathew Brady. There, Lincoln posed stiffly. His hand rested upon a table that had to be piled high with books so the unusually tall man could touch it. (Lincoln stood six feet four inches.) Brady and his assistants looked through the camera and, startled by what they saw, decided to make an adjustment before they took the picture.

Brady walked over to Lincoln and, with a sudden tug, pulled up Lincoln’s shirt collar as high as it would go.

Continued 

Supposedly, an amused Lincoln said, “I see you want to shorten my neck.” Indeed, the resulting picture successfully disguised the candidate’s long, scrawny neck. Further retouching of the photograph by Brady made Lincoln appear quite handsome.

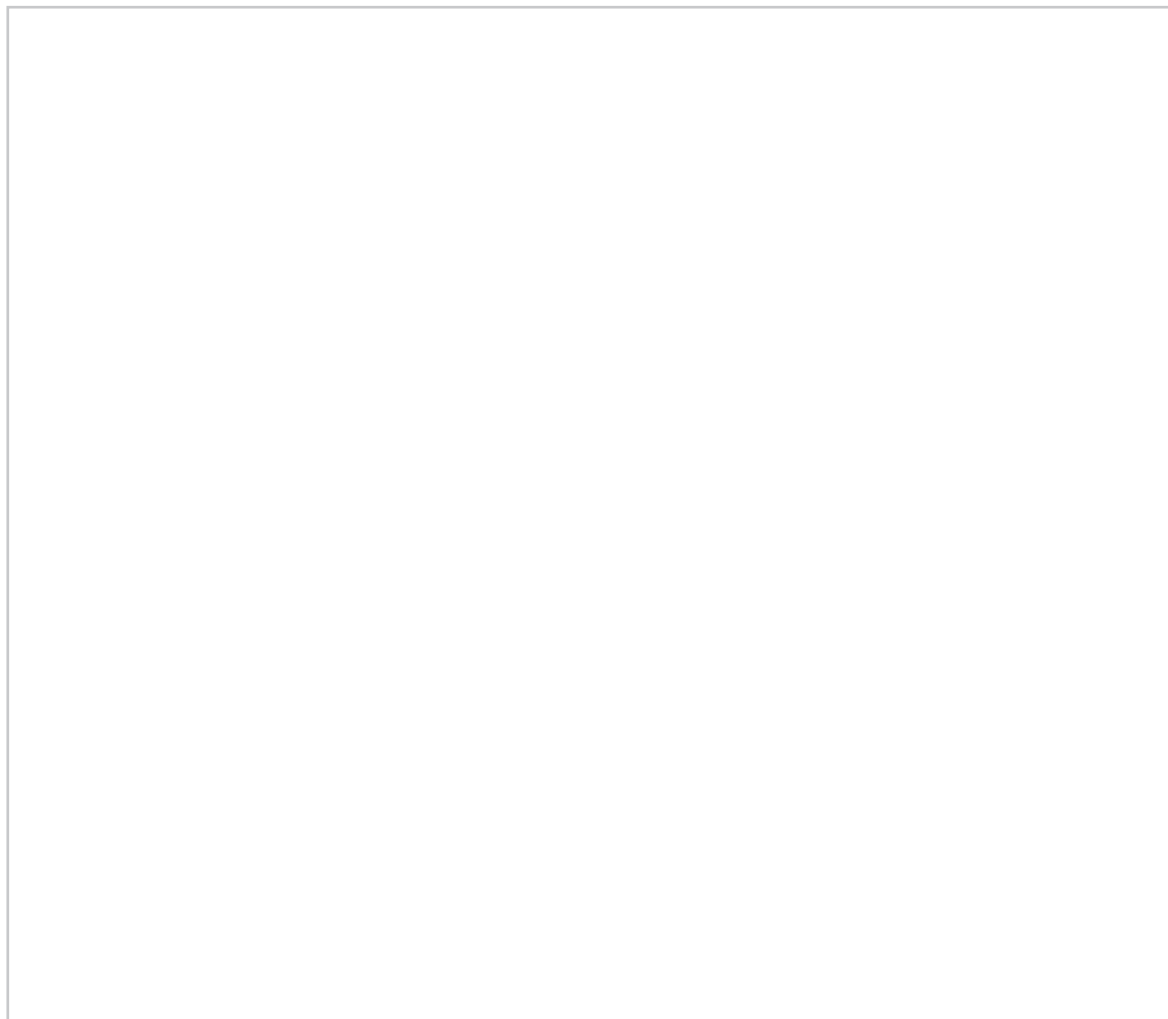
Lincoln’s speech that day proved to be a triumph. So did the photograph. “They [the photographers] got my shadow,” Lincoln wrote about the experience, “and can multiply copies indefinitely.” So they did. The photo inspired thousands of copies, so many that Brady insisted that this picture became

the means to Lincoln’s election to the Presidency nine months later.

If that’s true, it might be said that Lincoln won the election by a neck—a neck that had been shortened in New York.

“Abraham Lincoln Has His Neck Shortened” by Harold Holzer.
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How did Matthew Brady's photograph shape the public's opinion of Abraham Lincoln? Give at least four facts and details to support your answer.



“Sculpting Lincoln: Anthony Frudakis Brings a President to Life”

When Anthony Frudakis was five years old, he patted Play-Doh into a thin sheet and put it over his face to make a mask. He wanted to be creative like his father, a sculptor, and his mother, a painter. Tony knew he wanted to be an artist, too.

Tony is now a well-respected sculptor. “Being a sculptor gives me the opportunity to do what I love to do—play with clay,” he says.

In 2006, the president of Hillsdale College in Michigan asked Tony to create a sculpture of Abraham Lincoln. Before he sculpted Lincoln, Tony read biographies, watched documentaries, and talked with historians. He also visited museums and studied lots of photographs, including pictures of other statues made of the President. He purchased “life masks” of Lincoln. More than 100 years old, the masks were made when sculptors put plaster over Lincoln’s face and hands.

After lots of research, Tony was finally ready to pick up a pencil and paper to sketch his ideas for the sculpture. Based on his sketches, Tony made 10 maquettes (ma-KETS), or tiny three-dimensional sketches in clay. He showed them

to the president of Hillsdale College. Once the president selected the sketch he liked best, Tony went to work creating a scale model.

A Suit of Clay

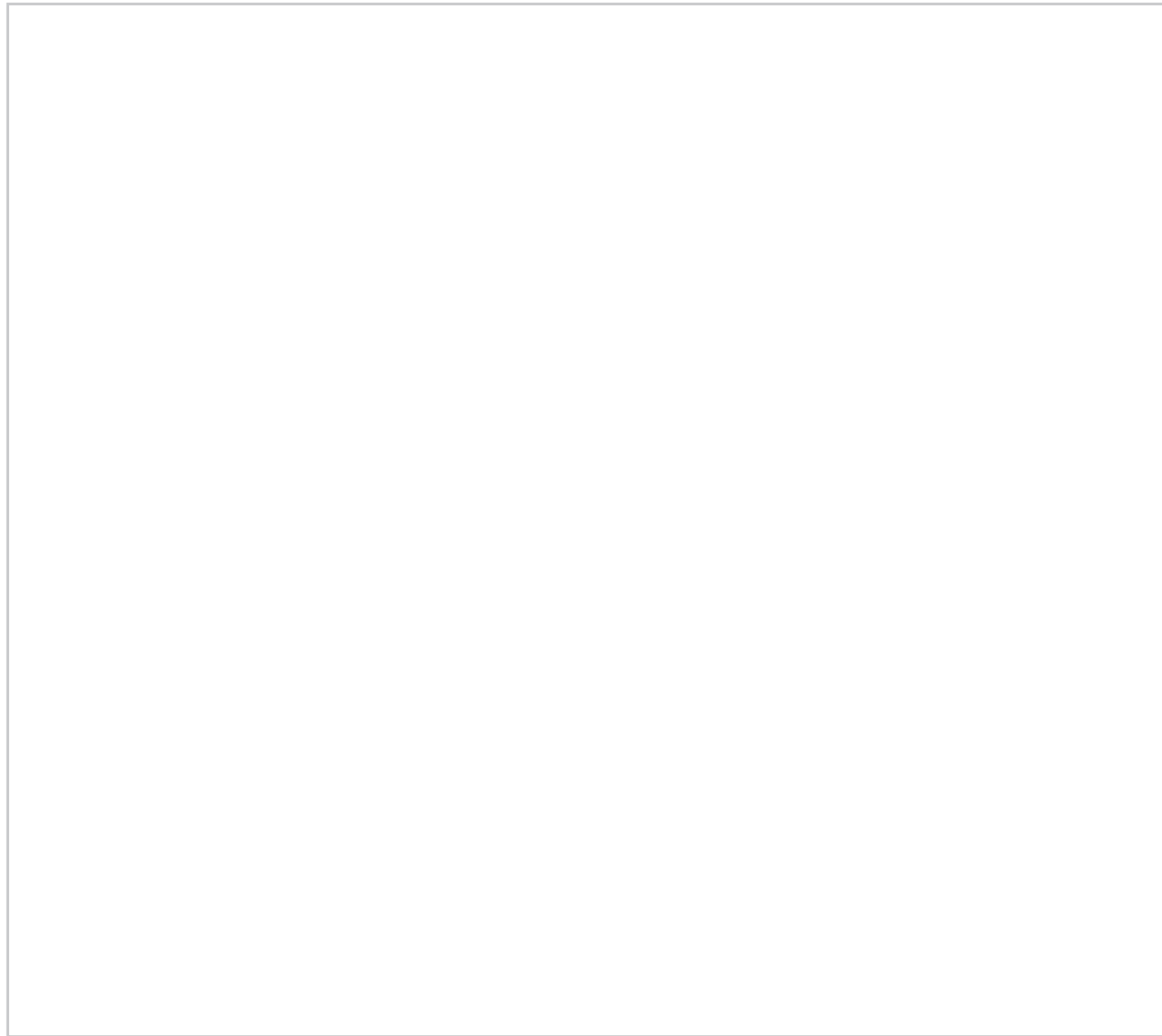
First, Tony made a wire skeleton called an armature to support the clay. Next, he sculpted Lincoln’s head and body. Then Tony dressed the President in a suit of clay. To get the details just right, Tony used a model to pose like the President. The model wore a suit that was specially made to look like the clothes Lincoln would have worn

While researching and sculpting Lincoln, Tony gained a deep respect for the 16th President of the United States. “I wanted to convey his kindness and patience,” says Tony.

It took nearly three years to complete the statue of Lincoln. It now stands, larger than life, on Liberty Walk at Hillsdale College.

“Sculpting Lincoln: Anthony Frudakis Brings a President to Life” by Vicky L. Lorencen. Copyright © 2013 by Highlights for Children, Inc., Columbus, Ohio.

Describe at least four steps in the process Anthony Frudakis used to create a realistic sculpture of Abraham Lincoln.



O Captain! My Captain!

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done;
The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won;
The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting,
While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring:
But O heart! heart! heart!
O the bleeding drops of red,
Where on the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells;
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills;
For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the shores
a-crowding;
For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;
Here Captain! dear father!
This arm beneath your head;
It is some dream that on the deck,
You've fallen cold and dead.

My Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still;
My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will;
The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done;
From fearful trip, the victor ship, comes in with object won;
Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells!
But I, with mournful tread,
Walk the deck my Captain lies,
Fallen cold and dead.

From The Patriotic Poems of Walt Whitman.
Copyright © 1918. Published by Doubleday, Page & Company. Public domain.

What are at least four examples from the poem that show how Walt Whitman felt about Lincoln?

PART 2: Writing to Multiple Sources

You will now have 70 minutes to review your notes and sources, plan, draft, and revise an article. You may use your notes and refer to the sources. You may also refer to the answers you wrote to questions in Part I, but you cannot change those answers. Now read your assignment and the information about how your article will be scored; then begin your work.

Your Assignment

Write an article for your school newspaper's special edition on presidents. Explain about how the image of Abraham Lincoln (what was said about him and how he was shown in images and sculpture) changed both during his own time and in ours. Use information from the sources to explain your points. Give at least two examples of how Matthew Brady affected the public's view of Lincoln. Provide three examples of how Anthony Frudakis worked to create an image of Lincoln for modern viewers. Finally, give four examples of how Walt Whitman's words reflected the feelings of many in the country shortly after Lincoln was killed.

Article Scoring

Your article will be scored on the following criteria:

- I. **Focus and organization**—How well did you clearly state your topic and preview what is to follow? How well did your ideas flow logically using effective transitions? How well did you provide a concluding section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented? How well did you stay on topic throughout the article?

Continued 

Article Scoring (continued)

2. **Elaboration of topic**—How well did you develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples? How well did you use comparison and contrast or cause and effect? How well did you effectively express ideas using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary that was appropriate for your audience and purpose?
3. **Conventions**—How well did you follow the rules of usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?

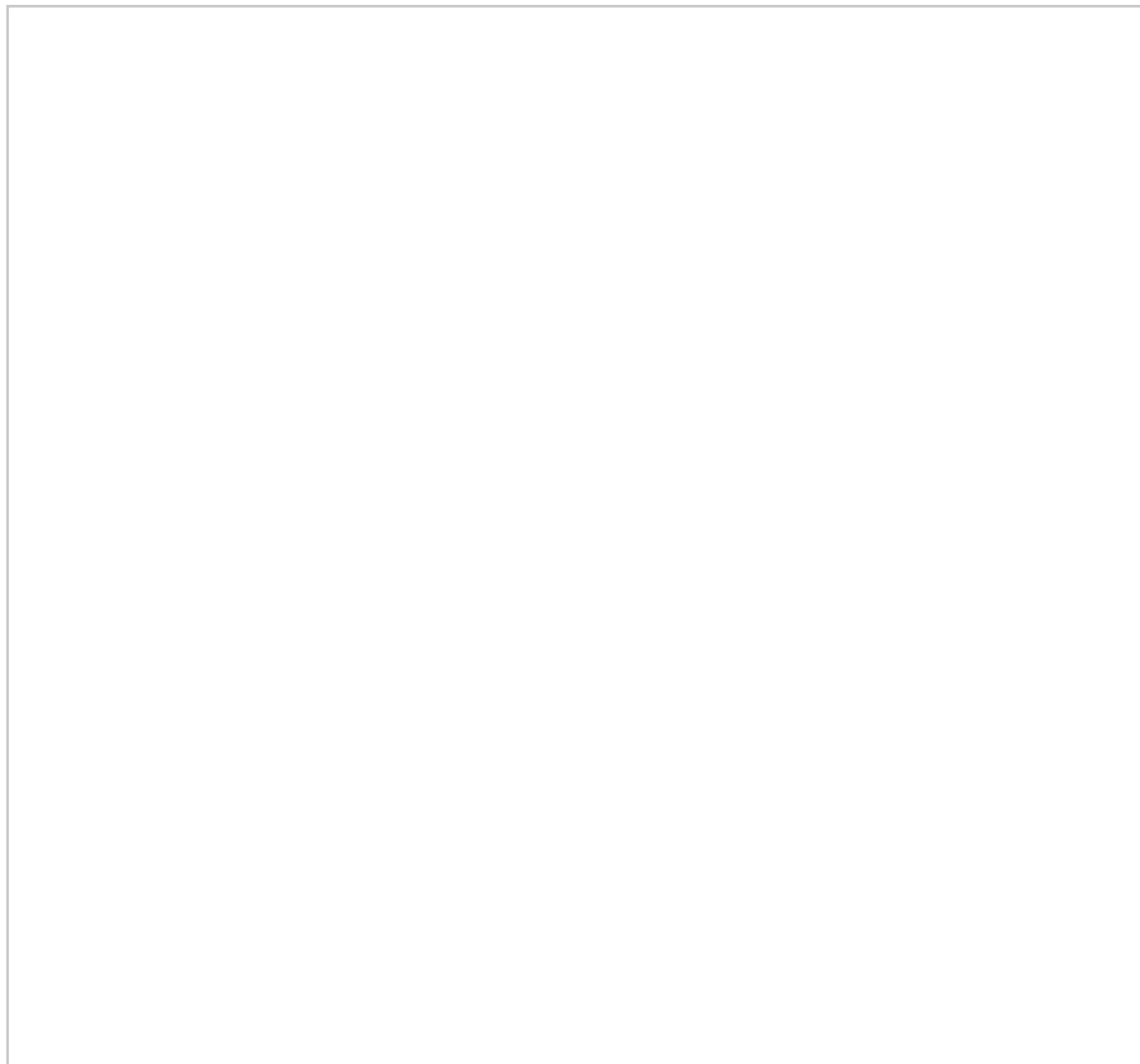
Now begin work on your article. Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- plan your article.
- write your article.
- revise and edit for a final draft.

Spell check is available to use.

Type your response in the space provided on the following page. Write as much as you need to fulfill the requirements of the task. You are not limited by the size of the response area on the screen.

Type your response below.



Go to the next
page if you need
more space.



Continue your response below.

