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***So now what??***

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- Font type (Verdana, just like the real STAAR)
- Test format, designed to look like the real exam
- High Cognitive Complexity of items
- Different item types (multiple choice, gridded response, etc.)
- Alignment to the latest TEKS
- STAAR Readiness and Supporting Standards identified
- Process Skills identified



***THEN ...***

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

*Stephen is writing a report for his social studies class. Read Stephen's report and think about any mistakes he has made and how the report should be revised. Then answer the questions that follow.*

### Walking in New York

(1) One of the oldest jokes that New Yorkers tell is about how to identify a tourist—there the ones looking up! (2) New Yorkers get agitated by tourists because they walk slowly while taking in the sights, thereby clogging up the sidewalks. (3) Tourists visit New York City often comment on how fast New Yorkers walk. (4) It seems to them that everyone in New York city is in a hurry. (5) Which group is right—the tourists or the New Yorkers?

(6) According to transportation analysts who study pedestrian movement, people who live in cities general walk much faster than people from smaller towns. (7) New Yorkers walk an average of 350 feet per minute. (8) Tourists usually walk about 250 feet per minute. (9) Tourists walk approximately 30 percent slower.

(10) New Yorkers can get impatient when walking behind a tourist. (11) It slows them down. (12) Why do tourists visit New York City? (13) Most New Yorkers must rely on their feet for transportation, as opposed to motor vehicles, the city is so congested. (14) Sightseers on the sidewalks are like slow-moving vehicles in the fast lane on the highway. (15) Tourists are in the city to enjoy themselves and don't want to be rushed.

(16) So it turns out that both groups are correct.

#### 1 Expectation: 7.14(D)

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

- A Change **a** to **an**
- B Change **tourist** to **tourest**
- C Change **there** to **they're**
- D Make no change

2     **Expectation: 7.21(A)**

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

- F   Change ***agitated*** to **agitate**
- G   Insert **they were** after ***thereby***
- H   Change ***clogging*** to **clogging**
- J   Make no change

3     **Expectation: 7.19(A)**

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

- A   Change ***visit*** to **visiting**
- B   Insert a comma after ***often***
- C   Change ***comment*** to **coment**
- D   Make no change

4     **Expectation: 7.20(A)**

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?

- F   Insert a comma after ***everyone***
- G   Change ***city*** to **City**
- H   Change ***hurry*** to **hury**
- J   Make no change

5     **Expectation: 7.19(A)**

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?

- A   Change ***According*** to **Accord**
- B   Change the first ***people*** to **them**
- C   Change ***general*** to **generally**
- D   Make no change

**6 Expectation: 7.19(B)**

What is the BEST way to combine sentences 8 and 9?

- F** Tourists usually walk about 250 feet per minute; because tourists walk approximately 30 percent slower.
- G** Tourists walk approximately 30 percent slower, that's because tourists usually walk about 250 feet per minute.
- H** Tourists usually walk about 250 feet per minute and tourists walk approximately 30 percent slower.
- J** Tourists usually walk about 250 feet per minute, which means they walk approximately 30 percent slower.

**7 Expectation: 7.14(C)**

What is the BEST way to combine sentences 10 and 11?

- A** New Yorkers can get impatient, when walking behind a tourist; it slows them down.
- B** New Yorkers can get impatient when walking behind a tourist, as it slows them down.
- C** When walking behind a tourist, New Yorkers can get impatient; it slows them down.
- D** New Yorkers are slowed down because they get impatient when walking behind a tourist.

**8 Expectation: 7.14(C)**

What is the BEST way to revise sentence 13?

- F** Most New Yorkers must rely on their feet for transportation, as opposed to motor vehicles. The city is so congested.
- G** Most New Yorkers must rely on their feet for transportation, as opposed to motor vehicles; since the city is so congested.
- H** Because the city is so congested, most New Yorkers must rely on their feet for transportation, as opposed to motor vehicles.
- J** The city is so congested. Most New Yorkers must rely on their feet for transportation, as opposed to motor vehicles.

**9 Expectation: 7.17(A)**

Which sentence could BEST follow and support sentence 15?

- A** They want to take in the sights and excitement of the city, and they have the time to do so.
- B** Last year, 45.6 million tourists visited New York City.
- C** Many of the tourists plan to see a Broadway show while visiting the city.
- D** They come to New York in large numbers because New York has so much to offer.

**10 Expectation: 7.17(A)**

Which sentence could BEST follow and support sentence 16?

- F** New Yorkers are known for being impatient with tourists.
- G** New Yorkers are definitely in a hurry, and tourists most certainly move at a slower pace.
- H** New Yorkers are in too much of a hurry and scare many visitors.
- J** Because the city is so big, it takes a long time to get anywhere, and New Yorkers have to move quickly.

**11 Expectation: 7.14(C)**

Which sentence does NOT belong in this report?

- A** Sentence 3
- B** Sentence 7
- C** Sentence 9
- D** Sentence 12

**12 Expectation: 7.17(A)**

How does Stephen show that he is writing a report?

- F** He tells stories from tourists who have visited New York City.
- G** He cites facts about the varying rates of pedestrian movement.
- H** He recounts details from a personal visit to New York City.
- J** He makes observations about tourists in New York City.

**13 Expectation: 7.16(A)**

Telling the truth isn't always easy, though it's always the right thing to do.

Write a personal narrative about an experience you had in which being honest was difficult. Be sure to write in detail about the situation and what happened in the end.

14 Expectation: 7.17(A)

**READ** the quotation in the box below.

An American author once wrote, "We did not change as we grew older; we just became more clearly ourselves."

**THINK** carefully about the following statements.

Growing up is a series of changes. Some of the changes are personal, while others happen in the world around you.

**WRITE** an essay describing three changes you have experienced since leaving elementary school.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your controlling idea
- organize and develop your explanation effectively
- choose your words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences





## Grade 7 Writing made with STAAR Test Maker 1-800-930-TEST

Item Number	Reporting Category	Readiness or Supporting	Content Student Expectation	Correct Answer
<b>Writing Selection 1</b>				
1	3	Readiness	7.14(D)	C
2	3	Readiness	7.21(A)	H
3	3	Readiness	7.19(A)	A
4	3	Readiness	7.20(A)	G
5	3	Readiness	7.19(A)	C
6	3	Supporting	7.19(B)	J
7	2	Readiness	7.14(C)	B
8	2	Readiness	7.14(C)	H
9	2	Supporting	7.17(A)	A
10	2	Supporting	7.17(A)	G
11	2	Readiness	7.14(C)	D
12	2	Supporting	7.17(A)	G
<b>Writing Prompt</b>				
13	1	Readiness	7.16(A)	Prompt
<b>Writing Prompt</b>				
14	1	Readiness	7.17(A)	Prompt

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