

# **VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING ASSESSMENTS**

**Spring 2004 Released Test**

---

## **GRADE 5 WRITING CORE 1**

**Property of the Virginia Department of Education**

© 2004 by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education, James Monroe Building, 101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23219. 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 photocopy or print any portion of these Released Tests for educational purposes without requesting permission. All others should direct their requests to the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Education at (804) 225-2102, Division of Assessment and Reporting.

**DIRECTIONS**

Read the passage in each box. Read each question after the passage. Choose the best answer. Then mark the space in the answer booklet 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 joined?

- 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

## *The Big One*

Rebecca's teacher asks her to write a story about something she enjoys doing with her family.

Rebecca decides to write about fishing with her family, and she makes these notes. Use them to answer question 1.

1. My family likes to go fishing.
2. We have fun because we have fishing contests.
3. My mom gives out prizes.
4. Once I thought I had caught the largest fish.
5. We all had a big laugh.
6. My grandparents come to visit us on Sundays.
7. I am still waiting to catch the biggest fish!

**1 Which statement in Rebecca's notes does *not* belong?**

- A My mom gives out prizes.
- B We all had a big laugh.
- C My grandparents come to visit us on Sundays.
- D I am still waiting to catch the biggest fish!

**Here is the first part of Rebecca’s rough draft. Use it to answer questions 2–5.**

(1)One of my favorite things to do with my family is go fishing. (2)During the summer, my family goes fishing on Saturdays. (3)Mom and Dad like to get to the lake early.

(4)We make fishing fun by having a contest. (5)Mom always packs four special prizes. (6)One prize goes to the person who catches the first fish another prize goes to the person who catches the most fish. (7)The third prize goes to the person who tries hard but doesn’t catch any fish. (8)The last prize is the best. (9)It goes to the person who catches the biggest fish. (10)My teacher gives a prize to the student who has helped her the most each week. (11)Last week I won the prize for the most fish, but I have never won the big one.

(12)Last Saturday when we were fishing, Dad was the first to feel a tug on his pole. (13)He caught a small catfish. (14)I sat and waited for my pole to move. (15)Nothing seemed to happen. (16)Then my brother yelled with surprise. (17)He had a fish on his line. (18)I watched as he brought it in. (19)His fish weighed over two pounds.

**2 How would sentence 6 *best* be rewritten?**

- F One prize goes to the person who catches the first fish, and another prize goes to the person who catches the most fish.
- G To the person who catches the first fish and to the person who catches the most fish. Go prizes.
- H To the person who catches the first fish goes a prize to the person who catches the most fish goes a prize.
- J One prize for the person who catches the first fish and one prize for the person who catches the most fish.

**3 Which sentence does *not* belong with the other ideas in Rebecca's story?**

- A Sentence 5
- B Sentence 9
- C Sentence 10
- D Sentence 18

**4 How can sentences 14 and 15 *best* be joined?**

- F I sat and waited for my pole to move, or nothing seemed to happen.
- G I sat and waited for my pole to move nothing seemed to happen.
- H I sat, I waited for my pole to move, and nothing seemed to happen.
- J I sat and waited for my pole to move, but nothing seemed to happen.

**5 Which of these sentences can *best* be added after sentence 19?**

- A My kitten Whiskers weighs about two pounds too.
- B Would this fish be the big one for the day?
- C My brother was not the first one to catch a fish that day.
- D I like fishing more than my mother does.

**Read the next part of Rebecca’s story and use it to answer questions 6–9. This section has groups of underlined words. The questions ask about these groups of underlined words.**

(20)Then my rotten luck changed. (21)As I was moving my pole around gently, it dipped suddenly. (22)I grabbed it and started to bring in the line. (23)“I’ve caught the big one,” I shouted. (24)It seemed like forever before I got my catch to shore. (25)I couldn’t believe my eyes. (26)I had caught the big one, all right. (27)It was an old boot! (28)Dad and I put it on the scales just for fun. (29)The boot weighed over three pounds.

(30)We fished until it was almost dark. (31)Dad ended up catching the most fish. (32)Mom didn’t catch no fish. (33)My brother caught two more fish, but they wasn’t very big. (34)On the way to the truck, my mom hands me a prize. (35)“What is this for?” I asked.

(36)My brother smiled and said, “We think you should win the prize for the big one.”

(37)I looked at my old boot and laughed. (38)I guess I really did catch the big one after all.

**6 In sentence 30, until it was almost should be written —**

- F untill it was almost
- G until it was allmost
- H untill it was allmost
- J as it is

**7 In sentence 32, didn't catch no should be written —**

- A didn't catch any
- B didn't not catch no
- C didnt catch no
- D as it is

**8 In sentence 33, they wasn't should be written —**

- F they weren't
- G they aren't
- H they isn't
- J as it is

**9 In sentence 34, my mom hands me should be written —**

- A my mom hand me
- B my mom handing me
- C my mom handed me
- D as it is

## *Letter From a Helpful Cousin*

Erica decides to write a letter to her younger cousin, Hailey. Hailey has been away for a year and will be moving back to their hometown soon.

Erica makes this outline about the changes that were made while her cousin was away. Use it to answer questions 10–11.

### **I. Town**

- A. New main library building
- B. Bigger and better park

### **II. School**

- A. A great new teacher
- B. Please write back
- C. New equipment

### **III. My family**

- A. Baby brother growing
- B. A cute new puppy
- C. Mom coaching my baseball team

**10 Which of these does *not* belong in Erica's outline?**

- F** Bigger and better park
- G** A great new teacher
- H** Please write back
- J** New equipment

**11 What is the purpose of Erica's outline?**

- A** To plan what she will say in her letter
- B** To send her cousin an outline instead of a letter
- C** To decide what she likes about her hometown
- D** To find out where to send her letter



**Here is the first part of Erica’s rough draft. Use it to answer questions 12–14.**

Dear Hailey,

(1)It was wonderful to hear the news that you will finally be moving back here! (2)I can hardly wait! (3)In the news the other day, I saw a man who climbed a mountain. (4)I have missed you very much. (5)Many things have changed while you were gone. (6)I will tell you about some of these changes so that you will know what to expect when you come back.

(7)One change our town has made is the great new library building. (8)The new library is much larger than the old one. (9)It is cheerful, bright, quiet, and airy. (10)There is one area where you can see a beautiful view from where you sit. (11)There are also large rooms where special events take place. (12)Sometimes there are fun classes for young people these are on weekends.

**12 Which of these sentences does *not* belong in this part of Erica’s letter?**

- F** Sentence 3
- G** Sentence 4
- H** Sentence 5
- J** Sentence 7

**13 Which sentence could *best* be added after sentence 9?**

- A** The library building is a new one.
- B** I really like spending time there.
- C** I can’t believe it’s been a year since you left!
- D** I hope to be a news reporter someday so I can let everyone know what happens in our town.

**14 How should sentence 12 *best* be written?**

- F** Fun classes for young people sometimes on weekends.
- G** Sometimes there are fun classes for young people are on weekends.
- H** Sometimes there are fun classes on weekends for young people.
- J** For young people there are sometimes fun classes, which are on weekends.

**Read the next part of Erica's rough draft and answer questions 15–20. This section has groups of underlined words. The questions ask about these groups of underlined words.**

(13)The biggest surprise will be Magnolia Park. (14)You won't believe how beautiful it is now! (15)It is more prettier and larger than it was a year ago.

(16)There have also been some changes at Brenton elementary school. (17)The best change is a new teacher, Miss Wilkins, who teaches fifth grade. (18)Since youll be in fifth grade, she might be your teacher. (19)She began teaching in the middle of last year, so she were my teacher for a few months. (20)She has a nice smile and kindness in her eyes. (21)When you raise your hand to ask a question, she's glad. (22)She wants everyone to understand. (23)She takes her classes on fun field trips too. (24)Last year we went to Chaco's Chocolate Factory and watched them make chocolate! (25)There were other trips, too, but I'll let you be surprised.

(26)You will also be amazed by how much your other cousin, Michael, has grown! (27)My baby brother isn't such a baby anymore. (28)We also have a new pet, but I'll let you see for yourself when you get here. (29)See you soon!

Your cousin.

*Erica*

Erica

**15 In sentence 14, won't believe should be written —**

- A will not never believe
- B won't not belief
- C won't never believe
- D as it is

**16 In sentence 15, more prettier and larger should be written —**

- F prettier and more larger
- G prettier and larger
- H more prettier and large
- J as it is

**17 In sentence 16, at Brenton elementary school should be written —**

- A at Brenton Elementary School
- B at Brenton elementary School
- C at brenton Elementary school
- D as it is

**18 In sentence 18, Since youll be should be written —**

- F since youll be
- G since you'll be
- H Since you'll be
- J as it is

**19 In sentence 19, she were my teacher should be written —**

- A she were mine teacher
- B she was my teacher
- C she was mine teacher
- D as it is

**20 In the closing of the letter, Your cousin. should be written —**

- F Your Cousin.
- G Your cousin,
- H your cousin,
- J as it is