

**VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING**

**Spring 2005 Released Test**

**GRADE 5  
ENGLISH: WRITING**

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**CORE 1**

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**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

## *What Life Was Like*

David's class has been learning about the early 1900s. For a class project, he talks to his grandfather about what life was like for him living in the early 1900s. David decides to write about the things he and his grandfather talked about.

1 All of these would help David write his paper EXCEPT —

- A looking up the 1900s in the library's online catalog
- B learning how to write a letter
- C reading short stories that take place during the 1900s
- D listening to what his grandfather has to say

David starts his planning by making these notes. Use them to answer question 2.

### WHAT GRANDPA SAID

1. He went barefoot in the summer.
2. He wore shoes only in the winter.
3. They didn't have television then.
4. I watch television after school each day.
5. He walked to school.
6. He lived on a farm.
7. His family grew vegetables and raised animals.

2 Which of these details does *not* belong in David's notes?

- F He wore shoes only in the winter.
- G I watch television after school each day.
- H He lived on a farm.
- J His family grew vegetables and raised animals.

**Here is the first part of David's rough draft. Use it to answer questions 3–5.**

(1)My grandfather was born in 1926. (2)He says that when he was a boy, life was different from the way it is now. (3)He told me about some of the differences.

(4)Grandpa took out his old photo album and showed me a picture of when he was about my age. (5)He looked so different. (6)He was wearing blue jeans and he was wearing a shirt and the shirt had short sleeves. (7)He wasn't wearing any shoes. (8)I don't wear shoes when we go to the neighborhood pool. (9)He said that during the summer, he and his brothers and sisters went barefoot. (10)They only wore shoes in the winter.

(11)Then he talked about how there was no television when he grew up. (12)I could not imagine what life was like without a television. (13)He said that the family had a radio and listened to music each night. (14)That didn't sound like too much fun to me. (15)However, Grandpa said that some of his best memories are of sitting in front of that old radio.

(16)He walked two miles to school each morning because there was no bus. (17)I thought that maybe Grandpa didn't like going to school. (18)He said, however, that he didn't miss one day of school and was never absent. (19)He liked being with all the other kids and learning about the world.

**3 How can sentence 6 *best* be rewritten?**

- A He was wearing blue jeans and a shirt with short sleeves.
- B He was wearing blue jeans, he was wearing a shirt. The shirt had short sleeves.
- C He was wearing blue jeans, he was wearing a shirt, and the shirt had short sleeves.
- D He was wearing blue jeans, a shirt, and short sleeves.

**4 In which of these sentences does the underlined part repeat information already in the sentence?**

- F Grandpa took out his old photo album and showed me a picture of when he was about my age.
- G He said that during the summer, he and his brothers and sisters went barefoot.
- H He walked two miles to school each morning because there was no bus.
- J He said, however, that he didn't miss one day of school and was never absent.

**5 Which sentence does *not* belong with the other ideas in David's paper?**

- A Sentence 2
- B Sentence 7
- C Sentence 8
- D Sentence 15

**Read the next part of David’s rough draft, 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)When Grandpa was a boy, he lived on a farm. (21)During those times, there wasn’t a grocery store on every corner. (22)Grandpa and his family had to grow their own vegetables and milk their own cows. (23)Grandpa’s chore each morning was gathering eggs from the chickens. (24)He said he liked being outside with the animals.

(25)His favorite time of the year was when the apples were ready to be picked. (26)“We had more apple trees than we could count,” he said. (27)He said they growed the sweetest apples around. (28)Just talking about them made Grandpa miss being a child on his family’s farm.

(29)Grandpa said that even though some things have changed, it is still fun spending time with family. (30)I agree. (31)Families may not listen to the radio or pick apples together anymore, but whatever they do, it is still fun to spend time with one another.

**6** In sentence 23, Grandpa's chore should be written —

- F Grandpas' chore
- G Grandpa' chore
- H Grandpas chores
- J as it is

**7** In sentence 25, favorite should be written —

- A favrite
- B faverite
- C favrit
- D as it is

**8** In sentence 27, they grewed should be written —

- F they growing
- G they were grown
- H they grew
- J as it is

**9** In sentence 29, even though should be written —

- A even through
- B even tho
- C even thought
- D as it is

## *The Roller Coaster Ride*

Katie's teacher asks the students in her class to write stories about a time when they were afraid to try something new. Katie decides to write about the time when she was too afraid to ride a roller coaster.

Before she begins writing her story, Katie makes this story map. Use it to answer question 10.

**Title:** Not Afraid to Have Fun

**Setting:** Big Mountain Theme Park  
Saturday  
My older brother, Ronnie

**Characters:** Me

**Events:** 1. Last year, I was afraid to go on the roller coaster.  
2. I said that I would go on it this year.  
3. When I saw the roller coaster, I became scared.  
4. It was fun, so I wanted to ride it again.

**10 Which of these is in the wrong place on Katie's story map?**

- F** Not Afraid to Have Fun
- G** Big Mountain Theme Park
- H** I said that I would go on it this year.
- J** My older brother, Ronnie



**Here is the first part of Katie's rough draft. Use it to answer questions 11–14.**

(1)Big Mountain Theme Park is just a few miles from my house. (2)When school is over each year, my family goes to the park. (3)Last year, I was afraid to go on a giant roller coaster it was called Mega Drop. (4)My older brother, Ronnie, dared me to go with him. (5)I was too afraid. (6)I decided that this time would be different.

(7)When we reached the park's gates that Saturday, my brother headed for the roller coaster and waved for me to follow him. (8)On Saturday mornings, I like to watch cartoons. (9)I looked at how high the roller coaster was. (10)The steel rails looked as if they climbed right up to the cloudy, blue sky. (11)Suddenly, I started to get scared.

(12)"Are you ready for Mega Drop?" Ronnie asked.

(13)"Let's see how long the waiting line is," I said.

(14)I was hoping the line would be long. (15)Then my brother might want to go on another ride instead. (16)Just ten people were in line. (17)I had run out of excuses not to go on the ride. (18)I just took a deep breath and told myself that I could do it.

(19)When it was our turn, Ronnie led me to the first two seats. (20)My hands started sweating as soon as I sat down.

**11 How can Katie *best* write sentence 3?**

- A** Last year, I was afraid to go on a giant roller coaster and the giant roller coaster was called Mega Drop.
- B** Last year, I was afraid to go on a giant roller coaster it was called Mega Drop and I did not want to go on it.
- C** Last year, I was afraid to go on a giant roller coaster called Mega Drop.
- D** Last year, I was afraid to go on Mega Drop it was a giant roller coaster.

**12 How can Katie *best* combine sentences 4 and 5?**

- F** My older brother, Ronnie, dared me to go with him, but I was too afraid.
- G** My older brother, Ronnie, dared me to go with him I was too afraid.
- H** Because my older brother, Ronnie, dared me to go with him, I was too afraid.
- J** My older brother, Ronnie, dared me to go with him, or I was too afraid.

**13 Which sentence has the *most* description?**

- A** Sentence 6
- B** Sentence 9
- C** Sentence 10
- D** Sentence 20

**14 Which sentence does *not* belong with the rest of Katie's ideas?**

- F** Sentence 7
- G** Sentence 8
- H** Sentence 13
- J** Sentence 18

**Read this next section of Katie’s rough draft, and use it to answer questions 15–20. This section has groups of underlined words. The questions ask about these groups of underlined words.**

(21)As the cars moved slowly up the steep hill, I held on tightly to the bar. (22)I thought we would not never reach the top. (23)Suddenly we raced down the tracks. (24)We were going so fast that my brothers baseball cap almost flew off his head!

(25)Then the cars came to a stop. (26)The ride had lasted only a minute or two. (27)After we left the ride, I ran toward the waiting line.

(28)“Where are you going.” Ronnie asked.

(29)“I want to ride it again,” I said. (30)“I’m going to see if it’s as much fun to ride Mega Drop when I’m not scared,” I added.

(31)Ronnie smiled as he took his place behind me in the line.

(32)My brother and me spent most of the day riding that roller coaster. (33)Soon I hope I will be brave enough to ride even more bigger roller coasters. (34)Until then, I will keep enjoying Mega Drop!

**15 In sentence 22, would not never reach should be written —**

- A wouldn't never reach
- B would never reach
- C wouldn't not ever reach
- D as it is

**16 In sentence 24, my brothers baseball cap should be written —**

- F my brothers's baseball cap
- G my brothers' baseball cap
- H my brother's baseball cap
- J as it is

**17 In sentence 28, "Where are you going." should be written —**

- A "Where are you going?"
- B "Where are you going"?
- C Where are you going!"
- D as it is

**18 In sentence 30, going to see if it's should be written —**

- F going to see if its
- G gonna see if its
- H gonna see if it's
- J as it is

**19 In sentence 32, My brother and me should be written —**

- A My brother and I
- B Me and my brother
- C My brother and myself
- D as it is

**20 In sentence 33, even more bigger should be written —**

- F even bigger
- G even more biggest
- H even biggest
- J as it is