




## Outside The Box Thinking

# The Destruction of Truth in Education

It is important to pay attention to the controversy in schools regarding the Common Core Standards and the accompanying "tests". They should be aware that the philosophy behind a "standards based" education system has shifted the content of the curriculum away from the teaching of skills, abilities, facts, and truth. It has been replaced with a system of standards and assessments leading the mind toward a process of thinking where consensus and persuasive arguments are more valuable than the absolute correct answer.

Below is an example from the website of the "test" creators Smarter Balanced Assessment:

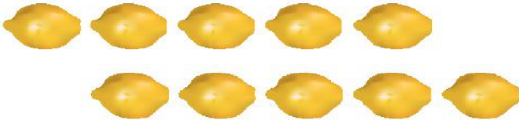


**Grade 4**  
 Sample 2-Point Short-Text Item

Grade 4 Mathematics Short-Text Response  
from 2014 Smarter Balanced Field Test

Claim	Domain	Target	DOK	CONTENT	MP
3	NF	B	3	4.NF.A, 4.NF.B.4	1

Liam is making lemonade. He needs 16 ounces of lemon juice.  
He has 10 lemons.



Each lemon makes about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces of lemon juice.  
Will he have enough lemon juice? Explain how you know.



4th Grade Question

Answer Key



The **correct answer is yes** Liam has enough lemons **AND the correct answer is no** he does not have enough lemons **depending on how you explain your answer**. Questions like these on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) force the curriculum to focus on how you think about an answer regardless of one correct answer. The writing portions of the SBA do not require absolute correctness in spelling, punctuation, or grammar.

B I U  $\sqrt{x}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{1}{3}$   $\frac{2}{3}$   $\frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{3}{4}$   $\frac{1}{5}$   $\frac{4}{5}$   $\frac{1}{6}$   $\frac{5}{6}$   $\frac{1}{7}$   $\frac{6}{7}$   $\frac{1}{8}$   $\frac{7}{8}$   $\frac{1}{9}$   $\frac{8}{9}$   $\frac{1}{10}$   $\frac{9}{10}$   $\frac{1}{11}$   $\frac{10}{11}$   $\frac{1}{12}$   $\frac{11}{12}$   $\frac{1}{13}$   $\frac{12}{13}$   $\frac{1}{14}$   $\frac{13}{14}$   $\frac{1}{15}$   $\frac{14}{15}$   $\frac{1}{16}$   $\frac{15}{16}$   $\frac{1}{17}$   $\frac{16}{17}$   $\frac{1}{18}$   $\frac{17}{18}$   $\frac{1}{19}$   $\frac{18}{19}$   $\frac{1}{20}$   $\frac{19}{20}$   $\frac{1}{21}$   $\frac{20}{21}$   $\frac{1}{22}$   $\frac{21}{22}$   $\frac{1}{23}$   $\frac{22}{23}$   $\frac{1}{24}$   $\frac{23}{24}$   $\frac{1}{25}$   $\frac{24}{25}$   $\frac{1}{26}$   $\frac{25}{26}$   $\frac{1}{27}$   $\frac{26}{27}$   $\frac{1}{28}$   $\frac{27}{28}$   $\frac{1}{29}$   $\frac{28}{29}$   $\frac{1}{30}$   $\frac{29}{30}$   $\frac{1}{31}$   $\frac{30}{31}$   $\frac{1}{32}$   $\frac{31}{32}$   $\frac{1}{33}$   $\frac{32}{33}$   $\frac{1}{34}$   $\frac{33}{34}$   $\frac{1}{35}$   $\frac{34}{35}$   $\frac{1}{36}$   $\frac{35}{36}$   $\frac{1}{37}$   $\frac{36}{37}$   $\frac{1}{38}$   $\frac{37}{38}$   $\frac{1}{39}$   $\frac{38}{39}$   $\frac{1}{40}$   $\frac{39}{40}$   $\frac{1}{41}$   $\frac{40}{41}$   $\frac{1}{42}$   $\frac{41}{42}$   $\frac{1}{43}$   $\frac{42}{43}$   $\frac{1}{44}$   $\frac{43}{44}$   $\frac{1}{45}$   $\frac{44}{45}$   $\frac{1}{46}$   $\frac{45}{46}$   $\frac{1}{47}$   $\frac{46}{47}$   $\frac{1}{48}$   $\frac{47}{48}$   $\frac{1}{49}$   $\frac{48}{49}$   $\frac{1}{50}$   $\frac{49}{50}$   $\frac{1}{51}$   $\frac{50}{51}$   $\frac{1}{52}$   $\frac{51}{52}$   $\frac{1}{53}$   $\frac{52}{53}$   $\frac{1}{54}$   $\frac{53}{54}$   $\frac{1}{55}$   $\frac{54}{55}$   $\frac{1}{56}$   $\frac{55}{56}$   $\frac{1}{57}$   $\frac{56}{57}$   $\frac{1}{58}$   $\frac{57}{58}$   $\frac{1}{59}$   $\frac{58}{59}$   $\frac{1}{60}$   $\frac{59}{60}$   $\frac{1}{61}$   $\frac{60}{61}$   $\frac{1}{62}$   $\frac{61}{62}$   $\frac{1}{63}$   $\frac{62}{63}$   $\frac{1}{64}$   $\frac{63}{64}$   $\frac{1}{65}$   $\frac{64}{65}$   $\frac{1}{66}$   $\frac{65}{66}$   $\frac{1}{67}$   $\frac{66}{67}$   $\frac{1}{68}$   $\frac{67}{68}$   $\frac{1}{69}$   $\frac{68}{69}$   $\frac{1}{70}$   $\frac{69}{70}$   $\frac{1}{71}$   $\frac{70}{71}$   $\frac{1}{72}$   $\frac{71}{72}$   $\frac{1}{73}$   $\frac{72}{73}$   $\frac{1}{74}$   $\frac{73}{74}$   $\frac{1}{75}$   $\frac{74}{75}$   $\frac{1}{76}$   $\frac{75}{76}$   $\frac{1}{77}$   $\frac{76}{77}$   $\frac{1}{78}$   $\frac{77}{78}$   $\frac{1}{79}$   $\frac{78}{79}$   $\frac{1}{80}$   $\frac{79}{80}$   $\frac{1}{81}$   $\frac{80}{81}$   $\frac{1}{82}$   $\frac{81}{82}$   $\frac{1}{83}$   $\frac{82}{83}$   $\frac{1}{84}$   $\frac{83}{84}$   $\frac{1}{85}$   $\frac{84}{85}$   $\frac{1}{86}$   $\frac{85}{86}$   $\frac{1}{87}$   $\frac{86}{87}$   $\frac{1}{88}$   $\frac{87}{88}$   $\frac{1}{89}$   $\frac{88}{89}$   $\frac{1}{90}$   $\frac{89}{90}$   $\frac{1}{91}$   $\frac{90}{91}$   $\frac{1}{92}$   $\frac{91}{92}$   $\frac{1}{93}$   $\frac{92}{93}$   $\frac{1}{94}$   $\frac{93}{94}$   $\frac{1}{95}$   $\frac{94}{95}$   $\frac{1}{96}$   $\frac{95}{96}$   $\frac{1}{97}$   $\frac{96}{97}$   $\frac{1}{98}$   $\frac{97}{98}$   $\frac{1}{99}$   $\frac{98}{99}$   $\frac{1}{100}$   $\frac{99}{100}$

**Sample Top-Score Responses:**

**Sample 1**

Liam does not have enough lemon juice. Ten lemons makes about 15 ounces since  $10 \times 1\frac{1}{2} = 15$ . This is less than the 16 ounces he needs.

**Sample 2**

Liam might have enough lemon juice. Since each lemon makes about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces of lemon juice, 10 lemons is about 15 ounces ( $10 \times 1\frac{1}{2} = 15$ ). If the 10 lemons are a little bit bigger than normal, it is possible that he can get the 16 ounces that he needs.