



**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.
Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

Rock and Soul

by Karen Pasacreta



GRADE 5
Reading



Isabella and Soledad's workshop includes everything that's needed to create colorful works of art.

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- 1 Isabella and Soledad Meade really know what it means to rock. In fact, they do it every day after they finish their homework! Even though they're only in elementary school the sisters from Milford, Connecticut, are already the owners of Rock On, a painted rock business that they accidentally started back in May 2010. Accidentally? Well. Kind of. The whole thing began as a gift for their mom.
- 2 "On Mother's Day I decided to make my mom a garden because she likes plants, and I thought it needed color," says Isabella, 10. "So I painted some rocks." Soledad, 8, noticed that her sister could use some creative help, so she began arranging the rocks around the garden to make it look even more beautiful.
- 3 When they showed the garden to their mom, she was overwhelmed. "It was a surprise, and we yelled 'Happy Mother's Day!'" Soledad says. "My mom kept saying, 'Thank you so much,' and gave us lots of hugs."
- 4 Their dad was also impressed with the girls' work. "Our dad said we should start our own business," explains Soledad.



- 5 Mr. Meade put the pictures of the rocks on his social media page. People began to take notice, posting messages asking how much they cost. Then they began ordering rocks. The family couldn't believe it!
- 6 But earning money for themselves wasn't enough. The girls wanted to use the rocks to benefit others. "I'm a helper person," says Isabella. "I have all these ideas in my mind that are too big for me, but I am always thinking about how I can help people."
- 7 Every year the family donates to a homeless shelter, but the girls wanted to do even more. So they decided to hold a rock-painting contest as a fundraiser for Get In Touch, a non-profit breast cancer awareness organization started by a family friend. People paid \$5 to enter their painted rocks in the contest. Others made generous donations. When it was over, the sisters had raised \$250! The giving experience felt so good, they decided they would donate a portion of all of Rock On's profits to Get In Touch.



- 8 With the help of their family, the two set up a workstation over their garage. Rocks and paint take up two huge tables, one for painting and the other for drying. "We do it one at a time," says Soledad. "I do the background and when it dries, Bella does the design."
- 9 Lately they've been thinking about painting other things, too. "My dad found these chairs our neighbor was throwing out," says Isabella. Mr. Meade brought them home for the girls to paint. They weren't up on social media more than a few days when they sold.
- 10 "I'm getting better as an artist, and I just want to grow with our business," says Soledad, who plans to be a full-time artist when she gets older. "Hopefully we can continue to make money for college."
- 11 "And help the community," Isabella adds.

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26 How does the author mainly organize paragraphs 2 through 5?

- F** By comparing the business Isabella and Soledad started with business ideas they had in the past
- G** By identifying the problem that Isabella and Soledad hoped to solve by starting their business
- H** By describing in chronological order the events that led to Isabella and Soledad starting their business
- J** By describing the effects that occurred after Isabella and Soledad started their business

27 Based on the information in the selection, the reader can conclude that Isabella and Soledad can best be described as —

- A** quick thinking
- B** hardworking
- C** worried
- D** brave

28 What is the central idea of the selection?

- F** Objects commonly found in nature have been used to make amazing works of art.
- G** Businesses have been important in raising money to support non-profit companies.
- H** A craft that two sisters made as a gift led them to start a successful business.
- J** Two sisters help each other discover that they both share a skill in painting.

29 Look at this photograph from the selection.



Used with permission.

Isabella and Soledad's workshop includes everything that's needed to create colorful works of art.

What is the most likely reason the author includes this photograph?

- A To highlight that Isabella and Soledad work together to paint rocks for their business
- B To emphasize that Isabella and Soledad surprised their mother with a garden on Mother's Day
- C To highlight that Isabella and Soledad have raised money for an organization called Get In Touch
- D To emphasize that Isabella and Soledad have wanted to start their own business for a long time

30 What is the most likely reason the author wrote the selection?

- F To reveal how some people choose to use their time
- G To describe why family members often have the same goals
- H To show how one simple act can lead to great accomplishments
- J To prove that young people can encourage adults to make positive changes

31 The details in paragraphs 6 and 7 support the key idea that Isabella and Soledad —

- A want money from their business to be used for people in need
- B often think of ways that other people in the community can start a business
- C rely on family friends to tell others about their business
- D want to find new art to use in their business

32 In paragraph 3, what does the word overwhelmed mean?

- F Thought about carefully
- G Reacted with strong emotion
- H Remembered with fondness
- J Realized the purpose of something

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/2022-staar-may-grade-5-reading-releasedtest.pdf>

Informational text structures

1. Identifies the topic of the text/tells what the text will be about
2. An ordered list of the topics in a document, along with the page numbers on which they are found. Usually located at the beginning of a long document.

3. An alphabetical listing of names and topics along with page numbers where they are discussed/found at the back of the book
4. Found in the back of the book and tells what important words mean. Arranged in alphabetical order.
5. A bold line of text serving to indicate what the passage below it is about
6. A picture made by a camera
7. Showing by example; a drawn picture
8. A short description of a picture
9. A graph that shows circles that are "sliced" apart to represent percentages of the total "pie" for particular groups or categories

10. An arrangement of data made up of horizontal rows and vertical columns.