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To the Teacher

This book contains the progress monitoring assessments (unit tests) and summative assessments (semester tests) that accompany the *Glencoe Literature: California Treasures* program.

**Purpose and Administration:** The purpose of the tests in this book is to measure the effectiveness of instruction and to monitor student progress on a regular basis. The tests are designed to be administered at the end of each unit and assess how well students have mastered the standards taught in the unit. Two of the tests serve as semester tests and therefore, provide a cumulative assessment of student progress. Tested categories include reading comprehension, literary response and analysis, vocabulary, spelling, writing strategies, language conventions, and writing applications.

**Scoring, Interpretation, and Reteaching:** All test items are aligned to the California Language Arts content standards, which allows for precise interpretation of test results and prescription for reteaching. For students who do not achieve mastery, this product provides a set of standards-based reteaching lessons. By using the answer keys to identify missed standards, you can assign lessons to individual students who need additional help with and practice answering test items for specific content standards.

**Technology Options:** For all the tests in this book, you have the option of administering a pencil-and-paper test or an online test through the ExamView or Progress Reporter software that came included with the *Glencoe Literature: California Treasures* program.
Unit 1 Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
One Pot at a Time

Teresa made her way excitedly down the path and across her Pueblo village to her teacher Maria’s house. Since her last lesson, Teresa’s pot would have been baked over a fire until it was hard. She had put great effort into shaping that pot—carefully layering the coiled clay with her small but agile hands. She desperately hoped it would be better than her others, the ones her brothers had all laughed at. Those pots had been lumpy gourds. She wanted this one to be smooth and graceful in her hands.

She hoped to return home with a pot worthy of her mother’s marvelous pudding, and imagined making several other pudding bowls, one for each of her mother’s mouth-watering specialties. Teresa smacked her lips at the thought of eating sweet, warm pudding from the pot.

Teresa tapped her seeing-eye stick against the ground, raising dust that tickled her nose and made her sneeze. As she approached her teacher’s house, she remembered Maria’s voice saying, “You must have patience with yourself. Do you think I learned how to be a potter in one day, or even one year?”

Easy for her to say, thought Teresa, tapping the teacher’s front door while thinking about how famous Maria was—how people came from all over to buy her magnificent pots.

Maria welcomed Teresa, gave her a hug, and led her to a chair in the workroom.

“Your pot is finished, Teresa. Would you like to feel it?”

“Yes,” Teresa said, swallowing hard, her hands cupping the bottom of the pot and slowly moving in a circular motion upward. She sighed, feeling the rough and misshapen pot she had hoped to be perfect.

“How do you like it?” asked Maria.

“I hate it! It’s terrible,” said Teresa, tears forming in her eyes.

“I agree. It’s not very good,” replied Maria.

Teresa hung her head, ready to give up pottery-making forever.

“Well, it’s not your pot. It’s mine, made when I was about your age, Teresa. I had a lot to learn, you see?”

Then Maria presented Teresa with her own pot. It wasn’t perfect, but it was good. Good enough to take home to her mother.
1. The narrator of this story is
   A. the main character.
   B. Teresa’s pottery teacher.
   C. someone outside the story.
   D. one of the main character’s brothers.

2. Which of the following best describes the message of this passage?
   A. Always believe your teacher.
   B. People should ignore their brothers.
   C. Making pottery is difficult for most people.
   D. Learning to do some things well takes time.

3. Read these two sentences from paragraph 1.

   Those pots had been lumpy gourds. She wanted this one to be smooth and graceful in her hands.

   Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
   A. but
   B. unless
   C. or
   D. because

4. Reread paragraphs 3 and 7. Information in these paragraphs supports the idea that Teresa is
   A. poor.
   B. blind.
   C. wise.
   D. young.

5. The best way to provide a better transition between the last two paragraphs would be to replace the word then with which one of these transitions?
   A. However,
   B. Despite this,
   C. Nevertheless,
   D. At that moment,
The following is a rough draft of an essay. It may contain errors.

Underwater Danger

What animals might most endanger your life? Some people would guess big predators such as lions or bears, while others might name venomous snakes. But almost nobody would guess jellyfish.

Soft but Dangerous

Jellyfish are soft creatures; out of the water, they collapse under their own weight. In general, jellyfish mostly drift with the movement of the water and sting and eat animals they encounter along the way.

All, that is, except box jellyfish—creatures able to swim better than other jellyfish to catch prey. They are also unbelievably quick to sting. In one box jellyfish, the stingers fire out at one of the fastest speeds known in the natural world—around two meters per second!

Far worse, though, is the poison itself—a box jellyfish’s stings can kill a person. Some deadly box jellyfish are no longer than a fingernail and can kill a person in less than 60 seconds!

24 Eyes and 4 Brains

Box jellyfish look like little cubes in the water, and that is how they got their name. But that isn’t the most amazing thing about them, because on four of their sides (but not on the top and bottom), there is a black spot—a cluster of six eyes. The eyes don’t all see the way our eyes do, but two of them seem to. But what’s even more unusual is that each group of six eyes connects to its own brain.

No one know what happens in the four brains of a box jellyfish. Do they communicate? Do they operate on their own? If so, how do the four brains of a box jellyfish work together?

More Mysteries

In truth, no one knows the answers to those questions yet. For now, scientists will just be very happy if they find an antidote for the deadly stings of the box jellyfish.
6 This passage would most likely be found in a
A physics book.
B science magazine.
C fable collection.
D swimming Web site.

7 All the following are ways to tell the difference between box jellyfish and other jellyfish except
A their deadly sting.
B how soft they are.
C their size and shape.
D how fast they swim.

8 Read this sentence from the passage.
Some deadly box jellyfish are no longer than a fingernail and can kill a person in less than 60 seconds!

Why is it necessary for the author to mention this fact?
A It illustrates why box jellyfish are dangerous and deadly.
B It gives an idea about what a box jellyfish can look like.
C It shows that box jellyfish are mysterious creatures.
D It gives specific details that make the passage interesting.

9 Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to further support the main ideas of the passage?
A a first-aid pamphlet for box jellyfish stings
B a news article about recent victims of box jellyfish
C a fictional narrative about someone stung by a box jellyfish
D an encyclopedia entry on types of jellyfish
10. Which of these statements is the best summary of this passage?

A. Box jellyfish look harmless, but they are actually deadly.
B. Box jellyfish are mysterious creatures that baffle scientists.
C. There are creatures with many eyes, like the box jellyfish.
D. The box jellyfish is only one example of dangerous animals.

11. Read this sentence.

No one know what happens in the four brains of a box jellyfish.

What is the correct way to write this sentence?

A. Noone know what happens in the four brains of a box jellyfish.
B. No one knows what happen in the four brains of a box jellyfish.
C. No one knows what happens in the four brains of a box jellyfish.
D. Leave as is.
The following items are not based on a passage. Read and answer each question.

12 Mrs. Roberts has asked the class to read Madeleine L’Engle’s *A Wrinkle in Time* and write about their views and reactions. To complete this assignment, the class will write a
A movie script.  
B book review. 
C factual report. 
D persuasive essay.

13 Read these sentences. 

Helena’s teacher has asked the students to conduct research about the Internet and its uses. Helena will write about creating a Web site. 

To complete this assignment, Helena needs to write an expository essay that
A explains an event. 
B explains a process. 
C describes a function. 
D compares and contrasts.

14 Raul needs to research the different branches of government in the United States. Which of the following would be the *most* helpful way to organize his notes?
A a time line 
B a research report 
C a bar graph 
D an outline

15 Read this sentence.

For homework I have to write a(n) _____ about elephants.

Which French word correctly fits in the sentence?
A essay 
B voyage 
C lacrosse 
D herb
The Night Harry Houdini Came to Town

Some events are locked in our memories forever, leaving a permanent mark that refuses to fade or melt away with time.

It was 1923, and my family and I had arrived at the Orpheum Theater. Like everyone else in the standing-room-only crowd, we had great expectations. We were going to see Harry Houdini, the world’s greatest magician, perform his famous milk can trick. After we waited for what seemed like a lifetime for the show to begin, the lights finally dimmed and the spotlight shone on the magician. He waved to us all and then the action began.

First, a volunteer from the audience handcuffed the magician. Another volunteer tugged the cuffs to make sure they were locked. Then Houdini, as calm and confident as can be, took a deep breath and squeezed himself into a large milk can. His assistants filled the can with water and then topped the can with a lid so heavy that it took two people to put it into place. Was he trapped in a watery grave?

A clock near the milk can ticked off the seconds and then the minutes. Two men stood by with axes just in case they would need to break open the can. After two minutes, we were all on our feet. Some people shouted for the men to break open the can. Suddenly, just as the men were about to swing their axes, Houdini appeared at the side of the stage. Dripping wet, he smiled broadly and bowed. The great magician had accomplished the unthinkable.

I was just a seventh grader at the time, and this spectacle was by far the highlight of my short life. Even many, many years later, I still remember it as if it just happened yesterday.
16 The author makes the events of the passage seem more realistic by
   A setting the passage in a theater.
   B focusing on a great magician.
   C flashing back to a past event.
   D describing the behavior of the crowd.

17 Which of the following sentences best shows that this story is historical fiction?
   A It takes place in a theater.
   B It relates a tale of imaginary people.
   C It tells about events involving a famous real person.
   D It has an interesting ending for all of the characters.
Jacob Cowie

1  Much like you, Jacob Cowie is a kid who goes to school during the week. He likes science class best because the class performs experiments every Friday. Like you, Jacob plays with his friends after school. His favorite sport is lacrosse. Perhaps you’ve heard of lacrosse. It’s a game in which players throw, catch, and carry a small, hard ball in a net at the end of a long stick. Maybe you even play lacrosse yourself. But you probably don’t play lacrosse like Jacob Cowie and his friends do.

2  Jacob is Native American. He is part of a group called the Iroquois. After school and on weekends, Jacob spends time with the other Iroquois people who live nearby—cooking, eating, dancing, and playing together. Jacob loves his mother’s traditional Iroquois cooking almost as much as he loves playing traditional lacrosse with his friends.

When Jacob was ten years old, his father taught him how to make his own lacrosse stick. Together, they burned the wood to make it hard and wove the net for the top of the stick to catch and carry the ball. Then Jacob began to learn how to play Iroquois lacrosse.

4  Before each game, the players have a short ceremony. This is because, for Jacob and his friends, lacrosse has a very special meaning that is separate from the game itself. Many of the Iroquois believe that the game of lacrosse has healing powers. Jacob enjoys playing lacrosse, but he also respects the serious purpose that lies behind the game.

5  Like you, Jacob has big dreams for his future. He plans to go to college. He wants to study science and make important discoveries. Jacob also dreams of playing for the Iroquois Nationals lacrosse team and winning a gold medal.
The topics within the passage show the comparison and contrast of
A school subjects.
B cultures.
C sports.
D teammates.

Which of the following statements about Jacob Cowie is most accurate?
A He is much like other kids.
B He is nothing like other kids.
C He only does things all other kids do.
D He has a different culture from everyone else.

Which detail provides the best evidence to support the author’s statement that Jacob Cowie considers lacrosse to be more than just a game?
A His favorite sport is lacrosse.
B His father taught him how to make his own lacrosse stick.
C He also respects the serious purpose that lies behind the game.
D You probably don’t play lacrosse like Jacob Cowie and his friends do.

Which source would provide the most information about Iroquois lacrosse?
A a college application essay written by Jacob Cowie
B an encyclopedia article detailing the history of Native Americans
C a newspaper article interviewing Jacob Cowie
D a book describing sports played by Native Americans
A Week in the Past

1 Starting today I will spend a week in the past. No, I haven’t discovered the secret of time travel. And I’m not going to a prehistoric jungle. I’m going to History Camp. The “living museum” near my house has a weeklong camp where kids pretend to live in, and then learn about, the past.

2 This morning I was kind of nervous, and I just stood there with my parents like the other kids. I kicked the dusty ground with the toes of my dress shoes. The camp brochure instructed us to wear old-fashioned-looking shoes, but I only have sneakers, cleats, and dress shoes. It felt pretty silly to wear shorts and a T-shirt with brown leather shoes. Most of the girls wore boots.

3 I saw one kid wearing sneakers and wondered if the counselors would make him go barefoot. I tried to remember if I’d read anything about kids going barefoot back in the 1830s. The kid in the sneakers looked tough, and he was upset about being there. I didn’t think he’d want to go barefoot. Just as I was imagining him in a costume, a woman in a long dress, apron, and a bonnet appeared.

4 “Good morning, children,” she welcomed us in an old-fashioned tone, and added, “Boys, follow Mr. Martin; girls, come along with me.”

5 Waving goodbye to my parents, I followed the big man in the brown shirt, coarse pants, and leather apron. I guessed Mr. Martin was the blacksmith. When we arrived at a small, antique house, we changed into the costumes Mr. Martin handed out. Almost as if by magic, we changed time periods. Even the tough kid began talking and acting like a kid from the 1800s. Maybe we’ve discovered the secret to time travel after all—imagination. Anyone who uses imagination may even experience the future!
22. Which excerpt from the passage best shows the main character’s curiosity?

A. I followed the big man in the brown shirt, coarse pants, and leather apron.
B. I was kind of nervous, and I just stood there with my parents like the other kids.
C. I tried to remember if I’d read anything about kids going barefoot back in the 1830s.
D. Just as I was imagining him in a costume, a woman in a long dress, apron, and a bonnet appeared.

23. Which element of the setting best helps the main character experience the past?

A. the small, antique house
B. the changing of costumes
C. the tough kid wearing sneakers
D. the woman’s old-fashioned tone

24. How does the tough kid help support the narrator’s claim that the secret to time travel is imagination?

A. The narrator doesn’t believe that the tough kid wants to attend History Camp.
B. The tough kid asks the counselors if he can go barefoot at History Camp.
C. The tough kid chose to wear sneakers to History Camp rather than an old-fashioned pair of shoes.
D. Once the tough kid changes clothes, he begins to act like someone from a different time period.

25. The woman’s tone in paragraph 4 most suggests that people in the past

A. used different words from those we use today.
B. spoke in voices that sounded different from our voices.
C. wore bonnets when talking.
D. enjoyed having children around them.
Vocabulary

On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Which of the following pairs of words are synonyms?
   A. deed, hope
   B. waste, exchange
   C. error, mistake
   D. desire, confidence

2. Read this sentence.
   Mom suggested that we have our dinner outside on the _________.
   Which Spanish word meaning “paved outdoor area” can be used to complete the sentence?
   A. rodeo
   B. patio
   C. canyon
   D. bronco

3. A listener can be an eavesdropper in the same way that a passenger can be
   A. a fare.
   B. a guest.
   C. a tourist.
   D. a stowaway.

4. Which of the following synonyms for wound best communicates the idea that the wound is a really bad one?
   A. cut
   B. scrape
   C. gash
   D. scratch

5. Which of the following pairs of words are antonyms?
   A. common, rare
   B. mature, small
   C. incredible, unusual
   D. thoughtless, difficult

6. Read this sentence.
   Ted met a famous author and asked her to inscribe one of her books for him.
   What does the word inscribe mean?
   A. to purchase
   B. to provide
   C. to write in
   D. to complete
On your paper, write the numbers 7–20. Next to each number, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

Selection Vocabulary

7. a barren landscape
   A. fertile
   B. mountainous
   C. flat
   D. lifeless

8. pondering her next move
   A. making
   B. preventing
   C. thinking over
   D. talking about

9. the essential ingredients
   A. necessary
   B. expensive
   C. numerous
   D. extra

10. plagued by birds
    A. surrounded
    B. watched
    C. bothered
    D. fascinated

11. a prominent man
     A. tough
     B. famous
     C. friendly
     D. well-paid

12. to be evidently scared
    A. plainly
    B. extremely
    C. reasonably
    D. unexpectedly

13. the adjoining room
    A. dark
    B. welcoming
    C. empty
    D. neighboring

14. to acknowledge a problem
    A. explain
    B. think about
    C. solve
    D. admit to

15. ravaged the neighborhood
    A. improved
    B. ruined
    C. changed
    D. visited

16. economic problems
    A. money
    B. physical
    C. personal
    D. unavoidable
Academic Vocabulary

17. a different strategy
A. class  
B. trade  
C. method  
D. reaction

18. to be a consequence
A. result  
B. reward  
C. reason  
D. beginning

19. some reliable people
A. ignorant  
B. friendly  
C. famous  
D. dependable

20. if you persist
A. refuse  
B. continue  
C. change  
D. imagine
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Juan, a boy I knew in forth grade, walked past me with two friends.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A knew  B forth  C past  D two

2. Read this sentence.
   After the main dinner course, you can choose to have desert if you want, because it’s included in the price.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A course  B choose  C desert  D it’s

3. Read this sentence.
   Beth gave me good advice: she told me to write a rough draft of my entire paper, so I’d have the whole thing thier in front of me.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A advice  B write  C whole  D thier

4. Read this sentence.
   In the silence of the empty house, Renee could hear herself breath, and that just seemed too quiet.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A hear  B breath  C too  D quiet

5. Read this sentence.
   Mike has lost so much weight that his cloths don’t fit around his waist, so he needs to buy some new ones.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A weight  B cloths  C waist  D buy

6. Read this sentence.
   Everyone accept Tyrone usually plays baseball on Wednesdays, but no one knows whether the field is available this week.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A accept  B usually  C Wednesdays  D whether
7 Read this sentence.
There probably isn't enough pizza for everyone to get a peace because forty people showed up!
Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A probably  C peace  B enough  D forty

8 Read this sentence.
Donna got many presents, and it was plain to see that she was truely surprised.
Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A presents  C truely  B plain  D surprised

9 Read this sentence.
How many guests were at you’re grandma’s party in February when she turned ninety?
Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A guests  C February  B you’re  D ninety

10 Read this sentence.
Dad and I were successful on our drive through various cities and didn’t loose our way once.
Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A successful  C various  B through  D loose
The following is a rough draft of a student’s report. It contains errors.

Mapping the Brain

(1) Scientists no longer have to operate to see inside the human brain. (2) They now use high technology instruments to see through the skull and take pictures of the brain as it is working. (3) As different areas of the brain work, they use more energy and “light up” in the pictures. (4) For instance, talking or singing make different areas in the brain “light up”. (5) Both activities use language but singing involves music. (6) Music is in another area of the brain. (7) In this way, scientists are able to map which parts of the brain are involved in which activities.

(8) Scientists found that the brain devotes far more space to the hands, feet, and lips than to any other parts of the body. (9) Using this map, you could build an odd-looking model of a human being. (10) It would have a small, skinny body with huge hands and feet and big lips. (11) The hands are highly sensitive to touch, they have many cells that send touch signals to the brain. (12) Other areas, like the upper arm, are not nearly as sensitive.

(13) Scientists demonstrated this difference in a simple experiment. (14) They took two sharpened pencils. (15) They taped the pencils about an inch apart. (16) The points were at the same level with each other. (17) They touched the pencils to the back of a person’s hand felt two separate points. (18) Then they touched the pencils to the person’s upper arm. (19) He felt only one point. (20) The skin on his upper arm did not have as many cells that could send touch signals to the brain.

(21) Scientists are continuing to map the brain and are learning more every day. (22) The brain is like a huge, unexplored continent that contains many mysteries. (23) For instance, none of the maps show why some people develop Alzheimer’s disease and other people don’t. (24) I know three people whose grandmothers developed the disease. (25) The science of the brain is still new compared to other sciences. (26) Maybe in the future, when scientists completely mapped the brain, we can start solving the mysteries.
1. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 4?
   A. talking or singing is making different areas
   B. talking or singing were making different areas
   C. talking or singing makes different areas
   D. talking or singing has made different areas

2. Read this sentence from the report.
   (5) Both activities use language but singing involves music.

   Which is the correct punctuation for the underlined part of the sentence?
   A. use language but, singing involves
   B. use language but singing, involves
   C. use language; but, singing involves
   D. use language, but singing involves

3. Read the following sentence.
   Some researchers believe our complex hands helped us develop such complex brains.

   Where in the report should this detail be placed?
   A. after sentence 6
   B. after sentence 10
   C. after sentence 17
   D. after sentence 19

4. Which sentence would be best to add to the beginning of paragraph 2?
   A. One of the strangest maps of the brain has to do with our hands, feet, and lips.
   B. When blind people read Braille, the visual area of the brain lights up as if they could see.
   C. There are several different types of machines used to map the brain and its functions.
   D. Scientists conduct many experiments to find out how the brain uses energy.

5. Read this sentence from the report.
   (11) The hands are highly sensitive to touch, they have many cells that send touch signals to the brain.

   Which is the correct punctuation for the underlined part of the sentence?
   A. touch; and they have many
   B. touch they, have many
   C. touch; and, they have many
   D. touch; they have many

6. Read these sentences from the report.
   (14) They took two sharpened pencils. (15) They taped the pencils about an inch apart.

   Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
   A. so
   B. and
   C. because
   D. while
7. Read this sentence from the report.

(17) They touched the pencils to the back of a person's hand felt two separate points.

Which is the best way to rewrite the sentence to form two simple sentences?

A. They touched the pencils to the back of a person's hand. And he felt two separate points.
B. They touched the pencils to the back of a person's hand; and, he felt two separate points.
C. They touched the pencils to the back of a person's hand. He felt two separate points.
D. They touched the pencils to the back of a person's hand; he felt two separate points.

8. Read this excerpt from the report.

... none of the maps show why some people develop . . .

What is the correct way to revise the underlined part of the excerpt?

A. none of the maps shows why
B. none of the maps was showing why
C. none of the maps are showing why
D. none of the maps have showed why

9. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 26?

A. Maybe in the future, when scientists had completely mapped
B. Maybe in the future, when scientists will have completely mapped
C. Maybe in the future, when scientists completely mapped
D. Maybe in the future, when scientists are completely mapped

10. Which sentence would be best to remove from the last paragraph?

A. The science of the brain is new compared to other sciences.
B. I know three people whose grandmothers developed the disease.
C. Scientists are continuing to map the brain and are learning more every day.
D. It is like a huge, unexplored continent that contains many mysteries.
Hurricane Hunters

(1) The Hurricane Hunters are a special group of pilots who fly into hurricanes to study them. (2) Hurricane hunting started on August 7, 1944. (3) Someone dared Lt. Colonel Joe Duckworth to fly his training plane into an oncoming hurricane. (4) Like Joe, my uncle also flew into a storm on a dare, only he nearly crashed. (5) Joe said his plane could handle any kind of weather and he proved it. (6) He flew into the hurricane and reached the eye. (7) When he flew out the other side of the storm, the Hurricane Hunters were born.

(8) What is it like to fly into a hurricane? (9) Pilots agree that going through the outer edge of such a powerful storm is a rough ride. (10) Winds up to 200 miles per hour can batter the crew’s plane, but their specially made aircraft can handle the pounding. (11) The plane breaks through into the eye of the hurricane; as a result, everything is smooth and quiet. (12) One pilot said, “You look out the window and there’s blue sky overhead, but all around you a wall of clouds reaches straight up and straight down.” (13) It’s like being in the middle of a donut however the donut is rotating at 100 to 200 miles an hour.

(14) Also, Hurricane Hunters use computerized equipment to gather information on storms as they are forming. (15) They relay the data to U.S. Weather Service stations on the ground. (16) This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be. (17) They can predict where it will strike land. (18) All storms are given alphabetical names, starting with “A” for the first storm of the season.

(19) In 2005, Hurricane Hunters helped track the hurricanes Katrina and Rita. (20) Both hurricanes started out small and become huge storms as they crossed open water. (21) One pilot, whose plane tracked Katrina, felt really scared for the first time. (22) He never been in a storm so strong. (23) However, the information his crew gathered gave many people in the Gulf states time to get away from the storm.
Which sentence would be best to remove from the first paragraph?
A  Hurricane hunting started on August 7, 1944.
B  Like Joe, my uncle also flew into a storm on a dare, only he nearly crashed.
C  Someone dared Lt. Colonel Joe Duckworth to fly his training plane into an oncoming hurricane.
D  When he flew out the other side of the storm, the Hurricane Hunters were born.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 5?
A  weather; and he proved it.
B  weather: and he proved it.
C  weather: And he proved it.
D  weather, and he proved it.

Which of the following revisions would make sentence 6 more informative?
A  He flew through one side of the hurricane to the calmer eye.
B  He flew into the hurricane from one side to the eye of the storm.
C  He flew through one wall of the hurricane to the eye, or center, where it was calm.
D  He flew through both outer sides of the hurricane to the eye and flew out again.

Read this sentence from the report.
(11) The plane breaks through into the eye of the hurricane; as a result, everything is smooth and quiet.

Which is the best way to rewrite the sentence to form a complex sentence?
A  By the plane breaking through into the eye of the hurricane, everything is smooth and quiet.
B  When the plane breaks through into the eye of the hurricane, everything is smooth and quiet.
C  The plane breaks through into the eye of the hurricane, so everything is smooth and quiet.
D  The plane breaks through into the eye of the hurricane, but everything is smooth and quiet.

Read this sentence from the report.
(13) It’s like being in the middle of a donut however the donut is rotating at a 100 to 200 miles an hour.

What is the correct punctuation for the underlined part of the sentence?
A  middle of a donut. However: the donut
B  middle of a donut, however, the donut
C  middle of a donut however, the donut
D  middle of a donut; however, the donut
16 The best way to provide a better transition between the second and third paragraphs would be to replace the word Also, with which of these transitions?

A  Before,  
B  Afterwards,  
C  In the past,  
D  Today,  

17 Read these two sentences from the report.

(16) This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be. (17) They can predict where it will strike land.

What is the best way to join these two sentences into one simple sentence?

A  This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be and where it will strike land.  
B  This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be, and where it will strike land.  
C  This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be; where it will strike land.  
D  This information makes it easier to predict how powerful a storm will be, and, also, where it will strike land.

18 Read this sentence from the report.

(20) Both hurricanes started out small and become huge storms as they crossed open water.

What is the correct verb form for the underlined word in the sentence?

A  had become  
B  were becoming  
C  became  
D  have become

19 What is the correct way to revise the underlined part of sentence 22?

A  He had never been in a storm  
B  He was never being in a storm  
C  He is never been in a storm  
D  He has never been in a storm

20 Which of the following sentences would make the best concluding sentence to the report?

A  Hurricane Hunters have been flying for over 60 years in several different kinds of planes.  
B  Hurricane Hunters know there are risks with every flight, but their work can help save lives.  
C  Hurricane Hunters are specially trained to fly in storms and take measurements.  
D  Hurricane Hunters must be unusually brave and calm in severe weather conditions.
Unit 2 Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
Read this student adaptation of a popular folktale. It may contain errors.

Dancing Drum

Many years before European settlers came to the Americas, the Cherokee lived happily on a beautiful mountaintop in the Appalachians. And the Sun was displeased with the Cherokee. She thought the people did not like her because whenever they looked up at her they shielded their eyes and squinted. “They must think I’m ugly,” she thought. In addition, she was jealous of the Moon. “Every night they gather in their village and dance and sing under the light and smiles of the Moon,” she lamented.

“I’ll teach them a lesson,” the Sun decided. And to do so she turned up the heat of her rays and scorched the Cherokee’s crops.

The mountain people were suffering. In a meeting, they talked about things they could do to encourage the Sun to stop ruining their land. Finally, they decided that Dancing Drum, a young warrior, would go to the Sun and try to talk to her. Maybe he could convince her to stop the drought.

Although Dancing Drum had good intentions, he accidentally killed the Sun’s daughter with his bow and arrow. The Sun was devastated by grief. And she was also extremely angry. To punish Dancing Drum and his people, she turned her back and made the Earth very cold.

The Cherokee, wrapped in their thickest furs, gathered around the fire and wondered what they could do to make the Sun smile upon them once again. Finally, Dancing Drum had an idea. “Let’s dance and sing for the Sun. Maybe this will make her smile again.” And sure enough, Dancing Drum’s plan worked. The Sun came out from the shadows and shone on the people once again. What’s more, the Sun’s daughter returned from the Spirit World and rejoined her happy mother. Everyone was at peace once again.
1. We can tell that this passage is an example of a folktale because it
   A. is a true story about Dancing Drum’s life.
   B. has a simple and short plot.
   C. relates a fictional story based on an actual historical event.
   D. examines a topic and contains the opinions of the author.

2. The Sun turns her back on the Cherokee because
   A. she is looking for her daughter in the Spirit World.
   B. she realizes she is no longer needed.
   C. she is upset by the death of her daughter.
   D. she feels jealous when she sees them dancing for the Moon.

3. The Sun could best represent the
   A. changeable forces of nature.
   B. destruction of nature.
   C. culture of a tribe.
   D. years that have passed.

4. Someone who is displeased could become **angry** as someone who is **happy** could become
   A. captivated.
   B. gratified.
   C. exultant.
   D. content.

5. Read the following sentences from the passage.

   Many years before European settlers came to the Americas, the Cherokee lived happily on a beautiful mountaintop in the Appalachians. **And** the Sun was displeased with the Cherokee.

   The best way to provide a better transition between the first and second sentences would be to replace the underlined word with which of these transitions?
   A. However,
   B. In addition,
   C. Because of this,
   D. Moreover,
Join Art Geniuses
A Special Club for Young Artists

Do you love the arts? Now you can express your creative side at home! Art Geniuses teaches you all about the arts and puts you in touch with other young artists all over the United States.

As a member, you receive a special Art Geniuses identification card, a painting kit, an audio CD that can be used for background music as you paint, and a one-year subscription to Let’s Paint, Kids! magazine.

Let’s Paint, Kids! magazine comes every other month. It tells you how to become a great painter even at a young age and covers everything from basic to advanced painting. The more you read, the more you become an Art Genius.

If you join today, you will also receive a free one-of-a-kind Art Geniuses painting apron. You can wear it when you paint. Additional aprons are available by sending in the form included in Let’s Paint, Kids! magazine.

To become an Art Geniuses member, fill out the form below. Membership in the club costs $15 a year.

Sign me up! I want to become an Art Geniuses Member and receive Let’s Paint, Kids! magazine.

Enclosed is a check for $15.

Name__________________________
Address__________________________
City________ State________ ZIP_____
Phone__________________________
E-mail address _______________

Mail the above form to
Art Geniuses
916 Heart Avenue
Cactus, CA 94599

Allow 2 to 3 weeks for your first Let’s Paint, Kids! magazine to arrive.
6. You will **most likely** find this ad in
   A. the front page of a newspaper.
   B. a music magazine.
   C. an art history book.
   D. an art magazine.

7. You want to tell your friend about the Art Geniuses ad that you read. Which is the **best** summary of the ad?
   A. You can join Art Geniuses for $15 a year; just sign and mail the form and you will receive many cool items.
   B. You get an identification card, a painting kit, an audio CD, and a one-year magazine subscription for joining Art Geniuses.
   C. You can mail in the form from the *Let’s Paint, Kids!* magazine to get more painting aprons.
   D. You can meet lots of young painters all over the United States if you join Art Geniuses.

8. Read the sentences.
   Mrs. Dobson and her class are starting a recycling campaign. They need to give out flyers, place posters all over the school, and arrange an assembly so they can talk to students about the benefits of recycling.

   If Mrs. Dobson needs to ask the principal to allow them to do these activities, she should write a
   A. letter to the editor.
   B. letter of complaint.
   C. letter asking permission.
   D. job application letter.

9. Which of the following Internet keywords would **best** help someone find more information about the people who first lived in America?
   A. American people
   B. American history
   C. first people
   D. United States
Rabbit and the Two Snakes

One day mischievous Rabbit was taking a drink of water from his favorite stream when an idea hit him with the force of a lightning bolt between the eyes. “I’m going to trick those two pesky snakes that live here on opposite sides of the river.”

So Rabbit approached the snake that lived on the north side of the river. “Hey there, Skog,” Rabbit shouted at the huge, mean-looking snake. “I bet I can beat you in a game of tug-of-war.” The snake looked at Rabbit like he was crazy. “Yeah, sure,” the snake replied. “You couldn’t out-tug a flea with a broken arm. But I’ll tug with you just to show you how foolish you are.”

Rabbit laughed to himself and said he’d be right back. Then, secretly, Rabbit went across the river and made the same deal with Askook, the other snake. Rabbit then handed each snake an end of a long grape vine. The snakes, unable to see each other because there was smog, then waited for Rabbit, who had taken cover behind a bush to yell “Start!”

Well, the snakes, each of which was very strong, had a fight on their hands. “How could such a scrawny little rabbit be so strong?” they both thought. After about five minutes had gone by, they heard Rabbit laughing behind the bush. They realized that the floppy-eared jokester had tricked them.

The two snakes were bent on punishing Rabbit. They agreed that the last laugh would be theirs. So the snakes told Rabbit he could no longer drink at the stream. From that day on Rabbit was forced to change himself into a bird whenever he felt like taking a drink from the stream. And he vowed that he would never again play a joke on a snake.
10. Read this sentence from the passage.

One day mischievous Rabbit was taking a drink of water from his favorite stream when an idea hit him with the force of a lightning bolt between the eyes.

What is the meaning of the underlined phrase in the sentence?

A. Rabbit was hit by a lightning bolt.
B. Rabbit had a painful headache.
C. Rabbit was tired and parched.
D. Rabbit thought of a brilliant plan.

11. What caused Rabbit to challenge the snakes to a game of tug-of-war?

A. He wanted to play a prank on them.
B. He needed someone to pull on a vine.
C. He wanted to drink from the stream.
D. He needed someone to fight with.

12. Which of the following sources would most likely include more passages like this one?

A. a newspaper article
B. a magazine about wildlife
C. an encyclopedia
D. a book of fables

13. Read these sentences from the passage.

“Yeah, sure,” the snake replied. “You couldn’t out-tug a flea with a broken arm. But I’ll tug with you just to show you how foolish you are.”

In the underlined sentence, what does the snake think of Rabbit?

A. The snake thinks that Rabbit is the same size as a flea.
B. The snake thinks that Rabbit does not have a chance of winning.
C. The snake thinks that Rabbit should not break the arms of a flea.
D. The snake thinks that Rabbit should fight with a flea instead.
Competitive Croquet

Have you ever played croquet? Perhaps someone has pulled out an old croquet set at a party and set it up crookedly on the lawn. You and your friends or family casually and haphazardly took turns hitting those colored balls all over the lawn with those striped mallets. Perhaps your game even got competitive, with you and your friend arguing whose turn it was or debating the rules of the game (which neither of you has ever really known for sure). You might not realize how much speed and strategy are required in a competitive croquet game. People learn this when they play seriously for the first time.

Croquet was developed in the thirteenth century in France. As you might know, players use long wooden mallets to hit wooden balls through wire arches called “wickets.” The object of the game is to hit posts placed at each end of the field. Competitive croquet is played on a manicured field. Players use forceful strategies to plan their hits carefully so that they can pass through wickets, whack their opponents’ balls off the field, and (most important) hit the end posts. One might liken competitive croquet to a large-scale chess game.

Today croquet is played competitively in leagues and clubs all over the United States. Some college teams play against other colleges. The United States Naval Academy and St. John’s College of Annapolis compete fiercely.

14 Read this sentence from the passage.

You and your friends or family casually and haphazardly took turns hitting those colored balls all over the lawn with those striped mallets.

What does the word haphazardly mean?

A methodically
B forcefully
C irregularly
D carefully

15 Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea of paragraph 3?

A a step-by-step guide on the rules of croquet
B a recent news article about a spirited game of croquet
C a journal entry about a famous croquet player
D a chart that tallies the best scores in croquet history
16 Which sentence best serves as a summary to be added at the end of the report?

A Croquet can be a casual picnic diversion or a competitive, cutthroat sport.

B Friends and family members can play croquet even if they don’t know the rules of the game.

C Players of competitive croquet need to use long wooden mallets, wooden balls, wire arches, and a manicured field.

D One must realize that speed and strategy are needed in a competitive croquet game especially in the United States.

17 The author supports the argument that croquet is a competitive game by stating that

A there are current debates on the rules in playing competitive croquet.

B friends and family members casually take turns hitting colored balls.

C croquet is played in leagues, clubs, and colleges in the United States.

D playing croquet requires balls and mallets, wickets, and a manicured field.

18 This passage is mainly about

A the development of competitive croquet.

B the history of croquet in France.

C the author’s love of croquet.

D the rules of croquet.

19 Read this sentence from the passage.

Perhaps someone has pulled out an old croquet set at a party and set it up crookedly on the lawn.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of this sentence?

A something has

B no one has

C someone have

D Leave as is.
You Are Old, Father William

*From Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*

by Lewis Carroll

“You are old, Father William,” the young man said,
   “And your hair has become very white;
And yet you incessantly stand on your head—
   Do you think, at your age, it is right?”

“In my youth,” Father William replied to his son,
   “I feared it might injure the brain;
But, now that I’m perfectly sure I have none,
   Why, I do it again and again.”

“You are old,” said the youth, “as I mentioned before,
   And have grown most uncommonly fat;
Yet you turned a back-somersault in at the door—
   Pray, what is the reason of that?”

“In my youth,” said the sage, as he shook his grey locks,
   “I kept all my limbs very supple
By the use of this ointment—one shilling the box—
   Allow me to sell you a couple?”

“You are old,” said the youth, “and your jaws are too weak
   For anything tougher than suet;
Yet you finished the goose, with the bones and the beak—
   Pray how did you manage to do it?”

“In my youth,” said his father, “I took to the law,
   And argued each case with my wife;
And the muscular strength, which it gave to my jaw,
   Has lasted the rest of my life.”

“You are old,” said the youth, “one would hardly suppose
   That your eye was as steady as ever;
Yet you balanced an eel on the end of your nose—
   What made you so awfully clever?”

“I have answered three questions, and that is enough,”
   Said his father; “don’t give yourself airs!
Do you think I can listen all day to such stuff?
   Be off, or I’ll kick you down stairs!”
20 Read these lines from the poem.

“In my youth,” said his father,
“I took to the law,/And argued each case with my wife;/And the muscular strength, which it gave to my jaw,/Has lasted the rest of my life.”

These lines suggest that Father William and his wife
A  have a lot in common.
B  have a lot of arguments.
C  have a loving relationship.
D  have very strong jaws.

21 Read line 27 from the poem.

Yet you balanced an eel on the end of your nose—

The image in this line makes Father William appear
A  silly.
B  smart.
C  witty.
D  curious.

22 In line 18, suet most likely refers to
A  a very old food.
B  a very hard food.
C  a very soft food.
D  a very tasty food.
Sarah and the Ship Called **Libri**

At 22, Sarah Smith had never boarded a ship before. She used to live in a small town far from the ocean. When the *Libri* docked at a port near her university, her uncle brought her to the ship. The *Libri* was a ship that would bring books to all parts of the world, and Sarah was amazed to see a huge ship so full of books. As she walked aboard the ship, it was like stepping into a different world. Sarah took one of the brochures that a member of the ship’s crew handed to her.

As Sarah browsed through the brochure, she learned that the ship needed volunteers to work on board. Her uncle encouraged her to try it out. She submitted an application form with some personal information. After filing her application, Sarah waited for two weeks before a call came, asking her to take a written test.

“The test put a lot of pressure on me. I wanted so much to become a *Libri* crew member. I wanted to travel the world and read,” Sarah later recalled.

When she passed the test, the *Libri*’s chief librarian interviewed her. He asked her about her commitment and her work ethic. Sarah felt that she aced the interview and waited expectantly for the call.

Another two weeks passed, and Sarah was accepted as a library staff member. She donned the red-and-white uniform of the *Libri*. Now she could be with the books that she loved, travel to different countries, and make lots of friends.

“I am off to a whole new adventure. I’ve never traveled on a ship before,” the beaming Sarah said as she boarded the gleaming white ship. “I can’t believe I’ll be living here for three years.”

Sarah waved at the crowd that gathered in the dock, and she and the ship called *Libri* sailed off to its next port.
JOIN THE LIBRI

Do you like books? Do you love to travel? Do you want to meet lots of new friends?

Then join us as a Libri library staff member.

Complete this pre-application form, submit it to the chief librarian, and we will contact you if you have what it takes to be a Libri librarian. You will also need to take a written test and interview with us before you can join our crew.

I want to be a Libri librarian.

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________ State: _____________ ZIP____________________

Phone: ______________________________________________________________

E-mail Address: _______________________________________________________________

Mail the above form to

Libri Secretariat

378 Main Street

Bellflower, CA 90034
23 The passage in Document A would most likely be found in a
A travel magazine.
B newspaper on the front page.
C brochure of a shipping company.
D textbook about geography.

24 Which sentence is the best summary of the story in Document A?
A Sarah sailed around the world for three years.
B Sarah had never been on a boat until the day she visited the Libri.
C Sarah had to take a written test in order to apply for a position on the Libri.
D Sarah applied to be a member of the staff of the Libri and was accepted.

25 If you want to work in the library of the Libri, which of the following should you do first, based on the information in Document B?
A schedule an interview with the librarian
B read many books from the ship’s library
C take a written examination
D submit a pre-application form
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
Raul detests country music, so he groans loudly if he hears it.

What does the word *detests* mean?
A. plays  
B. hates  
C. enjoys  
D. writes

2. Read this sentence.
While we were ________ to school, we got a flat tire.

Which French phrase correctly fits in the sentence?
A. déjà vu  
B. en route  
C. à la carte  
D. laissez faire

3. Which of the following is most likely to be *injurious*?
A. a race  
B. a discussion  
C. a car crash  
D. a long bus trip

4. Read this sentence.
Sapna wasn’t at all nervous; she actually felt perfectly *serene*.

What does the word *serene* mean?
A. calm  
B. anxious  
C. foolish  
D. uncomfortable

5. Read this sentence.
While shopping for apparel, Chad bought shirts, pants, and a jacket.

What does the word *apparel* mean?
A. books  
B. videos  
C. clothes  
D. groceries

6. Read this sentence.
The blare of his laughter sounded like a stuck car horn.

What does the word *blare* mean?
A. a soft sound  
B. a cheerful sound  
C. a short, sharp sound  
D. a loud, annoying sound
On your paper, write the numbers 7–20. Next to each number, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

Selection Vocabulary

7. uncomfortable humidity
   A. damp air  C. bitter cold
   B. strong storms  D. heavy rain

8. someone from the squad
   A. crowd  C. team
   B. office  D. competition

9. hostile surroundings
   A. pretty  C. uncomfortable
   B. unfriendly  D. unfamiliar

10. the box’s interior
    A. surface  C. bottom
    B. insides  D. markings

11. feeling forlorn
    A. sad  C. angry
    B. powerful  D. sleepy

12. soggy newspapers
    A. wet  C. old
    B. dusty  D. daily

13. speaking dejectedly
    A. slowly  C. sadly
    B. joyfully  D. bravely

14. due to her ordeals
    A. memories  C. friendships
    B. enemies  D. difficulties

15. the shrewdest man
    A. oldest  C. funniest
    B. richest  D. cleverest

16. a strange theory
    A. idea  C. puzzle
    B. experiment  D. promise

Academic Vocabulary

17. such global problems
    A. sad  C. ancient
    B. difficult  D. worldwide

18. when they obtained it
    A. got  C. changed
    B. saw  D. damaged

19. sustaining their friendship
    A. harming  C. changing
    B. affecting  D. preserving

20. to have similarities
    A. feelings  C. difficulties
    B. likenesses  D. reasons
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Our garden is going to be super, with row after row of letuce, corn, cabbage, and carrots.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A super  C cabbage
   B letuce  D carrots

2. Read this sentence.
   Learning good maners will allow you to feel relaxed, whether you happen to eat at an inexpensive diner or at a fancy restaurant.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A maners  C happen
   B allow  D diner

3. Read this sentence.
   A poisonous spider's bite can be more dangerous than a tiger's, but I supose it's better to avoid both!
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A spider's  C supose
   B tiger's  D better

4. Read this sentence.
   While he was climbing a lader to hammer in a loose board, Jack took a sudden fall and got a minor injury.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A lader  C sudden
   B hammer  D minor

5. Read this sentence.
   You shouldn't get tired just from sewing a button on a cotton shirt because it isn't very dificult.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A tired  C cotton
   B button  D dificult

6. Read this sentence.
   Last summer while I was picking berries, I was biten by about a million mosquitoes.
   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A summer  C biten
   B berries  D million
7 Read this sentence.

If your work is sloppy and has many errors, you may get some negative comments on your paper.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A sloppy C comments
B errors D paper

8 Read this sentence.

It seemed that everyone who lived in the valley was growing pretty yellow tullips.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A valley C yellow
B pretty D tullips

9 Read this sentence.

A nice fellow got our frightened kiten from the top of the willow tree down to the bottom.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A fellow C willow
B kiten D bottom

10 Read this sentence.

Almost all human beings have moments when they act silly, but those times shouldn’t be too common!

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A human C silly
B moments D common
Dear Mark,

(1) You have to go white water rafting on the Colorado River! (2) I went with my family and a bunch of other tourists last week. (3) We were on the river for six days—take a look at the pictures on my web site.

(4) We started out at the Grand Canyon Lodge on the south rim of the canyon. (5) We had to gather in front of the lodge at 5:30 in the morning. (6) When the sun came up over the canyon, it was a really cool sight. (7) We hiked down into the canyon on Bright Angel Trail. (8) They say the trail was named after an old prospector’s donkey. (9) The trail is crowded in summer because there are so many people in the park. (10) My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife. (11) We saw three wild donkeys. (12) It made my sister really happy.

(13) The head guide gave us a safety talk about what to do if we fell out of the raft. (14) Everybody were told to keep their life jackets on all the time we were on the river. (15) Then they put six people in each raft, and we started rafting the Colorado. (16) Right away we’re in a major rapid! (17) The waves almost knocked me out of the boat. (18) I managed to hang on. (19) Then waves hit us from the side and swamped the raft. (20) We had to bail water like crazy. (21) After only a minute—which seemed a lot longer—we were out of the rapids.

(22) We drifted down the river for a couple of hours until we stopped for lunch. (23) The sun was really hot—it must have hit 110 degrees in the shade! (24) Afterwards, the food boxes and a stove was loaded back onto the supplies raft. (25) The guide told us we had to go through Haystack and Crystal Rapids to get to Black tail canyon and havasupai falls. (26) Those two rapids nearly capsized the raft!

(27) All the way down the river, you could see layers of stone in the canyon walls. (28) The guide said the bottom stone is really old. (29) We ended the trip at Whitmore Wash, where a helicopter flew us to ghost ranch south of Las vegas. (30) It was the best trip I’ve ever had!

Your friend,
Brian
1. In sentence 6 of the letter, what is a better way to write “it was a really cool sight”?
   A. the light turned the canyon walls gold.
   B. we could see really far across the canyon.
   C. you could see it was going to be a hot day.
   D. there were a lot of shadows in the canyon.

2. Read this sentence from the letter.
   (8) They say the trail was named after an old prospector’s donkey.

   This sentence offers support by
   A. describing sights on the trail
   B. comparing the trail to something else
   C. giving a history of the trail
   D. explaining the name of the trail

3. Read these sentences from the letter.
   (10) My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife. (11) We saw three wild donkeys. (12) It made my sister really happy.

   Which is the best way to rewrite the sentences to form a compound-complex sentence?
   A. My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife, we saw three wild donkeys; which made my sister really happy.
   B. My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife; however, we saw three wild donkeys, which made my sister really happy.
   C. My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife, and we saw three wild donkeys, which made my sister really happy.
   D. My dad didn’t think we’d see any wildlife but we saw three wild donkeys which made my sister really happy.

4. Which sentence provides the best transition from paragraph 2 to paragraph 3?
   A. The walk down the trail was over 10 miles long and really narrow all the way to the bottom.
   B. When we reached the bottom of the canyon, the outfitter guides were waiting for us with the rafts.
   C. People riding mules passed us on the trail, which meant they made it to the bottom a lot faster.
   D. As we walked down the trail, we could see other rafters floating on the river far below us.
5. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 14?
   A. Everybody have been told to keep
   B. Everybody is told to keep
   C. Everybody are told to keep
   D. Everybody was told to keep

6. Read these sentences from the letter.
   (17) The waves almost knocked me out of the boat. (18) I managed to hang on.

   Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
   A. until
   B. because
   C. but
   D. and

7. Read this sentence from the letter.
   (24) Afterwards, the food boxes and a stove was loaded back onto the supplies raft.

   What is the correct way to revise the underlined part of the sentence?
   A. the food boxes and a stove were loaded
   B. the food boxes and a stove are loaded
   C. the food boxes and a stove is being loaded
   D. the food boxes and a stove are being loaded

8. What is the correct way to capitalize these words from sentence 25?
   A. Black tail canyon and Havasupai Falls
   B. Black Tail canyon and Havasupai falls
   C. Black Tail Canyon and Havasupai Falls
   D. black tail canyon and Havasupai Falls

9. Which of the following revisions would make sentence 28 more informative?
   A. The guide said the bottom stone is darker than the layers above it.
   B. The guide said the bottom stone is different from the stone near the canyon rim.
   C. The guide said the bottom stone is over one billion years old.
   D. The guide said the bottom stone is a lot harder than the top layers.

10. Read the sentence from the letter.
    (29) We ended the trip at Whitmore Wash, where a helicopter flew us to ghost ranch south of Las vegas.

    What is the correct way to capitalize the underlined words in the sentence?
    A. ghost ranch south of Las Vegas
    B. Ghost Ranch south of Las Vegas
    C. ghost Ranch south of Las Vegas
    D. Ghost Ranch south of Las Vegas
The following is a rough draft of a student’s report. It contains errors.

Secretariat: 20th-Century Super-horse

(1) The list of the 35 greatest athletes of the 20th century includes a horse named Secretariat. (2) He was as famous in the 1970s as Brett Favre or Shaquille O’Neal are today. (3) This thoroughbred racer was very fast. (4) Also, he was one of a handful of horses that captured racing’s Triple Crown. (5) To do this, he had to win three races in two months: the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness, and the Belmont Stakes. (6) It was the way he won these races that earned him a place on the list of greatest athletes.

(7) The story of Secretariat began at meadow stables in doswell, virginia, where he was born in 1970. (8) People nicknamed him “Big Red” for his size and his bright reddish coat. (9) He won even as a two-year-old most of his races. (10) By 1973, people were talking about Secretariat as “the next Triple Crown horse.” (11) Big Red didn’t disappoint them. (12) In the 1973 Kentucky Derby, he came from last place to win the race. (13) He won the Preakness in Pimlico, Maryland. (14) Thousands of people came to watch the final race at Belmont Park, and millions more tuned in the race on TV.

(15) Only five horses ended up in the race for the Triple Crown. (16) The bell rang. (17) They charged out of the gate. (18) They raced down the track in a tight bunch. (19) The other horses and Secretariat was halfway around the track when Big Red made his move. (20) Like a powerful running machine, Secretariat pulled away from the other horses until he was 20 feet, then 30 feet, then 40 feet ahead. (21) The screaming crowd watched in disbelief as Secretariat kept running faster and faster. (22) When he crossed the finish line, Secretariat was 256 feet in front of the nearest horse—almost the length of a football field. (23) He had won the Triple Crown by the greatest margin in the history of racing and set a track record that still stands.

(24) Secretariat retired from racing the next year. (25) After he died in 1989, scientists examined him. (26) To their surprise, they found that his heart was twice as large as a normal horse’s heart. (27) This could explain how he could run so fast in so many races. (28) No other horse has come close to doing the same things that Big Red did.
11 Which of the following revisions would make sentence 3 more informative?
A. No one had seen anything like this thoroughbred racer.
B. This thoroughbred racer set speed records that still stand.
C. This thoroughbred racer could run like the wind.
D. This thoroughbred racer was a blur on the track.

12 What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 7?
A. began at meadow stables in doswell, Virginia,
B. began at Meadow Stables in Doswell, Virginia,
C. began at Meadow stables in Doswell, Virginia,
D. began at Meadow Stables in doswell, Virginia,

13 Read this sentence from the report.
(9) He won even as a two-year-old most of his races.

Which is the best way to revise this sentence?
A. Even most of his races he won as a two-year-old.
B. As a two-year-old he even won most of his races.
C. Even as a two-year-old, he won most of his races.
D. Most of his races even he won as a two-year-old.

14 Read the following sentence.
He would be the first horse since 1948 to capture that title.

The best place to add this detail is
A. after sentence 2
B. after sentence 6
C. after sentence 10
D. after sentence 19

15 The best way to show the transition between sentences 12 and 13 is to add which words to the beginning of sentence 13?
A. Finally,
B. Two weeks later,
C. Two years later,
D. And then,

16 Which sentence could the student best add at the beginning of the third paragraph of her report?
A. The tension around the race was so high that several owners decided not to enter their horses.
B. All the horses came from the same bloodlines that could be traced back to only three stallions.
C. Sportscasters interviewed jockeys and trainers to find out how much money they would make.
D. The weather for all three races didn’t have much effect on how fast the horses could run.
17. Read these sentences from the report.

(16) The bell rang. (17) They charged out of the gate. (18) They raced down the track in a tight bunch.

What is best way to join these sentences into one sentence?

A. The bell rang, they charged out of the gate and they raced down the track in a tight bunch.
B. The bell rang and they charged out of the gate; they raced down the track in a tight bunch.
C. When the bell rang, they charged out and out of the gate raced down the track in a tight bunch.
D. When the bell rang, they charged out of the gate and raced down the track in a tight bunch.

18. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 19?

A. The other horses and Secretariat are halfway
B. The other horses and Secretariat had been halfway
C. The other horses and Secretariat were halfway
D. The other horses and Secretariat will be halfway

19. Read this sentence from the report.

(22) When he crossed the finish line, Secretariat was 256 feet in front of the nearest horse—almost the length of a football field.

The underlined words offer supporting details because they

A. help the reader to imagine the distance.
B. provide metric measurement for the distance.
C. compare football to horse racing.
D. let the reader figure out the distance.

20. Which sentence best serves as a summary to be added at the end of the report?

A. People would have been even more impressed had they known about Secretariat's unusual heart.
B. Secretariat can't be called the greatest racehorse of all time because he raced only three years.
C. After his amazing feats, Secretariat truly deserves to be called one of the 20th-century's greatest athletes.
D. Secretariat had an unusual combination of power and speed that made him a "running machine."
Unit 3/Semester Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
Writing Applications
The following items are not based on a passage. Read and answer each question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Determined, the group of hikers forged ahead despite the thick undergrowth and reached the campsite by nightfall.

   Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word can best be used to replace the underlined part?
   A  slowed down
   B  pushed on
   C  faked
   D  duplicated

2. Read the following sentences.
   Juan walked along the curb, shuffling his feet through puddles as he walked. It was a rainy Saturday afternoon, and he was terribly bored. Ever since his best friend, Rhonda, moved away last summer, Juan had been very lonely. Juan knew that Rhonda would be visiting him on Monday, but even so, it was hard to wait.

   Information in the paragraph supports the idea that Rhonda is
   A  a lonely person like Juan.
   B  a person Juan thinks is boring.
   C  a person Juan met for the first time.
   D  an important person to Juan.
3 Read this sentence.

Our school principle, Mr. Emerson, is a very intelligent man.

What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
A principal
B prinsipal
C principel
D Leave as is.

4 Read this sentence.

It doesn’t matter what anyone say to me, I’m determined to live my dream.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?
A what any one say
B what anyone says
C what any one says
D Leave as is.
Many Worlds Ago

Shona stopped picking berries and pushed her sweat-dampened dark hair back from her face. Her hands were stained red with berry juice. It was hot, and the sun was burning through the humid air. “There must be a better way,” she thought sadly. “We spend all our days here searching for food, and soon we’ll have to move on again before the big snows come. We are like the elk, always moving.”

She ambled to the lake to splash water on her face. The water droplets that fell back to the surface of the lake caught her attention and showed her a blurry image. She bent down and looked at the girl on the surface of the water who looked back at her and moved as she did. That was when she realized that what she was seeing was her reflection! If only she could see it clearly, she contemplated. She moved to touch the glassy surface, making the water create circles beneath her fingertips. If she was good-looking, she would never know, for there were no mirrors in Shona’s world. She lived long before civilization began, many worlds ago.

Shona sighed, straightened, and began to stride away from the water. The world was stunning, she would agree, but life was difficult, and she wanted so much more. She wanted an easier life, wanted to have an actual house that they didn’t have to pack every time the snows came, wanted to be able to enjoy her time without having to search or hunt for food. She wanted to stay right here and not travel the harsh lands, wanted to be near the lake where she could always see the water, and where she could always check her reflection on its clear glass surface.

She started to walk wearily back to the camp, dragging her bruised and dirty bare toes along the ground. Suddenly, she felt something small and oblong beneath her foot and before she realized what she was doing, she bent down to pick it up and then studied it curiously. She had seen others like it, in the heads of the sun-plant flowers or scattered on the vibrant green grass. She had tried tasting them once, and they were pleasantly sweet and good to eat. This one looked different, though. It had hair-like roots and a little green sprout that was pushing its way from beneath the skin that had started to peel back.

Shona stared at it, deep in thought. “Hmmm,” she thought, “If you cover the sprouts with a little dirt, would they grow to be a sun plant? And if you put more of these little sprouting things in the ground, would the ground be filled with sun plants?” If so, then the clan would have food available all the time! They’d never run out of food as long as the plants would continue to live, her mind raced on. If other plants made little sprouting things, the clan could grow all kinds of food and they could stay in one place even when the strong snowstorms arrived!

Shona sprinted back to camp, in a hurry to tell the others what she had discovered. That marked the beginning of a new way of life for the clan.
5. We can tell that this passage is an example of a short story because
   A. it teaches a lesson in a few words.
   B. it leaves the conflict unresolved.
   C. it has a simple plot that was resolved by the end.
   D. it describes events that happened in the past.

6. The author makes the events of the passage seem more realistic by
   A. making Shona a dark-haired person.
   B. setting the story in a long-ago time period and a far-off place.
   C. using sensory details to describe the taste of the berries and the heat of the sun.
   D. comparing the movement of Shona's tribe to the movement of elks.

7. Shona is able to help her clan by
   A. finding the little sprouting things on the grass.
   B. coming up with the idea of planting seeds.
   C. wanting something more than searching for food.
   D. being dissatisfied with the kind of life the clan is leading.

8. Which of these is the best summary of the passage?
   A. Shona changed her clan’s difficult way of life by discovering a way to plant food.
   B. Shona wanted to live a better life that would let her stay in one place.
   C. The clans of long ago wandered around so they could find food.
   D. The clans of long ago lived very hard lives, which is why Shona wanted change.

9. The story’s setting helped in the resolution of the conflict by
   A. giving Shona a way to improve her clan’s life.
   B. forcing Shona and her clan to move every winter.
   C. making Shona feel discontented with her life.
   D. showing Shona her reflection in the pool of water.
The following passage is a rough draft of a student’s report and may contain errors.

The Three Bears of North America

1  Have you ever looked at the Big Dipper and Little Dipper in the night sky? They are also known by their Latin names, Ursa Major and Ursa Minor, which mean “Big Bear” and “Little Bear.” Bears have long captured the interest of humans, and real live bears are as fascinating as the constellations they inspire. As far as we know, there are three main types of bears that live in North America. They are the black bear (*Ursus americanus*), the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), and the polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*).

2  In a way, black bears are misnamed. Sometimes they are black, but they may also be brown, cinnamon, pale blue, or almost white. *Ursus americanus* is the most widespread type of the North American bears. It is also the smallest. Black bears may weigh from 175 to 650 pounds. Like all bears, black bears are omnivores, meaning they eat everything from insects to roots and berries to meat.

3  Brown bears have a large hump on their shoulders. These powerful muscles help them dig for insects and roots. Brown bears can weigh almost 1,000 pounds. One type of brown bear in the United States is the grizzly bear, or the *Ursus arctos horribilis*. The grizzly bear is found around the Rocky Mountains. Its fur, though brown, is blond or silver at the tips.

4  Polar bears get their interesting Latin name, *Ursus maritimus*, which means “sea bear,” because they spend so much of their time swimming or on sea ice in the Arctic. Polar bears are the largest of all bears, weighing as much as 1,600 pounds. These white animals are also the most carnivorous of all bears, and their diet is almost entirely made up of seals.
10 Which sentence could best be added to the end of the first paragraph of the passage?
A These bears are very beautiful.
B The word ursus means “bear” in Latin.
C There are probably more bears somewhere else.
D These three bears are very different from each other.

11 The information in this passage would most likely be found
A on the front page of a newspaper.
B in an online encyclopedia entry.
C in an astronomy textbook.
D in a hiking magazine.

12 Read this sentence from the passage.

Ursus americanus is the most widespread type of the North American bears.

This statement would be made stronger by adding which of these sentences?
A It usually lives all over the United States.
B It roams up and down the United States.

13 Which of these is the best summary of the passage?
A The three types of North American bears are different in more ways than the color of their fur.
B The three types of North American bears have interesting Latin names, such as Ursus Americanus.
C The black, brown, and polar bears are all omnivores that eat everything.
D All bears weigh from 175 pounds to more than 1,000 pounds.

14 Which of these sentences could best be added as a conclusion at the end of the passage?
A These three types of bears call North America their home.
B Truly, North America has varied species of bears that are very interesting.
C Next time you look at the sky, think of how these constellations got their names.
D Out of all the bears, the polar bear is the heaviest and most dangerous.
The following passage is a rough draft of a student’s report and may contain errors.

Eye of the Storm

1. The expression “flying through the eye of a storm” is another way of saying “looking for trouble.” Yet there are people who actually do fly into the eye of a storm. The eye in this case is the center of a hurricane, and those who do the flying are called hurricane hunters.

2. Why would anyone do such a thing? Believe it or not, they’re looking for information that will help scientists and weather forecasters. Many of the pilots and crews of these planes are members of the military, such as the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Others may work for government agencies. Some crews are made up of scientists from universities and other organizations.

3. You probably know that some satellites in space send weather information to Earth. But even the best satellites can’t gather all the data that forecasters need. The forecasters have to be able to predict where and when a hurricane will hit and how strong it will be. And what better way to learn more about how these deadly storms actually work than to fly into them?

4. Someday there might be better, easier, and safer ways. But for now, the daring researchers head right into the storms. They follow a storm for hundreds of miles to measure wind speed, air pressure, and temperature. They look for signs that a storm is getting stronger, such as a drop in air pressure.

5. Over the years, a few planes have gone down, but most crews have survived. Thousands on land have survived as well, all because of the information these brave hurricane hunters gathered.
15 **Read this sentence.**

Many of the pilots and crews of these planes are members of the military, such as the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

**This sentence offers support by**

A  providing an example of the subject.
B  defining the subject.
C  comparing the subject to something else.
D  giving a background on the subject.

16 **Which statement from the passage best shows that hurricane hunting is an important job?**

A  Yet there are people who actually do fly into the eye of a storm.
B  You probably know that some satellites in space send weather information to Earth.
C  But for now, the daring researchers head right into the storms.
D  Thousands on land have survived as well, all because of the information these brave hurricane hunters gathered.

17 **The ideas in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the passage are arranged by**

A  topic.
B  order of importance.
C  time order.
D  comparison and contrast.

18 **Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea in paragraph 5?**

A  an editorial that argues that the hurricane hunters’ lives should not be put at risk
B  a journal article that compiles the data that the hurricane hunters have collected throughout the years
C  a news article about a town that survived a hurricane because of information gathered by the hurricane hunters
D  a feature article that describes the regular day of a hurricane hunter
The Land of Counterpane  

By Robert Louis Stevenson

1  When I was sick and lay a-bed,  
   I had two pillows at my head,  
   And all my toys beside me lay,  
   To keep me happy all the day.

5  And sometimes for an hour or so  
   I watched my leaden soldiers go,  
   With different uniforms and drills,  
   Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

   And sometimes sent my ships in fleets  
   All up and down among the sheets;  
   Or brought my trees and houses out,  
   And planted cities all about.

10  I was the giant great and still  
    That sits upon the pillow-hill,  
    And sees before him, dale and plain,  
    The pleasant land of counterpane.
19. The poet shows that the speaker is a child by
   A. setting the poem in a bedroom.
   B. making the speaker sick and bedridden.
   C. surrounding the speaker with toys.
   D. showing that the speaker is happy.

20. Which statement best expresses the poem’s theme?
   A. Time is important.
   B. Sickness can be overcome.
   C. Patience is needed in crisis.
   D. Imagination is limitless.

21. Which pair of words from the poem suggests that the speaker is using his or her imagination?
   A. land, counterpane
   B. day, hour
   C. pillows, sheets
   D. sick, bed

22. Which of these lines contains a metaphor?
   A. I was the giant great and still
   B. And all my toys beside me lay,
   C. I watched my leaden soldiers go,
   D. Or brought my trees and houses out.
Bessie Coleman Finds the Sky

1. It’s hard to believe today, but 100 years ago the only people who flew airplanes were daredevils and entertainers. In 1903 Orville and Wilbur Wright became the first people to fly. For the next decade, flying was just a sport. Very few people took it seriously. But the daredevils who wanted to fly were very serious. In fact, they were so serious that they sometimes gave up their lives trying.

2. One of these brave pilots was Bessie Coleman, the first African American woman pilot.

3. It wasn’t easy for anyone to learn to fly, but Coleman had to beat nearly impossible odds. She was born in Texas in 1892. The Wright brothers’ success captured her imagination. At 23, she moved to Chicago to go to beauty school. Bessie never lost her interest in flight. But no flying school in the United States would teach a woman.

4. She heard that in Europe her race and gender would not be the barriers they were in the United States. She took language lessons. She went to France in November 1919. In two years, she was a licensed pilot.

5. Bessie returned to the United States in 1922. She performed at countless air shows over the next five years. She did amazing flying stunts for audiences: fast rolls, slow rolls, loops, tailspins, “wing walks,” and upside-down flights. She gave lectures and began teaching other African American women to fly.

6. Audiences came to air shows to watch the stunts. Sometimes, they saw accidents. Coleman’s career ended when she was thrown from her plane. It was during a test flight in 1926. Bessie Coleman’s example has not been forgotten. She continues to inspire young people to reach for their dreams.
23 This passage would most likely be found
A in an airline safety guide.
B on the front page of a newspaper.
C in a magazine for pilots.
D in a pilot training manual.

24 Read the following sentences from paragraph 4.
She took language lessons. She went to France in November 1919.
Which word could best be used as a transition to join these sentences?
A instead
B however
C therefore
D then

25 Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea in paragraph 1?
A an editorial about airplanes
B a book on the history of flight
C a magazine about daredevils
D an article about the Wright brothers
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Frank hoped his mom wouldn’t raise the question of why he hadn’t cleaned his room.
   In this sentence, the word raise means
   A. lift.
   B. increase.
   C. bring up.
   D. construct.

2. Read this sentence.
   My great-grandfather saved his money for years to pay for his passage to the United States.
   In this sentence, the word passage means
   A. hall.
   B. journey.
   C. way through.
   D. piece of writing.

3. Read this sentence.
   Sometimes Marcy would tether her dog by attaching his leash to a lamp post or bike rack while she briefly went into a store.
   What does the word tether mean?
   A. tie up
   B. abandon
   C. command
   D. accompany

4. Considering how word parts function reveals that an uneventful day is one during which
   A. company arrives.
   B. a surprise occurs.
   C. nothing happens.
   D. the weather is stormy.

5. Read this sentence.
   Jody complained for hours about the raw deal he got.
   Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word or words can best be used to replace the underlined word?
   A. natural
   B. unfair
   C. immature
   D. cold and damp

6. Read this sentence.
   Instead of hurrying forward to meet Ramon, Lily evaded him by ducking around the corner and rushing away.
   What does the word evaded mean?
   A. avoided
   B. greeted
   C. surprised
   D. signaled
On your paper, write the numbers 7–20. Next to each number, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

**Selection Vocabulary**

7. **flawless dancing**
   - A. outdoor
   - B. perfect
   - C. solo
   - D. formal

8. **to lavishly provide**
   - A. quickly
   - B. politely
   - C. cheerfully
   - D. plentifully

9. **just the boost we needed**
   - A. tool
   - B. assistance
   - C. advice
   - D. compliment

10. **this inadequate score**
    - A. high
    - B. last
    - C. wonderful
    - D. unsatisfactory

11. **the obscure rock band**
    - A. very loud
    - B. famous
    - C. little known
    - D. all-female

12. **coping with small children**
    - A. talking
    - B. dealing
    - C. playing
    - D. assisting

13. **precisely five minutes**
    - A. about
    - B. less than
    - C. exactly
    - D. more than

14. **amid the trees**
    - A. among
    - B. above
    - C. near
    - D. beneath

15. **due to her obstinacy**
    - A. humor
    - B. failure
    - C. stubbornness
    - D. intelligence

16. **a new superintendent**
    - A. lifeguard
    - B. army officer
    - C. teacher
    - D. manager
Academic Vocabulary

17. several **significant** questions
   A. small
   B. secret
   C. humorous
   D. important

18. the **consumption** of gasoline
   A. use
   B. waste
   C. price
   D. shortage

19. a new **instructor**
   A. rule
   B. booklet
   C. teacher
   D. assistant

20. an activity that is **mental**
   A. difficult
   B. necessary
   C. dangerous
   D. in the mind
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   The story is about a wise king who has achieved great things but whose reign is threatened by a fierce enemy who deceives him.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. achieved  C. fierce
   B. reign  D. deceives

2. Read this sentence.
   “I believe the weight of that bathtub might cause it to crash through the downstairs ceiling,” said the chief plumber.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. believe  C. ceiling
   B. weight  D. chief

3. Read this sentence.
   I was relieved to find a nice beige jacket for my friend, but I kept the receipt in case she needs a different size.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. relieved  C. friend
   B. biege  D. receipt

4. Read this sentence.
   It is easier to behave bravly when there are no dangers or enemies around than it is when life is horribly scary.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. easier  C. enemies
   B. bravly  D. horribly

5. Read this sentence.
   All the tourists looked in amazement at the extremely beautiful mountains and valleys.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. amazement  C. beautiful
   B. extremely  D. valleys

6. Read this sentence.
   Tonight, the chilliest night in years, the mayor gave a statement relating to the icyness of the roads and the need for careful driving.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. chilliest  C. relating
   B. statement  D. icyness

Grade 6 Spelling Unit 3 Test
7 Read this sentence.

The beginning of Mark’s e-mail was upsetting to Jenna, but when she focused her attention, she could tell he was kidding.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A  beginning  C  focused
B  upsetting  D  kidding

8 Read this sentence.

George regretted speaking angrily and not politely, and he asked Tim to forgive his behavior.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A  regretted  C  politely
B  angrily  D  behavior

9 Read this sentence.

If you treat a dog gently, it will be a good companion, and you can have many hours of happiness while playing with it.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A  gently  C  happiness
B  companion  D  playing

10 Read this sentence.

The loud children ruined Angie’s enjoyment of the peaceful afternoon, and she was furious that no one controlled them.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A  enjoyment  C  furious
B  peaceful  D  controlled
The following is a rough draft of Alana’s essay, which contains errors.

Nine Months of School or Year-Round School?

1. Suppose someone gave you the following choice. You could go to school for nine months and get three months off. Or you could go to school all year around and have more breaks during the year. Which schedule would you choose? Before you make up your mind, it’s good to look at each one. There is good and bad points about both schedules.

2. The nine-month schedule is good for several reasons. Everyone is in class at the same time and has the same holidays. It’s easier for families to schedule vacations. Over summer, students get some time. They can go to camp, take summer classes, join sports clubs, and play on their own.

3. Students in year-round schools are divided into four groups, called tracks. Each track has its own calendar of two months in school and three weeks off. This means not all students are crowded into school at the same time. Classes are smaller, which allows teachers to give kids more help.

4. However, both types of schedules have problems. Students forget over the summer a lot in the nine-month schedule. Our math teacher, Mr. Darcy, spent all September reviewing fifth grade math. Also, classes can be crowded, and students often don’t get enough help. In the year-round schedule, brothers and sisters could be in different tracks as a result getting family time together would be hard. Students have no summer break to do other activities away from school.

5. It’s a mistake to think one type of schedule is all good and the other one is all bad. Both schedules have good points and problems.
1. Read this sentence from paragraph 1.

There is good and bad points about both schedules.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?

A. There were good and bad points
B. There was good and bad points
C. There are good and bad points
D. There have been good and bad points

2. Read this sentence from paragraph 2.

Over summer, students get some time.

What is a better way to write the underlined part of the sentence?

A. students get a long break
B. students get three months vacation
C. students get some weeks off
D. students get time away from school

3. Which type of organizational pattern is used in the essay?

A. comparison and contrast
B. spatial order
C. organization by categories
D. order of importance

4. Which sentence could best be added to the beginning of the third paragraph?

A. The nine-month schedule has been the main schedule for a long time.
B. Look at how many schools have been changing to year-around schedules.
C. The nine-month schedule and the year-around schedule aren't that different.
D. The year-round schedule may sound bad, but it helps students in crowded schools.

5. Read this sentence from paragraph 4.

Students forget over the summer a lot in the nine-month schedule.

How can this sentence best be revised to present the ideas in the correct order?

A. Over the summer, students forget in the nine-month schedule a lot.
B. Students, over the summer, in the nine-month schedule forget a lot.
C. Students forget a lot in the nine-month schedule over the summer.
D. In the nine-month schedule, students forget a lot over the summer.
6. What is the correct way to write the underlined words in paragraph 4?  
   A. tracks, as a result getting  
   B. tracks as a result, getting  
   C. tracks; as a result, getting  
   D. tracks, as a result, getting

7. Read this sentence from paragraph 4.  
   Our math teacher, Mr. Darcy, spent all September reviewing fifth grade math.
   This sentence offers support by  
   A. comparing the subject to something else.  
   B. giving an example that illustrates Alana’s point.  
   C. explaining the subject in more detail.  
   D. beginning a story about Alana’s math teacher.

8. Which sentence would make the best concluding statement for Alana’s essay?  
   A. The best schedule is one that helps students learn what they need to know at each grade.  
   B. If I had a choice, I would choose the year-round schedule because I like having more breaks.  
   C. More and more schools in our state are switching to the year-round schedule.  
   D. Many parents like the nine-month schedule because it’s easier to plan family vacations.

The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

9. In which sentence is all the capitalization correct?  
   A. The Woodhaven middle school is on Madison avenue and Twelfth street.  
   B. The Woodhaven Middle School is on Madison Avenue and Twelfth Street.  
   C. The Woodhaven Middle school is on Madison Avenue and Twelfth Street.  
   D. The Woodhaven Middle School is on Madison avenue and Twelfth street.

10. In which sentence is all the punctuation correct?  
    A. In her old school, Carmine was in a class of 35 students she often felt lost.  
    B. In her old school Carmine, was in a class of 35 students, she often felt lost.  
    C. In her old school, Carmine was in a class of 35 students; she often felt lost.  
    D. In her old school Carmine was in a class of 35 students; she often, felt lost.
The following is a rough draft of Yan’s report, which contains errors.

When the Moon Changes Color

(1) What if you lived thousands of years ago and didn’t know about eclipses of the moon? (2) You look up and see a strange, frightening sight in the sky. (3) The full moon is changing from white to red-orange. (4) Is some kind of demon or a dragon attacking the moon? (5) In a movie about cave men, they showed an eclipse. (6) You and your village try to scare the demon away. (7) People start banging on drums or shooting arrows at the demon. (8) How could you know that the moon is just moving into the earth’s shadow?

(9) An eclipse of the moon, or lunar eclipse, happens when the sun, the earth, and the moon are all in a straight line. (10) The earth then casts a shadow in space, just like a ball lighted from one side casts a shadow. (11) The eclipse begins when the moon starts to enter the earth’s shadow. (12) At first, the moon looks bright white and full. (13) Then one side begins to change to a dusky orange. (14) During the next couple of hours, the color slowly spreads over the face of the moon. (15) Finally, the entire moon looks like a red-orange coin hanging in the sky. (16) The moon continues to move. (17) It leaves the earth’s shadow and becomes silver white again.

(18) The earth’s shadow and the earth’s atmosphere affect the color of the moon. (19) The center of the earth’s shadow is dark, but it gets lighter toward the edges. (20) Sometimes the moon passes through the dark part of the shadow; sometimes it passes through the lighter part. (21) Also, the earth’s atmosphere is full of dust and pollution, which can change how you see the moon’s color. (22) Each lunar eclipse is a different color, ranging from dark red to lighter orange.

(23) Full moon eclipses occur at regular times. (24) If you miss one of these eclipses, you have to wait a year or so to see the next one. (25) If only our ancestors knew about eclipses, they wouldn’t have been afraid.
11 Which sentence would be best to remove from the first paragraph?
A Is some kind of demon or a dragon attacking the moon?
B In a movie about cave men, they showed an eclipse.
C The full moon is changing from white to red-orange.
D People start banging on drums or shooting arrows at the demon.

12 Read the sentence below.
The earth moves between the sun and the moon.

This sentence should be placed before
A sentence 8.
B sentence 9.
C sentence 10.
D sentence 22.

13 Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in the third paragraph?
A comparison and contrast
B order of importance
C spatial order
D time sequence

14 Read these sentences from the report.
(16) The moon continues to move. (17) It leaves the earth's shadow and becomes silver white again.

Which is the best way to rewrite the sentences to form a complex sentence?
A The moon continues to move and leaves the earth's shadow, and it becomes silver white again.
B As the moon continues to move, it leaves the earth's shadow and becomes silver white again.
C The moon continues to move and leaves the earth's shadow and becomes silver white again.
D By continuing to move, the moon leaves the earth's shadow and becomes silver white again.

15 Which sentence would be best to add to the beginning of the fourth paragraph?
A No two lunar eclipses are ever the same color.
B Lunar eclipses only happen when the sky is clear.
C Other planets with moon also have eclipses.
D If you are too far south, you won't see the eclipse.
16 Which words should be added to the beginning of sentence 22?
A  After this,  
B  Since then,  
C  As you know,  
D  As a result,  

17 Read this sentence from the report.
(25) If only our ancestors knew about eclipses, they wouldn’t have been afraid.

What is the correct verb form for the underlined word in the sentence?
A  would know  
B  had known  
C  would have knew  
D  had been knowing  

18 Which sentence could best be added to the last paragraph to help summarize the report?
A  Eclipses are an example of how learning about science can improve our lives in so many ways.  
B  We are much luckier than ancient people because we know so much more about the sun and moon.  
C  An eclipse is simply the result of the sun, moon, and earth lining up, and it gives us an amazing show.  
D  Once you know something about the moon, you’ll want to learn more about how the universe works.  

The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

19 In which sentence is all the punctuation correct?
A  Every two years, a full moon eclipse occurs however, if the clouds are thick; you won’t see it.  
B  Every two years a full moon eclipse occurs; however if the clouds are thick, you won’t see it.  
C  Every two years, a full moon eclipse occurs; however; if the clouds are thick you won’t see it.  
D  Every two years, a full moon eclipse occurs; however, if the clouds are thick, you won’t see it.  

20 In which sentence is all the capitalization correct?
A  On february 21, in Chicago, we took pictures of the eclipse and sent them to NASA and Kennedy Space Center.  
B  On February 21, in Chicago, we took pictures of the eclipse and sent them to nasa and Kennedy Space Center.  
C  On february 21, in Chicago, we took pictures of the eclipse and sent them to NASA and Kennedy space center.  
D  On February 21, in chicago, we took pictures of the eclipse and sent them to nasa and Kennedy Space center.
Writing Application: Narrative Writing

Writing Task: You have had many experiences while growing up. Think about an experience you have had that you can retell as a story with a plot. Tell what happened. As you write your story, use details and exact words to show the experience from your own point of view. Your audience is your teacher and classmates.

The following checklist will help you do your best work. Make sure you

- read the explanation of the writing task carefully.
- thoroughly develop your plot and include characters and a setting.
- use specific details and narrative strategies such as dialogue.
- narrate the events in a clear order.
- use precise language that is best suited to your audience and purpose.
- use different sentence types to add interest to your writing.
- check for errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure.
Writing Application: Response to Literature

Writing Task: Read “The Fly” in Unit 1 of your student text. As you read this folktale, pay attention to the qualities of the boy and the rich man. In the tale, the boy and the rich man demonstrate very different characteristics. Write an essay in which you explain how the qualities of each character lead to the events and outcome of the story. Be sure to support your ideas with details and examples from the folktale. Write for your teacher, who has also read “The Fly.”

The following checklist will help you do your best work. Make sure you

☐ carefully read the explanation of the writing task.
☐ include specific details and examples from the story to support your ideas.
☐ organize your writing with a strong introduction, body, and conclusion.
☐ use precise language that is best suited to your audience and purpose.
☐ vary your sentences to add interest to your writing.
☐ check for errors in consistency, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure.
Unit 4 Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
Jane Addams and Hull House

1  In the late 1800s, Chicago was filled with many people who had just moved to the United States a short time before to start new lives. These immigrants often did not have much money and were seldom well-educated. Many of them had low-paying jobs and lived in run-down neighborhoods. Many could not speak English.

2  Jane Addams was the daughter of a wealthy man who was friends with Abraham Lincoln. She could have easily ignored these people. Instead, she rented a large, old house in Chicago in 1889 and began welcoming many of the immigrants into her home.

3  Hull House soon became known throughout the city and the nation. Addams and other volunteers worked tirelessly to provide help in any way they could. By the second year it was open, 2,000 people visited Hull House every week.

4  Hull House offered something for just about everyone. Children learned how to read and write. Working-age people were taught job skills and were then placed in jobs throughout the city. Older people received medical care when they became sick.

5  In the early 1900s, Addams took on new challenges. But she still worked to improve life for the poor people of Chicago. For her heroic efforts, she received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. She continued her cause until her death in 1935.
1. Read this sentence from the passage.

Jane Addams was the daughter of a wealthy man who was friends with Abraham Lincoln.

Why is it appropriate for the author to mention this?

A. It shows that friendship is very important.
B. It shows that Abraham Lincoln had many friends.
C. It shows that Jane Addams knew Abraham Lincoln.
D. It shows that Jane Addams didn’t have to care about the poor.

2. How did Jane Addams’s work benefit the immigrants?

A. The immigrants became poor.
B. The immigrants met Abraham Lincoln.
C. The immigrant children learned to read and write.
D. The immigrants could move to Chicago.

3. Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraph 5?

A. chronological order
B. organization by categories
C. order of importance
D. compare and contrast

4. Which of the following Internet keywords would best help someone find more information about immigrants during Jane Addams’s time?

A. American immigrants
B. life of Jane Addams
C. Chicago immigrants in the 1800s
D. Abraham Lincoln

5. Which of these is the best summary of this passage?

A. Addams worked throughout her life to help Chicago’s immigrants.
B. Addams always came up with better ways to help other people.
C. Addams continued to inspire those who wanted to help other people.
D. A person who shares his or her own wealth deserves praise.
Jellyfish

1 Jellyfish live, swim, and eat throughout Earth’s oceans and seas. Despite the fact that they are somewhat common marine animals, many people are uninformed about jellyfish and view them as mysterious creatures.

2 Jellyfish have existed for over 650 million years. They lived on Earth even before dinosaurs and sharks. Today there are over two hundred types of jellyfish living on Earth. Some are as small as a quarter, whereas others are over one hundred feet long and eight feet wide. Smaller jellyfish often float together in large groups.

3 Despite the name, a jellyfish is not a fish. It is considered an invertebrate, which means that it has no backbone. In fact, unlike fish, a jellyfish has no bones, heart, blood, gills, or central brain, and most varieties have no eyes. A jellyfish breathes with its entire body. Because the jellyfish is made up almost entirely of water, it is easily harmed by water pollution.

4 Jellyfish feed on very small plants and shrimp. They use their long thin tentacles to trap prey. Jellyfish also use their tentacles to swim. By pressing water away from their bodies, they propel themselves backward. Most jellyfish prefer to stay just below the surface of the water.

5 Most kinds of jellyfish are harmless to human beings, and some people keep jellyfish as pets; however, some types of jellyfish produce dangerous stings when they try to capture prey or need to defend themselves. Swimmers should always be careful to avoid jellyfish in the water. Beachgoers should always check with lifeguards before picking up any jellyfish that they might find in the sand.

6 Jellyfish enrich our world. Their delicate white, blue, pink, and clear bodies are beautiful. They provide shelter in open waters for certain fish. They are nutritious and offer cures for a variety of illnesses.
6. This passage would most likely be found in a
   A. fiction book.
   B. sports magazine.
   C. science magazine.
   D. fashion magazine.

7. Part of the passage contrasts
   A. food eaten by jellyfish.
   B. life spans of jellyfish.
   C. uses of jellyfish.
   D. sizes of jellyfish.

8. Which sentence is best added to the end of the passage?
   A. Jellyfish are dangerous creatures.
   B. We do not have to worry about taking care of jellyfish.
   C. Jellyfish are truly unique sea creatures.
   D. They are the most beautiful creatures of the sea.

9. Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea in paragraph 3?
   A. a biology textbook
   B. a book about fish
   C. a picture book about the beach
   D. a comic strip about jellyfish
The following items are not based on a passage. Read and answer each question.

10. Read this sentence.
Lindsay broke the vase. She could not tell her mother that she was the one who did it.

Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
A. or
B. but
C. while
D. because

11. Read this sentence.
Haylee thought she could withdraw from the contest; but the organizers did not allow her to.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words?
A. contest: but the organizers
B. contest, but the organizers
C. contest but, the organizers
D. Leave as is.
12  Read this sentence.

The team members divided the tasks among themselves in order to finish more quickly.

Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word or words can best be used to replace the underlined word?

A  solved
B  completed
C  separated
D  came between

13  Mrs. Alvarez asked her students to interview their grandfathers or grandmothers about what it was like to be a teenager when they were young. Now the students will write a factual piece about what they learned. To complete this assignment, each student should write

A  a poem.
B  an autobiography.
C  an opinion article.
D  an essay.
Violent Vesuvius
From Kids Discover, August/September 1995

1. People who lived near Vesuvius in A.D. 79 thought of it as simply a very big hill. However, Vesuvius was really a sleeping volcano, silently and slowly building up pressure until it would one day explode.

2. On August 24, A.D. 79, after a series of small steam explosions made an opening at the top of the mountain, Vesuvius erupted. The blast shot pumice and ash toward the sky. After about half an hour, the pumice and ash rained down and began to destroy the city. The volcano had awakened, with a deafening roar.

3. What caused Vesuvius to erupt? Earth’s surface is made up of huge rocks, called plates. When the plates move apart or hit each other, molten rock, called magma, from deep within Earth is pushed to the surface by pressure from hot underground gases. The magma in Vesuvius was so hot and steam-filled that it turned to pumice. There was no lava in this eruption because this magma was too explosive and steam-filled to form lava.
The eruption of Mount Vesuvius could best be described as
A a mythological event.
B a rain of fire.
C an ancient natural disaster.
D the awakening of a hill.

Which is the best summary of this passage?
A Vesuvius was a volcano that destroyed a city when it erupted in A.D. 79; the eruption was so hot that it didn’t even produce any lava.
B The people who lived near Vesuvius thought it was a city; however, it was really a volcano.
C Vesuvius erupted on August 24, A.D. 79; it rained down pumice and ash.
D Volcanoes erupt when rocks beneath Earth’s surface hit against each other; the pressure pushes molten rock, called magma, to the surface.

The phrase “volcano had awakened” in paragraph 2 is an example of
A a simile.
B a metaphor.
C hyperbole.
D personification.

The passage’s source, Kids Discover, is most likely
A the entertainment section of the newspaper.
B a science magazine.
C a book about modern cities.
D a fantasy novel for young readers.
Gardening in a Concrete Canyon

1 Anju gazed through her bedroom window and sighed forlornly. The window faced another apartment building across a walkway so narrow that it was hard to tell noon from dusk. “This stinks!” she shouted suddenly. “And if I don’t touch something green soon, I think I’ll go insane!” She turned from the window and went on, “By ‘green,’ I mean something that is alive. I mean something that is growing, something I care for. I want plants—a garden—where I can grow green, living things!”

2 “I’m sorry, Anju, but there is no open ground surrounding our apartment building,” her mother replied.

3 “I was thinking of the abandoned lot down the street,” Anju began. “I know it is choked with weeds and has some broken glass, but no one seems to own it or care about it.”

4 “We have no tools and no way of watering an empty lot,” her mother pointed out, “but if you have a practical solution, go ahead.”

5 “I’m working on it,” Anju answered. She needed tools to get started: a shovel, a hoe, a rake, and a trowel. Anju knew Latka, the man who tended the yard around their apartment building; perhaps he would loan her his tools for planting.

6 Latka was happy to let Anju use his tools and even helped her dig the garden plot. The only problem remaining was water. Without water, her vegetables and flowers would never survive, but there was no source nearby.

7 “You can always hope for rain every few days,” her father said at breakfast, “that might work. Otherwise, your garden will be kabashed!”

8 Anju nodded. She reached for her milk and stopped—milk jugs! “That’s it!” she cried. “I’ll use milk jugs to water my garden!”
18. We can tell that this passage is an example of realistic fiction because it
   A. depicts a possible situation in life.
   B. relates a story about imaginary creatures.
   C. has a happy ending for the main character.
   D. recounts events involving a famous person.

19. Anju’s resourcefulness led her to
   A. wish for plants.
   B. pray for rain every few days.
   C. get her parents to help her.
   D. think of using milk jugs to water plants.

20. What causes Anju to decide to garden?
   A. The rain seems to come every few days.
   B. The apartment building across from hers is ugly.
   C. She cannot see anything green from her bedroom window.
   D. She liked how Latka tended the yard around their apartment.
The following is a student’s rough draft. It may contain errors.

**A Day at the Beach**

1. For some people, there is nothing better than a long summer day spent at the beach. They drive for hours in horrible traffic, and then they drive around for another hour looking for a parking space. At last they rush out of the car to fight for a tiny space on the crowded beach, where they spread out their towels and proceed to get sunburned.

2. Other beach lovers run by and kick sand into the packed picnic lunch, and a day on the beach wouldn’t be complete if a runaway beach ball or volleyball didn’t knock someone on the head. The ocean waves look cool and inviting, but as soon as these happy beachgoers step into the water, they get dragged about and pounded onto the cement-like wet sand. If they’re lucky, they’ll step on a crab or some other equally charming marine creature.

3. Yes, a day at the beach simply can’t be beat. I just can’t wait until summer when my family of Ocean Lovers will make the daily trek to the shore. I hope it rains all summer!
21. Read these sentences from paragraph 3.

Yes, a day at the beach simply can’t be beat. I just can’t wait until summer …

Which word or words could be added to the beginning of the second sentence?

A. Finally,
B. After that,
C. As for me,
D. Nevertheless,

22. The author implies that spending a day at the beach is

A. an annoyance.
B. a party.
C. a getaway.
D. a pleasure.

23. Which words from “A Day at the Beach” tell the reader that this passage is written in the first person?

A. people, summer
B. day, they
C. beach lovers
D. I, my

24. The following details support the author’s attitude about the beach except

A. the risk of getting sunburned.
B. the hot ocean water.
C. the sand kicked in one’s lunch.
D. the lack of parking spaces.
Read this sentence.

I just can’t wait until summer when my family of Ocean Lovers will make the daily trek to the shore.

How should this sentence be rewritten to reflect proper capitalization?

A  I just can’t wait until summer when my family of Ocean lovers will make the daily trek to the shore.

B  I just can’t wait until summer when my family of ocean Lovers will make the daily trek to the shore.

C  I just can’t wait until summer when my family of ocean lovers will make the daily trek to the shore.

D  Leave as is.
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   He thinks no one likes him, but that’s all in his head.
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. not real
   B. a smart idea
   C. completely over
   D. what he deserves

2. Read this sentence.
   If the coach yells at you, you’d better just bite your tongue.
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. obey
   B. try harder
   C. be careful
   D. remain silent

3. Which French expression would be most appropriate to say to a group as you serve them dinner?
   A. “Merci.”
   B. “Très chic.”
   C. “Bon appétit.”
   D. “C’est la vie.”

4. Read this sentence.
   Amanda says Tony’s the one who took her bike, but I think she’s barking up the wrong tree.
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. just pretending
   B. completely wrong
   C. being mean for no reason
   D. complaining about nothing

5. Which of the following synonyms for eat best communicates the idea of eating quickly?
   A. snack
   B. dine
   C. munch
   D. gobble

6. Read this sentence.
   I just asked to borrow your sweater, so why did you bite my head off?
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. act violently
   B. tell a lie
   C. behave rudely
   D. answer very angrily
On your paper, write the numbers 7–20. Next to each number, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

### Selection Vocabulary

#### 7 a life of ease
- A genius  
- B freedom  
- C pain  
- D relaxation

#### 8 savoring the soup
- A heating  
- B creating  
- C enjoying  
- D serving

#### 9 to buffet the boat
- A sink  
- B carelessly sail  
- C fall from  
- D repeatedly hit

#### 10 a catastrophe for the family
- A disaster  
- B vacation  
- C celebration  
- D victory

#### 11 uniquely decorated
- A colorfully  
- B unusually  
- C messily  
- D beautifully

#### 12 the castle walls toppled
- A blew up  
- B stood strong  
- C cracked  
- D fell down

#### 13 unwilling to compromise
- A apologize  
- B keep going  
- C meet halfway  
- D become friends

### Academic Vocabulary

#### 14 frenzied efforts
- A calm  
- B continual  
- C successful  
- D desperate

#### 15 prosperity for everyone
- A answers  
- B wealth  
- C shelter  
- D entertainment

#### 16 portrayed by the newspaper
- A described  
- B criticized  
- C praised  
- D employed

#### 17 to resolve a problem
- A settle  
- B notice  
- C avoid  
- D experience

#### 18 she rejects the plan
- A chooses  
- B considers  
- C refuses  
- D creates

#### 19 a new policy
- A idea  
- B rule  
- C attempt  
- D decision

#### 20 a feeling of anticipation
- A pride  
- B anger  
- C deep regret  
- D eager waiting
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1 Read this sentence.

“Can you be _mercyful_ about my regrettable actions?” asked the thief hopefully.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A mercyful C thief
B regrettable D hopefully

2 Read this sentence.

Danny felt _lonelier_ and _sadder_ than usual because his brother was not working in the _feild_ with him, as he ordinarily was.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A lonelier C feild
B sadder D ordinarily

3 Read this sentence.

Some people are _terribly_ nosy and spread _gossip_ about what they find out, whether the news is true or not.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A terribly C gossip
B nosy D weather

4 Read this sentence.

I _admitted_ that I had been _forgetful_, and Dad replied that I had more of a _laziness_ problem than a memory problem.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A admitted C replied
B forgetful D laziness

5 Read this sentence.

When Soneja _recieved_ Mr. Watt’s approval of the revisions she made to her essay, she was _relieved_.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A recieved C revisions
B approval D relieved

6 Read this sentence.

Rick decided to _except_ Teresa’s apology for speaking so _rudely_ to him, and _they’re_ good friends again.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
A decided C rudely
B except D they’re
7. Read this sentence.

“Your disease is curable,” said the doctor to her patient, “but you will have a brief period during which you must avoid spicy food.”

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A) curable  B) patient  C) brief  D) spicy

8. Read this sentence.

Jovan lost hold of the reins as he galloped passed the crowd, and he had trouble controlling his horse.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A) reins  B) galloped  C) passed  D) controlling

9. Read this sentence.

I believe that’s the man who’s apartment is on the fourth floor—the man we often see riding the elevator.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A) believe  B) who’s  C) fourth  D) riding

10. Read this sentence.

“Oh, no, you’re not entering my room!” said my littlest sister, and she wouldn’t let me through the door.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A) your  B) entering  C) littlest  D) through
The following is a rough draft of Keisha's letter, which contains errors.

Mr. Harold Walker
Director of Traffic Safety
Elmstand, CA 94111

Dear Mr. Walker:

(1) I am writing to you about a serious traffic safety problem. (2) We need a second stop sign at the corner of Maple avenue and Crain street near Holly's restaurant and grill. (3) One stop sign is not enough. (4) Every three months or so, cars crash into each other at this corner. (5) In fact, it has happened so often that we call it “crash corner.”

(6) Let me explain why this corner is so dangerous. (7) The sign is easy to miss, that says “Traffic on Maple does not stop” and it's small. (8) As cars travel south on Crain, they can't see the cars coming down the hill on Maple. (9) The restaurant and a couple of trees block their view at the corner. (10) The cars are speeding down Maple the drivers on Crain can pull right out in front if they're not careful. (11) The cars slam into each other, and drivers and passengers are injured.

(12) People in tinley park near the Young civic center had a similar “crash corner.” (13) My friend Noelle lives in this neighborhood. (14) A new stop sign was put in, and they haven't had a crash since. (15) Also, our class checked your traffic Web site last week. (16) The city put up four new stop signs just last month. (17) It's clear that there is money for this safety expense.

(18) Why should we wait for another problem at Crain and Maple? (19) There have been too many injuries already. (20) We need a second stop sign at Maple and Crain right away.

Sincerely,

Keisha Caron
Crown Middle School
Elmstand, CA 94112
1. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 2?
   A. Maple avenue and Crain Street near Holly's restaurant and grill
   B. Maple avenue and Crain street near Holly's restaurant and grill
   C. Maple Avenue and Crain Street near Holly's Restaurant and Grill
   D. Maple Avenue and Crain street near Holly's Restaurant and grill

2. Keisha wants to add the following detail to her letter.
   Cars go one way west on Maple and one way south on Crain.

   This supporting detail would best follow
   A. sentence 5.
   B. sentence 6.
   C. sentence 10.
   D. sentence 11.

3. What is the correct way to write sentence 7?
   A. The sign is easy to miss and small that says “Traffic on Maple does not stop.”
   B. The sign that says “Traffic on Maple does not stop” is small and easy to miss.
   C. “Traffic on Maple does not stop” is a sign that is small and it's easy to miss.
   D. The sign “Traffic on Maple does not stop” is both small and it's easy to miss.

4. Read this sentence from the letter.
   (10) The cars are speeding down Maple the drivers on Crain can pull right out in front if they’re not careful.

   What is the best way for Keisha to revise this sentence to make the meaning clearer?
   A. The drivers can pull right out in front on Crain of the cars speeding down Maple, if they’re not careful.
   B. If they’re not careful, the cars speeding down Maple can pull right out in front of the drivers on Crain.
   C. The drivers on Crain can pull out, if they’re not careful, in front of the cars speeding down Maple.
   D. If the drivers on Crain are not careful, they can pull right out in front of the cars speeding down Maple.

5. Which type of organizational pattern does Keisha use to arrange the details in the second paragraph?
   A. spatial order
   B. comparison and contrast
   C. order of importance
   D. organization by categories
6. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 12?
   A. Tinley park near the Young civic center
   B. Tinley Park near the Young civic center
   C. tinley Park near the young Civic Center
   D. Tinley Park near the Young Civic Center

7. Which sentence would be best to remove from the third paragraph?
   A. My friend Noelle lives in this neighborhood.
   B. Also, our class checked your traffic Web site last week.
   C. It's clear that there is money for this safety expense.
   D. The city put up four new stops signs just last month.

8. In sentence 18, what is a better word to use than “problem”?
   A. issue
   B. accident
   C. incident
   D. argument

9. Read these two sentences from the letter.
   (19) There have been too many injuries already. (20) We need a second stop sign at Maple and Crain right away.

   What is the best way to join these sentences?
   A. already; and then, we
   B. already; however, we
   C. already; therefore, we
   D. already; yet, we

10. Which sentence would make the best concluding statement to Keisha’s letter?
    A. Please take action before more people are seriously hurt.
    B. I can’t understand why the city hasn’t done something before this time.
    C. The Traffic Safety Department should know what to do and when to do it.
    D. Please learn more about how many crashes we have had at this corner.
The following is a rough draft of Eduardo’s report, which contains errors.

Mount Rushmore: Faces Carved in Stone

(1) In 1923, Doane Robinson had a bold idea. (2) He wanted to carve figures from American history into the side of a mountain in the Black Hills of South Dakota. (3) He asked sculptor Gutzon Borglum for help. (4) Borglum agreed to do the work and planned to carve the faces of four presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt.

(5) In 1927, Borglum hired a large team of workers and began drilling into the 5,725-foot high Mount Rushmore. (6) First, they used dynamite to make a few rounded shapes out of the mountainside. (7) Then they placed a tall metal pole into the top of each rounded shape exactly where the head would be carved. (8) They hung a cable from the pole. (9) They could measure how much rock to cut.

(10) Surprisingly, they did most of the carving with dynamite. (11) The men became so skilled that they could blast out the features of each face. (12) They then carved the fine details with hammers and chisels. (13) Our shop teacher let us use a chisel once, and it’s hard to handle. (14) As one worker said, “I put the curl in Lincoln’s beard and the part in Teddy Roosevelt’s hair.” (15) The workers removed almost 450,000 tons of rock from the mountain.

(16) Everyone who came to see the work was amazed at the size of the finished faces. (17) The heads stand nearly 60 feet tall. (18) Each president’s nose is about twenty feet high—as tall as a two-story house. (19) Each eye measures about eleven feet across, and each mouth is about eighteen feet wide.

(20) When Borglum died in 1941, his son took over and worked on the mountain until the monument was finished. (21) Today, thousands of people take highway 16 to visit Mount Rushmore every year, especially in spring and summer.
11. What is the correct way to capitalize the underlined words in sentence 2?
   A. from American History into the side of a mountain in the Black hills of South Dakota
   B. from American history into the side of a Mountain in the Black hills of South Dakota
   C. from American history into the side of a mountain in the Black Hills of South Dakota
   D. from American History into the side of a mountain in the black hills of South Dakota

12. Which sentence is best added to the end of the first paragraph?
   A. Borglum included President Roosevelt because he was a personal hero of the sculptor.
   B. Most of the workers hired were miners who had experience with explosives.
   C. Mount Rushmore has been used as a movie setting for several Hollywood movies.
   D. The monument took a really long time to carve out of the mountain's cliff.

13. How can you tell that the writer organizes his details using time sequence?
   A. He starts with the most important items first.
   B. He puts details in categories and describes each one.
   C. He compares and contrasts methods of working.
   D. He lists events in the order in which they happened.

14. In sentence 6 of the rough draft, what is a better way to write “to make a few rounded shapes”?
   A. to create some round shapes
   B. to blast four oval shapes
   C. to carve a few circular shapes
   D. to model four oval shapes

15. Read these two sentences from the report.
    (8) They hung a cable from the pole. (9) They could measure how much rock to cut.

Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
   A. while
   B. so
   C. but
   D. until
Which word provides the best transition between the second and third paragraphs?
A Surprisingly,  
B Anyway,  
C Once in awhile,  
D Since then, 

Which sentence would be best to remove from the third paragraph?
A The workers removed almost 450,000 tons of rock from the mountain.  
B Our shop teacher let us use a chisel once, and it's hard to handle.  
C They then carved the fine details with hammers and chisels.  
D The men became so skilled that they could blast out the features of each face. 

Which sentence is best added to the beginning of the last paragraph?
A Borglum and Robinson worked on the exact dimensions of the monument.  
B Borglum's men learned how to work in a harness hanging off the mountain.  
C No one could believe how much dynamite the crew had to use.  
D Borglum and his men worked nearly fourteen years to create the monument. 

Read this sentence.
(21) Today, thousands of people take highway 16 to visit Mount Rushmore every year, especially in spring and summer.

Which underlined word in this sentence should be capitalized?
A highway  
B thousands  
C spring  
D summer 

Which sentence best serves as a summary to be added at the end of the report?
A They have heard about this special monument all their lives and want to see it.  
B They come from all around the country to look at the huge heads carved on the mountain.  
C They come to see the presidents and to honor the people who created this monument.  
D They wonder how such a huge monument could be carved out of solid rock.
Unit 5 Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
Seeing the Farm

My mom can still see the road to her grandparents’ farm and the tree with two branches forming a v with a small plank in between, like a swing. She can see her grandma shelling peas nearby, her bed curved like a bow to fit her back. One day they visit neighbors and a new litter of puppies. Driving back to the farm my mom’s bulging coat begins to kick and wiggle in the back seat. The sneak! They let her keep one puppy, Laddie, but she has to leave it behind when they go back to the city. Once, running through the house with six cousins, my mom falls through a trap door into the cellar. She cuts her leg on barbed wire. You can still see the scar. She washes her face in a bowl on a dresser. Bathes in a tub under the stars. Your mom? She wasn’t always a mom. Ask her about it sometime.
1. Read this part of the poem.

   her bed curved like a bow to fit her back

   This is an example of
   A. a simile.
   B. meter.
   C. a metaphor.
   D. personification.

2. Which word from the poem tells the reader that this is written in the first person?

   A. my
   B. mom
   C. Once
   D. Laddie

3. A theme of the poem is that

   A. farm life is boring.
   B. puppies are the best pets.
   C. one should be careful when playing.
   D. adults were young and playful once.

4. In line 9, “my mom’s bulging coat begins to kick” is an example of

   A. a simile.
   B. a metaphor.
   C. symbolism.
   D. personification.

5. Read these lines from the poem.

   My mom can still see the road to her grandparents’ farm / and the tree with two branches forming a v / with a small plank in between, like a swing.

   Which word best describes the tone of the poem based on these lines?

   A. homesick
   B. excited
   C. nostalgic
   D. regretful
A Triple Threat

The debate must have started as they left the gym. It was still going on when they reached the lunchroom and joined the others.

Elena looked up as the boys set their trays on the table. Jill was saying, “Abner Doubleday may have had a significant role in the Civil War. But he cannot take credit for the invention of baseball.”

Elena said to her friend Rosa, “That’s my sister, Jill, all right. She usually sounds like a sports encyclopedia.”

She glanced over at her brother Mike, the other third of the Nolan triplets. He could barely wait for his chance to speak again.

When he finally got the chance, he said, “Then why is the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown where Doubleday was teaching at a military school?”

Elena already knew what Jill would say to that. She had heard her talking about it with Dad only the other night. She even remembered the details. There had always been some debates about who invented baseball. The history of the game wasn’t clear. So in 1907, a group began to study the matter.

She heard Mike talking about that very thing. “You must know that there was a study that said that Doubleday came up with the first real rules of baseball in the summer of 1839.”

Elena could hear Jill’s gleeful finish, “True, but later information shows that Doubleday wasn’t even in Cooperstown in 1839!”

Rosa turned to Elena and asked, “Do they always debate like this?”

“Pretty much,” she answered, smiling. “We are triplets, but we all do our own thing. With Jill it’s sports. With Mike it’s Civil War battlefields.”

“And with you?”

“And with me,” Elena answered, “it’s avoiding debates with either one of them. That way I never lose!”
6. Read these sentences from the passage.

Abner Doubleday may have had a significant role in the Civil War. But he cannot take credit for the invention of baseball.

You can tell from these sentences that significant means
A. careless.
B. decorative.
C. dishonorable.
D. important.

7. What about Mike and Jill caused them to debate?
A. participating in gym class
B. being triplets with Elena
C. having knowledge of different topics
D. competing for their father’s attention

8. Which relationship best depicts the theme of sibling rivalry in this passage?
A. Elena keeping quiet
B. Mike and Jill debating
C. Elena and Rosa talking
D. Jill and her dad discussing

9. Which words from this passage show that this passage was written in the third person?
A. boys, Nolan triplets
B. baseball, history
C. Elena, she
D. Cooperstown, 1839

10. Which source would provide the best information about the origin of baseball?
A. a newspaper article about baseball stadiums
B. an encyclopedia article about the history of baseball
C. a magazine article about a popular baseball player
D. a chart showing baseball statistics since 1900
1. Paper is used all the time to help us with our everyday tasks, including writing letters, drawing pictures, and doing homework. But paper was hard to come by a few hundred years ago.

2. At first, manufacturers made paper from old rags. By the eighteenth century, however, rags were scarce. People looked for other sources, such as hemp plants and aloe leaves, but these could not meet people’s growing demand for paper. In Europe, papermakers were even excused from joining the army because their work was considered just as important as a soldier’s.

3. Then, in 1719, the world’s paper-shortage problem was solved with the help of an unlikely insect. A Frenchman by the name of René-Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur discovered that a wasp known as the white-faced hornet chewed old wood and timber to create the paper-like material it used to construct its hive. The wasp made a paper fiber by moistening wood with its saliva. When Réaumur discovered this, he wanted to find a method through which wood could be used to create paper. If researchers could find a way to do this, the paper shortage would end.

4. The first paper mills began processing wood in much the same way as the wasp did. The first paper mill in the United States was built in Interlaken, Massachusetts, in 1867. This mill was soon selling wood pulp to paper manufacturers across the country. Before long, paper became the common product that it is today. Thanks to René-Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur and the white-faced hornet, paper is one of our most important products.
11. Where would this passage most likely be found?
   A. in a book about innovations
   B. in a collection of biographies
   C. in a paper company’s advertisement
   D. in the front page of today’s newspaper

12. Read this sentence from the passage.
   But paper was hard to come by a few hundred years ago.

This statement would be made stronger by adding which of these sentences to the passage?
   A. People had to use paper every day.
   B. People had to learn how to write faster.
   C. People had to write to the government to ask for help.
   D. People had to resort to unlikely means of producing paper.

13. Which of the following keywords would best help someone find more information on the Internet about how paper manufacturing came about?
   A. white-faced hornet
   B. papermaking history
   C. leading paper companies
   D. René-Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur

14. Who is the narrator of the passage?
   A. a Frenchman
   B. a manufacturer
   C. René-Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur
   D. someone not named in the passage

15. Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraphs 2–4?
   A. organization by categories
   B. order of importance
   C. time sequence
   D. climactic order
What additional source could have been added to paragraph 2 to support the author’s argument that papermakers were excused from the army?

A a job advertisement from the 1700s looking for papermakers
B a company memorandum on the benefits of papermakers
C a quotation from a papermaker who did not support war
D a chart with statistics on papermakers who were not in the army
The following items are not based on a passage. Read and answer each question.

17 Read this sentence.
A classic movie, Star wars, is playing at the local theater this week.

Which underlined word in this sentence should be capitalized?
A wars
B local
C classic
D theater

18 Read this sentence.
Sometimes my hand stings when I snag a hard-hit ground ball.

In this sentence the word **snag** means
A rip.
B steal.
C catch.
D throw.

19 Read these sentences.
Mom and Dad will be at Lake Tahoe for the weekend. I will have time to spend with Grandma and Grandpa before they come home.

Which word could **best** be used to join these sentences?
A so
B but
C because
D although

20 If Libby wants to respond with her own opinion to an article featured in a magazine, she should write
A an application letter.
B a letter to the editor.
C a letter of complaint.
D an acknowledgment letter.
On the screen a T-Rex crunches a small dinosaur. Most likely the bone-crunching sound you hear is the snap of crisp celery sticks, made by a Foley artist. A Foley artist, or sound effects artist, uses celery and hundreds of other objects called props to make many of the sounds in movies—from clangs and bangs to squeaks and creaks.

The term Foley artist comes from Jack Foley. He pioneered the art of making sound effects match the on-screen movie action.

“Sound mixers record the actors’ voices when filming scenes. But noises like footsteps, raindrops, and crashes don’t get recorded,” says David Lee Fein, a Foley artist who works at Paramount Studios in Hollywood, California. Ken Dufva is a Foley artist who works with Fein. He explains, “First we receive a film which we project on the screen in our studio. We create the sounds in the studio and record them on audiotape to make them occur at exactly the same time as the actions on the screen.” For example, at the moment a baseball breaks a window on a movie screen, Fein and Dufva drop some light bulbs on the floor.

The most challenging sounds? “The weird and gushy sounds in science fiction movies—like eyeballs rolling off a plate,” says Dufva.
21 This passage would most likely be found in
A a student’s thesis.
B the front page of a newspaper.
C a Paramount Studios brochure.
D a magazine titled How Do They Do It?

22 Which of these sentences would be best to add as the first sentence of paragraph 3?
A Foley artists are not the same people who record the actors.
B Jack Foley lived from 1891 until 1967.
C They may have to clean up afterward, but they have a lot of fun.
D Imagine that you are sitting in a movie theater.

23 Read this quote from paragraph 3.
“... We create the sounds in the studio and record them on audiotape to make them occur at exactly the same time as the actions on the screen.”
The author supports this quote by
A providing a history of Foley artists in Hollywood.
B including an example of how sound effects are recorded.
C suggesting a problem that still needs to be solved.
D naming a specific movie the speaker has worked on.

24 Which of these is the best summary of the passage?
A Foley artists have the most important job in filmmaking.
B Science movies are the most challenging for sound effects artists.
C Many of the sounds in movies are created by using common everyday objects.
D The sound of bones breaking in movies is usually done with celery sticks.
According to the passage, when are sound effects in a scene recorded?

A. after the scene has been filmed
B. while the scene is being filmed
C. before the scene is filmed
D. all of the above
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Jeff was already annoyed, and Dori’s loud singing irked him even more.
   What does the word irked mean?
   A. helped
   B. injured
   C. irritated
   D. delighted

2. Read this sentence.
   The course we took to San Diego was longer than going on the highway, but there were beautiful views along the way.
   In this sentence, the word course means
   A. route
   B. series
   C. racetrack
   D. program of instruction

3. Which of the following pairs of words are synonyms?
   A. occupy, limit
   B. lucky, fortunate
   C. return, reserve
   D. respect, imitate

4. Walking can be tiptoeing in the same way that talking can be
   A. bragging.
   B. scolding.
   C. gossiping.
   D. whispering.

5. In Italian, the word presto means
   A. hot
   B. soon
   C. smooth
   D. important

6. Which of the following pairs of words are antonyms?
   A. tale, legend
   B. large, enormous
   C. costly, inexpensive
   D. believable, expected
Selection Vocabulary

7 prospered in business
   A failed       C did well
   B remained     D started off

8 the wreckage of an airplane
   A path         C design
   B length       D ruins

9 to respond with indifference
   A worry        C lack of caring
   B the opposite D angry criticism

10 when she's pouting
   A being silly  C sleeping
   B being moody D trying hard

11 a leisurely afternoon
   A rushed       C refreshing
   B surprising   D relaxing

12 discarded newspapers
   A dirty        C unread
   B thrown away  D spread out

13 chaos at the airport
   A safety       C delay
   B confusion    D danger

14 effective treatments
   A risky        C helpful
   B unusual      D expensive

15 to relish an argument
   A win          C take delight in
   B learn from   D get involved in

16 weird stories
   A long         C ordinary
   B strange      D humorous

Academic Vocabulary

17 a list of regulations
   A rules        C choices
   B plans        D activities

18 those who contributed food
   A ate          C ordered
   B gave         D prepared

19 the family’s finances
   A money        C relationships
   B activities   D goals

20 the animal’s environment
   A shelter      C behavior
   B situation    D surroundings
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   Rex was happy to get an invitation to the party.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  invitation     C  invutation
   B  invetation     D  Leave as is.

2. Read this sentence.
   There was angry opposition to the mayor’s plan.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  oppasition    C  opposition
   B  oppesition    D  Leave as is.

3. Read this sentence.
   Peanut butter and jelly is a favorite combination for sandwiches.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  combenation    C  combanation
   B  combonation    D  Leave as is.

4. Read this sentence.
   On holidays, we enjoy visiting with our relatives.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  relatives      C  relatives
   B  relatives      D  Leave as is.

5. Read this sentence.
   The fireworks were a wonderful spectacle that everyone enjoyed.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  spectecle      C  spectucle
   B  spectacle      D  Leave as is.

6. Read this sentence.
   Lucia easily won the competition.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A  compitition    C  computition
   B  compatition    D  Leave as is.
7. Read this sentence.

If you take off your **footwear** and go barefoot in a **classroom**, you'd better watch out for **thumtacks**!

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A. footwear  
B. barefoot  
C. classroom  
D. thumtacks

---

8. Read this sentence.

Sara sat in the **dugout** on the **sidelines** during the **downpour** and talked with her **teammates**.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A. dugout  
B. sidelines  
C. downpour  
D. teammates

---

9. Read this sentence.

Protecting **wildlife** should not be **underated**; it is a **praiseworthy** goal that deserves **wholehearted** support.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A. wildlife  
B. underated  
C. praiseworthy  
D. wholehearted

---

10. Read this sentence.

I banged my head on the **winshield** and got a headache that seemed to last forever, so now I’m more careful to use my **seatbelt**.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A. winshield  
B. headache  
C. forever  
D. seatbelt
The Bacteria That Changed Earth

(1) If you tried to breathe the atmosphere of the young earth, you would die in seconds. (2) Earth’s atmosphere had almost no oxygen back then. (3) The atmosphere couldn’t support life. (4) The air was full of poisonous gases. (5) Earth also had no protection from the sun’s harmful rays. (6) The only life that could survive were tiny bacteria that lived in the seas.

(7) One group of blue-green bacteria slowly changed all this. (8) This group lived in shallow waters all around the world. (9) The group used sunlight. (10) As they made food, they produced two waste products: water and oxygen.

(11) For over three billion years, these tiny bacteria made food and multiplied. (12) They built huge colonies around the coasts of the world in the seas. (13) Scientists have found fossils of Bacteria Colonies in Australia, North America, and South Africa. (14) Slowly, molecule by molecule, the oxygen they produced began to build up in the oceans. (15) Finally, the ocean was so full of oxygen that the gas began to escape into the atmosphere.

(16) The gas formed a layer around earth. (17) More and more oxygen entered the air. (18) It is called the ozone layer. (19) This layer blocked most of the sun’s harmful rays. (20) Over 3 billion years, the tiny bacteria had transformed the earth into a planet that could support life. (21) Today, the atmosphere is made up of the following gases: 78 percent nitrogen, 21 percent oxygen, 9 percent argon, and 1 percent carbon dioxide and other gases.

(22) Unfortunately, oxygen was poisonous to those ancient blue-green bacteria. (23) Most of them died as the gas became more plentiful. (24) However, their modern relatives still live in colonies in areas like Shark Bay in Australia and in the Bahamas. (25) The next time you take a deep breath, remember the blue-green bacteria.
1. Read these sentences from the report.

(2) Earth’s atmosphere had almost no oxygen back then. (3) The atmosphere couldn’t support life.

What is the best way to revise these sentences to form one complex sentence?

A Because earth’s atmosphere had almost no oxygen back then, it couldn’t support life.

B Earth’s atmosphere had almost no oxygen back then; therefore, the atmosphere couldn’t support life.

C Earth’s atmosphere, back then, had almost no oxygen; the atmosphere couldn’t support life.

D Back then, earth’s atmosphere had almost no oxygen; the atmosphere couldn’t support life.

2. How should sentence 9 best be rewritten to give the reader more information?

A The group used sunlight in many different ways.

B The group used sunlight better than other groups.

C The group used sunlight to make their own food.

D The group used sunlight for a clever process.

3. What is the correct way to write sentence 12?

A They built huge colonies of the world around the coasts in the seas.

B Around the huge colonies, they built in the coasts and seas of the world.

C They built huge colonies in the seas around the coasts of the world.

D They built huge colonies, in the seas, around the coasts of the world.

4. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 13?

A Bacteria Colonies in Australia, North America, and South Africa

B bacteria colonies in Australia, North America, and South Africa

C Bacteria colonies in Australia, North America, and South Africa

D bacteria colonies in Australia, North America, and South Africa

5. Read the following sentence.

Throughout this process, the bacteria produced a steady supply of oxygen.

For which paragraph in the rough draft would this be the best concluding sentence?

A the first paragraph

B the second paragraph

C the third paragraph

D the fourth paragraph
6. Which type of organizational pattern does Claudia use in this report?
   A. comparison and contrast
   B. order of importance
   C. spatial order
   D. time sequence

7. Read these sentences from the report.

   (16) The gas formed a layer around earth. (17) More and more oxygen entered the air. (18) It is called the ozone layer.

   What is the best way to rewrite these sentences so the information is in the correct order?
   
   A. More and more oxygen entered the air. The gas formed a layer around earth, and it is called the ozone layer.
   B. The gas, as more and more of it entered the air, formed a layer around earth, called the ozone layer.
   C. As more and more oxygen entered the air, it formed a layer around earth called the ozone layer.
   D. The gas formed a layer, called the ozone layer, around earth as more and more oxygen entered the air.

8. If Claudia wants to obtain information from her local science museum, she should write a
   A. letter of request
   B. letter to the editor
   C. letter of recommendation
   D. personal letter

9. What is the correct way to write the underlined part of sentence 24?
   A. like Shark bay in Australia and in the Bahamas
   B. like Shark Bay in Australia and in the Bahamas
   C. like Shark Bay in Australia and in the Bahamas
   D. like shark bay in Australia and in the Bahamas

10. Which of these sentences could best be added at the end of Claudia’s rough draft?
    A. There are more kinds of bacteria living on earth than any other type of life, even insects.
    B. Bacteria are helpful in many ways, including breaking down soil and helping us digest food.
    C. Blue-green bacteria are probably the earliest form of life on earth, even before the dinosaurs.
    D. These tiny bacteria produced the oxygen that allows millions of species like us to live on earth.
Important Inventors You Should Know

(1) Think about what you do every morning. (2) You turn on a light, open the refrigerator, and maybe twist the cap off a bottle of juice. (3) Everything you just used was invented or improved by an African American inventor. (4) Most people don't know that African Americans hold many patents. (5) A patent gives the inventor—and no one else—the right to make, use, and sell an invention.

(6) In 1821, Thomas Jennings was the first African American to receive a patent. (7) He invented a method of dry cleaning soiled clothes without harming the fabric. (8) He wasn't the only early inventor. (9) In 1891, J. Standard improved the basic refrigerator design. (10) (11) His design used cooling coils. (12) These coils are used today. (13) They are used in all modern refrigerators.

(14) Granville T. Woods made it possible for cities to have electric trains. (15) He was called the “black Thomas Edison” because he invented so many products. (16) He worked for D & S railroads and then started his own company, Woods railway and telegraph company. (17) He invented a special third rail that carried electricity. (18) Major cities use Woods’ third rail today for their commuter trains.

(19) Some inventors came up with smaller items. (20) Judy Reed invented a dough kneader and roller to roll dough flat. (21) Sarah Goode invented a bed that folded it wasn’t used. (22) Two other inventors, Jones and Long, designed the first bottle cap. (23) The cap was made of tin and could seal a bottle tightly. (24) Before, people had to use corks.

(25) These men and women are just a few of the many African American inventors. (26) There are hundreds more listed in the U.S. Patent Office. (27) They came from different backgrounds, but they shared one thing in common.
11. Sentence 5 offers support by
   A. telling the history of a word.
   B. comparing a word to something else.
   C. giving the definition of a word.
   D. showing how to pronounce a word.

12. Which sentence could best provide a transition between the first and second paragraphs?
   A. With so many patents, you would think that African American inventors would be rich.
   B. The U.S. Patent Office issued thousands of patents to inventors in the 1900s.
   C. African American inventors came from every part of the country, not just the East Coast.
   D. African American inventors created hundreds of industrial and household products.

13. Read these sentences from the report.
   (7) He invented a method of dry cleaning soiled clothes without harming the fabric. (8) He wasn’t the only early inventor.

   Which transition word should be added to the beginning of the second sentence?
   A. Therefore,
   B. However,
   C. So,
   D. Besides,

14. Which type of organizational pattern does Eduardo use in this report?
   A. comparison and contrast
   B. order of importance
   C. spatial sequence
   D. organization by categories

15. Read the following sentences from the second paragraph.

   (11) His design used cooling coils.
   (12) These coils are used today.
   (13) They are used in all modern refrigerators.

   What is the best way to rewrite the sentences to form a complex sentence?
   A. His design used cooling coils, which are used today in all modern refrigerators.
   B. His design used cooling coils, and these coils are used today in all modern refrigerators.
   C. His design used cooling coils; which are used in all modern refrigerators today.
   D. His design used cooling coils; these coils are used today in all modern refrigerators.
16 What is the correct way to capitalize the underlined words in sentence 16?
A. D & S railroads and then started his own company, Woods Railway and telegraph company
B. D & S Railroads and then started his own company, Woods Railway and Telegraph Company
C. D & S Railroads and then started his own company, Woods railway and Telegraph company
D. D & S railroads and then started his own company, Woods railway and telegraph Company

17 What is the best way to revise sentence 21?
A. When Sarah Goode invented a bed, it wasn't used folded.
B. Sarah Goode, when she invented a bed, folded it when it wasn't used.
C. Sarah Goode invented a bed that folded when it wasn't used.
D. Sarah Goode invented a bed that folded; when, it wasn't used.

18 Which of the following Internet keywords would best help Eduardo find more information for his report?
A. nineteenth-century inventors
B. nineteenth-century patents
C. African American heroes
D. African American inventors

19 How should sentence 24 best be rewritten to give the reader more information?
A. Before, people had to use corks to seal bottles.
B. Before, people had to use corks, which could leak.
C. Before, people had to use small corks.
D. Before, people had to use different kinds of corks.

20 Which sentence could best be added to the last paragraph to help summarize the report?
A. Throughout U.S. history, African American inventors have helped to improve people's lives.
B. Most people don't realize that so many everyday products were invented by African Americans.
C. Information about more inventors and their products can be found on history Web sites.
D. It's always good to know more about the people who helped create our modern way of life.
Unit 6/Semester Assessments
Reading/Literature
Vocabulary
Spelling
Writing Strategies/Conventions
Writing Applications
The following is a rough draft of a student’s essay. It contains errors.

A Modern Sport from an Ancient Art

1 Some men in China, Japan, and Tibet dedicate themselves to Buddhism. These men are called monks. Buddhist monks treat all people as neighbors and friends. They do not believe in using weapons. More than 2,000 years ago, they developed jujitsu. Jujitsu is a martial art. It is a way of fighting and defending oneself without using weapons. Jujitsu is just one of many forms of martial arts that started in Asia. Jujitsu is a series of moves that uses the weight and strength of the foe against the jujitsu fighter. When practicing jujitsu, people who are smaller or weaker can defend themselves against people who are bigger or stronger! Can you believe that?

2 In 1882, Jigoro Kano created judo. He was a great jujitsu fighter. Judo is a modern sport based on jujitsu. Kano changed jujitsu’s methods to make them safer for sports matches. Modern judo matches are between two people. Both people wear a jacket called a gi. They begin the judo match by bowing to each other. Then they grab the collar and sleeve of each other’s gi and try to immobilize each other.

3 Judo is a popular sport. It is practiced around the world, not just in Asia. In 1964, men’s judo became an Olympic sport. In 1992, so did women’s judo. Today almost everyone, from children to adults, knows about this sport that came from an ancient fighting art.
1. Read these sentences from the passage.

Kano changed jujitsu's methods to make them safer for sports matches. Modern judo matches are between two people.

In these sentences, the word matches means
A pairs.
B equals.
C partners.
D competitions.

2. The best way for a reader to learn more about judo would be by
A researching different kinds of gi.
B reading a biography about Jigoro Kano.
C thinking of another modern sport that is popular.
D remembering a movie he or she saw about judo.

3. Which statement from the passage is most descriptive of the techniques of the martial art?
A They do not believe in using weapons.
B Kano changed jujitsu's methods to make them safer for sports matches.
C Then they grab the collar and sleeve of each other's gi and try to immobilize each other.
D When practicing jujitsu, people who are smaller or weaker can defend themselves against people who are bigger or stronger!
4 Read these two sentences from paragraph 2.

In 1882, Jigoro Kano created judo.
He was a great jujitsu fighter.

What is the best way to combine these sentences into one sentence?

A In 1882, Jigoro Kano created judo; he was a great jujitsu fighter.
B In 1882, Jigoro Kano created judo, but he was a great jujitsu fighter.
C In 1882, Jigoro Kano, a great jujitsu fighter, created judo.
D In 1882, Jigoro Kano created judo, a great jujitsu fighter.

5 Which organizational pattern does the passage use?

A time sequence
B problem and solution
C order of importance
D compare and contrast

6 The following sentence was taken from the passage.

Some men in China, Japan, and Tibet dedicate themselves to Buddhism.

What is the correct way to write this sentence?

A Some men in china, japan, and tibet dedicate themselves to Buddhism.
B Some men in China, Japan, and Tibet, dedicate themselves to Buddhism.
C Some men in China, Japan, and Tibet dedicate themselves to Buddhism.
D Leave as is.
What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in the sentence from the passage?

Buddhist monks treat all people as neighbors and friends.

A neighbors
B nieghbors
C neigbors
D neighbors
New Shirt

I want a shirt with buttons,
Small, tight, white ones that shine like jewels,
That test my small, graceless fingers.

I want a shirt with a collar,
Upright and stiff to keep my head high,
To keep my neck straight and clean.

I want a shirt that can’t be washed with
Palms and spit and childish lies,
But only with time, patience, and practice.

I want a shirt with canyon pockets
For collecting numbers, words, and ancient secrets
Of wind and rain and burning stars.

I want a shirt woven from iron
That will block insults and deflect harsh words
And protect me when I don’t feel strong.

I want a shirt with long, thick sleeves,
That is warm like my father’s eyes and loving like his words,
That I can wrap around myself.
8 What does the shirt represent to the speaker?
A  doubt
B  childhood
C  the past
D  protection

9 The “palms and spit and childish lies” in line 8 could best represent
A  cleanliness
B  immaturity
C  patience
D  fear.

10 Which words give clues that the speaker has a tender tone in the last stanza of the poem?
A  shirt, sleeves
B  eyes, words
C  warm, loving
D  wrap, around
The following items are not based on a passage. Read and answer each question.

11. Marianne’s assignment is about famous singers from the 1970s. To find out more about her topic, Marianne should use the search words
   A. 1970s music.  
   B. disco dancing.  
   C. origins of folk songs.  
   D. singers from the 1970s.

12. Read these sentences.
   The team had the ball. They only had a few minutes left in the game. It was a tight spot. And though it would be hard, they knew they had to score this last point to win the game.

   The words **hard** and **tight** suggest that the team
   A. was in a difficult situation.  
   B. had a solid offense.  
   C. was stiff and could not move freely.  
   D. had an unbreakable spirit.
13. Joseph was asked by his English teacher to write about the benefits of exercising regularly. Joseph has to write a
   A book report.  
   B factual report.  
   C narrative poem.  
   D letter to the editor.

14. Which common expression, based on a French word or phrase, would be most appropriate to say to someone who is about to eat?
   A adieu  
   B à la mode  
   C bon voyage  
   D bon appétit
A New Way to See

1 Zina, feeling nervous, sat with her mother in the waiting room for what seemed like hours. Zina squinted at the clock on the far wall, but she couldn't see its hands. Well, that will change soon, Zina thought. Although she didn't want to wear glasses, she sure wanted to be able to see clocks, faces, the board at school, and the television.

2 Zina knew the kids at school would probably tease her. Kids with glasses always got teased. It wasn't right, but that's the way it was.

3 “Zina? The nurse is calling you,” her mother said as she patted Zina on the shoulder.

4 Zina believed she was walking into a strange new world. She thought she would become a different person.

5 Later, on her way home, Zina was amazed at how clear everything appeared. She could make out the shape of each leaf from every tree. Faces in cars, license plate numbers, and neon store signs all popped out in amazing clarity. Zina's thoughts turned to what her classmates might say once they saw her in her glasses.

6 “Mom, am I different now?” Zina asked.

7 “Now why would you think that?”

8 “Because, you know—the glasses and all.”

9 Stopping in their driveway, Zina’s mother looked through Zina’s glasses deep into Zina’s eyes. “Look at me. What do you see?”

10 “I see you, my mom,” Zina quickly replied.

11 “Don’t you see my gray hairs and the wrinkles around my eyes? I’m a different person, too, you know. I’ve changed. Everything changes, Zina. That’s all part of life.”

12 Zina stared at her mother but didn’t notice her gray hairs or the wrinkles around her eyes. She loved and respected her mother for who she was, not how she looked.

13 “I see what you mean,” Zina smiled.
The fact that Zina fears that glasses will make her a different person shows that she is
A careful.
B friendly.
C nervous.
D indecisive.

One of the themes of this passage is the strength of a parent’s reassurance. Which scene in the story best depicts this theme?
A Zina and her mother in the car talking to each other
B Zina smiling at the mirror with her new glasses
C Zina sitting in the waiting room with her mother
D Zina looking out the car’s window
This passage is a rough draft of a student report. It contains errors.

Unusual Ice Cream

1. Many people all over the world will have enjoyed eating ice cream. Vanilla and chocolate are the most popular flavors, but they are certainly not the only ones. Ice cream seems to lend itself to some interesting experimentation.

   For example, in Italy they mix chocolate, cherry, and pistachio flavors. This is called *spumoni*. In the United States, an ice cream maker mixed chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry. This combination was called *Neapolitan*, after the Italian city of Naples.

2. Some ice cream shops offer lots of choices, from caramel and cookies to cinnamon and peanut butter. If you like fruit better than cookies or peanut butter, you’re in luck. Ice cream comes in lots of fruit flavors. Cherry, mango, and peach are just a few. Of course, what almost all of these flavors have in common is that they’re very sweet. That’s not true for all ice cream flavors, though.

   Believe it or not, some people have looked to the world of vegetables for ice cream inspiration. Several recipes for avocado ice cream can be found on the Internet. And what about tomato, sweet corn, or celery ice cream? You can find those, too. The same goes for beets and even jalapeño peppers!

3. At one ice cream shop in Venezuela, customers can choose from more than 700 flavors, among them are rose, carrot, and spaghetti. In San Francisco, California, one ice cream shop offers sesame seed and red bean ice creams, among others. But if you are really feeling wild, maybe you should track down a scoop of garlic-flavored ice cream. For some people, that powerful flavor is not just for pasta dishes anymore. Happy eating!
17. Read this sentence.
Vanilla and chocolate are the most popular flavors, but they are certainly not the only ones.

What is the best way to write this sentence?
A. Vanilla and chocolate are the most popular flavors; but they are certainly not the only ones.
B. Vanilla and chocolate are the most popular flavors; but they are certainly not the only ones.
C. Vanilla and chocolate are the most popular flavors. But they are certainly not the only ones.
D. Leave as is.

18. The passage compares and contrasts
A. common and odd flavors of ice cream, such as strawberry and garlic.
B. countries, such as the United States and Italy, where flavors are invented.
C. new ice cream flavors, such as Neapolitan and spumoni.
D. common ice cream flavors, such as chocolate and vanilla.

19. Read this sentence from the passage.
Many people all over the world will have enjoyed eating ice cream.

What is the correct way to rewrite this sentence?
A. Many people all over the world will enjoy eating ice cream.
B. Many people all over the world have enjoyed eating ice cream.
C. Many people all over the world had enjoyed eating ice cream.
D. Leave as is.

20. What would be the best summary of paragraph 3?
A. Many ice cream flavors are not sweet.
B. Ice cream is available in many sweet flavors.
C. Some people prefer fruit flavors to other flavors.
D. Caramel, cookie, and peanut butter are ice cream flavors.
Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

A Real “Theater in the Round”

1. Ask anyone you know to name the most famous playwright in the English language; chances are that he or she will name William Shakespeare. But not everyone can tell you the name of the theater where many of his plays were first performed.

2. It was the Globe Theatre that was built around 1599 on the south side of the Thames River in London. This almost-round theater was different from today’s theaters in many ways. The Globe had a “thrust” stage that used no scenery and had audience seating on three sides. There was no roof over the stage, so actors had to shout to be heard. There was no lighting, so all performances were during the day, most between noon and 5:00 P.M. Last but not least, it was shaped like an octagon or a circle.

3. The theater held between 2,000 and 3,000 people. Some of the visitors stood or sat in the three balconies that surrounded the stage. These lucky people, called “two-penny” customers, were sheltered from possible rain. The rest of the audience stood around the stage, which was only five feet above the ground. This area was called “the pit.” The “one-penny” customers who stood in the pit were called “groundlings.”

4. In 1613, the Globe’s thatched roof caught fire, and the theater burned to the ground. The Globe was rebuilt in 1614 and was active for 38 more years. However, in 1642, The Globe was closed and was then finally torn down in 1644.

5. More than 300 years later, an American actor named Sam Wanamaker decided to rebuild the Globe. It was completed in 1996. How does it compare to the original? It is almost exactly the same, except that it holds only 1,500 people in the galleries and pit.
21  Read this sentence.

Ask anyone you know to name the most famous playwright in the English language; chances are that he or she will name William Shakespeare.

This statement could be made stronger by adding which of these sentences?

A  A lot of moms know who Shakespeare is.
B  Shakespeare is too famous.
C  Almost everyone has studied him.
D  Shakespeare created immortal characters.

22  Why were the one-penny customers called “groundlings”?

A  They preferred sitting on the ground.
B  They gave out pennies to the actors.
C  They preferred not to stand in “the pit.”
D  They could only afford to watch at the ground level.

23  If the author wanted to write a story about the Globe in Shakespeare’s day, this book would be

A  a folktale.
B  historical fiction.
C  fantasy.
D  science fiction.

24  Which sentence best serves as a summary to be added to the end of the passage?

A  People can once again see Shakespeare’s plays as they were meant to be performed, outdoors on a thrust stage.
B  The “new” Globe performs plays by Shakespeare, as well as plays by other playwrights.
C  Many years passed during which people had to invent new ways to stage Shakespeare’s plays.
D  Shakespeare’s thirty-eight plays continue to be read, performed, and discussed to this day.
25 Which sentence could best be used as a transition between paragraphs 4 and 5?

A    Sam Wanamaker was a good man.

B    The Puritans outlawed all theaters in England.

C    However, this was not the end of the Globe Theatre.

D    The new Globe Theatre is better than the old one.
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–6. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.

Rita’s parents are really strict, and she wishes they’d be more lenient.

What does the word **lenient** mean?

A. careful
B. patient
C. stubborn
D. permissive

2. What is the difference between hiking and wandering?

A. Hiking is something that adults do, but wandering is something that children do.
B. Hiking is something people do on purpose, and wandering is something they do by mistake.
C. Hiking is walking for a long distance, and wandering is walking without trying to get to any particular place.
D. Hiking has to do with walking uphill or downhill, and wandering has to do with walking on level ground.

3. Which of the following things is nonexistent?

A. feelings
B. dinosaurs
C. anniversaries
D. movie theaters

4. Read the following sentence.

After the second day of try-outs, Miguel figured he had about a 50% chance of making the team.

Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word or words can best be used to replace the underlined word?

A. luck
B. risk
C. possibility
D. opportunity

5. Read this sentence.

Please don’t explain every last thing; just cut to the chase.

In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?

A. show me
B. wait until later
C. leave me alone
D. get to the point

6. Considering how word parts function reveals that a fretful baby is one that is

A. sleeping.
B. eating.
C. fussing.
D. playing.
On your paper, write the numbers 7–20. Next to each number, write the letter of the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the underlined word.

**Selection Vocabulary**

7. *wilted flowers*
   - A. colorful
   - B. droopy
   - C. tiny
   - D. sturdy

8. *ferocious weather*
   - A. damp
   - B. pleasant
   - C. breezy
   - D. violent

9. *astounded by the news*
   - A. delighted
   - B. shocked
   - C. angered
   - D. saddened

10. *unchanging principles*
    - A. laws
    - B. skills
    - C. values
    - D. demands

11. *an interesting assortment*
    - A. mixture
    - B. display
    - C. idea
    - D. recipe

12. *a shabby coat*
    - A. cheap
    - B. worn out
    - C. thick
    - D. brand new

13. *proclaimed the news*
    - A. heard
    - B. kept secret
    - C. took credit for
    - D. made known

14. *time for consideration*
    - A. working
    - B. resting
    - C. thinking
    - D. having fun

15. *to register for the race*
    - A. sign up
    - B. raise money
    - C. train
    - D. line up

16. *aliens with work permits*
    - A. students
    - B. employees
    - C. citizens
    - D. foreigners

**Academic Vocabulary**

17. *if it triggered a discussion*
    - A. ended
    - B. caused
    - C. was part of
    - D. resulted from

18. *a likely outcome*
    - A. result
    - B. change
    - C. reason
    - D. problem

19. *suspended from a ledge*
    - A. falling
    - B. waving
    - C. hanging
    - D. slowly rising

20. *if the game is suspended*
    - A. won
    - B. delayed
    - C. cancelled
    - D. played over
On a separate sheet of paper, write the numbers 1–10. Next to each number, write the letter of the correct answer for that question.

1. Read this sentence.
   In cold weather, the leaves on that tree turn orange.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A leaves    C leafes
   B leaves    D Leave as is.

2. Read this sentence.
   A large group of monkeys can make much noise.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A monkies    C monkeyes
   B monkeyes   D Leave as is.

3. Read this sentence.
   There were several speakers, so listening to all the speeches took hours.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A speeches    C speechies
   B speeches    D Leave as is.

4. Read this sentence.
   The speaker began by saying, “Welcome, ladyes and gentlemen.”
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A ladyes    C laddies
   B ladies    D Leave as is.

5. Read this sentence.
   Renaldo searched all the bookshelfes for a dictionary.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A bookshelfs    C bookshelves
   B bookshelvs   D Leave as is.

6. Read this sentence.
   Amber’s realization that she was the only person who wasn’t wearing a costume made her feel embarrassed.
   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A realization    C realuzation
   B realazation   D Leave as is.
7 Read this sentence.

Last summer, we stayed in a fancy hotel and ate supper in the dinning room there.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A  summer  C  supper  
B  hotel  D  dinning

8 Read this sentence.

The cashier gave me eight dollars in change but dropped my receipt, which I had to retrieve from the floor.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A  cashier  C  receipt  
B  eight  D  retrieve

9 Read this sentence.

There’s no nighttime cold medicine in the cupboard, so please get some from the drugstore and a magazine from the newstand.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A  nighttime  C  drugstore  
B  cupboard  D  newstand

10 Read this sentence.

Ariel had forgotten that she was not permitted to stay out after dark while visiting her aunt and ran back to the house as soon as she remembered.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

A  forgotten  C  visiting  
B  permitted  D  remembered
The following is a rough draft of Katherine's report, which contains errors.

Stephen King

(1) Stephen King is one of the most popular writers in the world. (2) He was born in 1947 in Portland, Maine. (3) King always wanted to be a writer. (4) He wrote stories for his friends and for his classes in school. (5) He sold his first story in the early 1970s, and he is selling his stories ever since.

(6) Most people know about his horror novels, such as *Christine* and *Cujo*. (7) Many of his stories have a car crash or train accident as a part of the plot. (8) When King was a boy, he saw a friend of his killed by a train. (9) Maybe that experience made him want to write about accidents in his stories. (10) In 1999, King himself was hit by a van and took a long time to recover.

(11) He couldn't finish his first novel, *Carrie*. (12) He got so fed up with the story that he threw his typed pages into the trash. (13) His wife, Tabitha, pulled the pages out and told him it was a good story and to finish it. (14) *Carrie* became a best-selling novel and was made into a move. (15) None of his friends were surprised by his success because they knew King was a good storyteller.

(16) Few people know that King also writes other kinds of works. (17) These stories don't usually sell as many copies. (18) King says these projects keep him writing. (19) They also help him learn different ways to write dialogue and description. (20) He believes writers should always practice their craft and read other writers. (21) He says, "You should read four hours a day and write four hours a day." (22) I don't know many people who can read four hours a day.

(23) Stephen King is still writing today, and his stories continue to sell all around the world. (24) He is also interested in helping other people learn how to write. (25) His book *On Writing* offers good advice to anyone who wants to be a writer. (26) I don't think people will get tired of his work.
1. Read the following sentence from the report.

(5) He sold his first story in the early 1970s, and he is selling his stories ever since.

What is the correct way to revise the underlined words in the sentence?
A. he had been selling
B. he was selling
C. he has been selling
D. he will be selling

2. Which sentence would make the best transition between the second and third paragraphs?
A. Writing novels wasn’t easy for him at first.
B. King always wanted to write novels.
C. Writing novels was his favorite kind of work.
D. No one in his family had written a novel.

3. Read this excerpt from the report.

None of his friends were surprised by his success . . .

What is the correct way to revise the underlined part of the excerpt?
A. None of his friends are surprised
B. None of his friends was surprised
C. None of his friends be surprised
D. None of his friends will have been surprised

4. How should sentence 16 best be rewritten to give the reader more information?
A. Few people know that King also writes other kinds of stories and works.
B. Few people know that King also writes short stories, television scripts, and plays.
C. Few people know that King also writes a lot for other kinds of publishers.
D. Few people know that King writes more than novels.

5. Read these two sentences from the report.

(17) These stories don’t usually sell as many copies. (18) King says these projects keep him writing.

Which transition word should be added to the beginning of the second sentence?
A. So,
B. Therefore,
C. However,
D. Also,
6 Which type of organizational pattern does Katherine use in this report?
A  organization by categories  
B  comparison and contrast  
C  spatial order  
D  order of importance

7 Which sentence would be best to remove from the fourth paragraph?
A  They also help him learn different ways to write dialogue and description.  
B  He believes writers should always practice their craft and read other writers.  
C  I don't know many people who can read four hours a day.  
D  He says, “You should read four hours a day and write four hours a day.”

8 Which of these sentences could best be added at the end of the rough draft?
A  He has sold more books than any other author who writes scary stories.  
B  Because he knows just what scares people, then he will stay successful and write about it.  
C  Movies made from his books will help because people will want to read the books.  
D  As long as people like scary stories, they will keep reading Stephen King’s books.

The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

9 Read these sentences.
Stephen King writes horror fiction. Some critics dislike his work. He has earned many writing awards.

Which is the best way to rewrite these sentences to form a compound-complex sentence?
A  Stephen King writes horror fiction, and some critics dislike his work; he has earned many writing awards.  
B  Although Stephen King writes horror fiction, some critics dislike his work; therefore, he has earned many writing awards.  
C  Stephen King writes horror fiction, which some critics dislike; but he has earned many writing awards.  
D  Because Stephen King writes horror fiction, some critics dislike his work; however, he has earned many writing awards.

10 In which sentence is all the capitalization correct?
A  We saw the movie at the theater with Ben and his Canadian aunt.  
B  We saw the movie at the Theater with Ben and his Canadian aunt.  
C  We saw the movie at the theater with Ben and his Canadian aunt.  
D  We saw the movie at the Theater with Ben and his Canadian Aunt.
The following is a rough draft of Kyle's report, which contains errors.

Dangers of Altitude Sickness

1. Climbers get a great view from the top of mountains like Mt. Rainier, Mt. Hood, and Mt. Adams. However, there are risks in climbing these peaks. Every year many people suffer from altitude sickness. A climber or even a hiker need to know about the dangers of high altitudes.

2. Altitude sickness is a condition you can get when you are at 5,000 feet or higher. The air pressure is lower, and there is less oxygen. You take in less oxygen with every breath. Less oxygen means your body doesn't work as well. Anyone, even young hikers and climbers, can get altitude sickness. So it's important to know the signs—or symptoms—of this sickness and what to do. It could save your life.

3. **You have only mild symptoms.** Usually, you have a headache, a little upset stomach, and tiredness. You should stay at the same altitude for a little bit. That way, your body has time to get used to lower oxygen levels. Also, drink a lot of water. Water thins the blood and helps it carry oxygen.

4. **You have worse symptoms.** The headache is worse, you have a stomachache, and you're dizzy. Maybe you climb too high too fast. You can try resting to see if that helps. If it doesn't, then you should walk down to a lower altitude until you feel better. Sometimes, even a few hundred feet can make a difference.

5. **You have really bad symptoms.** You may be vomiting and having trouble standing or walking. Maybe things look fuzzy to you. This means the sickness is affecting your brain. There is no time to lose. You have to get to a lower altitude right away.

6. Altitude sickness is something climbers and hikers should take seriously. Too many people think it's just a temporary problem. If you ignore the symptoms, you can put your life in danger.
11 Read this sentence from paragraph 1.

A climber or even a hiker need to know about the dangers of high altitudes.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words in the sentence?
A A climber or even a hiker is needing to know
B A climber or even a hiker needs to know
C A climber or even a hiker do need to know
D A climber or even a hiker have needed to know

12 Read these sentences from paragraph 2.

The air pressure is lower, and there is less oxygen. You take in less oxygen with every breath.

Which words should Kyle add to the second sentence to make a better transition between ideas?
A In addition,
B Until that time,
C Before this,
D As a result,

13 Read this sentence from paragraph 3.

You should stay at the same altitude for a little bit.

How should this sentence best be revised to give the reader more information?
A You should stay at the same altitude for some time.
B You should stay at the same altitude for at least a day or two.
C You should stay at the same altitude and do things to feel better.
D You should stay at the same altitude until everyone says you're okay.

14 The last sentence in paragraph 3 offers support by

A warning people not to waste water.
B comparing water to oxygen.
C explaining why water is important.
D showing why climbers get thirsty.

15 What is the correct way to revise the underlined words in paragraph 4?

A Maybe you have climbed too high too fast.
B Maybe you will have climbed too high too fast.
C Maybe you be climbing too high too fast.
D Maybe you was climbing too high too fast.
16. Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraphs 3 through 5?
   A. time sequence
   B. order of importance
   C. spatial sequence
   D. comparison and contrast

17. Read these sentences from paragraph 5.
   This means the sickness is affecting your brain. There is no time to lose.

   Which word could best be used to join these sentences?
   A. but
   B. while
   C. because
   D. so

18. Which sentence could best be added to the last paragraph to help summarize the report?
   A. Make sure you take a lot of water with you and know how high you are climbing or hiking.
   B. Hiking or climbing mountains is one of the best ways to spend your vacation time.
   C. If you want to climb or hike at higher altitudes, you need to know the risks.
   D. Hike or climb at lower altitudes, so you can see if you’ll get altitude sickness at higher levels.

The following questions are not about a passage. Read and answer each question.

19. In which sentence is all the capitalization correct?
   A. My brother and I climbed the South face of Hickory hill in western Oregon last summer.
   B. My brother and I climbed the south face of Hickory hill in Western Oregon last Summer.
   C. My brother and I climbed the south face of Hickory Hill in western Oregon last summer.
   D. My brother and I climbed the South face of Hickory Hill in Western Oregon last Summer.

20. Read these sentences.
   Mark got a bad headache. He was halfway up the mountain. He had to go back down.

   What is the best way to rewrite these sentences to form a complex sentence?
   A. When Mark had to go back down because he was halfway up the mountain and got a bad headache.
   B. When Mark was halfway up the mountain, he got a bad headache and had to go back down.
   C. When Mark got a bad headache, he had to go back down; although, he was halfway up the mountain.
   D. As Mark went back down, he got a bad headache because he was halfway up the mountain.
Writing Application: Expository Writing

Writing Task: Write an essay for your teacher describing your favorite kind of animal. Carefully select and organize the details in your writing to create a vivid description of this animal.

The following checklist will help you do your best work. Make sure you

- read the explanation of the writing task carefully.
- include specific details and examples to support your ideas.
- organize your writing with a strong introduction, body, and conclusion.
- use precise language that is best suited to your audience and purpose.
- use different sentence types to add interest to your writing.
- check for errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure.
Writing Application: Persuasive Writing

Writing Task: Some parents pay their children for doing certain household chores. They think that children who earn their own money will become more responsible adults. Other parents don’t pay their children for doing chores. They think that children, as members of a family, have a duty to help around the house.

Take a position on whether parents should pay their children for doing chores such as mowing the lawn or baby-sitting younger brothers or sisters. Write a composition in which you state and explain your position. Include at least two points that support your position and use specific details to develop each point.

The following checklist will help you do your best work. Make sure you

- read the explanation of the writing task carefully.
- support and develop your ideas with specific details and examples.
- organize your writing with a strong introduction, body, and conclusion.
- use precise language that is best suited to your audience and purpose.
- use different sentence types to add interest to your writing.
- check for errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure.
Reteach Lessons
LEARN IT: Figurative Language

**Figurative language** is language that communicates ideas beyond the literal meanings of words. To interpret figurative language, a reader should analyze the context in which the word or phrase is used.

**EXAMPLE**

1. Read the following sentences.

Samuel looked out the front door one morning, and his jaw dropped to the floor. His eyes immediately widened. The night before, three feet of beautiful snow had coated his neighborhood!

In these sentences, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?

- A  He was very surprised.
- B  He was talking to someone.
- C  He was feeling sad.
- D  He was tired.
**Step 1** Read the passage carefully. What did Samuel see when he opened the front door? How did he react?

Samuel saw that it had snowed heavily overnight. Three feet of snow covered the streets of his neighborhood. When he saw the snow, his eyes widened. Judging from the passage, I would say that Samuel was surprised.

**Step 2** Read the first sentence carefully. How is the phrase *his jaw dropped to the floor* related to Samuel’s reaction when he saw the snow that had fallen the night before?

After reading the whole passage, I infer that Samuel was surprised to see that snow covered his neighborhood. When people are surprised, their eyes tend to get wide and sometimes their mouths hang open. The phrase *his jaw dropped to the floor* must mean that Samuel was very surprised. The correct answer is A.
LEARN IT: Multiple-Meaning Words

Many English words have more than one meaning. To figure out what a multiple-meaning word means, consider how it is used in the sentence. Often, you can use context clues to determine the correct meaning of a word. Context clues are the words and sentences that surround an unfamiliar word.

EXAMPLE

2 Read this sentence.

The pillow was light because it contained only feathers.

In this sentence, the word light means

A  glowing.
B  on fire.
C  pale.
D  not heavy.
Step 1: Read the sentence carefully and determine how the word light is used. Look for context clues in the sentence to figure out its meaning.

The word light is used to describe the pillow. The pillow contains feathers. Feathers do not weigh very much.

Step 2: Read the answer choices carefully. Which answer choice is related to the context clues in the sentence?

Choices A and B are not related to the feathers because feathers being “on fire” does not make sense in this sentence, and feathers do not glow. Some feathers are pale, but not all; also, feathers are on the inside of a pillow, so they wouldn’t cause the pillow to look pale. Choice C, therefore, is not the answer. Choice D is related to feathers because feathers are not heavy, and a pillow that contained only feathers would also not be heavy. The correct answer is D.
PRACTICE IT: Figurative Language and Multiple-Meaning Words

Directions: Read the announcement and answer the questions that follow.

Calling All Athletes!
Our Sports Camp Wants You!

Come join the Mt. Shasta Sports Camp this summer for loads of fun!
Everybody can play a sport, and joining is as easy as 1-2-3!

Whatever sport you want to pursue, we have it!
- We have groups for basketball, baseball, soccer—even hockey!
- We offer swimming, diving, and synchronized swimming lessons.
- We teach tennis, golf, rowing, volleyball, gymnastics, and cycling.
- Our specialty is figure skating, with three full-time coaches to help you improve.

Mt. Shasta Sports Camp is a blast!
Please talk to Ms. Lesser in Room 244 if you are interested.
Lesson 1, Figurative Language and Multiple-Meaning Words

1. Read this sentence from the flyer.
   Come join the Mt. Shasta Sports Camp this summer for loads of fun!
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. something very entertaining  
   B. something very heavy  
   C. something very easy  
   D. something very intense

2. Read this sentence from the flyer.
   Everybody can play a sport, and joining is as easy as 1-2-3!
   In this sentence, what is the meaning of the underlined phrase?
   A. Three people must join.  
   B. You must count to three to join.  
   C. It's not difficult to join.  
   D. It takes three months to join.

3. Read this sentence from the flyer.
   Our specialty is figure skating, with three full-time coaches to help you improve.
   In this sentence, the word coaches means
   A. trainers of athletes.  
   B. horse-drawn carriages.  
   C. classes of airline travel.  
   D. takers of advice.

4. Read this sentence from the flyer.
   We offer swimming, diving, and synchronized swimming lessons.
   Without changing the meaning of the sentence, which word can best be used to replace the underlined part?
   A. take  
   B. give  
   C. attempt  
   D. bid
The English language contains many words that originally came from other languages. Some of these borrowed words have the same meanings as their foreign counterparts. Some have evolved and taken on new meanings altogether. Here are some foreign words, the languages they originally came from, and their meanings in English:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foreign Word</th>
<th>Language of Origin</th>
<th>Meaning in English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adieu!</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Goodbye, farewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alfresco</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>out-of-doors, in the open air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alma mater</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>used by students to refer to their school or university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bon ami</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>a good friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bon voyage!</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Have a pleasant trip!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bon appétit!</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>(I wish you) a healthy appetite!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bonsai</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>a dwarfed tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bravo!</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>used to praise performers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dim sum</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>small dumplings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>et cetera</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>and the others, and so forth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in toto</td>
<td>Latin</td>
<td>entirely, completely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympiad</td>
<td>Greek</td>
<td>a celebration of the Olympic games, though it may be applied to any competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pasta</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>a flour-and-egg preparation that is shaped like noodles or shells, usually served with sauce or stuffed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>siesta</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>a midday or afternoon nap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tofu</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>soft food made from soybeans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wok</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>a large, bowl-shaped pan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to understand word origins, you can use a dictionary. If a dictionary is not available, you can look for word parts in a foreign phrase that sound or look like an English word that you know. You can also use context clues, which are words and sentences surrounding an unknown word that give hints about that word’s meaning.
EXAMPLE

1 Read this sentence.

Mimi always uses a ______ when she's stir-frying meat and vegetables.

Which Chinese word(s) correctly fit(s) the sentence?
A  bonsai
B  wok
C  dim sum
D  tofu

Step 1 Read the sentence carefully. Are there clues in the sentence that tell us what the missing word means?

*The word stands for something used for stir-frying or cooking. It sounds like it must be some kind of frying pan.*

Step 2 Read each answer choice. Eliminate all choices that are obviously wrong. Which word means “frying pan”?

Dim sum and tofu are both food, not pans, so they cannot be correct. A bonsai is a plant. The only choice that means a kind of pan is wok. B is the correct answer.

EXAMPLE

2 Which French expression would be *most* appropriate to say to someone who is about to eat?

A  Adieu!
B  Bon voyage!
C  Bonjour!
D  Bon appétit!

Step 1 Read the answer choices. Are there words that are familiar to you?

Bonjour means “Good day,” so it’s not an expression that you say to someone who is about to eat. People say Adieu when they are about to part, so that could mean “Goodbye.” Bon voyage might mean “Have a good trip” because voyage is another word for trip. Appétit sounds like appetite.

Step 2 Which of these familiar words relates to someone who is about to eat?

*I think D is the correct answer because appetite is related to eating. It sounds like an expression you say to someone who is about to eat. D is the correct answer.*
PRACTICE IT: Word Origins

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Math Champion

1. Dean stood modestly as he listened to the audience’s applause. “You’re the best!” they yelled exuberantly.

2. He had just won the Math ______. Dean looked down at the crowd and saw the proud faces of his mom and dad, his classmates, and his math teacher and coach, Mr. Simms. They looked so pleased with him, and the long days of preparation and drills seemed so distant.

3. After the competition, Dean’s mom and dad took him to a fancy restaurant called Squisito to celebrate. It was a clear day, so they chose a table outside to dine _______. His mom ordered a mouthwatering pasta dish, while Dean and his dad chose thick slabs of steak.

4. “So tell us, Dean,” Dad began, “what do you want to do now that you’ve won the competition?”

5. “Dad, I couldn’t sleep last night because of this competition. I’m so tired, and right now, all I want is a siesta,” Dean said.

6. “Okay,” Mom said, “Let’s just go home after lunch, so you can take a nice long nap that will refresh you, our new math champion.”
1. Read this sentence.
   It was a clear day, so they chose a table outside to dine ______.
   Which Italian word meaning “in the fresh air” can be used to complete the sentence?
   A. alfresco  
   B. pasta  
   C. siesta  
   D. Squisito

2. Which Greek word correctly fits in the first sentence of paragraph 2?
   A. Motto  
   B. Cosmos  
   C. Olympiad  
   D. Stadium

3. Which Italian expression would be most appropriate to say when applauding someone?
   A. Bravo!  
   B. Fortissimo!  
   C. Ciao!  
   D. Grande!

4. In Spanish, the word siesta means
   A. food.  
   B. nap.  
   C. feast.  
   D. gift.
LEARN IT: Context Clues

You can often guess the meaning of a word from context clues. The context of a word is the sentence or passage in which it appears. Using context clues means looking at the surrounding words, phrases, and sentences to figure out the meaning of an unfamiliar word.

EXAMPLE

1 Read these sentences.

Maggie has an amiable personality. Everyone likes her.

In this sentence, the word amiable means

A cruel.
B friendly.
C rude.
D boring.

Step 1 Read the example sentences carefully and look for context clues that give you hints about the meaning of the underlined word.

The second sentence says that everyone likes Maggie. This tells me that the word amiable refers to one of Maggie’s good qualities.

Step 2 Read the answer choices and use the process of elimination to determine the correct answer.

If I choose A, the sentence becomes: Maggie has a cruel personality. This does not make sense because being cruel is not a good quality. Choices C and D also refer to negative traits. Only B, friendly, refers to a good quality.

Step 3 Replace the word amiable with your answer choice. Does it make sense?

If I replace amiable with friendly, the sentences become: Maggie has a friendly personality. Everyone likes her. The first sentence makes sense. Choice B is definitely the answer.
Synonyms, or words with nearly the same meaning, often have different shades of meaning. For example, the words chilly and freezing, which both mean “cold,” convey different sensations. If it is chilly, you might wear a light jacket, but if it is freezing you would need a winter coat. Recognizing shades of meaning can give the reader a clearer understanding of the text.

EXAMPLE

2  Read these sentences.

Mom got irritated when Joe came home late from school. She got really furious, however, when he did it again.

The words irritated and furious both suggest that Mom was

A  excited.
B  happy.
C  angry.
D  quiet.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. How are the words irritated and furious connected?

I know that irritated and furious are both words that suggest strong negative feelings since they describe Mom’s reactions to Joe’s misbehavior. Furious describes a stronger emotion than irritated, but both words are somewhat similar in meaning.

Step 2  Which of the listed answer choices has a shade of meaning that is similar to both irritated and furious?

If I substitute the word angry for either irritated or furious, the passage still makes sense. None of the other answer choices express strong negative feelings as do irritated or furious. I will choose C because the words irritated and furious give different shades of meaning for angry.
Chirp! Chirp! Chirp! Oliver Bloom looked up, squinting in the bright sunlight. A tiny blue jay landed on a nearby branch and tilted its head, as if to study Oliver. Then the bird was suddenly out of sight after it flew swiftly away to the biggest oak tree in the backyard.

It was a lovely afternoon in April, a day Oliver had looked forward to all winter. Today was the day he finally got to plant his summer garden! Oliver’s mother, Rosanna, opened the kitchen window and leaned over the ledge. “Oliver, don’t forget to plant the strawberries,” she called out excitedly. “I want to make strawberry shortcake this summer.” Oliver jumped from the tree stump, eagerly picked up his gardening tools, and ran toward the garden plot, whistling. “Oliver is really diligent. He’s my hardest working son,” Rosanna thought to herself.

1. As used in paragraph 1, what does the word **swiftly** mean?
   - A. quickly
   - B. slowly
   - C. gradually
   - D. sadly

2. Oliver’s mother was excited to make strawberry shortcake in the same way that Oliver was _______ to plant his garden.
   - A. quick
   - B. reluctant
   - C. unwilling
   - D. eager

3. What is the difference between **squinting** and **gazing**?
   - A. Gazing is done by several people together, and squinting is done alone.
   - B. Gazing usually takes less time than squinting does.
   - C. Gazing is done without any thinking, and squinting is done with much thought.
   - D. Gazing is an intent look, and squinting is a look with the eyes partially closed.

4. **Read these sentences from the passage.**

   “Oliver is really **diligent**. He’s my hardest working son,” Rosanna thought to herself.

   **What does the word **diligent** mean?**
   - A. lazy
   - B. unreliable
   - C. active
   - D. playful
LEARN IT: Features of Informational Materials

**Text features** include headlines, graphics, captions, boldfaced terms, hyperlinks, and footnotes.

**EXAMPLE**

1. **Read the passage.**

   **Summer Roadwork for Evergreen Expressway**

   March 12, 2007—City officials said yesterday that twelve miles of the Evergreen Expressway will be closed in June because of roadwork.

   Officials said that exits 33–40 on the expressway need major repairs. These exits stretch from Lumberton to Twin Peaks. Council member Ed Hurley said that the repairs will begin on June 1, 2007. He did not say when the work would be finished.

   In this passage, *Summer Roadwork for Evergreen Expressway* is
   
   A  a footnote.  
   B  a hyperlink.  
   C  a headline.  
   D  a caption.

   **Step 1** Look at how the passage is structured.

   **Step 2** Read each answer choice. Think about the kind of information each type of text feature contains. Which kind of text feature does *Summer Roadwork for Evergreen Expressway* represent?

   A footnote appears at the bottom of a page, so A cannot be the correct answer. A hyperlink is usually underlined, so B would not be the answer. A caption provides information on an image, so D is not the answer. A headline tells the topic of a passage. C must be the correct answer.
EXAMPLE

2 Read the passage.

Maria Tallchief was a talented ballet dancer. She was very famous. Dancers all over the world admired her.

Tallchief was born in 1925 in Fairfax, Oklahoma. Her father was an Osage Indian. Her mother’s family had come from Europe. For most of her career, Tallchief danced with the New York City Ballet. She joined this company in 1947. She stayed until 1965.

Tallchief became known for her performance in *The Firebird*, a ballet based on a fiery piece of music. Her dancing was breathtaking.

In 1980, Tallchief founded the Chicago City Ballet. She served as its artistic director for seven years. Many people regard Tallchief as one of the greatest dancers of the twentieth century.

This passage would most likely be found in

A a magazine for ballet dancers.
B a training manual for ballet teachers.
C the front page of a local newspaper.
D a brochure for a ballet school.

Step 1 Read the passage carefully. List the important information.

*Maria Tallchief was a talented and famous ballet dancer.*
*Tallchief’s performances, especially in The Firebird, were breathtaking.*
*Tallchief is considered one of the greatest dancers in recent history.*

Step 2 Read your list. What kind of information does the passage contain?

The information is of general or global interest, so it may well be found in a magazine. It does not contain instructions, so it is not from a training manual. It does not provide information of local interest or about current events, so it is not from a local newspaper. The article does not contain descriptive advertising for a ballet school, so it is not from a brochure. Answer choice A, a magazine for ballet teachers, must be the correct answer.
Online information is information that you can find and access by using a computer that is connected to the Internet. You can access online information easily by clicking icons or hyperlinks. Online information includes texts, images, sound clips, and video clips.

EXAMPLE

3 Read the following information about an organization.

“Fresh-Air Foundation”

We are looking for families residing in rural areas to host city children for the summer. If you live in a rural area, please consider becoming a host family. If you are interested, please click on the following:

- About Us
- Host Family Requirements
- Host Family Responsibilities
- Download Applications
- Yearly Schedule
- Watch Host Family Videos

This information is most likely from a

A newspaper.
B magazine.
C Web site.
D brochure.

Step 1 Read the information carefully. Does it contain any special features?

This is about an organization looking for host families. I can see that I can click on buttons to get to different kinds of materials, including videos.

Step 2 Read each answer choice. What kind of information is found in each answer choice?

Newspapers, magazines, and brochures may all contain similar information about host-family organizations, but they provide only printed text. Only Web sites have hyperlinks and video clips. C is the correct answer.
Document A

One of the most popular food crops in the world is the potato. Some potatoes are cultivated for their starch. Starch is used to make fabric stiff. It also makes some foods thicker. However, most potatoes are grown to be eaten. Because much of the potato is made of water, it is easy to digest. In addition, potatoes are rich in vitamins and minerals. Potatoes have vitamin C and potassium.

The potato that most of us know best is the white potato, or Irish potato. The part of the potato plant we eat is called the tuber. It is the swollen end of the plant’s underground stem. These tubers grow buds, or “eyes,” that become new plants if conditions are right. The potato plant itself bears white or purplish flowers. The skin of a potato can be a variety of colors, from light tan to deep purple. Inside, its flesh ranges from white to yellow, but in some cases it may be purple. Over five hundred varieties of potatoes are grown across the world.

Botanists believe the potato first grew in the Andes Mountains of Peru and Bolivia. In the 1500s, the Spanish reached this area. They saw the native Incas eating potatoes. The Spaniards called the potato batata, after the sweet potato plants grown in the West Indies. Later, the English explorers changed the word batata to potato.

Today Idaho and Washington produce most of the potatoes grown in the United States. From potato chips and mashed potatoes to hash browns and French fries, the potato has become a major part of the American diet. Indeed, all of these interesting facts about the potato are enough to make your mouth water!

Document B

August 14, 2007—The Nemis Ballet Company will perform in Hampden on August 20, 2007. The show will be at 8:00 p.m.

The ballet company will present Sleeping Beauty. Jasmine Darcy will play the part of Sleeping Beauty. Tristan Dunstan will play Prince Charming.

Adrian Nemis is the founder and artistic director of the Nemis Ballet Company. He says, “People should watch out. I gave a fresh twist to the old fairy tale.”

Nemis adds he’s pleased to return to Hampden. “Hampden is my hometown. I grew up here. My first performance was in Bailey’s Auditorium.” Noting the renovations made to Bailey’s Auditorium, he said, “It’s like the original auditorium, but with modern equipment.”

Darwin Blade, mayor of Hampden, said he is pleased to have a homegrown talent back in town.
1. Passage A comes from a Web site. The underlined terms on a Web page are known as
   A. hyperlinks
   B. buttons
   C. graphics
   D. captions

2. Passage B would most likely be found
   A. on a school poster.
   B. in an encyclopedia.
   C. in a local newspaper.
   D. in a magazine for mayors.

3. Which is the best title for Passage B?
   A. Nemis Ballet in Hampden
   B. Blade is Mayor
   C. Bailey’s Auditorium Renovated
   D. Sleeping Beauty

4. Which is the best title for Passage A?
   A. The Healthiest Snack
   B. King Louis XVI’s Potato Campaign
   C. Who Produces the Most Potatoes?
   D. The Story of the Potato
LESSON 5  Compare and Contrast

Content Standard: 6R2.2 Structural Features of Informational Materials: Analyze text that uses the compare-and-contrast organizational pattern.

LEARN IT: Compare and Contrast

An organizational pattern refers to how information is arranged in a text. A compare-and-contrast organizational pattern compares ideas that are similar or contrasts ideas that are different.

Compare

When a text uses a comparing organizational pattern, the information is arranged according to how two or more things, people, or ideas are similar. Signal words and phrases often used for comparisons include similarly, alike, like, in the same way, too, both, and also.

EXAMPLE

1 Read this passage.

Lily and Rose are best friends who have many things in common. Both girls like to write poetry. Lily writes poems about Rose, describing her strength, charm, and intelligence. Rose writes poems about Lily; she also writes about Lily’s snake, Spike. When Rose feels sad, Lily lets her play with Spike, knowing that his slithering ways will bring a smile to both their faces.

Last fall, Lily and Rose both entered an essay contest at their school. They had to compose essays that answered the question “Whom do you admire most?” Lily wrote about Rose, to no one’s surprise; in the same way, Rose wrote about Lily.

The passage is comparing

A  people.
B  essays.
C  schools.
D  contests.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. Which signal words or phrases are used to show a comparison? What do these words and phrases compare?

The signal words both and also and the phrase in the same way are used to compare Lily and Rose.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. Which answer choice describes Lily and Rose?

Lily and Rose are people, so the correct answer is A.
Contrast

When a text uses a **contrasting organizational pattern**, the information is arranged according to how two or more things, people, or ideas are different. This pattern includes signal words or phrases such as *although*, *on the other hand*, *but*, *yet*, *however*, *instead*, *even though*, and *unlike*.

**EXAMPLE**

Read this passage.

Over the years, the expertise and technology for building roller coasters have improved. The first roller coasters were little more than sleds that traveled on tracks. Roller coasters today, on the other hand, are much faster and bigger. They travel at speeds up to one hundred miles per hour and soar higher than three hundred feet in the air.

The passage shows a contrast between

A  types of roller coasters.
B  safety features of roller coasters.
C  building materials for roller coasters.
D  roller coasters of the past and present.

**Step 1** Read the passage carefully. Which signal word or phrase is used to show contrast?

*The phrase* on the other hand *is used to signal a contrast.*

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which item do you think is referred to by the signal words? Why?

*I think the signal words refer to modern roller coasters, which are different from roller coasters of long ago. The correct answer must be D.*
PRACTICE IT: Compare and Contrast

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Best Friends

Ryan and Fernando are best friends. They have known each other since they were in grade school, and they live in the same town. However, the two disagree about several things. On weekends, Ryan likes to explore parks, but Fernando enjoys watching movies. When it comes to clothes, Ryan prefers white shirts and jeans, while Fernando is comfortable with dark-colored shirts and slacks. In restaurants, Ryan always orders roasted chicken, while Fernando asks for steaks and vegetables. Both love to read, but Ryan likes novels, and Fernando prefers magazines. Although the two differ in many ways, they also find ways to enjoy each other’s company.

1. How are Ryan and Fernando similar?
   A. They love to read.
   B. They prefer chicken.
   C. They wear dark shirts.
   D. They like to watch movies.

2. In the passage, which signal word is used to show comparison?
   A. however
   B. but
   C. both
   D. although

3. The passage allows for the comparison and contrast of
   A. friends.
   B. jeans.
   C. parks.
   D. magazines.

4. In the passage, which signal word is not used to show a contrast?
   A. but
   B. also
   C. however
   D. although
LEARN IT: Connect and Clarify Main Ideas

Each text—and usually each paragraph within the text—has a main idea. It answers the question “What is this passage about?” The main idea of a paragraph is often found in the topic sentence. All the details in a passage or paragraph should support its main idea.

EXAMPLE

1 Read this passage.

Long ago, painters had to make their own paints. Painters used objects from nature, such as rocks and plants, to create colored powders called pigments. Pigments came from a variety of sources. Lapis lazuli, a bright blue rock, was a popular choice for creating blue pigments. Another source for blue pigments was the indigo plant. Yellow and red pigments came from rocks that had iron oxide in them, while crushed bird bones produced white pigments. Lead white, a type of white pigment, came from scrapings of the white crust that formed on pieces of lead.

This passage is mainly about
A  lapis lazuli used for blue coloring.
B  painters from the past.
C  sources of pigments.
D  colored powders.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully and ask yourself, “What is this passage about?” Most, if not all, of the sentences in the passage will guide you to the correct answer by giving details about the main idea.

Most of the sentences in the passage discuss where pigments come from. Each sentence describes a different color pigment and its source.

Step 2  Read the answer choices carefully. Which item states what the passage is about?

Choice A is only one source of pigment, so it cannot be the correct answer. Although the passage begins by discussing painters from the past, it soon moves on to describe the sources of their pigments, so choice B is not the correct answer. Choice D is a definition of pigment, not the main idea of the passage. Choice C gives the main idea, which relates to the sources of the pigments used by painters long ago.
LESSON 6  Connect and Clarify Main Ideas

Identifying the main ideas of different passages and connecting them to each other can help you make sense of what you read. To connect ideas from multiple sources, look for the main topics and think about how they support or strengthen each other. Ask yourself whether each source builds on the information in the other sources or contrasts and contradicts it.

EXAMPLE

Read this passage.

Ozone is a thin layer of gas in Earth’s atmosphere that shields us from the sun’s harmful rays. Scientists have known since the 1970s that a hole sometimes appears in the ozone layer. In the mid-1980s, scientists learned that the hole was getting larger. Through tests and experiments, they showed that chemical compounds called chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) were causing problems in the ozone layer. CFCs rise up into the atmosphere through evaporation. There, the strong rays of the sun cause the CFCs to change into ozone-eating particles.

In the 1980s, CFCs were used to cool the air in air conditioners and refrigerators. They were also used in plastic foam boxes for food products and in aerosol cans containing hairsprays, deodorants, cleaning fluids, and shaving creams.

Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea in the second paragraph?

A  an editorial arguing why products containing CFCs should not be used
B  an article in a scientific journal listing the amount of CFCs in products
C  a diagram showing the different parts of air conditioners and refrigerators
D  a fictional story about scientists who studied the ozone layer during the 1980s

Step 1  Carefully read the second paragraph and identify its main idea.

The sentences in the second paragraph all describe the kinds of products that used CFCs during the 1980s.

Step 2  Read the answer choices. Which source would be most likely to give you evidence that supports the paragraph’s main idea?

An editorial would mention the writer’s opinions about why products that contain CFCs should not be used, but opinions must be supported by facts in order to be used as evidence. A diagram of air conditioners and refrigerators might not contain information about how CFCs are used in those appliances, and a fictional story about scientists who studied the ozone layer probably would not mention products that use CFCs either. Only an article in a scientific journal listing the amount of CFCs used in products would provide factual evidence about the different products that used CFCs in the 1980s. B is the correct answer.
Connect and Clarify Main Ideas

A Visit to Hamburg

1 Hamburg is one of the largest and most important cities in Germany. It is located on the Elbe River and is the largest port in Germany. Hamburg handles half of all Germany’s imports. Each year, more than 15,000 ships visit Hamburg’s harbor. The city is the country’s key business center, with a rich history of publishing and broadcasting.

2 The city of Hamburg dates back to the ninth century. During this time, the castle Hammaburg was built between the Alster and Elbe rivers. During the next several centuries, the village became an important religious center in northern Europe. Over the past 1,100 years, the city has been destroyed and rebuilt several times. Hamburg today is a modern city. However, it has managed to keep its cultural heritage.

3 Hamburg has long been a center of music. Composers such as Felix Mendelssohn and Johannes Brahms were born there. The Hamburg Staatsoper is one of the great opera houses in the world. In the early 1960s, the Beatles performed at Hamburg’s nightclubs. Not long after, this rock group achieved worldwide fame.

PRACTICE IT: Connect and Clarify Main Ideas

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

1 Where would this passage most likely be found?

A in a nightclub advertisement  
B in an architecture textbook  
C in a tourism brochure of Hamburg  
D in an encyclopedia entry on composers

2 Which of the following sources would provide the best evidence to support the main idea in paragraph 1?

A an editorial arguing why travelers should visit Hamburg  
B an encyclopedia entry detailing Hamburg’s size and major businesses  
C a map showing Hamburg’s location along the Elbe River  
D a story about a sailor’s adventures while visiting Hamburg’s harbor

3 Paragraph 2 is mainly about Hamburg’s

A castles.  
B religions.  
C history.  
D culture.

4 Read this sentence from paragraph 3.

Hamburg has long been a center of music.

Which of the following sources would best support this idea?

A a book about Hamburg’s musical history  
B a diary of a tourist in Hamburg  
C a review of a concert in Hamburg  
D a magazine about current German singers
OUTLINES, NOTES, and SUMMARIES are compact versions of a text. They contain only the most important details. They are useful for recording information you might want to remember later. That way, if you need the information for a test or a paper, you don’t have to reread the entire text.

OUTLINES

An outline is the skeleton of a text. It arranges the most important information in a way that shows how the details are related to each other. Headings are usually the main ideas. Subheadings include details to support the main ideas. Subheadings are always related to the headings they fall under.

To create an outline from a text, look for the main idea of each paragraph. Then, look for the details that support this main idea. Arrange this information in a format that is easy to read and reference.

I. Main Idea of Paragraph 1
   A. Detail
   B. Detail
   C. Detail

II. Main Idea of Paragraph 2
   A. Detail
   B. Detail
   C. Detail

III. Main Idea of Paragraph 3
   A. Detail
   B. Detail
   C. Detail
MODEL EXAMPLE

1 Read the following passage and outline.

**The Three Types of Rocks**

In geology, there are three basic rock classifications. The first type of rock is igneous rock. Igneous rocks are formed when hot liquid magma cools and hardens. Granite, basalt, and obsidian are all igneous rocks.

The second type of rock is sedimentary rock. Sedimentary rocks are made up of small pieces of other rocks that are compressed over time to form a larger rock. Chalk, quartz, and limestone are all sedimentary rocks.

The third type of rock is metamorphic rock. Metamorphic rocks are rocks that have been changed by intense heat and pressure. Marble, shale, and slate are all metamorphic rocks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Three Types of Rocks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Igneous rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Made up of hardened liquid magma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Granite, basalt, and obsidian are examples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Sedimentary rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Made up of compressed pieces of rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Chalk, quartz, and limestone are examples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Metamorphic rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Made up of rocks changed by heat and pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Marble, shale, and slate are examples</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which detail should be used to complete the outline?

A. There are three basic rock types
B. Made up of hardened liquid magma
C. The rocks are compressed over time
D. The first type of rock is igneous rock

**Step 1** Look at the passage and outline. What is missing?

_The first subheading under “Igneous rocks” is missing. The main idea of the first paragraph describes what the rocks are made up of. I probably need a detail that describes igneous rocks._

**Step 2** Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice gives the correct detail about igneous rocks?

Answer A is the main idea of all three paragraphs, so it does not belong in the blank. Answer B is a description of igneous rocks. Answer C describes how sedimentary rocks are formed. Answer D is a heading in the outline. The best answer is answer choice B.
Notes

When you read it, you may want to record the most important information so you can reference later. Writing down the most important parts of a text is called taking notes. When you take notes, you don’t want to write everything down. Only write down the key points and facts from the text. You also don’t have to worry about using complete sentences when taking notes. Because your notes should only include the bare bones of a text, you may only need to write key words. Here is a list of some of the things you should look for when taking notes:

- the main idea of the text
- names of people
- the title of the text
- names of places
- dates when events occurred
- key descriptions
- special terms or vocabulary
- titles

MODEL EXAMPLE

Read the following passage.

Many people contributed to the design of the modern zipper. The first was Elias Howe, who patented the “Automatic, Continuous Clothing Closure” in 1851. His device relied on a series of clasps that ran the length of the closure and a string that kept the teeth evenly spaced apart. It did not have the slider the modern zipper uses to lock the two sides of the closure together. This early version of the zipper was unreliable. The teeth unlocked and opened if the end of the closure was pulled in the other direction. The zipper still had a long way to go until it was ready for everyday use.

Imagine that you are taking notes on this passage. Which detail should not be included in your notes?

A  many people helped design the zipper
B  first version patented in 1851 by Elias Howe
C  Howe’s version was unreliable
D  long way to go until it was ready to use every day

Step 1 Read the passage. What are the most important points in the passage?

The passage focuses on one of the people who contributed to the modern zipper. One version of the zipper was patented by Elias Howe in 1851. This version was unreliable because it came apart too easily.

Step 2 Read each answer choice. Which of the answer choices is not an important detail?

Choice A is the main idea of the passage. Choice B is the name of the inventor and the date he patented his invention. Choice C is an important detail about Howe’s invention. Choice D doesn’t really provide any information at all. This is not an important detail and should not be included in my notes. The answer is D.
Summaries

Summaries are short recaps of a text. Like outlines and notes, they include only the most important details. Unlike outlines and notes, summaries are written in paragraph form and are made up of complete sentences. A summary should include the main idea and any significant names, places, or dates that are mentioned in the text. Summaries should also retell the most important details and descriptions from the text. Just be sure the summary is written in your own words.

MODEL EXAMPLE

Read the following passage.

On December 26, 2004, an earthquake occurred off the coast of Indonesia in the Indian Ocean. It was one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded and would turn out to be one of the most devastating natural disasters in history. The earthquake led to the formation of a tsunami, or giant wave, in the Indian Ocean. The tsunami was hard to detect before it reached the shore, so many people had no warning that the tsunami was about to hit. Almost 230,000 people died as a result of the earthquake and the tsunami. The countries that suffered the most damage and loss of life were Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand. The tsunami was so big that it reached the east coast of Africa.

Which paragraph best summarizes the passage?

A. On December 26, 2004, one of the largest earthquakes in history triggered a tsunami off the coast of Indonesia in the Indian Ocean.

B. On December 26, 2004, one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded triggered a tsunami off the coast of Indonesia in the Indian Ocean. The massive tsunami devastated several countries, killed almost 230,000 people, and traveled very long distances.

C. In 2004, an earthquake triggered a tsunami off the coast of Indonesia in the Indian Ocean. The tsunami devastated Sri Lanka and Thailand and took the lives of many people.

D. On December 26, 2004, a very large earthquake was recorded off the coast of Indonesia in the Indian Ocean. This caused a tsunami that was hard to detect until it reached the shore and took the lives of many people—almost 230,000.

Step 1. Read the passage. What information is most important?

The date and location of the earthquake and the tsunami are important and should be included in a summary with important details such as the number of people who died.

Step 2. Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice includes all the important details?

Answers A and C do not include the number of people who died. Answer D includes the unimportant detail of the tsunami being hard to detect and leaves out important effects of the tsunami. Answer B includes all the important details and no unimportant information. Answer B is the best summary of the passage.
Braces for Your Teeth

From the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Do you like the way your teeth look? No one has perfect teeth. Some people's teeth are crowded together. Other people have too much space between their teeth. Sometimes the upper teeth don't match the lower teeth when a person bites down. For some people the problem isn't so bad. But others may need braces to make their teeth straighter.

Braces are not just to make your smile look good. It's hard to brush crowded or crooked teeth. If your teeth don't get clean, they can get cavities and other problems.

There are special dentists who can tell if you need braces and can fit you with them if you do. They are called orthodontists.

How Do Braces Work?

Braces put pressure against the teeth. Most of the pressure comes from a metal wire that goes across the outside of the teeth. Very slowly this pressure makes the teeth move and become straight.

The orthodontist adjusts the wire just a little bit every few weeks. The small changes in the wire allow the braces to move the teeth slowly. This is important. If the braces make the teeth move too fast, it can cause the teeth to become loose.

Because the teeth only can be moved slowly, you'll need to wear braces for about two years. After that you'll need to wear a plastic retainer over your teeth. This will keep them in their new position until bones grow around the teeth to hold them in place permanently.

What Do Braces Look Like?

One wire goes across all of your top teeth and another goes across your bottom teeth. It is held in place by small pieces of metal or ceramic that are put on each tooth. These pieces can be clear or tooth-colored. But then the fun begins. The elastic ties that hold the wire to the pieces come in colors. You can get them to show your school spirit, support your favorite sports team, or celebrate an upcoming holiday. The ties can be changed when the orthodontist adjusts the wire.

How to Take Care of Your Teeth with Braces

When you have braces, you’ll have to be very good about following the brushing and flossing instructions your orthodontist gives you.

You can't eat hard, sticky or gooey foods such as jawbreakers, peanuts, ice cubes, caramel, or taffy. Those kinds of foods can break or bend the wires or brackets or get caught in the braces and cause cavities.

If you think you need braces, talk to your mom and dad.
Which of these details should be included as a heading in an outline of the passage “Braces for Your Teeth”?
A. How braces work
B. Teeth can only move slowly
C. Avoid certain foods
D. Braces make teeth straighter

Which of these details should be included in an outline as a subheading under the heading “What braces look like”?
A. Braces use pressure to slowly move your teeth
B. Talk to your parents if you think you need braces
C. Taking care of your teeth while wearing braces
D. You can choose the color of the elastic ties that hold the wire

Which special term from paragraphs 1–3 should you include in your notes on the passage?
A. perfect teeth
B. problem
C. special dentists
D. orthodontists

Read this summary of the passage.
Crowded or crooked teeth can cause dental problems, but they can be fixed using braces. Braces work by applying pressure and slowly moving the teeth. It takes about two years for braces to realign the teeth. Braces look like a wire across the top and bottom teeth. Elastic ties hold the wire, and you can choose the color of the ties. While wearing braces, you should follow the orthodontist’s instructions and avoid foods that can harm the braces or your teeth.

Which of the following details from the passage should be added to improve the summary most?
A. It is fun to choose the colors of the elastic ties for your braces.
B. An orthodontist is a special dentist who fits and adjusts braces.
C. I only had to wear braces for one and one-half years.
D. You shouldn’t eat caramel or taffy while you are wearing braces.
LEARN IT: Follow Multiple-Step Instructions

Instructions are arranged in a sequence of steps. They are often numbered to make them easier for the reader to follow. Sometimes, key words such as before, after, afterward, and then are used to make the sequence clearer.

EXAMPLE

1. Read the passage.

When you want to cross a street, you should look for a crosswalk first. After you find one, you shouldn't cross right away. Instead, pause and look both ways to make sure there is no oncoming traffic. If there are no approaching vehicles, you can cross the street safely.

What is the first thing you should do if you want to cross the street?

A. Cross right away.
B. Look left and right.
C. Pause for a moment.
D. Try to find a crosswalk.

Step 1 Read the instructions carefully. List the steps and number them. Which step is the first one?

1. Look for a crosswalk.
2. Pause.
3. Look both ways.
4. If there are no cars, cross the street.

According to my list, the first thing to do is look for a crosswalk.

Step 2 Read the answer choices carefully and see which one matches the first step on your list.

Choice D matches the first step on my list. All of the other choices are steps that come after the first one, so D is the correct answer.
Numbered Steps

Numbered steps make it easier to follow multiple instructions.

EXAMPLE

2 Read the following set of steps.

How to Use a Public Pay Phone

1. Pick up the phone from the cradle.
2. Insert the correct change into the coin slot.
3. Listen for the dial tone. Dial the area code and the phone number of the person you want to call.
4. Wait until someone answers and then identify yourself.
5. If you want to extend the time, insert more coins.
6. Hang up the phone after you are finished talking.

If you have finished your call, which of the following should you do next?

A  Hang up the phone.
B  Insert coins in the coin slot.
C  Dial the number.
D  Talk into the phone.

Step 1  Read the steps carefully. When would a person have finished a call?

I know a person is done using a pay phone when he or she has finished talking.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. Based on the numbered steps, what should you do when your call is over?

Choices B, C, and D all happen before I have finished my call. I hang up the phone after I have finished my call, so A is the correct answer.
PRACTICE IT: Follow Multiple-Step Instructions

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

How to Put Your New Ant Town Together

Congratulations on being the new owner of the famous Ant Town! This kit comes complete with base, front and back windows, lid, soil, and one queen ant. Please follow the instructions carefully.

1. Place the large window labeled “front” into the front slot of the base. Place the back window into the rear slot of the base. Make sure that you attach the windows properly.
2. Fill the Ant Town with the soil provided. The soil should come up to the line marked on the back window. Gently shake the Ant Town until the soil is level.
3. Snap the lid hinges into place on the side.
4. Attach the lid to the lid hinges using the enclosed screws. You will need a screwdriver to do this. Make sure the lid closes tightly to prevent your ants from escaping.
5. Open the plastic cup containing the queen ant. Carefully place the queen ant into the Ant Town and immediately close the lid afterwards.

You will be able to watch the queen ant dig herself a tunnel and begin laying eggs. Within two to three weeks, you should be able to see several dozen small ants busily and tirelessly digging tunnels and caves for their new nest.

You will be able to watch all the activity through the front and back windows of your Ant Town.
1. What is the first action that should be taken by someone who wants to assemble this product?
   A. Place the queen ant into the Ant Town.
   B. Insert the front window into the front slot of the base.
   C. Insert the back window into the rear slot of the base.
   D. Fill the Ant Town with soil.

2. Which action should be done immediately after filling the Ant Town with soil?
   A. Attach the lid to the hinges using a screwdriver and screws.
   B. Snap the lid hinges into place on the sides.
   C. Carefully place the queen ant into the Ant Town.
   D. Gently shake the Ant Town to spread the soil evenly.

3. According to the passage, you should quickly shut the lid
   A. before placing the queen ant into the Ant Town.
   B. before attaching it to the lid hinges.
   C. after placing the queen ant into the Ant Town.
   D. after attaching it to the lid hinges.

4. The main purpose of this passage is
   A. to persuade readers to buy an Ant Town.
   B. to teach readers how to assemble an Ant Town.
   C. to inform readers about ants.
   D. to show readers how ant communities work.
LEARN IT: Author’s Conclusions

Author’s Conclusions

The author’s conclusion states the author’s main point or central idea. This is also known as the author’s perspective. It could include the author’s opinion about an idea, a position on an issue, or a viewpoint on a topic.

EXAMPLE

1 Read this passage.

Ever since the administration changed the dress code, I have felt more like I’m at a shopping mall than in a school. Students are concerned about their appearance more than their grades. They spend more time poring over magazines and looking at the latest fashions than reading their textbooks. The hallways are filled with “fashion models” who parade in their trendy outfits for everyone to admire. If things stay this way, parents will not be happy to see their children’s report cards.

Why does the author think the school’s new dress code is a bad policy?

A The parents are unhappy to see their children’s report cards.
B The administration didn’t explain why the dress code was changed.
C The students care more about their clothes than their schoolwork.
D The author dislikes the latest fashion trends modeled at school.

Step 1 Read the passage carefully. What are some of the points the author makes about the new dress code?

The author says, “Students are concerned about their appearance more than their grades.” The author also says that students spend more time reading fashion magazines than their textbooks. The author concludes by suggesting that students are going to end up with bad grades.

Step 2 Read the answer choices. Which reason for disliking the dress code matches each of the points the author makes?

The author does not say that parents are unhappy with their children’s grades, only that they will be unhappy “if things stay this way.” The author never actually says the administration did not explain why the dress code was changed. The author also never complains about the specific fashion trends modeled by students—the author disapproves of modeling any clothes at school. Only choice C matches all of the author’s points about the dress code. C is correct.
Analyze Evidence

The author’s conclusions should be supported by evidence. Strong evidence includes factual details that relate to the topic. This evidence provides one or more reasons for what the author believes. Looking for evidence in the text will help direct you to the author’s conclusions.

EXAMPLE

2 Read this passage.

It’s better to live in the countryside than in the city. For most of my life, I lived in the countryside with my parents, practically growing up among plants and animals. I loved the fresh air and the warm sunshine. One day, however, I decided to look for a job in the city, so I packed my bags and rode the bus out of town and into the big city. As soon as I stepped off the bus, the filthy air made me feel nauseous. Garbage littered the streets, and tall buildings loomed over you, darkening the once-blue sky. The people hurried about, without so much as sharing a friendly glance.

Read this sentence from the passage.

It’s better to live in the countryside than in the city.

This statement would be made stronger by adding which of these sentences?

A  The city has many parks, museums, and attractions.
B  Terrible storms sometimes batter the countryside.
C  Schools in the country are not as well-equipped as are those in the city.
D  It is cleaner and more relaxed, and the people are friendlier.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. What can you say about the author’s conclusion?

The author does not think the city is a very nice place to live. The author states, “It’s better to live in the countryside than in the city.”

Step 2  Read the answer choices. Which one provides one or more reasons for the author’s beliefs?

Choices A, B, and C provide evidence that supports an opinion opposite to the author’s. Choice D states reasons for why living in the countryside is better than living in the city. Choice D is the correct answer.
LESSON 9
Author’s Conclusions

PRACTICE IT: Author’s Conclusions

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

My big brother Bruce is the coolest guy around. He can effortlessly juggle four balls while walking down the street, chatting with me, and chewing gum. He has a pet parrot that squawks the words to pop songs, and he has a pen pal in New Delhi, India. He can even finish reading a thick book, such as *Pride and Prejudice*, within a week. He plays the harp and hops to school on a pogo stick. He truly is unlike any person I’ve ever met!

1. There is enough evidence in this passage to show that the author believes Bruce is
   A. just like everyone else.
   B. a caring big brother.
   C. an interesting person.
   D. a really boring guy.

2. Why is it appropriate for the author to discuss Bruce’s pet parrot in the passage?
   A. It is evidence that Bruce is a unique person.
   B. It is evidence that Bruce is a bird lover.
   C. It is evidence that Bruce has many skills.
   D. It is evidence that Bruce has many pets.

3. Read this sentence from the passage.

   He truly is unlike any person I’ve ever met!

   This statement would be made stronger by adding which of these sentences?
   A. In fact, he is as common as they come.
   B. As he says, he would rather be different than boring.
   C. As a result, everybody loves him.
   D. After all, he is just like my best friend.

4. The author supports the argument that Bruce is a cool guy by relating how Bruce is
   A. nice.
   B. popular.
   C. determined.
   D. multitalented.
LEARN IT: Make Assertions

When we make **assertions**, we state or declare positively. As a speaker or writer, it is important to support assertions with evidence.

**EXAMPLE**

1 Read this passage.

In Arizona, you might be out one afternoon and get caught in a huge thunderstorm. However, within five minutes the storm could pass over. The temperatures at night and during the day vary greatly throughout this state. In the dry months, the difference in temperature can even reach as much as 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit!

Information in the passage supports the idea that Arizona's weather is usually

A  unpredictable.
B  wet.
C  hot.
D  constant.

**Step 1** Read the passage carefully. What does it tell you about the weather in Arizona?

The passage says that, in Arizona, a storm might start and stop in five minutes. The temperature at night can be very different from that during the day, and the difference varies depending on the time of year and your location in the state.

**Step 2** Study the answer choices. Which answer choice is supported by the information in the passage?

Although the passage suggests that parts of Arizona can sometimes be wet or hot, the passage also states that the weather can change very quickly. This is the opposite of constant. Therefore, the best answer is A, unpredictable.
Assertions should always be supported by details in the text. Unsupported inferences, or claims that are not supported by details, make assertions weak and ineffective.

**EXAMPLE**

Read the following passage.

Edgar Degas was a French artist. He was born in Paris on July 19, 1834. His father was a banker. Young Edgar could afford to pursue a career in painting, so he studied under Louis Lamothe and traveled to Italy to study the works of the old masters. As a result of his studies, Degas’s paintings and sculptures look like they are real.

The passage supports all of the following inferences about Degas except that he was

A. hardworking.
B. wealthy.
C. handsome.
D. artistic.

**Step 1** Read the passage very carefully. What is it about? What details does it provide?

The passage talks about Edgar Degas, a French artist. His father was a banker, so Edgar could afford to study under Louis Lamothe. He went to Italy to study the works of the old masters.

**Step 2** Read the answer choices. Based on the details in the passage, which description of Degas is not supported?

According to the details in the passage, Degas was a French artist. He was also wealthy. His father’s banking career gave him the money to study painting and to travel. He studied the works of the old masters and used their techniques in his works. There are no details in the passage that support the inference that Degas was handsome. The answer is C.
PRACTICE IT: Make Assertions

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

The following is an advertisement for a new brand of soap.

1 Do you always want to feel clean? Do you always want to smell good? Do you want to be pampered right in your own home? Then use Bubbles Liquid Soap!

2 Research proves that Bubbles Liquid Soap kills 99 percent of germs that can be found on your skin. The leading brand removes only 95 percent of these germs that cause diseases. That’s because Bubbles Liquid Soap contains a new secret ingredient that kills germs instantly! Although Bubbles Liquid Soap is tough on germs, it is gentle on your skin. You can even use it as a facial wash! Bubbles Liquid Soap also smells soft and fresh. Its scent is infused with white tea and lavender extracts. It even provides vitamins that are readily absorbed by the skin, making it soft and supple. Studies show that nine out of ten shoppers who try Bubbles Liquid Soap prefer it to all other brands.

3 With Bubbles Liquid Soap, you can never go wrong. So buy now and experience the care that only Bubbles Liquid Soap can offer!

1 Which sentence(s) from the passage emphasize(s) that Bubbles is a good brand of liquid soap?
   A Research proves that Bubbles Liquid Soap kills 99 percent of germs that can be found on your skin.
   B Bubbles Liquid Soap also smells soft and fresh.
   C It even provides vitamins that are readily absorbed by the skin, making it soft and supple.
   D All of the above.

2 The advertisement implies that Bubbles Liquid Soap is
   A better than the leading brand of liquid soap.
   B the least expensive brand of soap.
   C the most expensive brand of soap.
   D a good product with some flaws.

3 What evidence from the passage supports the claim that Bubbles Liquid Soap is good for the skin?
   A It has vitamins.
   B It is inexpensive.
   C It smells like tea and lavender.
   D It is used by professional models.

4 Which assertion is not supported with evidence from the passage?
   A Bubbles Liquid Soap is effective against germs.
   B Bubbles Liquid Soap smells good.
   C Bubbles Liquid Soap costs less than the leading brand.
   D Bubbles Liquid Soap is popular with many shoppers who have tried it.
LEARN IT: Forms of Fiction

In literature, fiction is any written work that is a product of the author’s imagination. There are several different forms of fiction. These forms all have different structures, purposes, and characteristics.

Forms of Fiction

Major forms of fiction are the novel, short story, folktale, myth, and legend. The following chart shows characteristics of each of these forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Fiction</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Examples</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Novel</td>
<td>A long, book-length story that may have many different characters, settings, and conflicts.</td>
<td><em>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Story</td>
<td>A story that is shorter and simpler than a novel. Short stories usually have one setting, one conflict, and few characters.</td>
<td>“Rikki-tikki-tavi,” “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,” “The Pit and the Pendulum”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folktale</td>
<td>A story passed down orally before being written down. Fairy tales, tall tales, and fables are different types of folktales. A fable teaches a moral, or lesson, often through animal characters that act like humans.</td>
<td>“Hansel and Gretel,” “John Henry,” “The Tortoise and the Hare”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myth</td>
<td>A story that explains the origin of the world, the creation of its creatures, or the reason for natural events. Gods and heroes are usually the main characters.</td>
<td>“Icarus and Daedulus,” “The 12 Labors of Hercules,” “Anansi the Spider”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legend</td>
<td>A story about an event that is believed to have happened a very long time ago. Legends change over time as they are retold again and again. Sometimes fantasy and magic even become part of the story.</td>
<td>“Robin Hood,” “The Trojan War,” “King Arthur”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXAMPLE

Read the passage.

The Crow and the Pitcher

A Crow, half-dead with thirst, came upon a Pitcher which had once been full of water; but when the Crow put its beak into the mouth of the Pitcher he found that only very little water was left in it, and that he could not reach far enough down to get at it. He tried, and he tried, but at last had to give up in despair. Then a thought came to him, and he took a pebble and dropped it into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped it into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped that into the Pitcher. Then he took another pebble and dropped that into the Pitcher. At last, at last, he saw the water mount up near him, and after casting in a few more pebbles he was able to quench his thirst and save his life.

Little by little does the trick.

This passage is most likely which form of fiction?

A  myth
B  novel
C  legend
D  folktale

Step 1  Read the passage. What characteristics do you recognize?

The passage is a fictional story about a crow. It is short, and there is only one character and one conflict. The passage tells how the crow patiently added stones to a pitcher to raise the level of the water so the crow can drink it. There is a moral at the end of the passage.

Step 2  Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice is correct?

Choice A is not correct because the story is not about the creation or origin of anything. Choice B is not correct because the passage is not long or complex like a novel. Choice C is not correct because the passage is not based on a person or event that is believed to have actually existed. The passage has an animal character that thinks like a person, and there is a lesson at the end about patience. A fable, a type of folktale, has all of these features. The correct answer is D.
### Genres of Fiction

Fiction can be grouped not only by form, but also by **genre**. There are many fictional genres, including mysteries, horror stories, adventure stories and romance novels. Three other genres that you often will see are historical fiction, science fiction, and fantasy.

**Historical fiction** is a genre in which real people, places, and events in history are used to tell a made-up story. When you read a work of historical fiction, you learn what it was like to live during a certain time period or experience an important historical event.

**Science fiction** explores the impact of real or imagined scientific developments. Science fiction stories often take place in the future but can also take place in the present.

**Fantasy** is a genre that includes magical elements. Fairies, wizards, and goblins are often found in fantasy stories. Fantasy stories often take place in the distant past or in magical lands far away from our own.

### EXAMPLE

2. **Read the passage.**

    “Ingrid, there is a letter for you today,” Ingrid heard her mother call to her from the kitchen. Ingrid bolted out of her bedroom and down the hallway to the kitchen. She eagerly snatched the small envelope from her mother’s hand and ripped it open. Inside was a letter from her pen pal in Montana.

    March 3, 1942

    Dear Ingrid,

    I apologize that it took me so long to respond to your last letter. I’m sorry to hear about your cousin. I’m certain he’ll be fine. Lots of young men that we know have been drafted, and we haven’t heard any bad news about any of them yet. We discovered on Thursday that our neighbor Timothy enlisted in the navy to go fight in the war in the Pacific. His parents are so proud that their son is going to be fighting for his country. I understand how they feel, but I would be terrified if I had to go!

    My class started a tin drive last week. We are going to call ourselves the “Tin Can Colonels,” and we are going to collect tin for the war effort. If we reach our goal by the end of the month, our teacher is going to take us on a field trip to see a movie. What an exciting incentive!

    I’ll write to you again soon!

    Your friend,

    Penelope
This passage is an example of historical fiction because it
A  is set in a specific time from the past.
B  is from the author’s imagination.
C  retells a folktale about imaginary people.
D  includes multiple characters and settings.

Step 1  Read the passage. What elements of historical fiction can you find in the passage?

The passage contains a letter from one girl to another. The date on the letter is 1942, so the events in the story took place in the past. The letter mentions the war in the Pacific, which was part of World War II, a well-known historical event. The passage has several fictional characters, including Ingrid, Penelope, and Ingrid’s mother.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. Which of the answers shows a characteristic of historical fiction?

Choice B is not correct because a story that is from the author’s imagination may be a work of fiction, but it is not necessarily historical fiction. Choice C is not true because the passage is not a folktale. There is no moral or lesson in the passage. Choice D is also not correct, because multiple characters and settings are features of a novel, and this passage is not a novel. Choice A makes the most sense because the passage mentions World War II, a real event from the past. This is a characteristic of historical fiction. The correct answer is A.
PRACTICE IT: Forms of Fiction

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

The Mysterious Mirror

1. It was a beautiful, bright, and sunny Saturday morning. Jen glanced longingly out the tiny attic window at the cloudless summer sky and sighed. *If I work fast enough, I can get the attic cleaned and still have time to shoot a few free throws before dinner,* she thought to herself.

2. Jen surveyed the musty attic. Tattered old boxes covered the wood floor. For her allowance this week, she was supposed to clean up the attic, throw away any junk, and put away her family’s winter clothes and gear.

3. Jen knelt down and opened the box closest to the attic door. As she sorted through the dusty Halloween decorations inside, a glimmer of light on the other side of the room caught her eye. She looked up and peered around a rack of hanging garments into a large, oval mirror that was propped against the wall.

4. Standing up, Jen realized the mirror was very old: it was so tarnished that she could barely recognize her reflection as she walked toward it. It was framed by an intricate design carved into scuffed mahogany.

5. Jen used the hem of her shirt to wipe some of the grime off the glass surface. After she had wiped enough to see her eyes looking back at her, she glanced down at the bottom of her shirt.

6. *Oh no,* she thought. *I forgot that I was wearing my basketball jersey. I hope this dirt comes out in the wash.* Jen stood up, making her way to the door so she could dart downstairs to change her shirt. As she maneuvered around the boxes toward the door, she noticed something odd. The dirt on her shirt was gone. She checked the inside, outside, and backside of her shirt, but she couldn’t find the patch of dirt that had been there seconds before.

7. *That’s funny,* Jen thought. *It must not have been that much dirt if it came off on its own. Weird . . .*

8. Jen resumed organizing the messy attic. An hour later, she was moving some sports equipment into a large bin when she brushed up against the mirror.

9. Casually tossing a football into the bin, she said out loud, “I wish this dumb attic was clean already. I don’t want to waste my whole Saturday up here.” Then she reached over to retrieve a waffle ball that had rolled into the corner.
When she stood up again, Jen gasped. The entire attic was neat, clean, and organized. The only thing in the attic that remained dirty was the old mirror. Jen turned toward the mirror. *That’s twice something weird has happened after I rubbed this mirror*, she thought. *I wonder . . .*

Jen knelt down and looked in the mirror. “I wish I had a glass of water,” she said. She really did want some water; it was getting warm up in the attic. Jen looked down at the floor by the mirror. It was bare.

*Of course, it was silly of me to think that this mirror was granting my wishes*, Jen laughed to herself. She stood up and grabbed the mirror. It was a pretty mirror; she decided to move it into her room.

Jen turned around and carried the bulky mirror out of the attic. As she descended the stairs, she flipped off the light switch. Everything in the attic fell into darkness, including the glass of water that sat on the floor near the wall, just behind the space where the mirror had been standing.

1. **This passage is an example of fantasy because it includes**
   A. one character.
   B. a historic event.
   C. elements of magic.
   D. scientific details.

2. **This passage is fantasy. How could the author change the story to make it science fiction?**
   A. add more characters and settings
   B. have the main character learn a lesson
   C. describe a new technology that grants wishes
   D. explain the origin of the world

3. **One element that makes this short story different from a myth is that it**
   A. portrays a historical figure or event.
   B. is set in the faraway past.
   C. has multiple characters and conflicts.
   D. includes no gods or heroes.

4. **If it included animals with human qualities as characters, this passage would have one of the characteristics of**
   A. historical fiction.
   B. a legend.
   C. a novel.
   D. a folktale.
Characters, or the people in a work of literature, help make a story come alive. To understand a story, the reader must first analyze the characters and how their qualities affect the plot. This means examining their personalities, actions, and motivations, or reasons for acting. By analyzing the characters, the reader will better understand how and why the events in a story unfold as they do.

EXAMPLE

Read this passage.

While walking in the garden, Keira heard a pitiful whine coming from the bushes nearby. She walked toward the sound, careful to make no noise. When she parted the leaves, she saw a tiny puppy, shivering in the cold. It trembled and whimpered when it saw her. Without hesitation, Keira untied the scarf around her neck and gently wrapped the puppy in it. She lifted him up and cradled him to her chest, all the while cooing to him. Walking toward the house, Keira thought that a warm bath and a saucer of milk would be just what he needed.

What is the best description of Keira's character?

A  honest  
B  industrious  
C  kindhearted  
D  uncaring

Step 1  Read the example passage again. What did Keira do when she discovered the puppy?

Keira took care of the puppy. She wrapped him in her scarf and took him back to the house for a bath and warm milk.

Step 2  Read each answer choice carefully. Which description best shows Keira’s character based on her actions?

Keira’s reaction to the puppy reveals that she is a kindhearted character. None of the other answer choices fit what the passage shows about Keira, so the correct answer is C.
The **setting** is the time and place in which the events of a short story, novel, or drama occur. The setting may influence the characters’ actions and may contribute to the conflicts in the story and their resolutions. The setting often helps create the atmosphere or mood of the story.

**EXAMPLE**

**Read this passage.**

On a sunny Sunday morning, Ronald Simmons and his dad were hiking in the woods. They wanted to go fishing in the river. All week, Ronald had looked forward to their fishing adventure. But as they were making their way down the steep riverbank, Mr. Simmons suddenly slipped and fell, twisting his ankle. Ronald rushed to his dad.


“My ankle hurts. I think it’s broken,” Mr. Simmons said in pain.

“Here, let me help you up. Let’s walk to the car,” Ronald suggested.

Mr. Simmons, limping and groaning, leaned against Ronald.

“Are you sure you can help me to the car? It’s parked a long way off,” Mr. Simmons said.

How does the setting affect the plot of this story?

A  The setting enables Ronald to find help for his father easily.
B  The setting makes it challenging for Ronald to help his father.
C  The setting makes Mr. Simmons angry.
D  The setting helps Ronald enjoy the fishing adventure.

**Step 1** Read the passage again. How does Mr. Simmons get injured? What was he worried about when Ronald tried to help him walk to the car?

*Mr. Simmons slips and injures his ankle while descending the steep riverbank. He was worried that Ronald would not be able to help him walk to the car because it was parked far from where they were hiking.*

**Step 2** Read the answer choices carefully. What aspects of the setting made the characters’ situation more difficult?

*The uneven ground and the absence of people made the characters’ situation more difficult. Both Ronald and Mr. Simmons were more worried about the broken ankle than angry about the spoiled fishing trip. Therefore, the only possible answer is choice B.*
The plot is the sequence of events in narrative works, such as short stories, novels, plays, and some nonfiction. The plot is a series of related events in which a problem is explored and then resolved. Plot is created through conflict—a struggle between characters, ideas, or other forces.

**EXAMPLE**

3 Read this passage.

Zena was walking her dog, Pudge, in the park when suddenly the clouds turned gray and rain started falling heavily. Everybody ran to the gazebo in the center of the park to avoid getting wet and catching cold. While the people huddled in the gazebo were exclaiming about the sudden downpour, Pudge suddenly started barking and tugging angrily at his leash. Zena could barely hold him back and was puzzled at his behavior. Then somebody pointed out the cause: a fat, gray cat that had run away from its owner was hissing at Pudge! “Who owns that cat?” Zena desperately asked the crowd.

Zena’s conflict is brought about by the

A crowded gazebo.
B loud people.
C hissing cat.
D wet ground.

**Step 1** Review what happened in the passage. What made Pudge angry?

*Pudge got angry when a cat started hissing at him in the gazebo.*

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which answer triggers the conflict shown in the passage?

Everything was going well for Zena and Pudge until the sudden heavy downpour made them seek shelter in the gazebo. It was then that the hissing cat made Pudge angry and caused him to bark and tug at his leash. The noisy crowd in the gazebo and the wet ground did not affect Pudge. Therefore, the correct answer is C.
As Yuka walked home from school on Friday, she stopped in the park to pick a pretty red tulip. Bending over the flower, she noticed a small brown object nestled among the plants. It was someone’s wallet! Surprised by her discovery, Yuka looked around, her eyes searching in every direction for the owner. No one else was around though. She wasn’t sure what to do with the wallet. She didn’t want to leave it among the plants. She knew its owner would want to have it back. Still uncertain, Yuka thought that maybe she could take it home and ask her parents for help. There might be a driver’s license inside, and her parents could call its owner. She picked up the wallet and headed for home, hoping her parents could help her find the missing owner.

1. After seeing the wallet in the bushes, Yuka decided to
   A. try to find the owner of the wallet.
   B. keep the wallet for herself.
   C. leave the wallet among the plants.
   D. toss the wallet in the trash can.

2. What is the best description of Yuka’s character?
   A. kind
   B. lazy
   C. shy
   D. honest

3. Yuka brought the wallet home so that
   A. she could keep it in a good hiding place.
   B. she could ask her parents to help her find the owner.
   C. she could discard the driver’s license.
   D. her parents could keep it for her.

4. Yuka couldn’t find the owner by herself because
   A. the park was empty.
   B. the park was crowded.
   C. the park was cold.
   D. the park was gloomy.
LEARN IT: Tone and Meaning in Poetry

Tone is the poet’s attitude toward a subject. The tone of a poem, for example, may be bitter, eerie, joyful, regretful, ironic, serious, or light. Determining the tone can help you explore the poem’s meaning or identify the message, or theme. To convey tone, poets use a variety of techniques including word choice, line length, rhythm, and punctuation.

Word Choice

Poets carefully choose each word in a poem. Certain words are rich in connotations, or emotional suggestions. These words provide clues about the tone, or the poet’s attitude about the subject of the poem.

EXAMPLE

1. Read these lines from a poem.

   The way ahead is long for me / And the road is bare and dark.

Which words from the poem suggest that the tone is gloomy?

A  bare, dark
B  way, me
C  ahead, long
D  long, road

Step 1  Read the lines carefully and infer the situation described in the poem.

The speaker is on a journey and describes the road ahead.

Step 2  Read the answer choices carefully. Which words make you feel gloomy?

Choice A has a negative effect on me. Bareness and darkness make me feel gloomy. The other choices do not have this kind of effect, so choice A is the correct answer.
Line Length, Rhythm, and Punctuation

The lengths of the lines in a poem, as well as their punctuation, determine how the poem sounds when read aloud. Also, the rhythm of a poem—for example, hurried, plodding, or regular—can give clues about the tone.

EXAMPLE

Read these lines from the poem “Spring” by Edna St. Vincent Millay.

To what purpose, April, do you return again?
Beauty is not enough.

What is the effect of the short answer that follows the long question?

A The speaker sounds joyful and excited.
B The speaker sounds bored and uninterested.
C The speaker sounds hesitant and cautious.
D The speaker sounds certain and confident.

Step 1 Read the lines aloud to yourself. What happens to your voice when you move from the long question to the short answer?

My voice typically goes higher at the end of a question. The short answer that follows has a strong, regular beat that contrasts with the longer, wordier question.

Step 2 Read each answer choice. Which one matches the sound of your voice when you read the lines aloud?

Perhaps if the shorter line had ended with an exclamation point, it would have sounded joyful and excited. As it is written, however, answer choice A does not seem correct. The second line’s strong, even beat does not sound bored and uninterested, nor does it sound hesitant and cautious. Such a short, quick answer suggests that the speaker is confident and certain that the answer is right. D must be the correct answer choice.
In addition to the techniques already mentioned, poets use other techniques to convey tone. The following chart lists some of the key ones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ways to Convey Tone</th>
<th>How It Works</th>
<th>Example</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Figurative Language</strong></td>
<td>Imaginative descriptions are used to create vivid, memorable images. Words are used in ways that go beyond their literal meanings.</td>
<td>The phrase “A silence so thick you can cut it with a knife” does not literally mean silence is something thick that you can cut. Instead, it creates a strong image in the reader’s mind; the thick silence and the sharp knife convey a mysterious, suspenseful tone.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Repetition** | Repeated words or lines affect readers in different ways, depending on whether the repeated words are positive, negative, or neutral. Repeated lines can emphasize an idea, create a pleasant, song-like refrain, or even indicate a change in perspective. | Coleridge’s “Rime of the Ancient Mariner” uses repetition in several memorable ways:  
  • Coleridge emphasizes the lack of water in these lines:  
    Water, water, everywhere,  
    And all the boards did shrink;  
    Water, water, everywhere  
    Nor any drop to drink.  
  • Coleridge signals a change in perspective from the sea to the deck in these lines:  
    I look’d upon the rotting sea,  
    And drew my eyes away;  
    I look’d upon the rotting deck,  
    And there the dead men lay. |
| **Rhyme** | Repeated vowel and consonant sounds in a poem can also create different effects and contribute to the tone. | In Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Bells,” the crisp, tinkling rhymes create a merry tone that sounds like ringing bells:  
  “While the stars that oversprinkle  
  All the heavens, seem to twinkle  
  With a crystalline delight . . .” |
PRACTICE IT: Tone and Meaning in Poetry

Directions: Read the poem and answer the questions that follow.

Wild Nights
By Emily Dickinson

Wild nights! Wild nights!
Were I with thee,
Wild nights should be
Our luxury!

5  Futile the winds
   To a heart in port,—
   Done with the compass,
   Done with the chart.

Rowing in Eden!
10  Ah! the sea!
    Might I but moor
    To-night in thee!

1 Which mark of punctuation does the poet use to express strong emotions?
   A an exclamation point
   B a dash
   C a comma
   D a period

2 Read these lines from the poem.
   Done with the compass, / Done with the chart.

   Why does the poet use repetition?
   A to express a change in the speaker’s feelings
   B to create a song-like refrain
   C to emphasize the importance of the chart and compass to love
   D to express that the speaker abandons logic for the sake of love

3 Which words convey strong feelings in the first stanza?
   A were, I
   B wild, nights
   C with, should
   D thee, be

4 How does the poet achieve a tone of longing in the last stanza?
   A She imitates the sound of sighing.
   B She does not use figurative language.
   C She uses a variety of punctuation.
   D She does not use rhymes.
LEARN IT: Speaker and Point of View

Being able to identify the **speaker** and **point of view** will help you figure out who is narrating the literary work. This, in turn, will allow you to better understand what is happening in the text.

**Identify the Speaker**

The **speaker** is the voice that communicates with the reader. Sometimes the speaker’s voice is that of the author, and sometimes it is the voice of a character that can be either inside or outside the literary work.

**EXAMPLE**

1. **Read the passage.**

   My Uncle Harry is an incredible person. He lived in Zaire, a country in Africa, for four years, teaching English to high school students. He plays three musical instruments and is now taking tuba lessons. He taught himself how to sew and makes almost all the clothes he wears. Last weekend he wore a polka-dotted shirt that he had made out of the curtains that once hung in his kitchen. He volunteers at the local hospital, reading mail and newspapers to patients. When one patient told him how much she missed being outside, he brought her a handful of blooming flowers. She was so thrilled that tears came to her eyes. My uncle is wonderful, and I love him.

   **Who is most likely the speaker of this passage?**

   A Uncle Harry
   B Uncle Harry’s niece or nephew
   C the patient
   D the hospital patient

   **Step 1** Read the passage. What information does it give about the speaker?

   *The passage tells us that the speaker has an uncle named Harry who has done many interesting things in his life, such as teaching in a foreign country and reading to hospital patients.*

   **Step 2** Read the answer choices. Which choice matches what the passage tells us about the speaker?

   *If the passage is about the speaker’s Uncle Harry, then the speaker cannot be Uncle Harry. Instead, the speaker must be the niece or nephew of Uncle Harry. B is correct.*
Recognize Point of View

Points of view include the following:

1) **First-person point of view:** A narrative with a first-person point of view is told by one of the characters, using first-person pronouns such as *I, my,* and *me.*

2) **Third-person limited point of view:** The story is told by a narrator who focuses on a single character, using third-person pronouns such as *he* and *her.*

3) **Third-person objective point of view:** The speaker tells only what is happening in the story and does not tell what the characters are feeling or thinking.

4) **Third-person omniscient point of view:** In this point of view, the speaker is able to tell what every character is feeling or thinking.

**EXAMPLE**

Read the passage below.

For show-and-tell, Kelly told our class how much she likes the color green. When she was a baby in her crib, she clutched her lime-green polar bear and ignored the stuffed animals that were white or blue. Now, at twelve, Kelly prefers to eat salads and kiwi fruit, always choosing green food on a menu. When she grows up, Kelly wants to drive a green car, live in a green house, and visit Greenland. I think that’s cool.

From which point of view is the passage narrated?

A  first-person  
B  third-person limited  
C  third-person omniscient  
D  third-person objective

**Step 1** Read the passage carefully and look for information about the narrator.

*The narrator is talking about the main character, Kelly. The narrator describes the actions that reveal how much Kelly likes the color green.*

**Step 2** Read the answer choices carefully. List the reasons that an answer choice may or may not be the correct answer.

*Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the narrator uses the first-person pronouns our and I to narrate the passage. Choice A is correct.*
PRACTICE IT: Speaker and Point of View

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

The Painter’s Pupil

1. Marie’s family lived in the house of the great painter Pablo Perez. Her father worked in Perez’s kitchen as the chef. One day, Marie’s father asked her to go to the pantry to get some flour. To her surprise, Marie found that she could hear everything that Mr. Perez said through the thin wall of the closet. He was conducting an art class in his studio. Marie took the flour to her father and then quickly returned to the pantry to listen.

2. Mr. Perez loved to teach. He told his students how to use light and shadow in their painting, how to make figures in their pictures appear closer or farther away, and how to make them seem more lifelike. That night, Marie lay awake in her bed, thinking about all that Mr. Perez had said. She wanted to try painting too.

3. “Dad, may I have some paint?” Marie asked at breakfast the next morning.

4. Marie’s father was uncertain. “Paints are expensive, Marie,” he said. “We might manage some for your next birthday, though.” Marie was disappointed. Her birthday was months away. Marie’s silence caught her father’s attention. He joined Marie at the table.

5. “I’m sorry, Marie.” He said. “I know that you would like them right now, but—” Marie’s father stopped in the middle of his sentence. He hated to see his daughter disappointed.

6. “I had forgotten about this,” he said as he returned to the table with the dusty volume.

7. “I don’t believe it!” Marie laughed when she saw the title: 101 Paint Recipes.
1. Who is the narrator of the passage?
   A. Marie
   B. Marie’s father
   C. Mr. Pablo Perez
   D. an outside narrator

2. From what point of view is the passage narrated?
   A. first-person
   B. third-person objective
   C. third-person limited
   D. third-person omniscient

3. Based on the point of view of the passage, this passage would most likely be found in
   A. a biography of Marie.
   B. an autobiography of Marie.
   C. an autobiography of Marie’s father.
   D. an autobiography of Pablo Perez.

4. Which sentence from the passage shows Marie’s thoughts or feelings?
   A. Marie’s family lived in the house of the great painter Pablo Perez.
   B. Mr. Perez loved to teach.
   C. To her surprise, Marie found that she could hear everything that Mr. Perez said through the thin wall of the closet.
   D. Marie took the flour to her father and then quickly returned to the pantry to listen.
LEARN IT: Identify Theme: Realism and Fantasy

The **theme** is the main idea of a story, poem, novel, or play. Some works have a stated theme. More frequently, the theme is not stated but is revealed gradually through the story’s characters and their thoughts and actions.

**EXAMPLE**

Read the passage.

Carol was playing in the park with her best friend, Mimi, when they saw a book lying in the bushes. Carol picked it up, and she immediately noticed the seal of the public library on its front page. “Somebody lost a book!” Mimi exclaimed. “Come on, we should go return it to the library,” Carol said. Mimi agreed, and the two friends set off for the library.

In the passage, it is clear that the author wants readers to think it is good

- A to return lost things.
- B to find lost things at the park.
- C to keep lost things for yourself.
- D to throw away lost things.

**Step 1** Read the example passage carefully. What did Carol say to Mimi when they found the book?

*Carol told Mimi that they should return the book to the library, and Mimi agreed.*

**Step 2** Read each answer choice carefully. Which of the choices best describes the actions of the characters?

*Carol and Mimi’s returning a lost book to the library gives me the idea that it is good to return lost things. Answers C and D do not describe the actions of the characters in the story. Regarding Answer B, even though they did find the lost book, the more important part of the story is their decision about what to do with it. I know that the correct answer is A.*
Realism

A work of **realism** involves characters, plots, and settings that are familiar to real life.

**EXAMPLE**

2 **Read this passage.**

Gabria’s mom was still at work when Gabria saw the lightning shoot wildly across the sky. Gabria loved to watch the rain, but when she heard a loud clap of thunder, she trembled. Gabria went to the window to watch the storm approach.

Gabria started checking all the windows to make sure they were closed. In the kitchen, Gabria found an open window. The floor underneath it was soaked. She closed the window and went to look for a mop. She hoped that none of the windows in the house were leaking.

Just then, Gabria remembered that her mother had noticed a crack at the bottom of one of the basement walls when they were playing table tennis last week. Gabria knew she should try to do something to keep the water from coming through the crack. If enough water got through the crack, the basement could flood. She ran down the stairs to the basement. Her mother had left some rags there. Gabria crammed some rags into the crack in the wall.

It looked like no water was coming in. Gabria was relieved. Just then, she heard her mother’s car pulling into the driveway. Gabria got to the top of the stairs as her mother opened the front door. “Gabria, sweetheart! Are you okay?” Her mom dropped her bags and started heading toward the basement to check on the crack. “I thought you’d be swimming in here by now!”

“I’m fine, Mom,” Gabria said as she followed her mother to the basement. “Let me show you how I blocked the crack in the wall!”

**The author makes this passage realistic by**

A showing a girl using mysterious powers to stop a flood.
B illustrating the animal-like qualities of a storm.
C describing a lifelike problem and solution.
D depicting a house making sounds that cannot be explained.

**Step 1** Review the definition of **realism**. What is the plot of this passage?

*The passage is about Gabria trying to prevent the basement from flooding.***

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which answer best conveys an idea or action that is an example of realism?

A girl using mysterious powers to stop a flood would be unrealistic. A storm acting like an animal doesn’t happen in real life. A house that makes strange sounds that cannot be explained is also not the best example of realism. The correct answer is C because the passage describes a lifelike problem and its solution.
Fantasy

A work of **fantasy** usually involves the creation of a world where magic rules. Creatures such as dragons and elves populate this world together with human characters who may have superhuman powers. Fantasy stories can express the reader’s own desire to travel to such lands. Although they are not set in the real world, fantasies often express themes similar to those in realistic stories.

**EXAMPLE**

1 Read this passage.

As he was heading to school, Erwin noticed that his schoolbag had a little rip on the side. Erwin loved going to school, and he did not want to miss a school day over such a small problem. “It’s just a little rip,” he said to himself. With his schoolbag held close to his chest, he stretched out his magnificently feathered wings and glided through the air, excited to attend classes.

Which part of this passage indicates that it is fantasy?

A. Erwin notices that his bag has a rip in it.
B. Erwin heads to school.
C. Erwin holds his bag to his chest.
D. Erwin glides through the air on his wings.

**Step 1** Read the definition of *fantasy* again. Fantasy involves human characters who often have unusual powers. Does Erwin have unusual powers?

*The passage describes Erwin spreading his feathered wings and flying.*

**Step 2** Read the answer choices. Which answer best conveys something fantastical?

Noticing a bag with a rip in it, heading to school, and holding a bag to one’s chest are all ordinary happenings. Erwin’s gliding through the air, however, is unusual and fantastic. The correct answer is D.
Making Music

Glenda was a shy child. She loved playing the piano, but she never dared to perform in front of an audience. She practiced every day, but she always practiced alone.

Unknown to her, a group of elves started listening in on her practice sessions. They loved how she played, and they praised her performance among themselves.

One Saturday afternoon, the elves heard Glenda play such a beautiful piece that they came out from their hiding place and exclaimed, “Marvelous! Magnificent! Brava!”

Glenda stared at the elves in disbelief. “You were listening to me play? Oh, no!”

“But you played so well!” the tall elf replied.

“Really, I’m good?” Glenda asked them.

“Yes!” cried the elves in unison.

Glenda closed her eyes and started playing her favorite piece, a song about friends. Her hands seemed to take on a life of their own; they glided over the keys, making melodious notes. When Glenda opened her eyes, the elves were gone, and her piano teacher stood in front of her. “My dear, you are ready for a recital!” the teacher exclaimed.

1 Which event is realistic?
   A Glenda plays the piano for the elves.
   B The elves exclaim, “Marvelous! Magnificent! Brava!”
   C Glenda’s piano teacher stands in front of her.
   D Glenda befriends the elves.

2 Which event is fantastic?
   A Glenda practices piano.
   B Glenda closes her eyes.
   C Glenda opens her eyes.
   D Glenda stares at the elves in disbelief.

3 Which sentence below best expresses this passage’s theme?
   A Shyness can be lonely.
   B Encouragement can help people succeed.
   C Playing the piano is very difficult.
   D Imaginary friends can help.

4 Which of the following actions suggest a theme similar to the one in the story?
   A A child learns how to ride a bike while her parents cheer her on.
   B A man goes grocery shopping but forgets his wallet.
   C A woman mows her lawn, even though she doesn’t want to.
   D A boy eats too much birthday cake and gets sick.
LESSON 16  Literary Devices

Content Standard: 6R3.7 Narrative Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Text: Explain the effects of common literary devices (e.g., symbolism, imagery, metaphor) in a variety of fictional and nonfictional texts.

LEARN IT: Literary Devices

Authors use literary devices to present ideas in fresh and original ways. Understanding literary devices and their effects on meaning can help you get more out of your reading. Literary devices include metaphors, similes, and symbols.

Metaphors

A metaphor is an expression that compares two unlike things. In contrast to a simile, a metaphor states a comparison directly; therefore, there is no use of the words like and as.

EXAMPLE

1. Read these sentences.

Brian is always hungry, yet he never gains weight. His stomach is a bottomless pit.

What is the purpose of the metaphor used in the second sentence?

A. to suggest that Brian is a big eater
B. to point out that Brian hardly eats
C. to help the reader understand that Brian represents a bottomless pit
D. to indicate that Brian’s stomach is an actual bottomless pit

Step 1 Read the sentences carefully and determine the metaphor used.

Brian’s stomach is compared to a bottomless pit. That must be the metaphor.

Step 2 Read the answer choices carefully. Which explains why the metaphor was used?

Brian, himself, is not being compared to a bottomless pit, so choice C is incorrect. Choice D is incorrect because Brian doesn’t literally have a bottomless pit for a stomach. Choice B implies the opposite of the metaphor. Choice A must be correct since the metaphor suggests that Brian’s stomach never gets full.
Similes

A simile uses as or like to compare two unlike things. The phrase “a person who runs like the wind” is a simile that means a person runs quickly.

**EXAMPLE**

**2 Read the sentence.**

The great warrior fought like a tiger.

**The simile in this sentence suggests that the warrior**

A fought without courage.

B fought fiercely.

C fought without passion.

D used several weapons.

**Step 1** Read the sentence carefully. What two things are compared?

The warrior’s fighting is compared to a tiger’s fighting. The word like tells me that a simile is being used.

**Step 2** Ask yourself, How might a great warrior’s fighting be similar to a tiger’s fighting? Which answer choice shows this similarity?

A great warrior would fight with both courage and passion, so Choices A and C cannot be correct. A tiger would not use several weapons, so Choice D cannot be correct. Since a great warrior and a tiger can fight fiercely, Choice B must be the answer.
LESSON 16  Literary Devices

Symbols

When a person, a place, an object, or an action represents something else, it becomes a symbol. Readers must figure out what a symbol stands for by examining how it is used in a work. A tree may be a symbol for life. A mountain may be a symbol for strength. An island may be a symbol for loneliness.

EXAMPLE

3 Read this passage.

All this time, she had been a shy little girl hiding in the corner of the room. Now she has grown into a beautiful young woman filled with confidence. In the mornings, I see her in the garden admiring the flowers. It is spring. After a long wait, the flowers are in bloom.

The flowers in bloom could best represent
A the season of spring.
B the shy girl’s change into a confident woman.
C the way the little girl admires the garden.
D the literal observations of the speaker.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. What is the situation that is being described? How is this situation related to the flowers in bloom?

The speaker is describing a young girl who used to be shy but has now developed into a confident young woman. She is admiring the flowers, which once were seeds but now have bloomed.

Step 2  Read the answer choices. Which answer choice best connects the flowers in bloom to the situation you just described?

Flowers bloom in the season of spring, but this answer choice leaves out the young woman, so A cannot be right. The young woman, not the little girl, is admiring the garden, so C cannot be right. The literal observations of the speaker include the flowers, but the speaker focuses mainly on the young woman, so D cannot be right. B is correct because both the shy girl and the flowers in bloom have undergone beautiful changes.
PRACTICE IT: Literary Devices

The clouds float in the horizon. They are big balls of white cotton candy in the sky. It seems to me that clouds have not a care in the world. They just float and drift wherever the wind may take them. Lying here in the grass, I watch them float above me, and I wish my life were also free of cares. But then I hear my mother calling me to finish my chores. Her call is like the blare of a horn or a siren. And my daydream is popped like a bubble.

1 Read this sentence from the passage.

And my daydream is popped like a bubble.

The sentence contains an example of
A metaphor.
B simile.
C symbol.
D allegory.

2 The clouds could best represent the speaker’s
A desire for a carefree life.
B need to finish the chores.
C wish to relax in the grass.
D taste for cotton candy.

3 Read this sentence.

They are big balls of white cotton candy in the sky.

What is the purpose of the metaphor used in this sentence?
A to symbolize the narrator’s life
B to describe how the cloud might taste
C to help readers visualize how the clouds look
D to give the clouds human qualities

4 In this passage, what is both loud and disruptive?
A the daydream
B the wind
C the mother’s call
D the speaker’s life
LEARN IT: Form and Purpose

Form refers to the type, shape, or construction of a written work. Different forms of writing can include personal letters, letters to the editor of a newspaper or magazine, poems, reports, reviews, and narratives. Each form of writing has a different purpose.

The following are some of the most common forms of writing and their purposes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Writing</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>to record personal observations, descriptions, solutions, and questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diary</td>
<td>to recall personal impressions and to express personal feelings; usually not meant to be shared with others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>• Narrative Essay: to tell a nonfiction narrative that may express the author’s feelings and opinions; typically written using first-person pronouns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Expository Essay: to explain or investigate an idea or to evaluate evidence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Persuasive Essay: to state an opinion supported with factual evidence, examples, and logical reasoning, and to convince a reader to accept an argument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Descriptive Essay: to give a detailed portrayal of an object, person, place, experience, emotion, or situation so readers can see, hear, smell, taste, or feel the subject being described</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report</td>
<td>to inform readers about a topic by presenting factual evidence or researched information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
<td>to evaluate a work, such as a book or a film, pointing out its good and bad qualities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter to the Editor</td>
<td>to respond to an article published in a previous issue of a newspaper or magazine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Letter</td>
<td>to share personal feelings or thoughts with another person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXAMPLE

1. Read the following sentences.
Seth researched the different endangered species that can be found only in the Hawaiian Islands. He read several books and researched reliable Web sites. He recorded the factual information that he learned from these sources.

If Seth wants to inform his classmates about what he has learned, he should write a
A. personal letter.
B. report.
C. letter to the editor.
D. review.

Step 1. Read the passage carefully. Look for key words that can be associated with the answer choices.
Some key words in the passage include the words researched and learned. These words indicate that Seth’s writing will be informative and based on facts.

Step 2. Now look at the answer choices. Think of the purpose of each form of writing in the choices. Which answer choice matches the key words from the passage?

A personal letter contains the thoughts and feelings of a person. A report is based on researched information. A letter to the editor is a response to something that has previously been published in a newspaper or magazine. A review analyzes and evaluates something that someone else has created. B is the best answer because Seth researched the Hawaiian Islands and the different endangered species that can be found only there and needs to explain what he learned about those topics.
Each form of writing has a specific **purpose**. Readers can identify the purpose of a passage by asking what the author of that passage is trying to accomplish. Look for key words that can help you figure out the message that the author wants to convey to his or her readers through a particular form of writing.

**EXAMPLE**

**Read the following passage.**

Dear Diary, July 17, 2007

I wish I could make it clear to everyone just how much I love bike racing. Everywhere I go, every time I step up to the podium for my trophy and hear the announcer call me “the winning girl on the BMX circuit,” my heart gleams like the shine of a trophy.

Even more, I can’t describe or explain how it feels to ask my legs for power and get it! I never want to lose the feeling or forget it.

**The purpose of this passage is to**

A educate people about the basics of bicycle racing.

B explain how to ride a bicycle.

C inform the reader that the author has won a race.

D recall the author’s personal feelings and thoughts about bike racing.

**Step 1** Read the passage carefully. What form of writing is the author using?

*I noticed that the author is addressing her diary. This must make this passage a diary entry.*

**Step 2** Now look at the answer choices. Which choice best describes the author’s purpose in writing a diary entry?

*Choice D is the best answer because the author is trying to recall her personal feelings and thoughts about bike racing. The author also describes how she feels about winning a race.*
PRACTICE IT: Form and Purpose

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Everyone should keep a journal. We all need a place to put our thoughts and feelings. It's like having a special friend to whom you can confide your activities, your ideas, and your dreams. A journal is always there for you. Unlike a person, it listens without even interrupting. After you have written in it for hours, it simply says, “Here are more blank pages. Please, go on!” I know some people may not agree with me. However, I highly recommend keeping a journal.

1 Which term best describes this passage?
   A persuasive essay.
   B narrative essay.
   C review.
   D poem.

2 The purpose of this passage is to
   A acknowledge a complaint.
   B convince readers of an idea.
   C reject an idea.
   D praise someone.

3 Which sentence from the passage does not help the author achieve his or her purpose?
   A Everyone should keep a journal.
   B We all need a place to put our thoughts and feelings.
   C I know some people may not agree with me.
   D However, I highly recommend keeping a journal.

4 If the author wants to tell a friend from a different city about his or her journal, he/she should write a
   A news story
   B factual report
   C journal entry
   D personal letter
LEARN IT: Expository Compositions

There are several forms of expository compositions, including comparison and contrast, cause and effect, analysis, and evaluation. Whatever its form, a piece of expository writing seeks to explain or give information about a concept, a thing, a person, or an event.

EXAMPLE

Read this passage.

Earthquakes are awful events. In just a few seconds, people may be killed by collapsing buildings. Injured people may be trapped for many days in the debris of a quake. Surprisingly, these victims sometimes survive. For rescuers, finding people and getting them out of the wreckage is a race against time. A major earthquake makes rescue difficult and dangerous. Rescue workers themselves sometimes become victims of earthquakes.

Rescuers use several methods to locate people in emergency situations. Special dogs are trained to find people. Thermal-image cameras use infrared radiation to quickly and accurately detect the heat of a living person’s body. “Trapped-person locators” use electrodes placed in debris to detect vibrations made by people in the rubble. In general, all three methods of detection are used, but the thermal-image camera is the most reliable device and the one most widely used by rescuers.

The author’s purpose is to

A  tell a moving story about the rescuers’ bravery during earthquakes.
B  teach people about safety measures to take during earthquakes.
C  convince readers that rescuers should be praised for their efforts.
D  give information about earthquake rescue methods and technology.

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. What kind of writing is it? What is it about?

It is a passage filled with information about the different ways rescuers look for people trapped in rubble during earthquakes.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. Which choice best shows the author’s purpose for writing the passage?

I think the author’s purpose is to give facts about the way rescuers find trapped people during earthquakes. It does not tell a story, nor does it teach people anything about safety procedures, so Choices A and B are not correct. Choice C also cannot be correct because the passage does not give opinions or try to convince readers of anything. Choice D is correct because it best describes the purpose of an expository passage, which is to give information about a topic.
The entire expository composition and its paragraphs are organized around a main idea, which is stated in a topic sentence. The topic sentence usually comes at either the beginning or the end of the very first paragraph. This first paragraph should also state the author’s purpose and immediately grab the reader’s interest.

**EXAMPLE**

2 Read the passage.

Every year, the whole family gathers together to have a touch football game on Thanksgiving morning. We play on a wide-open field in the park in my neighborhood. My uncle takes pride in his defense; he jokes that no one has scored against him in all the years we’ve played.

Which sentence is best added to the beginning of the passage?

A  I scored a touchdown while my uncle was defending me.
B  On Thanksgiving all of my family members eat at my house.
C  Watching football on Thanksgiving is a family tradition.
D  Playing football on Thanksgiving is a family tradition.

**Step 1** Read the passage. What is it about?

The passage is about how the narrator's family gets together every Thanksgiving to have a touch football game.

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which of the choices best states the main idea of the passage?

Choice A does not give the main idea of the passage because it is just a minor detail about the family’s football games. Choices B and C are not correct because they are about ideas that are never mentioned in the passage. B is about eating and C is about watching football. The answer choice that best reflects the main idea of the passage and that grabs the reader’s attention is the last one. Playing football on Thanksgiving is a family tradition. The rest of the passage supports this idea by giving details about the field where they play and the narrator’s uncle, who takes pride in his defense. D is the correct answer.
An expository composition’s main idea must be supported by details. Each additional paragraph after the first paragraph should focus on one or more of these supporting details in order to help explain or elaborate upon the main idea. These details can also paint a picture in the reader’s mind about what the author is explaining. The final paragraph of the essay is the conclusion; it often takes the form of a detailed summary of everything the author has said.

EXAMPLE

Read the following passage.

Ronnie is a very talented actor. Every year, he aces auditions and is the favorite of the teachers in the Drama Department. His performances are terrific. To keep himself sharp and well-conditioned for any show, he makes sure that he gets enough sleep every night and eats a well-balanced diet. He also takes vitamins and jogs every morning to keep in tip-top shape.

Which sentence best serves as a summary to be added to the end of the passage?

A Ronnie is a good example to all students.
B Ronnie is admired by his drama teachers.
C Ronnie is very committed to his acting.
D Ronnie is always able to perform well.

Step 1 Read the passage carefully. What is it about?

The passage says that Ronnie is a very talented actor. He takes good care of himself. He is disciplined so he can perform well onstage.

Step 2 Read each answer choice. Which summary is supported by the details in the passage?

The best summary of the details in the passage is Choice C, Ronnie is very committed to his acting. Choice B only repeats one of the details that supports the passage’s main idea. Choices A and D are not necessarily true. The passage never claims that Ronnie is a good example to all students or that he always gives a good performance. The best answer is C.
PRACTICE IT: Expository Compositions

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Three Teachers

1. My school has three sixth-grade teachers: Ms. Axel, Mr. Boyer, and Ms. Corwin.

2. Ms. Axel stands tall and lean and has long black hair. When she was in college, she was a fast sprinter and competed at track meets. Ms. Axel still runs several times a week. I often see her in the park, sprinting. She lifts weights at the gym and is always eager to try something new. Last summer she went to Alaska by herself.

3. Mr. Boyer has short hair, wears glasses, and likes to hide under a big hat. He started writing poetry when he was a little boy and has even published some of his poems in magazines. He wakes up at five every morning and writes for two hours before coming to work. He also volunteers at the local community center to help others.

4. Ms. Corwin just came to our school this year. She grew up on a farm in Nebraska and loves to ride horses. She told us that when she was a little girl, she and her family came across a bear as they hiked. She drives a big pickup truck to school and says “howdy.” She is a whiz at math and science, taught herself physics, and reads three books a week.

5. The three sixth-grade teachers at my school are all special. I’ll miss them very much when the school year ends.

1 Read this sentence from paragraph 2.

Ms. Axel still runs several times a week.

The author supports this statement by saying that
A. Ms. Axel is a fast sprinter.
B. Ms. Axel stands tall and lean.
C. Ms. Axel sprints in the park.
D. Ms. Axel lifts weights.

2 Which detail supports the idea that Mr. Boyer loves to write?
A. He wears glasses and a big hat.
B. He wakes up early to write.
C. He reads three books a week.
D. He volunteers at the center.

3 Which sentence would best enhance the end of the first paragraph?
A. Each teacher is special and has unique qualities.
B. Ms. Corwin is the brainiest teacher in the sixth grade.
C. Ms. Axel and Mr. Boyer have been around for a long time.
D. I haven’t decided which of them is my favorite teacher.

4 The student wrote this report
A. to share information about his teachers.
B. to keep in touch with his teachers.
C. to tell a heartwarming story.
D. to convince the reader that his teachers are the best.
LEARN IT: Organizational Patterns

There are many different ways to organize a composition. The structure a writer follows to organize his or her ideas is called an organizational pattern. Organizational patterns are very useful because they present information or ideas in a systematic and coherent order, making it easier for readers to follow. There are several different types of organizational patterns. Some of the most common are explained in the table below. A writer may use different patterns within a single composition to structure individual paragraphs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizational Pattern</th>
<th>What It Does</th>
<th>When To Use It</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comparison and Contrast</td>
<td>Organizes ideas by examining the similarities and differences between them</td>
<td>Expository and persuasive writing; factual reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Sequence</td>
<td>Organizes details according to the order in which they occurred</td>
<td>Narratives, process analyses, instruction manuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial Sequence</td>
<td>Organizes details according to their location, from left to right or from top to bottom</td>
<td>Descriptive writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Categorical Order</td>
<td>Organizes details into groups by category</td>
<td>Factual reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order of Importance</td>
<td>Organizes details in order of their importance</td>
<td>Persuasive writing, factual reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climactic Order</td>
<td>Organizes details in a way that builds toward a climax, or high point, in the action of a plot</td>
<td>Narratives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXAMPLE

Read the passage.

Ever since I had an accident when I was a child, I have been afraid of moving too quickly. When I was eight years old, my parents gave me roller skates. I zoomed all over the neighborhood, flying around corners and tearing down sidewalks. Then one day when my mind should have been on the path in front of me, I began to think about all the roller skating competitions I would win when I got older. I didn't see the big banana peel that someone had tossed on the sidewalk—and kaplat! I fell hard. My knee healed perfectly, but I still have a tiny scar.

Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in this paragraph?

A  order of importance  
B  climactic order  
C  spatial sequence  
D  comparison and contrast

Step 1  Read the passage carefully. What is it about? What details are given? When are they given?

The passage is about how the author is afraid of moving too quickly because of his roller skating accident when he was eight years old. He slipped on a banana peel while skating. This detail is given at the end of the passage.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. In which of these organizational patterns are the details in the paragraph arranged?

I think that the details are arranged in climactic order because the story builds to its climax, which is when the author fell while skating. The details are not organized in order of importance, since important pieces of information come at the beginning as well as at the end. The passage does not describe a place or an object, so the details cannot be arranged in spatial sequence. The passage also does not compare or contrast major details. Choice B is the correct answer.
EXAMPLE

2 Read the following passage.

My sister prefers dark chocolate while I love white chocolate. She says that dark chocolate has more cocoa and white chocolate has more butter. But I tell her that white chocolate is creamier. She also claims that dark chocolate goes well with fruits and nuts. But I always argue that white chocolate makes good fondue and is perfect for cookies.

Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in this paragraph?

A  order of importance
B  categorical order
C  comparison and contrast
D  time sequence

Step 1  Read the paragraph carefully. What is it about?

The paragraph is about two siblings arguing over which kind of chocolate is better, dark or white. One sibling presents the reasons why dark chocolate is better, while the other sibling makes the case for white chocolate.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. In which of these organizational patterns are the details in the paragraph arranged?

I think the paragraph is comparing and contrasting dark and white chocolate because the two siblings take turns giving reasons why one type of chocolate is different, and therefore better, than the other. The paragraph does not suggest that any one argument is more important than another, nor does it use categories to organize the information. There are no events narrated in the passage, so time sequence cannot be correct. Choice C must be the answer.
Nat King Cole

1. Nat King Cole was a famous American pianist and singer. Cole was born in 1917 in Montgomery, Alabama, but grew up in Chicago, Illinois. When he was fifteen years old, he decided to become a jazz pianist. Eventually, he formed the King Cole Trio.

2. There are some well-known stories about Cole and his trio. One night, the King Cole Trio was playing in the Swanee Inn when a customer asked Cole to sing a certain song. Cole said he did not know that song, but the customer was insistent. To humor the customer, Cole sang “Sweet Lorraine,” one of his more popular songs. The trio was tipped a nickel each. But when the customer requested another song, Cole said he did not know that song either. Cole asked, “Is there something else you would like?” The customer said yes, and told him to give his tip back.

3. Cole produced a number of hits that established him as one of the musical icons in history. In 1943 he earned fame as a singer with his recording of “Straighten Up and Fly Right.” In the song “Nature Boy,” he started to veer away from jazz toward pop music. “Mona Lisa,” a song he didn’t particularly like, sold three million copies. “Mona Lisa” made him the most popular African-American singer of his time.

4. Cole died in 1965. Today one of his daughters, Natalie Cole, is also a very successful singer. After his death, she overdubbed her voice on a song made famous by her father, “Unforgettable,” to form a father-daughter duet. Truly, Nat King Cole remains unforgettable.

Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraph 1?

A. time sequence
B. order of importance
C. comparison and contrast
D. spatial sequence

Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraph 2?

A. spatial sequence
B. categorical order
C. order of importance
D. climactic order

Which organizational pattern was used to arrange the details in paragraph 3?

A. spatial sequence
B. climactic order
C. order of importance
D. comparison and contrast

Which organizational pattern could best be used if the author were to describe differences between Nat King Cole and Frank Sinatra?

A. climactic order
B. time sequence
C. order of importance
D. comparison and contrast
LEARN IT: Electronic Text

Keyword Searches

New technologies make research easier today. **Organizational features of electronic text**, such as keyword searches, can help you locate information that you need. When performing searches, make sure that you type specific words in order to get the most accurate results.

EXAMPLE

Jack needs to write an article about a country in West Africa called Liberia. He wants to know the official language used in the country. Jack uses a Web site to help him research his topic. Look at a portion of the Web page below.

![Online Encyclopedia](image)

Type in Keywords to Search: (Search)

To find the most specific information about his topic, which word(s) should Jack type into the search engine?

A languages  
B people of Liberia  
C Liberian language  
D West Africa

**Step 1** Read the question carefully. What does Jack want to know about Liberia?

*Jack wants to find out the official language spoken in Liberia.*

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which keywords are specific to the information Jack is looking for?

*The keywords that match Jack’s query are Liberian language. Languages, people of Liberia, and West Africa are broad topics that won’t produce as accurate a search. C is the correct answer.*
Using Tabs to Navigate Web Sites

Web sites are often divided into multiple pages of information, which can be accessed by clicking on tabs located on the main page, or home page, of the Web site. These tabs often have a one- or two-word description of the type of information you will find when you click on them.

EXAMPLE

2 Byron wants to tour Italy. He finds the Web site of a travel agency. He wants to e-mail the travel agency to inquire about student discounts. Look at a portion of the Web page below.

Allied International Travel Agency
We guarantee comfortable and exciting journeys at reasonable prices!
Flight Schedule   About Us   Careers   Contact Us

Byron should click on which tab?
A  Flight Schedule
B  About Us
C  Careers
D  Contact Us

Step 1  Read the sentences carefully. What does Byron want to do?
Byron wants to e-mail the travel agency.

Step 2  Read each answer choice. Which of the tabs would allow Byron to e-mail Allied International Travel Agency?
In order to be able to e-mail the travel agency, Byron should click the Contact Us tab, so choice D must be the correct answer.
LESSON 20  Electronic Text

PRACTICE IT: Electronic Text

**Directions:** Read the Web site below and then answer the questions that follow.

Type in Keywords to Search: ____________ (Search)

**Burkina Faso**

Click on the tabs below for more information.

**History**

**People**

**Geography/Climate**

Surrounded by land, Burkina Faso lies about six miles from the Atlantic Ocean. Burkina Faso covers 103,456 square miles, which means it is slightly larger than Oregon but smaller than Arizona. The country is home to more than 13 million people. Grassy and wooded plains cover much of the country, but the landscape is green for only a few months out of the year. From November to February, the country’s climate is cool and dry, but it is hot and dry in March and April. Between May and October, the climate is hot and wet. On average, the temperatures in Burkina Faso range from 68 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Photos**

**Articles**

**Links**

**Home**
1. According to the Web site, Burkina Faso’s average temperature is
   A. 25 to 40 degrees Celsius.
   B. cool and dry.
   C. 68 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit.
   D. hot and wet.

2. To find information about the wildlife in Burkina Faso, which word or words should you type into the search engine?
   A. African wildlife
   B. Burkina Faso
   C. wildlife
   D. Burkina Faso wildlife

3. Which tab will lead you to a list of other Web sites with related information?
   A. History
   B. Links
   C. Photos
   D. People

4. To see what Burkina Faso looks like, you should click on
   A. Geography/Climate.
   B. Articles.
   C. Photos.
   D. History.
LEARN IT: Revision

When you edit your work, it is important to look at the overall organization and consistency of the writing. **Organization** refers to how information in a text is arranged. **Consistency** means the logical connections between ideas. You want to make sure that your writing is organized in a way that makes sense. No idea should stand out awkwardly from the rest. To make a text consistent, evaluate each detail and make sure it refers to the main idea and fits with all the other details.

EXAMPLE

1. Read the following passage.

William Carlos Williams was a famous American poet. People around the world continue to read poetry every day. He wrote in free verse, which means his poems did not rhyme. Many of Williams’s poems are about everyday experiences and objects.

Williams was born in Rutherford, New Jersey, in 1883. He became a medical doctor in 1906 and four years later set up a family practice in his hometown. He remained in Rutherford for the rest of his life. He wrote poems in the mornings and evenings, before and after work.

William Carlos Williams died in 1963.

Which sentence could best be removed from the first paragraph?

A. William Carlos Williams was a famous American poet.
B. People around the world continue to read poetry every day.
C. He wrote in free verse, which means his poems did not rhyme.
D. Many of Williams's poems are about everyday experiences and objects.

**Step 1** Read the first paragraph carefully. What is the main idea?

This paragraph introduces William Carlos Williams, a famous American poet, and talks about how he wrote his poetry.

**Step 2** Read the answer choices carefully. Which choice is not connected to the main idea of the paragraph?

Choices A, C, and D all describe Williams and his poetry. Only Choice B, People around the world continue to read poetry every day, is not connected to the main topic of the paragraph. The main topic is William Carlos Williams and how he wrote his poetry, but this sentence is about poetry in general. It breaks the logical flow of ideas in the paragraph and should be removed. Choice B is the correct answer.
To make your writing clearer, you can use **transitions**. Transitions are words, phrases, or sentences that make connections between ideas easier to understand. Transitions can be used within or between paragraphs so that readers can follow the flow of information in the text. Looking at transitions can be very helpful when you are revising your work; transitions can help you make your writing organized and consistent.

**EXAMPLE**

2 Read the following passage.

1. Games similar to field hockey have been around for thousands of years. Ancient carvings show athletes using sticks to advance a ball toward a goal. Nearly every culture has developed stick-and-ball games.

2. Ice hockey is a more recent invention. Influenced by both English and American stick-and-ball games, it was introduced to Canada by British soldiers in the mid-1800s. The first recorded use of a puck was at Kingston Harbour, Ontario, in 1860.

Which of these phrases would make a good transition at the beginning of paragraph 2?

A. However,  
B. As a result,  
C. In conclusion,  
D. Because of this,

**Step 1** Read both paragraphs. Did the focus change from one paragraph to the other? How are the two paragraphs related?

The first paragraph talks about stick-and-ball games in earlier civilizations. The second paragraph is about the modern game of ice hockey. In the second paragraph, modern ice hockey is contrasted with the ancient games discussed in the first paragraph.

**Step 2** Read each answer choice. Which transition correctly signals the idea that will be discussed next?

The transitions in Choices B and D signal that the next idea will be a result of the ideas in the first paragraph. Choice C indicates that the second paragraph will summarize the first paragraph. Only Choice A correctly signals that the second paragraph is introducing a new idea that will be contrasted with the first paragraph. **Choice A is the answer.**
**PRACTICE IT: Revision**

**Directions:** Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

The following is a rough draft of a student’s essay. It contains errors.

1. Potatoes grow best in cool environments and in sandy soil. They are usually grown from pieces of the tuber, or underground stem, instead of from seeds. For a new plant to develop, each tuber must have one or two buds. The new plant will be identical to the tuber it came from. Potatoes are used to make adhesives and alcohol.

2. **Because** potatoes are easy to grow, they also have many enemies. The Colorado potato beetle, or potato bug, is one of the worst. The bug feeds on the leaves of the plant. The potato bug also feeds on tomatoes and peppers. Other enemies of the potato include worms and fungi. These dangers can sometimes threaten an entire crop of potatoes.
1. Which word should replace the underlined transition in paragraph 2?
   A  While
   B  Unless
   C  Furthermore
   D  Since

2. Which sentence would best be removed from the first paragraph?
   A  Potatoes grow best in cool environments and in sandy soil.
   B  The new plant will be identical to the tuber it came from.
   C  Potatoes are used to make adhesives and alcohol.
   D  They are usually grown from pieces of the tuber, or underground stem, instead of from seeds.

3. Which sentence would best be removed from the second paragraph?
   A  The Colorado potato beetle, or potato bug, is one of the worst.
   B  The potato bug also feeds on tomatoes and peppers.
   C  Other enemies of the potato include worms and fungi.
   D  These dangers can sometimes threaten an entire crop of potatoes.

4. Read the following sentence.
   However, despite all the difficulties, potatoes continue to thrive.
   Where would be the best place to insert this sentence?
   A  beginning of paragraph 1
   B  beginning of paragraph 2
   C  end of paragraph 1
   D  end of paragraph 2
LEARN IT: Varied Sentence Types

Use a **variety** of sentences in your writing to make it more interesting. Avoid using only short sentences. As you revise your work, look for simple sentences—or **independent clauses**—that can be combined by using **conjunctions**. A mixture of sentence structures will help your writing flow smoothly and make it more interesting to read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Simple</td>
<td>One independent clause</td>
<td>I ate breakfast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compound</td>
<td>Two independent clauses joined with a conjunction</td>
<td>I ate breakfast, <em>and</em> I brushed my teeth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complex</td>
<td>One independent clause and one dependent clause joined with a conjunction</td>
<td>Although I woke up late, I arrived early. I bought the car <em>that</em> I always wanted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compound-Complex</td>
<td>Two independent clauses and at least one dependent clause joined with conjunctions</td>
<td>I ordered yogurt <em>because</em> it is healthy, <em>but</em> I really wanted cheesecake.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXAMPLE**

Read these sentences.

Nobody really knows who invented the game of baseball. Historians are sure it was first played in the United States.

Which word could *best* be used to join these sentences?

- A and
- B but
- C so
- D for

**Step 1** Read the two sentences carefully. Does the second sentence support or contrast with the first?

*The second sentence contrasts with the first sentence.*

**Step 2** Look at the possible answers. Which one among the possible answers shows contrast?

*The word but is the only answer choice that links the two ideas by showing contrast. The word and joins related items. The word for indicates a cause, while the word so shows an effect. B is, therefore, the correct answer.*
When writing compound, complex, or compound-complex sentences, certain punctuation marks are sometimes needed to link the clauses together in a way that is easy to read and understand. **Semicolons**, for example, are often used to link together two independent clauses. **Commas** are often placed directly before conjunctions (*and*, *but*, *or*) to link independent clauses together.

**EXAMPLE**

2 Read this example.

He knew nobody was listening he shouted anyway because he had to voice his anger.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words?

A listening, but he shouted anyway because he had to voice
B listening, he shouted anyway, because he had to voice
C listening; he shouted anyway; because he had to voice
D Leave it as is.

**Step 1** Read the example again. How many complete thoughts are there that can stand on their own?

*There are two complete thoughts in this passage:* He knew nobody was listening *and* he shouted anyway. Because he had to voice his anger is *not a complete thought*.

**Step 2** Read all the possible choices. Which answer choice is punctuated correctly to show the connection between two complete thoughts?

*Choice B uses commas but no conjunction, so it is still an incorrectly punctuated run-on sentence. Choice C is incorrect; semicolons are only used to join two independent clauses. The example needs to be punctuated in order to be correct, so D in not correct, either. The correct answer is, therefore, Choice A.*
PRACTICE IT: Varied Sentence Types

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

The following is a rough draft of a student’s story. It may contain errors.

Why Possums Have Hairless Tails

1. “What’s wrong?” Raccoon asked Possum. “If your head were any lower it would be in a hole.”

2. Then Possum buried his pride. He asked Raccoon how he got such a beautiful tail.

3. “It was easy,” Raccoon said. “I just wrapped a rope around my tail. I stuck it in a fire. Then, when I removed the rope, I had a beautiful striped tail.”

4. Later that day, though Possum was more than a bit scared, he wound some rope around his tail. He stuck it into the flames of a bonfire. It hurt like crazy! All the hair on his tail had been singed off.

5. And that is why, today, all possums have hairless tails.

1 Read the following sentences from the story.

I just wrapped a rope around my tail. I stuck it in a fire.

Which word could best be used to join these sentences?

A and
B so
C but
D or

2 What is the best way to combine the sentences in paragraph 2?

A Then Possum buried his pride, and he asked Raccoon how he got such a beautiful tail.
B Then Possum buried his pride, asked Raccoon how he got such a beautiful tail.
C Then Possum buried his pride but asked Raccoon how he got such a beautiful tail.
D Then Possum buried his pride, asked Raccoon, how he got such a beautiful tail.
3. Read the following sentence from the story.

If your head were any lower it would be in a hole.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words?

A. correct as is
B. lower, it would
C. lower; it would
D. lower: it would

4. Read the following sentences from the story.

It hurt like crazy! All the hair on his tail had been singed off.

Which word could best be used to join these sentences?

A. so
B. then
C. because
D. however
LEARN IT: Pronouns and Verb Tenses

**Pronouns** are words that take the place of nouns. **Indefinite pronouns** are pronouns that do not refer to specific people or things. Look at the chart below for more information.

| **Singular**         | another, anybody, anyone, anything, each, either, everybody, everyone, everything, much, neither, no one, nobody, nothing, one, somebody, someone, something | Example: Hakim was sure his brother was hiding something from him, because he was acting strange. |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Plural**           | both, few, many, others, several                                                                                                                                                                 | Example: I wanted to read two books that weekend, so I borrowed both from the library.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| **Unspecified** (could be singular or plural) | all, any, more, most, none, some                                                                                                                                                                 | Example: He ate more than he should have.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

**EXAMPLE**

1. Read the following sentence.

   After introducing the players on the home and visiting teams, the announcer asked everyone to stand and join him in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

Which word from the sentence is an indefinite pronoun?

A  After  
B  announcer  
C  everyone  
D  him

**Step 1** Read the sentence. Which words in the sentence name a person, place, thing, or idea?

*The words* players, teams, announcer, everyone, him, and pledge of allegiance are nouns or words that are acting as nouns. They each name a person, place, thing, or idea.

**Step 2** Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice is correct?

*Choice A is not correct, because after is not a noun or pronoun. Choice B is not correct, because announcer is a noun, not a pronoun. Choice D is not correct, because even though him is a pronoun, it refers to a specific person. It cannot be an indefinite pronoun. Everyone is a pronoun that does not refer to a specific person. It is an indefinite pronoun. Choice C is correct.*
You may have noticed from the chart on the previous page that there are several singular indefinite pronouns. When a singular indefinite pronoun is the subject of the sentence, the verb that follows it must also be singular. If you aren’t sure whether you have the correct verb form, try replacing the indefinite pronoun with a singular noun or definite pronoun such as he, she, or it. It will be easier to see if you have made a mistake.

EXAMPLE

Read the following sentence.

Nobody _____ to go home now even though the party is over.

Which verb completes the sentence?

A want
B wants
C wanting
D were wanting

Step 1 Read the sentence. Who or what is the subject of the sentence?

The subject of the sentence is nobody. Nobody is an indefinite pronoun. It is also singular.

Step 2 Read each answer choice. Which of the answer choices correctly completes the sentence?

Choice A is incorrect because want is a plural verb, and the indefinite pronoun is singular. Choice C is a progressive verb and does not fit in the sentence. Choice D is a past progressive verb, so it doesn’t work either. Choice B is correct because wants is a singular, present tense verb.

Step 3 Check your answer by replacing the indefinite pronoun with a definite pronoun.

When I substitute nobody with a definite pronoun such as he, the sentence is still grammatically correct. Choice B is the correct answer.
The **perfect verb tenses** are used in writing to show how certain actions relate to each other in time. These tenses include **present perfect**, **past perfect**, and **future perfect**.

| Present perfect | have or has + past participle | describes actions that began in the past and are still happening in the present | Grant has played hockey for many years.  
We have never been to the aquarium before. |
| Past perfect | had + past participle | when two events happened in the past, shows which event happened first | I had opened my book to start reading when the lights went out in my bedroom. |
| Future perfect | will + have + past participle | describes an action that will be completed before a certain time in the future | Shana will have eaten dinner by the time the movie starts. |

**EXAMPLE**

Read the following sentence.

My cousin _____ before I arrived at my aunt’s house for dinner last night.

Which verb completes the sentence?

A. had left  
B. has left  
C. have left  
D. will have left

**Step 1** Read the sentence. What is the sentence trying to say?

*The sentence is trying to say that the speaker’s cousin had already left by the time the speaker arrived at his or her aunt’s house. The cousin’s action happened first.*

**Step 2** Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice is correct?

*Choice B suggests that the cousin left and continues to leave, which doesn’t make sense. Choice C does not agree with the singular noun cousin. Choice D doesn’t make sense because the sentence describes two events that happened in the past. Choice A shows that the cousin had left and was already gone by the time the speaker arrived. Choice A is correct.*
Remember that sentences with **compound subjects**, or subjects that are plural, will need plural verbs. This rule does not apply to the past perfect and future perfect tenses.

When using the present perfect tense, the auxiliary word must match the subject of the sentence. For singular subjects, use the singular form of the auxiliary word, *has*. For plural subjects, use the plural form of the auxiliary word, *have*. The past participle verb that follows the auxiliary word will not change.

**EXAMPLE**

4 Read the following sentence.

George and Rey had **knew** each other for ten years, and they are still good friends.

**What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?**

A had known
B has known
C have knows
D have known

**Step 1** Read the sentence. What is the sentence trying to say?

*The sentence is trying to say that George and Rey knew each other ten years ago and that they continue to be good friends today.*

**Step 2** Look at the answer choices. Which answer choice is correct?

*Choice A is a combination of the auxiliary word had and the verb known. This is the past perfect verb tense, which doesn’t make sense since George and Rey still know each other. Choice B is a combination of the auxiliary word has and the verb known. This is the present perfect tense, but the auxiliary word has is singular, and the subject of the sentence is plural. Choice C is a combination of the auxiliary word have and the verb knows. The auxiliary word is plural, which matches the compound subject. However, the verb knows is not the past participle, so C is incorrect. Choice D is a combination of the auxiliary word have and the verb known. The auxiliary word is plural, which matches the compound subject, and the verb is the past participle form. Choice D is the answer.*
Stitch a Quilt and How a Quilt Is Made

From the Library of Congress

Stitch a Quilt

1 Quilting is the process of taking two pieces of fabric, putting a layer of stuffing in-between, and stitching them together. People all over the world have been quilting clothing and blankets for centuries.

2 In America, quilts have kept people warm for generations. Patchwork quilting—taking scraps of cloth arranged in geometric designs and then quilting them to make a bed cover—became very popular in the 19th century. The stitching not only keeps the layers together, but it also adds a decorative element. Quilting is still very popular in America today. Have you seen a quilt?

How a Quilt Is Made

3 Think about a quilt like a sandwich. The two pieces of fabric are the bread. What’s in the middle—wool or cotton filling—is the stuffing. Everything are stitched together so the filling doesn’t move around. These layers trap air and hold warmth, keeping the person underneath the quilt snug and cozy.

4 Assembling a quilt requires some planning. First, a quilter selects a pattern and cuts pieces of fabric. The quilter then sews them together to form a design. Usually, smaller pieces of material are sewn together into larger blocks or squares, and then those blocks are stitched together to make the top layer of the quilt. Once the top layer is as big as the quilter wants, it’s joined together with the padding and the bottom layer using a frame.

5 A frame is needed to help finish a quilt because the quilt can get as big as 10 square feet. This would be pretty difficult to handle in your lap! A frame is made of two smooth poles or long bars of wood. The bottom layer is stretched out across the frame. The filling is then spread evenly over the bottom layer, and the top layer is placed in position. The other advantage of a frame is that many people can work on the quilt at the same time, and everyone can help stitch the layers together.
1. Read this sentence from paragraph 2.
   
   In America, quilts have kept people warm for generations.

   What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?
   
   A. quilts has been kept
   B. quilts has been keeping
   C. quilts have been kept
   D. Leave as is.

2. Read this sentence from paragraph 2.

   Have you saw a quilt?

   What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?
   
   A. Leave as is.
   B. you seen
   C. you see
   D. you had saw

3. Read this sentence from paragraph 3.

   Everything are stitched together so the filling doesn't move around.

   What is the correct way to write the underlined part of the sentence?
   
   A. Everything is stitched together
   B. Leave as is.
   C. Everything were stitched together
   D. Everything have been stitched together

4. Read this sentence from paragraph 5.

   The other advantage of a frame is that many people can work on the quilt at the same time, and everyone can help stitch the layers together.

   Which word in the sentence is an indefinite pronoun?
   
   A. other
   B. everyone
   C. that
   D. together
LEARN IT: Use Correct Capitalization

There are several basic rules that tell you when a letter in a word should be capitalized.

- The first letter of the word that begins a sentence is always capitalized.
- The first-person pronoun I is always capitalized.
- Proper nouns are capitalized because they name specific persons, things, or places. Examples of proper nouns include Harriet Tubman, the Washington Monument, and France.

EXAMPLE

1 Read this sentence.

the book Carrie is my favorite of stephen king’s novels.

Which is the correct way to capitalize this sentence?

A  the book Carrie is my favorite of Stephen King’s novels.
B  The book Carrie is my favorite of stephen King’s novels.
C  The book Carrie is my favorite of Stephen King’s novels.
D  the book Carrie is my favorite of stephen king’s novels.

Step 1 Read the sentence carefully. List all the proper names as well as the first word in the sentence. Which of these words are not capitalized in the sentence?

The first word of the sentence is the. Proper names are Carrie and Stephen King. The first word is not capitalized, and neither is Stephen King.

Step 2 Read the answer choices carefully. Which sentence uses correct capitalization?

In Choices A and D, the first word is not capitalized, so I know that these answer choices are not correct. Choice B has the author’s first name in lowercase, so I know it can’t be correct, either. Choice C capitalizes the first word of the sentence and all of the proper names, so I know that Choice C is the correct answer.
EXAMPLE

2 Read this passage.

Marnie decided to toss a snowball at Samuel. It exploded on his back. He laughed and gathered up some snow of his own. He hurled a snowball back at Marnie, and she screamed with glee. They had a very fun Day.

Every word in the passage is capitalized correctly except

A  Marnie.
B  Samuel.
C  It.
D  Day.

Step 1  Find each answer choice in the passage. How is each answer choice used?

Marnie and Samuel are both proper nouns. The word It isn’t a proper noun, but it is the first word in the second sentence. Day is neither a proper noun nor the first word in a sentence.

Step 2  Review the rules of capitalization. Which answer choice does not follow these rules?

Only Day should not be capitalized. It is a common noun that names a common thing. It is also located at the end of the sentence, not the beginning. D is the correct answer.
PRACTICE IT: Use Correct Capitalization

Directions: Read the passage and then answer the questions that follow.

Dr. Ruby Perez pushed her cart down the aisle. She had come to Bonus Buy, her favorite grocery store, to pick up some milk. Before she knew it, however, she had filled her cart with jelly beans, crackers, laundry detergent, and blueberries. Then she started to reach for chocolate ice cream. surely she didn't need the ice cream. She already had ice cream in her freezer at home. She paused awhile and then took the ice cream anyway. Her niece, Kelly, was coming from southwestern Wyoming for a visit. Kelly really loved ice cream.

1 Read this sentence from the passage.
   Dr. Ruby Perez pushed her cart down the aisle.
   What is the correct way to write the underlined words in this sentence?
   A  Dr. Ruby Perez  
   B  Dr. Ruby Perez  
   C  Dr. Ruby Perez  
   D  Dr. Ruby Perez

2 Read this sentence from the passage.
   She had come to Bonus Buy, her favorite grocery store, to pick up some milk.
   What is the correct way to write the underlined words in this sentence?
   A  Bonus Buy  
   B  bonus Buy  
   C  Bonus Buy  
   D  correct as is

3 Read this sentence from the passage.
   Her niece, Kelly, was coming from southwestern Wyoming for a visit.
   Which word in the sentence should be capitalized?
   A  southwestern  
   B  Wyoming  
   C  niece  
   D  visit

4 Read this sentence from the passage.
   surely she didn't need the ice cream.
   What is the proper way to write this sentence?
   A  surely she didn't need the ice cream.  
   B  Surely she didn't need the ice cream.  
   C  surely she didn't need the Ice Cream.  
   D  Surely she didn't need the Ice Cream.
Correctly Spell Misspelled Words

Many words are spelled incorrectly because people confuse one word with another word that sounds just like it, such as they’re, their, and there. Words that sound alike or nearly alike but have different meanings and different spellings are called homonyms. To use homonyms correctly, learn the meaning of each similar-sounding word and figure out which meaning makes sense in the sentence.

For example, here are a few homonyms and their meanings:

**They’re/their/there**
- *They’re* is a contraction of the words *they* and *are*.
- *Their* shows possession.
- *There* means “in or at that place.”

**Bye/by/buy**
- *Bye* is a shortened form of the word *goodbye*.
- *By* is a preposition. It may mean “near,” “through,” or “around.”
- *Buy* means “to purchase something.”

**EXAMPLE**

1. Read the sentence.

   Marcus and Shane showed they’re backpacks to the guard before entering the school.

   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in the sentence?
   
   A. their  
   B. there  
   C. they're  
   D. correct as is

   **Step 1** Read the sentence carefully. How is the underlined word used in the sentence?

   The underlined word is used to indicate that the backpacks are owned by Marcus and Shane.

   **Step 2** Look for the answer choice that shows possession.

   A is the correct answer choice because the word their shows possession.
Use the following rules to correctly spell frequently misspelled words.

**Spelling ie and ei Words**

This rule is designed to help readers remember how to spell words such as *receive* and *chief*. The rule is relatively simple: *i* usually comes before *e*. The *e* comes before the *i* only if both letters immediately follow the letter *c* (as in the word *deceit*) or if they combine to form an *ay* sound (as in the word *weigh*).

**Change y to i**

When adding a suffix to a word that ends with a consonant and a *y*, change the *y* to an *i* before adding the suffix, except for the suffix *-ing*. So, the word *supply* becomes *supplies* when you add the suffix *-es*, but the word *worry* becomes *worrying* when you add the suffix *-ing*.

**EXAMPLE**

**Read the sentence.**

My neice loves to play with her new friend in the neighborhood.

What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in the sentence?

- A niece
- B neace
- C neece
- D correct as is

**Step 1** Read the boxed sentence. Which spelling rule could be applied to the underlined word?

*The underlined word has an *i* and an *e*. The spelling rule for words with *ie* should be used. The rule is that *i* comes before *e* except when both letters appear after *c* or when they form an *ay* sound.*

**Step 2** Apply the appropriate spelling rule to the underlined word. Which is the correct answer choice?

*The *i* and the *e* in the underlined word do not appear after the letter *c*. Nor is the underlined word pronounced with an *ay* sound. The correct spelling is niece. A is the correct answer.*
EXAMPLE

Read this sentence.

The skyes were clear after the storm passed.

What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in the sentence?

A  skies
B  skeis
C  skys
D  correct as is

**Step 1**  Read the boxed sentence and focus on the underlined word. Which spelling rule should be applied to the word?

The word ends with a consonant k and a y. It also has an -es ending. The rule is that, when adding a suffix (except for -ing), the letter y is changed to the letter i if it follows a consonant.

**Step 2**  Apply the spelling rule to the underlined word. Then read each answer choice and choose the one that follows the spelling rule.

When I change the letter y to the letter i, the underlined word becomes skies. A is the correct answer because it follows the rule.
Thank You, Mrs. Hannah!

1 Mrs. Hannah is the toughest teacher at our school. She teaches English and science. She makes us write three essays a week and read newspapers every day. She gives us a vocabulary test every Friday, and the words she picks are really difficult. She assigns many pages of reading and asks us to think about many different theories.

2 Last week we had to read *Romeo and Juliet* in just four days, and she gave us a pop quiz to make sure we had all finished the play. The quiz was really tough, and many of my classmates failed. She also expects our homework to be neat and nicely done. She wants all our papers on her desk by the time she enters the classroom. If there are any smudges on our papers, we have to recopy them.

3 Mrs. Hannah is always perceived as strict and demanding, but I guess I’m learning a lot every time she comes to the class. It’s Mrs. Hannah’s last time to teach our class tomorrow. I’ll be grateful I had her, and I wish I could have her again as a teacher in the future.
1. Read this sentence from the passage.
   She wants all our papers on her desk by the time she enters the classroom.

   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in the sentence?
   A. bye
   B. by
   C. bie
   D. correct as is

2. Read this sentence from the passage.
   It's Mrs. Hannah's last time to teach our class tomorrow.

   What is the correct way to write the underlined word in the sentence?
   A. It's
   B. Its'
   C. Itss
   D. correct as is

3. Read this sentence from the passage.
   Mrs. Hannah is always perceived as strict and demanding, but I guess I'm learning a lot every time she comes to the class.

   Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?
   A. always
   B. perceived
   C. guess
   D. learning

4. Read this sentence from paragraph 1.
   She assigns many pages of reading and asks us to think about many different theories.

   What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?
   A. theoryies
   B. theoryes
   C. theeries
   D. theories