

VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING

Spring 2008 Released Test

GRADE 5 WRITING

Form W0118, CORE 1

Property of the Virginia Department of Education

©2008 by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Education, P.O. Box 2120, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120. All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, this material may not be reproduced or used in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, without written permission from the copyright owner. Commonwealth of Virginia public school educators may reproduce any portion of these released tests for non-commercial educational purposes without requesting permission. All others should direct their written requests to the Virginia Department of Education, Division of Student Assessment and School Improvement, at the above address or by e-mail to Student_Assessment@doe.virginia.gov.

Directions

Read the passage. Then read each question about the passage and choose the best answer. Fill in the circle on your answer document for the answer you have chosen.

SAMPLE A***A Special Person***

In English class, Sarah has been asked to write a description of someone special to her. Sarah wants to write about her older brother.

Which of these would *best* help Sarah write her description of her older brother?

- A** Calling his friends and telling them about him
- B** Thinking about all the things she likes about him
- C** Making a list of things she wants him to do for her
- D** Asking him to take her to the library

SAMPLE B

Here is the first part of Sarah's rough draft.

(1)A special person in my life is my big brother. (2)He is Ben.

How can sentences 1 and 2 *best* be combined?

- F** A special person in my life is Ben, my big brother.
- G** A special person in my life is my big brother and Ben is who he is.
- H** In my life a special person is my big brother and he is Ben.
- J** My big brother Ben is a special person, he is in my life.

SAMPLE C

Here is the next part of Sarah's rough draft.

(3)He helps me with my homework.

In sentence 3, He helps should be written —

- A** He were helping
- B** He have helped
- C** He help
- D** as it is

Directions

You do not need to read a passage to answer the following question. Read and answer the question.

SAMPLE D

Read this sentence.

The race proved that Lee was a more fast runner than Bob.

In this sentence, more fast should be written —

- F** faster
- G** fastest
- H** more faster
- J** as it is

Crossing the Prairie

Leonard's teacher asks the students to read a historical fiction book and to write a report. Leonard decides to write about a diary written by a boy named Hank.

Before writing his report, Leonard makes these notes. Use them to answer question 1.

Questions to answer in the book report

- Who wrote the diary entry?
- When did my teacher ask the class to write a report?
- What time period is discussed in the diary?
- Who are the main characters?

1 Which of these does *not* belong in Leonard's notes?

- A** Who wrote the diary entry?
- B** When did my teacher ask the class to write a report?
- C** What time period is discussed in the diary?
- D** Who are the main characters?

Here is the first part of Leonard’s rough draft. Use it to answer questions 2–3.

(1)Reading the book *A Prairie Diary* helped me understand what life was like for pioneers who traveled by covered wagons long ago. **(2)**Hank, the boy who wrote the diary, was 10 years old.

(3)Back then, trains did not provide transportation across the country. **(4)**Cars and airplanes had not been invented. **(5)**People depended on wagons to help them move from place to place. **(6)**Cars were one of the greatest inventions of all time. **(7)**Hank traveled with his grandfather, mother, father, and three sisters. **(8)**The family began their trip. **(9)**They began their trip in a big wagon pulled by two horses, Blaze and Prince. **(10)**Hank especially liked to hold the reins and guide the horses.

2 Which sentence does *not* belong in the report?

- F** Sentence 2
- G** Sentence 3
- H** Sentence 5
- J** Sentence 6

3 Which of these is the *best* way to combine sentences 8 and 9?

- A** The family began their trip in a big wagon pulled by two horses, Blaze and Prince.
- B** The family began their trip, and in a big wagon pulled by two horses, Blaze and Prince.
- C** The family began their trip and began in a big wagon pulled by two horses, Blaze and Prince.
- D** The family began their trip and they began their trip in a big wagon pulled by two horses, Blaze and Prince.

**Go to the next
page and continue
working.**

Read the next part of Leonard’s rough draft and use it to answer questions 4–10. This section has groups of underlined words. The questions ask about these groups of underlined words.

(11) Hank and his family planned carefully for their trip. (12) They had to leave behind everything that wouldn’t fit in the wagon. (13) The family carefully chose what to take, including pots and pans, tools, clothes, blankets, and, a few special books. (14) They packed all of these necessary items in big wooden trunks. (15) The childs often used the trunks as benches during the journey. (16) The covering above the wagon protected them from rain and sun.

(17) Hank had different opinins about the trip as he went on his journey. (18) At first, the idea of an adventure excited him. (19) Later he missed his old friends and favorite places. (20) Then the changing scenery made him happier than before, especially when they left the forest and started to cross the prairie. (21) “The grass here is so tall that when I stand on the ground I can’t see over it,” he wrote. (22) “When I sit on the wagon seat, steadily driving the horses, the grass appears to go on forever.” (23) He wonders what he would find beyond the grass.

(24) Having to sit in a wagon for too many days in a row might be boring. (25) Hank and his sisters did not never get bored. (26) They invented activities to keep themselves entertained. (27) They singed songs and told stories. (28) Hank took care of the horses and helped prepare food for the family. (29) They found ways to stay busy.

(30) I enjoyed reading the book because it helped me to realize how different the life of a pioneer is from mine. (31) Their daily activities and ways of traveling are only two ways that their lifes were different from ours. (32) I recommend this book to students who want to learn more about Hank and his adventures while crossing the prairie. (33) Anyone who reads this book will not be disappointed.

4 In sentence 13, pots and pans, tools, clothes, blankets, and, a few special books should be written —

- F** pots and pans, tools, clothes blankets, and, a few special books
- G** pots and pans, tools, clothes, blankets, and a few special books
- H** pots and pans, tools, clothes, blankets, and a few, special books
- J** as it is

5 In sentence 15, childs should be written —

- A** children
- B** childrens
- C** childes
- D** as it is

6 In sentence 17, opinins should be written —

- F** opinions
- G** opiniens
- H** openions
- J** as it is

7 In sentence 23, wonders should be written —

- A** will wonder
- B** wondered
- C** is wondering
- D** as it is

8 In sentence 25, did not never get bored should be written —

- F** did never get bored
- G** not never get bored
- H** did not get bored
- J** as it is

9 In sentence 27, singed should be written —

- A** sung
- B** sing
- C** sang
- D** as it is

10 In sentence 31, lifes should be written —

- F** life
- G** lives
- H** live
- J** as it is

**Go to the next
page and continue
working.**

A Special Thank You

In social studies class, Sarah has been learning about the history of different food products. Her teacher asks the students to write reports on the history of products they eat or drink today.

Here is the first part of Sarah’s rough draft. Use it to answer questions 11–13.

(1)Many inventions are named after the people who invented them. **(2)**In the case of Dr Pepper, the oldest soft drink in the country, this is not how it happened. **(3)**Instead, this drink is named after the person who once did something kind for the partner of its producer. **(4)**The Dr Pepper story began during the late 1800s in Rural Retreat, Virginia. **(5)**There was a young man and his name was Wade Morrison and he needed a job. **(6)**Jobs were not easy to find. **(7)**Fortunately, Dr. Charles T. Pepper, the town’s doctor, hired Wade Morrison to work for him. **(8)**Dr. Pepper was an important businessman in town. **(9)**In 1855 he had finished his studies in medicine. **(10)**He opened his own drugstore. **(11)**He needed someone to help him and to give out medicine. **(12)**Wade Morrison was perfect for the job.

(13)After working for Dr. Pepper, Morrison decided it was time to move on. **(14)**He left Virginia and moved to Waco, Texas. **(15)**Texas is the country’s second-largest state. **(16)**Once he settled in Waco, Morrison opened his own drugstore. **(17)**He never forgot Pepper’s kindness. **(18)**He also remembered how people looked up to the doctor and trusted him.

11 What is the *best* way for Sarah to rewrite sentence 5?

- A** There was a young man his name was Wade Morrison. He needed a job.
- B** There was a young man and he needed a job, his name was Wade Morrison.
- C** There was a young man. Named Wade Morrison and he needed a job.
- D** There was a young man named Wade Morrison who needed a job.

12 Which of the following is the *best* place for Sarah to start a new paragraph?

- F** Sentence 2
- G** Sentence 4
- H** Sentence 10
- J** Sentence 11

13 Which sentence does *not* belong in Sarah's report?

- A** Many inventions are named after the people who invented them.
- B** Dr. Pepper was an important businessman in town.
- C** After working for Dr. Pepper, Morrison decided it was time to move on.
- D** Texas is the country's second-largest state.

Read the next section of Sarah’s rough draft and use it to answer questions 14–20. This section has groups of underlined words. The questions ask about these groups of underlined words.

(19)At his store in Waco, Wade Morrison worked with a man named Charles Alderton. **(20)**Alderton invented a new soft drink. **(21)**Alderton and Morrison claimed that it made people feel gooder and stay healthier. **(22)**To honor his old boss and to make the drink sounding more like medicine, Morrison named the new product “Dr Pepper.”

(23)Customers loved the flavor of the new drink. **(24)**Soon the syrup was sold to other soda fountain owners, and business grew. **(25)**Some people liked the drink ice cold, and others liked it steaming hot. **(26)**In the late 1880s, Morrison and a man named Robert Lazenby started a bottling plant for the new soft drink. **(27)**In 1904, Lazenby brought Dr Pepper to millions of people. **(28)**He introduced it at the World’s Fair in St. Louis. **(29)**The crowd at the fair was also introduced to hamburgers hot dogs on buns, and the very first ice cream cones. **(30)**All of these ideas were hits.

(31)Today, Dr Pepper is still one of the popularest soft drinks in the United States. **(32)**Many customers still enjoys the taste that has been around for more than a century. **(33)**The soft drink also isn’t no bad way for Morrison to have said thank you.

14 In sentence 21, feel gooder and stay healthier should be written —

- F** feel more good and stay healthier
- G** feel better and stay healthier
- H** feel most good and stay healthier
- J** as it is

15 In sentence 22, make the drink sounding more should be written —

- A** make the drink sounded more
- B** make the drink be sounding more
- C** make the drink sound more
- D** as it is

16 In sentence 24, and business grew should be written —

- F** and business grow
- G** and business will grow
- H** and business grows
- J** as it is

17 In sentence 29, hamburgers hot dogs on buns, and the should be written —

- A** hamburgers hot, dogs on buns, and the
- B** hamburgers hot dogs, on buns, and the
- C** hamburgers, hot dogs on buns, and the
- D** as it is

18 In sentence 31, one of the popularest soft drinks should be written —

- F** one of the most popularest soft drinks
- G** one of the most popular soft drinks
- H** one of the more popularer soft drinks
- J** as it is

19 In sentence 32, customers still enjoys the taste should be written —

- A** customer still enjoys the taste
- B** customer still enjoy the taste
- C** customers still enjoy the taste
- D** as it is

20 In sentence 33, isn't no bad way for should be written —

- F** isn't a bad way for
- G** isn't never a bad way for
- H** isn't a bad way neither for
- J** as it is

