

Ministry of Education, Youth & Information Student Assessment Unit





SAMPLE ITEM
PUBLICATION 2018



Strand:	Energy, Forces and Matter
Objectives:	Explore specific properties of everyday materials (rough, smooth, hard, ductile, malleable, colour)
Science Practice:	ScP4. Analyzing and interpreting data ScP7. Engaging in argument from evidence ScP8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information
Item Type:	Order Match
About this Item Type:	This item type asks students to fill in some blanks with some choices. All blanks must be filled in, but some of the choices may not be used, and no choice can be used more than once.



In 1812, Fredrich Mohs, a scientist, invented a method to compare materials according to the hardness. This method is based on the idea that **a harder material only scratches** a softer material.

Carol wants to determine how hard three minerals, Mineral A, Mineral B and Mineral C, are. The results of Carol's experiment are shown in the table below.

	Mineral X	Mineral Y
Mineral A scratches	No	No
Mineral B scratches	No	Yes
Mineral C scratches	Yes	Yes

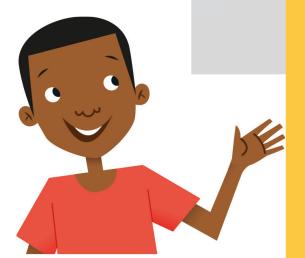
Place the three minerals, Mineral A, Mineral B ar	nd Mineral C, in order according to how
hard they are, from most hard to least hard.	Write the name of the minerals in the
empty boxes.	



Best Answer:

Mineral C, Mineral B, Mineral A

What information can this item give us about a student's Science competence?



This item is assessing how well students can:

- 1. use simple test cases of empirical data—that is, compare their outcomes with what is known about the real world.
- 2. make observations from physical models.
- 3. use tables, charts, graphs to explore relationships between variables.



Strand:	Living Things, Life Processes and the Environment						
Objectives:	Carry out fair tests						
Science Practice:	ScP3. Planning and carrying out Investigations ScP4. Analyzing and interpreting data ScP6. Constructing explanations and designing solutions						
Item Type:	Table Grid						
About this Item Type:	This item type presents a partially completed table for the student to complete. The student indicates by a tick (✓) his/her answer in each of the empty cells in the table.						



Latoya carried out an investigation, involving three plants (Plant A, Plant B and Plant C), to determine the effect of water on plant growth.

Indicate whether each of the following activities is **correct** or **not correct** to determine the effect of water on plant growth.

Investigation Activity	Correct	Not Correct
Latoya planted the three plants in		
identical soil		
Latoya exposed Plant A to 0.5 hours of		
sunlight, Plant B to 1 hour of sunlight and		
Plant C to 1.5 hours of sunlight		
Latoya gave Plant A 0.5 litre of water		
every day, Plant B 1 litre of water every		
day, and Plant C 1.5 litre of water every		
day		



Best Answer:

Correct

Not Correct

Correct

What information can this item give us about a student's Science competence?

This item is assessing how well students can:

- use tables to explore relationships between variables
- identify relevant independent and dependent variables and, when appropriate, the need for controls





Strand:	Living Things, Life Processes and the Environment					
Objectives:	Investigate the importance of light energy to plants.					
Science Practice:	ScP8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information					
Item Type:	Table Grid					
About this Item Type:	This item type presents a partially completed table for the student to complete. The student indicates by a tick (✓) his/her answer in each of the empty cells in the table.					



The table shows the result of an investigation in which a student tried to determine the effects of light on plant growth.

The student placed each of 5 pea plant seedlings in sunlight for fixed times each day. The student measured and recorded the height reached by each pea plant at the end of 5 weeks.

Pea Plant Name	Time Exposed to Sunlight each Day (hr.)	Plant Height (cm)
Plant A	1	7
Plant B	4	19
Plant C	6	30
Plant D	9	29.8
Plant E	11	29

Based on the results, indicate using a tick (\checkmark) whether the following statements are **supported** or **not supported** by the results of the investigation?

Statements	Supported	Not Supported
Less than 4 hours of sunlight		
per day will minimize plant		
growth		
The amount of sunlight a		
plant is exposed to each day		
will NOT affect its growth.		
A plant exposed to 12 hours		
of sunlight per day for 5		
weeks should likely reach a		
height above 31cm		



Best Answer:
Supported
Not Supported
Not Supported

What information can this item give us about a student's Science competence?

This item is assessing how well students can:

Demonstrate their understanding that a system

can be described in terms of its components

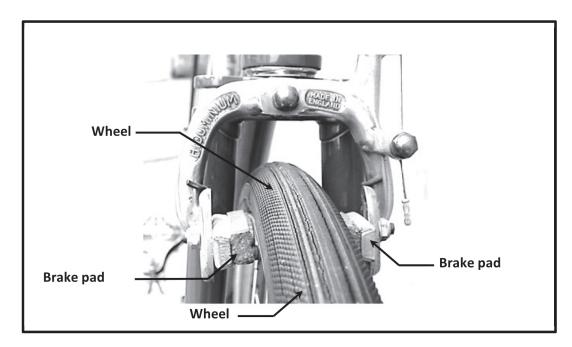
and their interactions.





Strand:	Energy, Forces and Matter				
Objectives:	Communicate scientific information. Investigate the effects of friction and how these may be reduced				
Science Practice:	ScP4. Analyzing and interpreting data ScP6. Constructing explanations and designing solutions ScP8. Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information				
Item Type:	Order Match				
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In the picture above, a bicycle's brake-pads squeeze both the sides of the wheel. When the brake-pads tightly squeeze both sides of the wheel, the bicycle will have a change in motion.

Place **two** of the following five choices in the blank spaces below so that the resulting sentence is correct.

Choices:	speeds	slows	friction	heat	turns			
The bicycl	le	due to the	increase of _		between th	e brake-pad	and	the
wheel.								



Best Answer: slows; friction

What information can this item give us about a student's Science competence?

This item is assessing how well students can: use cause and effect for explaining causal relationships for prediction and explain events in contexts.

