

STAR Test Sample Questions

7th Grade English - Language Arts

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Standardized Testing and Reporting - STAR

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 01

The Old Juniper Tree
by Robert Fulghum

1 There is a tree. At the downhill edge of a long, narrow field in the western foothills of the La Sal Mountains—southeastern Utah. A particular tree. A juniper. Large for its species—maybe twenty feet tall and two feet in diameter. For perhaps three hundred years this tree has stood its ground. Flourishing in good seasons, and holding on in bad times. “Beautiful” is not a word that comes to mind when one first sees it. No naturalist would photograph it as exemplary of its kind. Twisted by wind, split and charred by lightning, scarred by brushfires, chewed on by insects, and pecked by birds. Human beings have stripped long strings of bark from its trunk, stapled barbed wire to it in using it as a corner post for a fence line, and nailed signs on it on three sides: NO HUNTING, NO TRESPASSING; PLEASE CLOSE THE GATE. In commandeering this tree as a corner stake for claims of rights and property, miners and ranchers have hacked signs and symbols in its bark, and left Day-Glo™ orange survey tape tied to its branches. Now it serves as one side of a gate between an alfalfa field and open range. No matter what, in drought, flood, heat, and cold it has continued. There is rot and death in it near the ground. But at the greening tips of its upper branches and in its berrylike seed cones, there is yet the outreach of life.

2 I respect this old juniper tree. For its age, yes. And for its steadfastness in taking whatever is thrown at it. That it has been useful in a practical way beyond itself counts for much, as well. Most of all, I admire its capacity for self-healing beyond all accidents and assaults. There is a will in it—toward continuing to be, come what may.

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Continue



Read the final sentence of “The Old Juniper Tree.”

There is a will in it—toward continuing to be, come what may.

In this sentence, it is clear that the author wants readers

A to think about trees as a useful part of nature.

B to think of the tree as a symbol of hope.

C to see the harshness of the environment.

D to see the need for taking care of the environment.

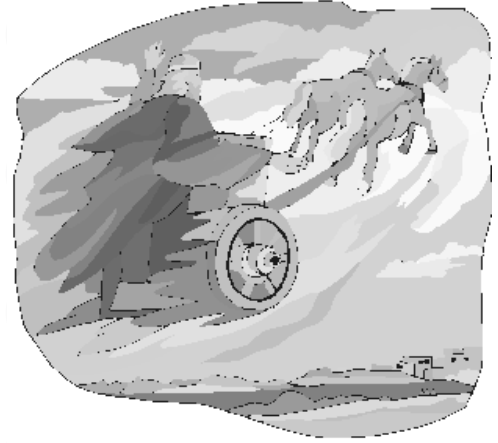


Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 01

Phaëthon Gets His Wish

1 Phaëthon stood impatiently at the heavy gilded doors. He ordered the guards, Month and Year, to let him approach his father's throne. As the doors creaked open, the sun's rays almost blinded him. Phaëthon shielded his eyes and groped his way toward Apollo's throne. "Come here, my son. Follow my voice," Apollo's voice echoed. "What is so urgent that you have my guards scrambling to do your bidding?"



2 "Father, I have a problem. All of my friends have been teasing me. They don't believe that you're my father or that you make the sun rise and set," complained Phaëthon.

3 Apollo replied, "Oh—that problem again? Well, just to prove it to your friends once and for all, I will grant you any wish you desire."

4 "Really? Then I have only one wish," answered Phaëthon. "I'd like to drive your chariot and make the sun rise tomorrow morning!"

5 Apollo was horrified. "No—not that! No one but me can drive the chariot. The horses are too powerful!"

6 "You said I could have anything," whined Phaëthon.

7 Bound by his promise, Apollo had to grant Phaëthon his wish. His heart was sick with worry as he ordered Dawn to hitch the horses, Hour and Day, to the Golden Chariot. Phaëthon could hardly wait to jump in the driver's seat and grab the reins. He hoped all his friends were watching the sky and anticipating his sojourn through the stars.

8 "Wait, my son! There are things you need to know!" cried Apollo.

9 Oh, Father! You worry too much. I've often seen you drive. I know what to do," Phaëthon answered.

Continue



10 Apollo hurried to give directions. "You have never driven my chariot before. You must make the horses stay on the path. If you are too low, you will scorch the earth."

11 "I know, Father. Now watch me take off!" shouted Phaëthon.

12 Dawn stepped back and released her grip on the horses' bridles. The horses pawed the ground and snorted with excitement. The sky begged for Dawn's light, so she ran toward the horizon in her glowing gown to make the darkness fade. As Phaëthon was about to ascend, Apollo grabbed his arm and said, "Please listen to me! If you go too high you will warm the cold depths of the heavens, and the Bear or Snake or Scorpion will come alive!"

13 Phaëthon just laughed. "My friends are waiting. I've got to go!" he shouted.

14 With that, the chariot was off. It was a wild ride. Hour and Day were unruly and difficult to control. Phaëthon did not have his father's strong arms or years of experience. The horses wove from side to side and bobbed up and down through the heavens, hitting everything in their way. The sun bounced along behind the chariot like a basketball. It grazed the stars and skidded along mountaintops, leaving charred remains behind. Phaëthon's friends ran for cover as they watched the spectacle. Just as his father had warned him, the figures in the sky began to move. Suddenly the Scorpion lunged toward him, but Phaëthon ducked out of the way in time. The Snake lashed out and bit a wheel off the chariot.

15 Apollo, witnessing the destruction, dashed up toward the heavens, but he was too late! The Bear had stirred from his icy hibernation and grabbed Phaëthon before his father could reach him. Apollo grabbed the reins and finally regained control of Hour and Day, but it was years before the earth's mountaintops were white with snow again. The scorched areas became deserts where very little would grow. Phaëthon became a part of the constellations alongside the Bear, where his father could regretfully keep an eye on him.

What caused the bear to awaken from his long sleep?

- ☐ A the noise of the chariot
- ☐ B the burning of the mountains
- ☐ C the noise of Apollo running
- ☐ D the warmth of the sun



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 02

The Twins
by Henry S. Leigh

In form and feature, face and limb,
I grew so like my brother,
That folks got taking me for him,
And each for one another.
5 It puzzled all our kith and kin,
It reached an awful pitch;
For one of us was born a twin,
Yet not a soul knew which.
One day (to make the matter worse),
10 Before our names were fixed,
As we were being washed by nurse
We got completely mixed,
And thus, you see, by Fate's decree,
(Or rather nurse's whim),
15 My brother John got christened me
And I got christened him.
This fatal likeness even dogged
My footsteps when at school,
And I was always getting flogged,
20 For John turned out a fool.
I put this question hopelessly
To everyone I know—
What would you do, if you were me,
To prove that you were you?
25 Our close resemblance turned the tide
Of my domestic life;
For somehow my intended bride
Became my brother's wife.
In short, year after year the same
30 Absurd mistakes went on;
And when I died—the neighbors came
And buried brother John!

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Continue



If the speaker were a parent of the twins, the poem would not tell that the twins were

A christened.

B married.

C educated.

D misnamed.



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 03

The Twins
by Henry S. Leigh

In form and feature, face and limb,
I grew so like my brother,
That folks got taking me for him,
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In short, year after year the same
30 Absurd mistakes went on;
And when I died—the neighbors came
And buried brother John!

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Continue



The theme of this poem deals with the

A shortness of life.

B need for companionship.

C loss of identity.

D power of destiny.



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Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 04

Nurses in the Wilderness
by Ruth L. Ewers

Not even a flooded river could stand between Mary Breckinridge and the hospital her patients needed.

- 1 Christmas at the mountain clinic would have to wait. A fierce rain had swollen the middle fork of the Kentucky River, and the brown water overflowed its muddy banks beside Mary Breckinridge's Wendover, Kentucky, clinic. The trails were washed out, and she had to find a way to get her five patients to the hospital in Lexington.
- 2 There was only one thing to do. Since overland travel was impossible, she would turn the flood to her advantage and go out by boat. But first she had to build one! Time was precious, and she knew she had to work fast.
- 3 A neighbor gave her some wooden planks, and he helped Mary and the nurses build a sturdy boat. They named it Ambulance, and on the morning of December 30, 1926, Mary, another nurse, and the patients set off down the river. The churning, muddy water rushed and swirled around them.
- 4 After sixteen wild miles on the treacherous river, they left the boat and got into a mule cart. At eight o'clock that evening, they arrived at the train station in Krypton. As she watched the train pull away with her patients safely on board, Mary smiled and waved, knowing that they now had a chance to live a healthy life.
- 5 Mary had not planned to be a nurse. She was the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky politician and grew up with money, governesses, and trips to Europe. But the family had always been concerned about the poorer people of the state, and as a child, Mary was influenced by an aunt who spent most of her fortune paying for the education of poor Kentucky children.
- 6 As an adult, Mary was inspired to become a nurse after she had watched helplessly as a child died of typhoid fever. A few years after she graduated from nursing school, her own two small children died. In her grief, she and her husband divorced, and she decided to devote her life to helping rural Kentucky children.

Continue



- 7 Mary picked the most out-of-the-way place in the Kentucky mountains—Leslie County—to start a health clinic and prove that dedicated people could bring medical care to even the most isolated areas. So in 1925 Mary hired a few British-trained nurse-midwives and, with some money from her family, started the Frontier Nursing Service in Wendover, Kentucky.
- 8 Before Mary and her nurses came, the mountain folk had no trained medical care givers. The men worked in the coal mines or for the lumber companies, and the women grew vegetable gardens. Families made so little money they could not afford doctors or medicine—even if they could get them. Many children had diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, and nearly every person was malnourished.
- 9 Mary and the nurse-midwives built clinics and a small hospital deep in the forests of Leslie County, spacing them throughout the rocky hills so that no one would be far from care. There were no paved roads, electricity, or telephones. Each day the nurses rode on horseback to isolated farms, often in bad weather, to answer calls for help. They worked hard to keep an eye on their patients.
- 10 To the grateful mountain people, Mary and the nurses seemed to be everywhere. They treated everything from cut fingers to pneumonia, gave shots, and delivered babies. Their patients joked that they finally knew where babies came from—the nurses brought them in their saddlebags! The proud country folk liked the nurses because they treated everyone with respect.
- 11 The Frontier Nursing Service grew, and today the Mary Breckinridge Hospital still cares for patients in Hyden, Kentucky, just a few miles from Wendover. But the work of the Nursing Service now reaches far beyond the Kentucky mountains.
- 12 Today, medical professionals from all over the world come to Wendover to study rural health care in action. When these men and women go back to their own countries, they are prepared to help people in need—people like the mountain folk of Kentucky, who might have been left behind if not for Mary and her nurses in the wilderness.

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This passage is best described as

- ☐ A an essay.
- ☐ B a novella.
- ☐ C a journal.
- ☐ D a biography.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 05

The Old Juniper Tree

by Robert Fulghum

1 There is a tree. At the downhill edge of a long, narrow field in the western foothills of the La Sal Mountains—southeastern Utah. A particular tree. A juniper. Large for its species—maybe twenty feet tall and two feet in diameter. For perhaps three hundred years this tree has stood its ground. Flourishing in good seasons, and holding on in bad times. “Beautiful” is not a word that comes to mind when one first sees it. No naturalist would photograph it as exemplary of its kind. Twisted by wind, split and charred by lightning, scarred by brushfires, chewed on by insects, and pecked by birds. Human beings have stripped long strings of bark from its trunk, stapled barbed wire to it in using it as a corner post for a fence line, and nailed signs on it on three sides: NO HUNTING, NO TRESPASSING; PLEASE CLOSE THE GATE. In commandeering this tree as a corner stake for claims of rights and property, miners and ranchers have hacked signs and symbols in its bark, and left Day-Glo™ orange survey tape tied to its branches. Now it serves as one side of a gate between an alfalfa field and open range. No matter what, in drought, flood, heat, and cold it has continued. There is rot and death in it near the ground. But at the greening tips of its upper branches and in its berrylike seed cones, there is yet the outreach of life.

2 I respect this old juniper tree. For its age, yes. And for its steadfastness in taking whatever is thrown at it. That it has been useful in a practical way beyond itself counts for much, as well. Most of all, I admire its capacity for self-healing beyond all accidents and assaults. There is a will in it—toward continuing to be, come what may.

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Continue



Why does the author of “The Old Juniper Tree” use a narrative form?

A to relate an experience

B to argue a point

C to share a feeling

D to present an issue



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 01

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by Henry S. Leigh

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One day (to make the matter worse),
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As we were being washed by nurse
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For somehow my intended bride
Became my brother's wife.
In short, year after year the same
30 Absurd mistakes went on;
And when I died—the neighbors came
And buried brother John!

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Continue



We can tell from events described in the poem that the speaker

A had a challenging life.

B made many mistakes.

C did poorly in school.

D never had any friends.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Literary Response and Analysis (Performance Level: Below Basic) – Question 01

Phaëthon Gets His Wish

1 Phaëthon stood impatiently at the heavy gilded doors. He ordered the guards, Month and Year, to let him approach his father's throne. As the doors creaked open, the sun's rays almost blinded him. Phaëthon shielded his eyes and groped his way toward Apollo's throne. "Come here, my son. Follow my voice," Apollo's voice echoed. "What is so urgent that you have my guards scrambling to do your bidding?"



2 "Father, I have a problem. All of my friends have been teasing me. They don't believe that you're my father or that you make the sun rise and set," complained Phaëthon.

3 Apollo replied, "Oh—that problem again? Well, just to prove it to your friends once and for all, I will grant you any wish you desire."

4 "Really? Then I have only one wish," answered Phaëthon. "I'd like to drive your chariot and make the sun rise tomorrow morning!"

5 Apollo was horrified. "No—not that! No one but me can drive the chariot. The horses are too powerful!"

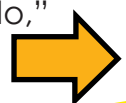
6 "You said I could have anything," whined Phaëthon.

7 Bound by his promise, Apollo had to grant Phaëthon his wish. His heart was sick with worry as he ordered Dawn to hitch the horses, Hour and Day, to the Golden Chariot. Phaëthon could hardly wait to jump in the driver's seat and grab the reins. He hoped all his friends were watching the sky and anticipating his sojourn through the stars.

8 "Wait, my son! There are things you need to know!" cried Apollo.

9 Oh, Father! You worry too much. I've often seen you drive. I know what to do," Phaëthon answered.

Continue



10 Apollo hurried to give directions. "You have never driven my chariot before. You must make the horses stay on the path. If you are too low, you will scorch the earth."

11 "I know, Father. Now watch me take off!" shouted Phaëthon.

12 Dawn stepped back and released her grip on the horses' bridles. The horses pawed the ground and snorted with excitement. The sky begged for Dawn's light, so she ran toward the horizon in her glowing gown to make the darkness fade. As Phaëthon was about to ascend, Apollo grabbed his arm and said, "Please listen to me! If you go too high you will warm the cold depths of the heavens, and the Bear or Snake or Scorpion will come alive!"

13 Phaëthon just laughed. "My friends are waiting. I've got to go!" he shouted.

14 With that, the chariot was off. It was a wild ride. Hour and Day were unruly and difficult to control. Phaëthon did not have his father's strong arms or years of experience. The horses wove from side to side and bobbed up and down through the heavens, hitting everything in their way. The sun bounced along behind the chariot like a basketball. It grazed the stars and skidded along mountaintops, leaving charred remains behind. Phaëthon's friends ran for cover as they watched the spectacle. Just as his father had warned him, the figures in the sky began to move. Suddenly the Scorpion lunged toward him, but Phaëthon ducked out of the way in time. The Snake lashed out and bit a wheel off the chariot.

15 Apollo, witnessing the destruction, dashed up toward the heavens, but he was too late! The Bear had stirred from his icy hibernation and grabbed Phaëthon before his father could reach him. Apollo grabbed the reins and finally regained control of Hour and Day, but it was years before the earth's mountaintops were white with snow again. The scorched areas became deserts where very little would grow. Phaëthon became a part of the constellations alongside the Bear, where his father could regretfully keep an eye on him.

What caused Apollo to allow Phaëthon to drive the chariot?

- ☐ A Apollo wanted to protect Phaëthon from teasing.
- ☐ B Phaëthon dared to approach Apollo's throne.
- ☐ C Apollo was bound by his promise to Phaëthon.
- ☐ D Apollo asked Phaëthon to do it as a favor.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Focus on Informational Materials) (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 01

The Magic of Harry

- 1 Harry Houdini was a man who astonished and enthralled many people during his life. Whether he was escaping from a padlocked box or making things disappear and reappear, he definitely was entertaining. People thought that he must truly have some supernatural powers, but in fact, what Harry really had was drive.
- 2 Harry was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1874. His real name was Ehrich Weiss and he was the third of five children. His family moved to Wisconsin not long after he was born and by the time he was nine, he was tying ropes all over his backyard and learning amazing trapeze tricks to show his friends and neighbors. He visited the local locksmith, and when he had reached his teens he could pick almost any lock that was made. He also learned how to do card tricks. He and his brother, Theo, would often entertain at local parties and clubs for extra money.
- 3 When Ehrich was 16, he came across a book that would literally change his life: the biography of France's greatest magician, Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin. It showed Ehrich that his hobby of magic and tricks could also be a career. Immediately, he changed his name to Harry Houdini. He and Theo headed out to make a living as magicians.
- 4 In 1893, they were at the Chicago World's Fair, and after that they traveled around giving magic shows for anyone willing to listen and pay. Theo grew restless, however, as the jobs became scarce, so he left. His timing was perfect since Harry had just fallen in love with a lovely woman named Bess who was just the right size for slipping in and out of the trunk they used in their magic tricks.



Continue



They married immediately and then off they went, traveling with circuses and other road shows. Harry learned more and more tricks and spent much of his time reading and studying all kinds of locks, especially handcuffs. However, no matter what tricks they did or how hard they tried, Bess and Harry were not doing well. They tried to sell their shows for seven years and finally, in desperation, they went to Europe.

5 It was the right move. Harry's persistence and constant practice were about to pay off. To get people's attention, he walked into police stations and offered to be handcuffed by all the policemen. They were shocked when he was loose only seconds later. Soon, everyone in Europe was talking about Houdini's astounding feats. He was in high demand and found himself doing more and more dangerous acts. He escaped from a straitjacket hanging upside down over the street; he escaped from locked boxes of all kinds; and, of course, he got out of any kind of handcuffs put on him.

6 After several years in Europe, Bess and Harry returned to the United States in triumph. Harry was doing such amazing tricks that people felt he must have special powers. However, few realized how much time he spent practicing and studying. He would do special exercises to keep his body strong, and he would do tricks with his fingers to keep them nimble and flexible. He would spend large amounts of time tying and untying knots—with his toes! For his underwater tricks, he would get in the bathtub and practice holding his breath for longer and longer times. Since many of his tricks involved being plunged into icy water, he would pour buckets of ice in the tub to get accustomed to working in the cold.

7 The reason that Harry Houdini was such a success was that he practiced and prepared for whatever might happen. When a college student punched him in the abdomen in 1926, however, he wasn't prepared. The punch did internal damage that not even this magician could get out of. Harry died in 1926 at 52 years of age—a master of his trade and a true legend.

The author supports the argument that Houdini was a hard worker by describing

- ☒ A how he prepared.
- ☐ B his famous tricks.
- ☐ C his childhood.
- ☐ D how he became popular.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Focus on Informational Materials) (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 02

Nurses in the Wilderness
by Ruth L. Ewers

Not even a flooded river could stand between Mary Breckinridge and the hospital her patients needed.

- 1 Christmas at the mountain clinic would have to wait. A fierce rain had swollen the middle fork of the Kentucky River, and the brown water overflowed its muddy banks beside Mary Breckinridge's Wendover, Kentucky, clinic. The trails were washed out, and she had to find a way to get her five patients to the hospital in Lexington.
- 2 There was only one thing to do. Since overland travel was impossible, she would turn the flood to her advantage and go out by boat. But first she had to build one! Time was precious, and she knew she had to work fast.
- 3 A neighbor gave her some wooden planks, and he helped Mary and the nurses build a sturdy boat. They named it Ambulance, and on the morning of December 30, 1926, Mary, another nurse, and the patients set off down the river. The churning, muddy water rushed and swirled around them.
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- 5 Mary had not planned to be a nurse. She was the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky politician and grew up with money, governesses, and trips to Europe. But the family had always been concerned about the poorer people of the state, and as a child, Mary was influenced by an aunt who spent most of her fortune paying for the education of poor Kentucky children.
- 6 As an adult, Mary was inspired to become a nurse after she had watched helplessly as a child died of typhoid fever. A few years after she graduated from nursing school, her own two small children died. In her grief, she and her husband divorced, and she decided to devote her life to helping rural Kentucky children.

Continue



- 7 Mary picked the most out-of-the-way place in the Kentucky mountains—Leslie County—to start a health clinic and prove that dedicated people could bring medical care to even the most isolated areas. So in 1925 Mary hired a few British-trained nurse-midwives and, with some money from her family, started the Frontier Nursing Service in Wendover, Kentucky.
- 8 Before Mary and her nurses came, the mountain folk had no trained medical care givers. The men worked in the coal mines or for the lumber companies, and the women grew vegetable gardens. Families made so little money they could not afford doctors or medicine—even if they could get them. Many children had diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, and nearly every person was malnourished.
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- 12 Today, medical professionals from all over the world come to Wendover to study rural health care in action. When these men and women go back to their own countries, they are prepared to help people in need—people like the mountain folk of Kentucky, who might have been left behind if not for Mary and her nurses in the wilderness.

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There is enough information in this passage to show that the author believes that Mary Breckinridge

- ☐ A trained all of her assistants herself.
- ☐ B wiped out disease in the Kentucky mountains.
- ☐ C never had enough money for her work.
- ☐ D remains a major influence on health care today.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Focus on Informational Materials) (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 03



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
- 2 Your eyes are like two small cameras. A camera captures an image of an object and records this image in miniature on a small piece of film. Similarly, when you look at something, each eye takes in what it sees and sends this image to the back of the eyeball. From each eye, an optic nerve then sends the image to the brain. Because your eyes are set close together, they view the world from about the same height but from slightly different angles. While your right eye sees an object a little to the right, your left eye sees the same object slightly to the left. Working as a team, the eyes send the images to the part of your brain called the cerebral cortex, which assembles them into a single, centered image.
- 3 Seeing with two eyes working together is called stereoscopic vision. This allows you to view the world in three dimensions, or 3-D. These dimensions are height, width, and depth. Perceiving depth allows you to judge the distance between you and the objects you see. It also helps you to adjust to the changing angle at which you see something as you move closer to or farther away from it. As you walk along a sidewalk, for example, seeing in stereo helps you to know how close you are to the street, how far you need to walk to arrive at a certain building, and how close you are to stepping on a rock or a piece of glass. As your body moves, your eyes give you a continual flow of information about where things are in relation to where you are.

Continue



- 4 If images are coming from only one eye, however, only two of these dimensions—height and width—can be perceived. A world seen with one eye is thus two-dimensional, as in a photograph. Depth perception is lacking, making it more difficult to move around safely.
- 5 Now consider why your two eyes are located on the front of your face. Think of other animals with this same arrangement. Some examples are lions, wolves, and owls. What do these creatures have in common? They are all animals that hunt. These animals have eyes facing directly in front of them. This provides a field of vision that is about 180 degrees wide, like a half-circle. This kind of sight is called binocular vision.
- 6 On the other hand, animals that are hunted have eyes on the sides of the head. This provides nearly a 360-degree field of vision. Because these animals need to be on the alert in order to stay alive, they need to see things coming from the sides and from behind. However, without stereoscopic vision, these animals have a more difficult time determining how far away a threat is.
- 7 With vision that is both stereoscopic and binocular, humans share with predators the ability to see clearly from side to side and to accurately determine how far away objects are. If you think it would be great to have another type of vision, perhaps with hundreds of tiny eyes like many insects do, think again! Each tiny insect eye sees only a tiny part of what the creature is viewing. Besides, what if you needed glasses? Be glad for the eyesight that you have.

Which claim from the article is least supported by factual evidence?

- A Your eyes are like two small cameras.
- B This allows you to view the world in three dimensions, or 3-D.
- C On the other hand, animals that are hunted have eyes on the sides of the head.
- D If you think it would be great to have another type of vision . . . think again!



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Focus on Informational Materials) (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 04

DOCUMENT A

It's easy to spot the winners . . .



WINNING STREAK

America's favorite and safest scooter!

Constructed from strong, high-quality aluminum.

Comes with

- ♦ Skid-resistant base control for added safety
- ♦ Adjustable steering arm that ranges from 23" to 38"
- ♦ Self-adjusting shoulder strap for comfortable carrying

THE WINNING STREAK SCOOTER WEIGHS ONLY 6½ POUNDS
AND MEASURES 4½" X 9" X 26" WHEN FOLDED

Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY **\$39.95**
Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

Northgate Mall
& Gateway Shopping Center

Continue



DOCUMENT B



WINNING STREAK scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your **WINNING STREAK** scooter, simply return it for a refund of the purchase price.

WARRANTY

- ♦ Warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended for **WINNING STREAK** products. Damages due to accident, neglect, or abuse are not covered under this warranty.
- ♦ **WINNING STREAK** accepts no responsibility for personal injury or product damage sustained as the result of an accident.
- ♦ Warranty claims must be shipped (prepaid) to the manufacturer in the original packaging and accompanied by the original sales receipt.

DOCUMENT C

U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau

Winning Streak, Inc., Announces Recall of Scooters

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau, Winning Streak, Inc., is voluntarily recalling about 25,000 scooters. The folding mechanism, where the steering column meets the scooter base, presents the danger of pinching. Winning Streak, Inc., has received six reports of users being injured while folding or unfolding the scooter.

The recall involves Winning Streak scooters sold between April and October 2002 for about \$70. The scooter has a lightweight aluminum frame with lavender foam handle grips. **WINNING STREAK** is printed in purple on the standing platform, and crossed black-and-white checkered flags appear on the base of the steering column. The scooter has 4" clear in-line style wheels.

Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which phrase from Document A is contradicted by information in Document C?

- A America's favorite and safest scooter!
- B Adjustable steering arm that ranges from 23" to 38"
- C Self-adjusting shoulder strap for comfortable carrying
- D Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY \$39.95



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 01



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
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This article would most likely be found in a

- A textbook about animal behavior.
- B popular science or health magazine.
- C newspaper's local news section.
- D professional journal for eye doctors.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 02

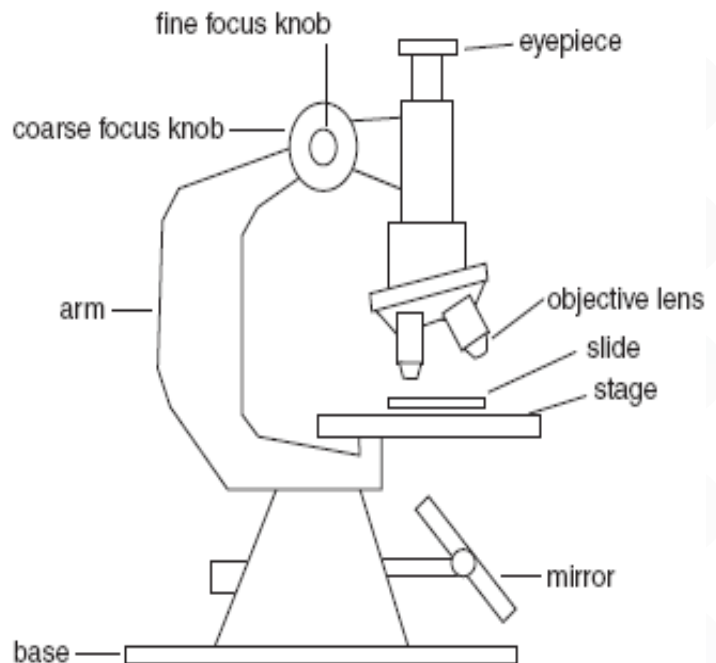
Proper Care and Use of a Microscope

A MICROSCOPE IS A USEFUL INSTRUMENT FOR OBSERVING SMALL OBJECTS. BY PRODUCING A MAGNIFIED IMAGE, THE MICROSCOPE REVEALS DETAILS THAT ARE UNDETECTABLE TO THE NAKED EYE. BEFORE USING THE MICROSCOPE, PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

CAUTION:

Microscopes are both delicate and expensive and must be handled with care.

1. Always carry the microscope with two hands—one supporting the base and the other on the arm.
2. Avoid stretching the power cable of the lamp across a walkway.
3. Keep the stage clean and always use a glass slide for specimens.
4. To avoid crushing the glass slide when focusing, begin with the lens close to the specimen and gradually back off to focus.
5. Keep the microscope covered to prevent the buildup of dust while it is being stored.



HOW TO USE THE MICROSCOPE:

1. Plug in the lamp.
2. Place a sample of what you wish to observe on a slide.
3. Adjust the mirror so it reflects light from the room up into the objective lens. When the mirror is correctly adjusted, a complete circle of light will appear when you look through the eyepiece.
4. Place your slide with the specimen directly over the center of the glass circle on the stage. If it is a wet slide, be sure the bottom of the slide is dry.
5. With the **LOW POWER** objective lens placed over the slide, use the coarse focus knob to lower the lens to the lowest point.
6. Look through the eyepiece with one eye while closing the other eye. Slowly raise the lens until the focus is relatively clear.
7. Use the fine focus knob to fine-tune the focus.
8. Without changing the focus knobs, switch to the **HIGH POWER** objective lens. Once you have switched to **HIGH POWER**, use only the fine focus knob to make the image sharper.

Continue



The microscope lens should initially be placed close to the glass slide

A because focus is achieved by moving closer to the specimen.

B because the specimen on the slide will be in perfect focus.

C to avoid breaking the glass slide when adjusting the focus.

D to maintain distance from the microscopic stage.



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 03

DOCUMENT A

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DOCUMENT B



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Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which of these problems would most likely be covered by the warranty?

- A The shoulder strap breaks after three months of use.
- B The owner falls and scrapes the foam handle the first time the scooter is used.
- C The steering column breaks after a week because the owner used the wrong-sized screw.
- D The rear wheel becomes bent after three weeks of use.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 01



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
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Which organizational structure does the author use to present information in this article?

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



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 02



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The author of this passage concludes that “seeing in stereo”

- A helps people to have better vision than animals have.
- B would be better if it allowed for a wider field of vision.
- C is an ability humans are fortunate to have.
- D is similar to the way cameras work.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 03

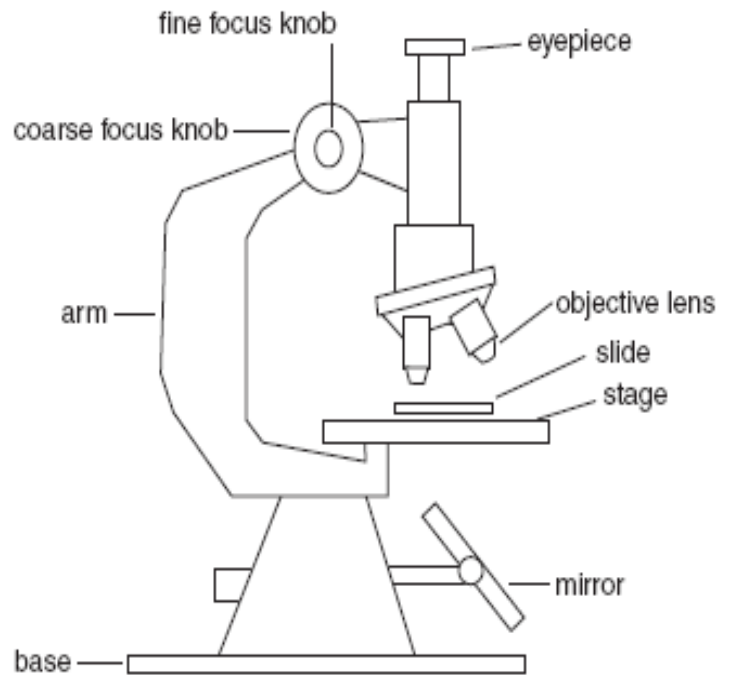
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4. Place your slide with the specimen directly over the center of the glass circle on the stage. If it is a wet slide, be sure the bottom of the slide is dry.
5. With the **LOW POWER** objective lens placed over the slide, use the coarse focus knob to lower the lens to the lowest point.
6. Look through the eyepiece with one eye while closing the other eye. Slowly raise the lens until the focus is relatively clear.
7. Use the fine focus knob to fine-tune the focus.
8. Without changing the focus knobs, switch to the **HIGH POWER** objective lens. Once you have switched to **HIGH POWER**, use only the fine focus knob to make the image sharper.

Continue



According to the passage, you could see a complete circle of light

A after correctly adjusting the mirror.

B while looking at the specimen on a glass slide.

C after slowly raising the objective lens.

D before positioning the mirror correctly.



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 04

DOCUMENT A

It's easy to spot the winners . . .



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AND MEASURES 4½" X 9" X 26" WHEN FOLDED

Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY **\$39.95**
Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

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DOCUMENT B



WINNING STREAK scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your **WINNING STREAK** scooter, simply return it for a refund of the purchase price.

WARRANTY

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The recall involves Winning Streak scooters sold between April and October 2002 for about \$70. The scooter has a lightweight aluminum frame with lavender foam handle grips. **WINNING STREAK** is printed in purple on the standing platform, and crossed black-and-white checkered flags appear on the base of the steering column. The scooter has 4" clear in-line style wheels.

Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

What should a person who buys this scooter do to make sure his or her money will be refunded for a problem covered by the warranty?

- ☐ A Call the store where the scooter was purchased.
- ☐ B Save the sales receipt and the box the scooter is packed in.
- ☐ C Be very careful when using the folding mechanism.
- ☐ D Keep track of any accidents or injuries that occur in the first 30 days.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 05

DOCUMENT A

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DOCUMENT B



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Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

The primary intent of Document B is

- A to persuade consumers that the scooter is safe.
- B to encourage owners to be safe when riding the scooter.
- C to show attractive features of the scooter to potential buyers.
- D to inform scooter owners of the responsibilities of the company.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 06

DOCUMENT A

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DOCUMENT B



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Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which information from Document B or Document C would most likely be included in Document A?

- ☐ A Winning Streak scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee.
- ☐ B Winning Streak accepts no responsibility for personal injury . . .
- ☐ C ...Winning Streak, Inc., is voluntarily recalling about 25,000 scooters.
- ☐ D Winning Streak is printed in purple on the standing platform . . .



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 07

DOCUMENT A

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Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

Northgate Mall
& Gateway Shopping Center

Continue



DOCUMENT B



WINNING STREAK scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your **WINNING STREAK** scooter, simply return it for a refund of the purchase price.

WARRANTY

- ♦ Warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended for **WINNING STREAK** products. Damages due to accident, neglect, or abuse are not covered under this warranty.
- ♦ **WINNING STREAK** accepts no responsibility for personal injury or product damage sustained as the result of an accident.
- ♦ Warranty claims must be shipped (prepaid) to the manufacturer in the original packaging and accompanied by the original sales receipt.

DOCUMENT C

U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau

Winning Streak, Inc., Announces Recall of Scooters

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau, Winning Streak, Inc., is voluntarily recalling about 25,000 scooters. The folding mechanism, where the steering column meets the scooter base, presents the danger of pinching. Winning Streak, Inc., has received six reports of users being injured while folding or unfolding the scooter.

The recall involves Winning Streak scooters sold between April and October 2002 for about \$70. The scooter has a lightweight aluminum frame with lavender foam handle grips. **WINNING STREAK** is printed in purple on the standing platform, and crossed black-and-white checkered flags appear on the base of the steering column. The scooter has 4" clear in-line style wheels.

Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which of these people could not get a refund for his or her Winning Streak scooter?

- A a boy who installed another company's wheels on the scooter, and the scooter broke
- B a girl who finds after owning the scooter for two weeks that she prefers another company's scooter
- C a girl who purchased a scooter in August 2002
- D a boy who found the shoulder strap broken when he opened up the box to assemble the scooter



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 01

Nurses in the Wilderness

by Ruth L. Ewers

Not even a flooded river could stand between Mary Breckinridge and the hospital her patients needed.

- 1 Christmas at the mountain clinic would have to wait. A fierce rain had swollen the middle fork of the Kentucky River, and the brown water overflowed its muddy banks beside Mary Breckinridge's Wendover, Kentucky, clinic. The trails were washed out, and she had to find a way to get her five patients to the hospital in Lexington.
- 2 There was only one thing to do. Since overland travel was impossible, she would turn the flood to her advantage and go out by boat. But first she had to build one! Time was precious, and she knew she had to work fast.
- 3 A neighbor gave her some wooden planks, and he helped Mary and the nurses build a sturdy boat. They named it Ambulance, and on the morning of December 30, 1926, Mary, another nurse, and the patients set off down the river. The churning, muddy water rushed and swirled around them.
- 4 After sixteen wild miles on the treacherous river, they left the boat and got into a mule cart. At eight o'clock that evening, they arrived at the train station in Krypton. As she watched the train pull away with her patients safely on board, Mary smiled and waved, knowing that they now had a chance to live a healthy life.
- 5 Mary had not planned to be a nurse. She was the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky politician and grew up with money, governesses, and trips to Europe. But the family had always been concerned about the poorer people of the state, and as a child, Mary was influenced by an aunt who spent most of her fortune paying for the education of poor Kentucky children.
- 6 As an adult, Mary was inspired to become a nurse after she had watched helplessly as a child died of typhoid fever. A few years after she graduated from nursing school, her own two small children died. In her grief, she and her husband divorced, and she decided to devote her life to helping rural Kentucky children.

Continue



- 7 Mary picked the most out-of-the-way place in the Kentucky mountains—Leslie County—to start a health clinic and prove that dedicated people could bring medical care to even the most isolated areas. So in 1925 Mary hired a few British-trained nurse-midwives and, with some money from her family, started the Frontier Nursing Service in Wendover, Kentucky.
- 8 Before Mary and her nurses came, the mountain folk had no trained medical care givers. The men worked in the coal mines or for the lumber companies, and the women grew vegetable gardens. Families made so little money they could not afford doctors or medicine—even if they could get them. Many children had diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, and nearly every person was malnourished.
- 9 Mary and the nurse-midwives built clinics and a small hospital deep in the forests of Leslie County, spacing them throughout the rocky hills so that no one would be far from care. There were no paved roads, electricity, or telephones. Each day the nurses rode on horseback to isolated farms, often in bad weather, to answer calls for help. They worked hard to keep an eye on their patients.
- 10 To the grateful mountain people, Mary and the nurses seemed to be everywhere. They treated everything from cut fingers to pneumonia, gave shots, and delivered babies. Their patients joked that they finally knew where babies came from—the nurses brought them in their saddlebags! The proud country folk liked the nurses because they treated everyone with respect.
- 11 The Frontier Nursing Service grew, and today the Mary Breckinridge Hospital still cares for patients in Hyden, Kentucky, just a few miles from Wendover. But the work of the Nursing Service now reaches far beyond the Kentucky mountains.
- 12 Today, medical professionals from all over the world come to Wendover to study rural health care in action. When these men and women go back to their own countries, they are prepared to help people in need—people like the mountain folk of Kentucky, who might have been left behind if not for Mary and her nurses in the wilderness.

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The author's attitude toward Mary Breckinridge is best described as

- ☐ A respectful.
- ☐ B humorous.
- ☐ C objective.
- ☐ D indifferent.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 02



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
- 2 Your eyes are like two small cameras. A camera captures an image of an object and records this image in miniature on a small piece of film. Similarly, when you look at something, each eye takes in what it sees and sends this image to the back of the eyeball. From each eye, an optic nerve then sends the image to the brain. Because your eyes are set close together, they view the world from about the same height but from slightly different angles. While your right eye sees an object a little to the right, your left eye sees the same object slightly to the left. Working as a team, the eyes send the images to the part of your brain called the cerebral cortex, which assembles them into a single, centered image.
- 3 Seeing with two eyes working together is called stereoscopic vision. This allows you to view the world in three dimensions, or 3-D. These dimensions are height, width, and depth. Perceiving depth allows you to judge the distance between you and the objects you see. It also helps you to adjust to the changing angle at which you see something as you move closer to or farther away from it. As you walk along a sidewalk, for example, seeing in stereo helps you to know how close you are to the street, how far you need to walk to arrive at a certain building, and how close you are to stepping on a rock or a piece of glass. As your body moves, your eyes give you a continual flow of information about where things are in relation to where you are.

Continue



- 4 If images are coming from only one eye, however, only two of these dimensions—height and width—can be perceived. A world seen with one eye is thus two-dimensional, as in a photograph. Depth perception is lacking, making it more difficult to move around safely.
- 5 Now consider why your two eyes are located on the front of your face. Think of other animals with this same arrangement. Some examples are lions, wolves, and owls. What do these creatures have in common? They are all animals that hunt. These animals have eyes facing directly in front of them. This provides a field of vision that is about 180 degrees wide, like a half-circle. This kind of sight is called binocular vision.
- 6 On the other hand, animals that are hunted have eyes on the sides of the head. This provides nearly a 360-degree field of vision. Because these animals need to be on the alert in order to stay alive, they need to see things coming from the sides and from behind. However, without stereoscopic vision, these animals have a more difficult time determining how far away a threat is.
- 7 With vision that is both stereoscopic and binocular, humans share with predators the ability to see clearly from side to side and to accurately determine how far away objects are. If you think it would be great to have another type of vision, perhaps with hundreds of tiny eyes like many insects do, think again! Each tiny insect eye sees only a tiny part of what the creature is viewing. Besides, what if you needed glasses? Be glad for the eyesight that you have.

According to this passage, an eye is like a camera because both

- A have an optic nerve.
- B are able to perceive color.
- C record images in miniature.
- D work only while remaining still.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 03

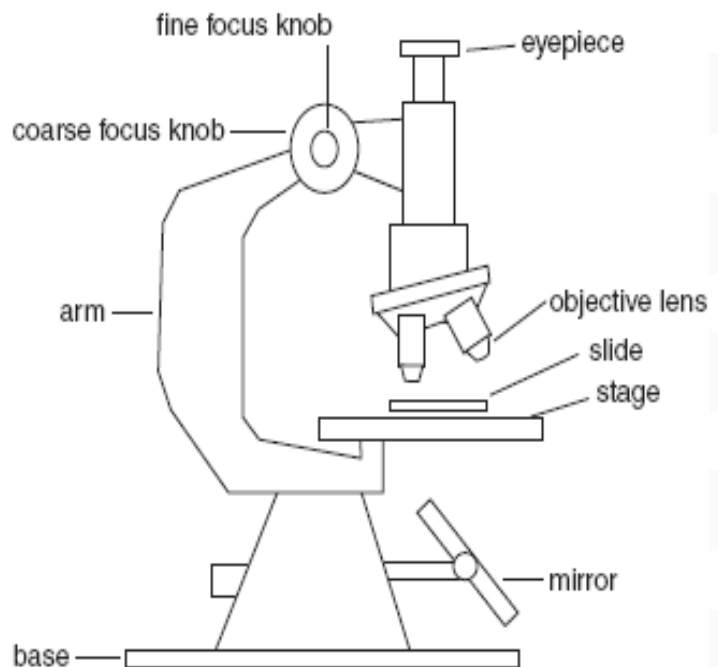
Proper Care and Use of a Microscope

A MICROSCOPE IS A USEFUL INSTRUMENT FOR OBSERVING SMALL OBJECTS. BY PRODUCING A MAGNIFIED IMAGE, THE MICROSCOPE REVEALS DETAILS THAT ARE UNDETECTABLE TO THE NAKED EYE. BEFORE USING THE MICROSCOPE, PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

CAUTION:

Microscopes are both delicate and expensive and must be handled with care.

1. Always carry the microscope with two hands—one supporting the base and the other on the arm.
2. Avoid stretching the power cable of the lamp across a walkway.
3. Keep the stage clean and always use a glass slide for specimens.
4. To avoid crushing the glass slide when focusing, begin with the lens close to the specimen and gradually back off to focus.
5. Keep the microscope covered to prevent the buildup of dust while it is being stored.



HOW TO USE THE MICROSCOPE:

1. Plug in the lamp.
2. Place a sample of what you wish to observe on a slide.
3. Adjust the mirror so it reflects light from the room up into the objective lens. When the mirror is correctly adjusted, a complete circle of light will appear when you look through the eyepiece.
4. Place your slide with the specimen directly over the center of the glass circle on the stage. If it is a wet slide, be sure the bottom of the slide is dry.
5. With the **LOW POWER** objective lens placed over the slide, use the coarse focus knob to lower the lens to the lowest point.
6. Look through the eyepiece with one eye while closing the other eye. Slowly raise the lens until the focus is relatively clear.
7. Use the fine focus knob to fine-tune the focus.
8. Without changing the focus knobs, switch to the **HIGH POWER** objective lens. Once you have switched to **HIGH POWER**, use only the fine focus knob to make the image sharper.

Continue



What is the main purpose of this passage?

A to persuade the reader to buy this type of microscope

B to instruct the reader on how to use the microscope with care

C to show the reader the various parts of a microscope

D to remind the reader to use caution when using a microscope



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 04

Proper Care and Use of a Microscope

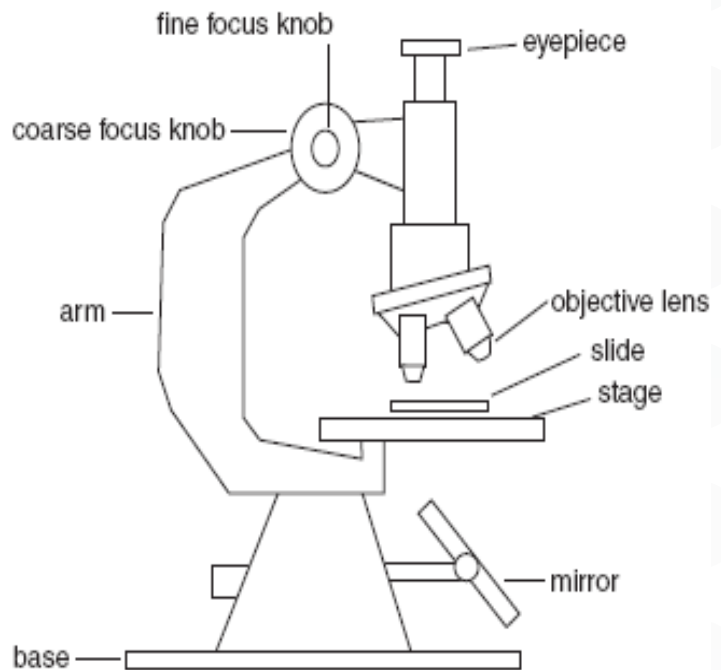
A MICROSCOPE IS A USEFUL INSTRUMENT FOR OBSERVING SMALL OBJECTS. BY PRODUCING A MAGNIFIED IMAGE, THE MICROSCOPE REVEALS DETAILS THAT ARE UNDETECTABLE TO THE NAKED EYE.

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7. Use the fine focus knob to fine-tune the focus.
8. Without changing the focus knobs, switch to the **HIGH POWER** objective lens. Once you have switched to **HIGH POWER**, use only the fine focus knob to make the image sharper.

Continue



If you want to observe a strand of hair, which of the following should you do first?

- ☐ A Cover the microscope.
- ☐ B Adjust the mirror.
- ☐ C Look through the eyepiece.
- ☐ D Place the hair on a glass slide.



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Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 05

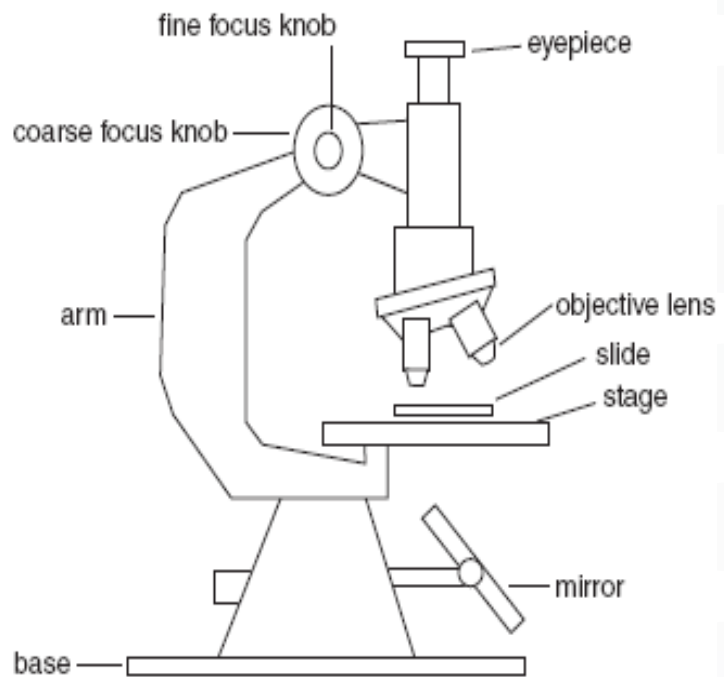
Proper Care and Use of a Microscope

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CAUTION:

Microscopes are both delicate and expensive and must be handled with care.

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2. Avoid stretching the power cable of the lamp across a walkway.
3. Keep the stage clean and always use a glass slide for specimens.
4. To avoid crushing the glass slide when focusing, begin with the lens close to the specimen and gradually back off to focus.
5. Keep the microscope covered to prevent the buildup of dust while it is being stored.



HOW TO USE THE MICROSCOPE:

1. Plug in the lamp.
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3. Adjust the mirror so it reflects light from the room up into the objective lens. When the mirror is correctly adjusted, a complete circle of light will appear when you look through the eyepiece.
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7. Use the fine focus knob to fine-tune the focus.
8. Without changing the focus knobs, switch to the **HIGH POWER** objective lens. Once you have switched to **HIGH POWER**, use only the fine focus knob to make the image sharper.

Continue



If you want to find out if you have all the parts of the microscope you are using, where in the passage would you look?

A in the introduction under the title

B under Caution

C under How to Use the Microscope

D at the drawing



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 06

DOCUMENT A

It's easy to spot the winners . . .



THE WINNING STREAK SCOOTER WEIGHS ONLY 6½ POUNDS
AND MEASURES 4½" X 9" X 26" WHEN FOLDED

Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY **\$39.95**
Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

Northgate Mall
& Gateway Shopping Center

Continue



DOCUMENT B



WINNING STREAK scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your **WINNING STREAK** scooter, simply return it for a refund of the purchase price.

WARRANTY

- ♦ Warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended for **WINNING STREAK** products. Damages due to accident, neglect, or abuse are not covered under this warranty.
- ♦ **WINNING STREAK** accepts no responsibility for personal injury or product damage sustained as the result of an accident.
- ♦ Warranty claims must be shipped (prepaid) to the manufacturer in the original packaging and accompanied by the original sales receipt.

DOCUMENT C

U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau

Winning Streak, Inc., Announces Recall of Scooters

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau, Winning Streak, Inc., is voluntarily recalling about 25,000 scooters. The folding mechanism, where the steering column meets the scooter base, presents the danger of pinching. Winning Streak, Inc., has received six reports of users being injured while folding or unfolding the scooter.

The recall involves Winning Streak scooters sold between April and October 2002 for about \$70. The scooter has a lightweight aluminum frame with lavender foam handle grips. **WINNING STREAK** is printed in purple on the standing platform, and crossed black-and-white checkered flags appear on the base of the steering column. The scooter has 4" clear in-line style wheels.

Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

The primary intent of Document A is

- A to provide technical information about the scooter.
- B to describe the types of problems the scooter can cause.
- C to persuade people to purchase the scooter.
- D to explain how the scooter can be folded.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 07

The Magic of Harry

- 1 Harry Houdini was a man who astonished and enthralled many people during his life. Whether he was escaping from a padlocked box or making things disappear and reappear, he definitely was entertaining. People thought that he must truly have some supernatural powers, but in fact, what Harry really had was drive.
- 2 Harry was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1874. His real name was Ehrich Weiss and he was the third of five children. His family moved to Wisconsin not long after he was born and by the time he was nine, he was tying ropes all over his backyard and learning amazing trapeze tricks to show his friends and neighbors. He visited the local locksmith, and when he had reached his teens he could pick almost any lock that was made. He also learned how to do card tricks. He and his brother, Theo, would often entertain at local parties and clubs for extra money.
- 3 When Ehrich was 16, he came across a book that would literally change his life: the biography of France's greatest magician, Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin. It showed Ehrich that his hobby of magic and tricks could also be a career. Immediately, he changed his name to Harry Houdini. He and Theo headed out to make a living as magicians.
- 4 In 1893, they were at the Chicago World's Fair, and after that they traveled around giving magic shows for anyone willing to listen and pay. Theo grew restless, however, as the jobs became scarce, so he left. His timing was perfect since Harry had just fallen in love with a lovely woman named Bess who was just the right size for slipping in and out of the trunk they used in their magic tricks.



Continue



They married immediately and then off they went, traveling with circuses and other road shows. Harry learned more and more tricks and spent much of his time reading and studying all kinds of locks, especially handcuffs. However, no matter what tricks they did or how hard they tried, Bess and Harry were not doing well. They tried to sell their shows for seven years and finally, in desperation, they went to Europe.

5 It was the right move. Harry's persistence and constant practice were about to pay off. To get people's attention, he walked into police stations and offered to be handcuffed by all the policemen. They were shocked when he was loose only seconds later. Soon, everyone in Europe was talking about Houdini's astounding feats. He was in high demand and found himself doing more and more dangerous acts. He escaped from a straitjacket hanging upside down over the street; he escaped from locked boxes of all kinds; and, of course, he got out of any kind of handcuffs put on him.

6 After several years in Europe, Bess and Harry returned to the United States in triumph. Harry was doing such amazing tricks that people felt he must have special powers. However, few realized how much time he spent practicing and studying. He would do special exercises to keep his body strong, and he would do tricks with his fingers to keep them nimble and flexible. He would spend large amounts of time tying and untying knots—with his toes! For his underwater tricks, he would get in the bathtub and practice holding his breath for longer and longer times. Since many of his tricks involved being plunged into icy water, he would pour buckets of ice in the tub to get accustomed to working in the cold.

7 The reason that Harry Houdini was such a success was that he practiced and prepared for whatever might happen. When a college student punched him in the abdomen in 1926, however, he wasn't prepared. The punch did internal damage that not even this magician could get out of. Harry died in 1926 at 52 years of age—a master of his trade and a true legend.

Houdini decided to become a magician after

- A he read a book about a famous magician.
- B he learned to pick a lock.
- C he started entertaining at local parties.
- D he learned to do card tricks.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 08



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
- 2 Your eyes are like two small cameras. A camera captures an image of an object and records this image in miniature on a small piece of film. Similarly, when you look at something, each eye takes in what it sees and sends this image to the back of the eyeball. From each eye, an optic nerve then sends the image to the brain. Because your eyes are set close together, they view the world from about the same height but from slightly different angles. While your right eye sees an object a little to the right, your left eye sees the same object slightly to the left. Working as a team, the eyes send the images to the part of your brain called the cerebral cortex, which assembles them into a single, centered image.
- 3 Seeing with two eyes working together is called stereoscopic vision. This allows you to view the world in three dimensions, or 3-D. These dimensions are height, width, and depth. Perceiving depth allows you to judge the distance between you and the objects you see. It also helps you to adjust to the changing angle at which you see something as you move closer to or farther away from it. As you walk along a sidewalk, for example, seeing in stereo helps you to know how close you are to the street, how far you need to walk to arrive at a certain building, and how close you are to stepping on a rock or a piece of glass. As your body moves, your eyes give you a continual flow of information about where things are in relation to where you are.

Continue



- 4 If images are coming from only one eye, however, only two of these dimensions—height and width—can be perceived. A world seen with one eye is thus two-dimensional, as in a photograph. Depth perception is lacking, making it more difficult to move around safely.
- 5 Now consider why your two eyes are located on the front of your face. Think of other animals with this same arrangement. Some examples are lions, wolves, and owls. What do these creatures have in common? They are all animals that hunt. These animals have eyes facing directly in front of them. This provides a field of vision that is about 180 degrees wide, like a half-circle. This kind of sight is called binocular vision.
- 6 On the other hand, animals that are hunted have eyes on the sides of the head. This provides nearly a 360-degree field of vision. Because these animals need to be on the alert in order to stay alive, they need to see things coming from the sides and from behind. However, without stereoscopic vision, these animals have a more difficult time determining how far away a threat is.
- 7 With vision that is both stereoscopic and binocular, humans share with predators the ability to see clearly from side to side and to accurately determine how far away objects are. If you think it would be great to have another type of vision, perhaps with hundreds of tiny eyes like many insects do, think again! Each tiny insect eye sees only a tiny part of what the creature is viewing. Besides, what if you needed glasses? Be glad for the eyesight that you have.

Stereoscopic vision is a result of having

- A hundreds of eyes, all seeing parts of an image.
- B two eyes close to one another that work together.
- C a three-hundred-sixty-degree field of vision.
- D one eye on either side of the head, each seeing a different image.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Reading Comprehension (Performance Level: Below Basic) – Question 01



Seeing in Stereo

- 1 Have you ever asked yourself why you have two eyes instead of one, three, or even hundreds as some insects have? Have you wondered why your eyes are set close together on the front of your face rather than on the sides of your head, as on animals like rabbits, antelopes, and horses? The reasons are simple—and important to the way you see the rest of your world.
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Continue



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Owls, hawks, and eagles have eyes facing forward because they are

- ☐ A prey.
- ☐ B birds.
- ☐ C hunters.
- ☐ D large.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 01

Nurses in the Wilderness
by Ruth L. Ewers

Not even a flooded river could stand between Mary Breckinridge and the hospital her patients needed.

- 1 Christmas at the mountain clinic would have to wait. A fierce rain had swollen the middle fork of the Kentucky River, and the brown water overflowed its muddy banks beside Mary Breckinridge's Wendover, Kentucky, clinic. The trails were washed out, and she had to find a way to get her five patients to the hospital in Lexington.
- 2 There was only one thing to do. Since overland travel was impossible, she would turn the flood to her advantage and go out by boat. But first she had to build one! Time was precious, and she knew she had to work fast.
- 3 A neighbor gave her some wooden planks, and he helped Mary and the nurses build a sturdy boat. They named it Ambulance, and on the morning of December 30, 1926, Mary, another nurse, and the patients set off down the river. The churning, muddy water rushed and swirled around them.
- 4 After sixteen wild miles on the treacherous river, they left the boat and got into a mule cart. At eight o'clock that evening, they arrived at the train station in Krypton. As she watched the train pull away with her patients safely on board, Mary smiled and waved, knowing that they now had a chance to live a healthy life.
- 5 Mary had not planned to be a nurse. She was the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky politician and grew up with money, governesses, and trips to Europe. But the family had always been concerned about the poorer people of the state, and as a child, Mary was influenced by an aunt who spent most of her fortune paying for the education of poor Kentucky children.
- 6 As an adult, Mary was inspired to become a nurse after she had watched helplessly as a child died of typhoid fever. A few years after she graduated from nursing school, her own two small children died. In her grief, she and her husband divorced, and she decided to devote her life to helping rural Kentucky children.

Continue



- 7 Mary picked the most out-of-the-way place in the Kentucky mountains—Leslie County—to start a health clinic and prove that dedicated people could bring medical care to even the most isolated areas. So in 1925 Mary hired a few British-trained nurse-midwives and, with some money from her family, started the Frontier Nursing Service in Wendover, Kentucky.
- 8 Before Mary and her nurses came, the mountain folk had no trained medical care givers. The men worked in the coal mines or for the lumber companies, and the women grew vegetable gardens. Families made so little money they could not afford doctors or medicine—even if they could get them. Many children had diseases such as tuberculosis and pneumonia, and nearly every person was malnourished.
- 9 Mary and the nurse-midwives built clinics and a small hospital deep in the forests of Leslie County, spacing them throughout the rocky hills so that no one would be far from care. There were no paved roads, electricity, or telephones. Each day the nurses rode on horseback to isolated farms, often in bad weather, to answer calls for help. They worked hard to keep an eye on their patients.
- 10 To the grateful mountain people, Mary and the nurses seemed to be everywhere. They treated everything from cut fingers to pneumonia, gave shots, and delivered babies. Their patients joked that they finally knew where babies came from—the nurses brought them in their saddlebags! The proud country folk liked the nurses because they treated everyone with respect.
- 11 The Frontier Nursing Service grew, and today the Mary Breckinridge Hospital still cares for patients in Hyden, Kentucky, just a few miles from Wendover. But the work of the Nursing Service now reaches far beyond the Kentucky mountains.
- 12 Today, medical professionals from all over the world come to Wendover to study rural health care in action. When these men and women go back to their own countries, they are prepared to help people in need—people like the mountain folk of Kentucky, who might have been left behind if not for Mary and her nurses in the wilderness.

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Which excerpt from paragraph 9 is an example of an idiom?

- ☐ A Mary and the nurse-midwives built clinics
- ☐ B There were no paved roads
- ☐ C Each day the nurses rode on horseback
- ☐ D keep an eye on their patients



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 02

Nurses in the Wilderness
by Ruth L. Ewers

Not even a flooded river could stand between Mary Breckinridge and the hospital her patients needed.

- 1 Christmas at the mountain clinic would have to wait. A fierce rain had swollen the middle fork of the Kentucky River, and the brown water overflowed its muddy banks beside Mary Breckinridge's Wendover, Kentucky, clinic. The trails were washed out, and she had to find a way to get her five patients to the hospital in Lexington.
- 2 There was only one thing to do. Since overland travel was impossible, she would turn the flood to her advantage and go out by boat. But first she had to build one! Time was precious, and she knew she had to work fast.
- 3 A neighbor gave her some wooden planks, and he helped Mary and the nurses build a sturdy boat. They named it Ambulance, and on the morning of December 30, 1926, Mary, another nurse, and the patients set off down the river. The churning, muddy water rushed and swirled around them.
- 4 After sixteen wild miles on the treacherous river, they left the boat and got into a mule cart. At eight o'clock that evening, they arrived at the train station in Krypton. As she watched the train pull away with her patients safely on board, Mary smiled and waved, knowing that they now had a chance to live a healthy life.
- 5 Mary had not planned to be a nurse. She was the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky politician and grew up with money, governesses, and trips to Europe. But the family had always been concerned about the poorer people of the state, and as a child, Mary was influenced by an aunt who spent most of her fortune paying for the education of poor Kentucky children.
- 6 As an adult, Mary was inspired to become a nurse after she had watched helplessly as a child died of typhoid fever. A few years after she graduated from nursing school, her own two small children died. In her grief, she and her husband divorced, and she decided to devote her life to helping rural Kentucky children.

Continue



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The word malnourished in paragraph 8 is made from adding the Latin word mal to the word nourished. The Latin word mal most nearly means

- ☐ A diseased.
- ☐ B needy.
- ☐ C bad.
- ☐ D more.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 03

The Old Juniper Tree
by Robert Fulghum

1 There is a tree. At the downhill edge of a long, narrow field in the western foothills of the La Sal Mountains—southeastern Utah. A particular tree. A juniper. Large for its species—maybe twenty feet tall and two feet in diameter. For perhaps three hundred years this tree has stood its ground. Flourishing in good seasons, and holding on in bad times. “Beautiful” is not a word that comes to mind when one first sees it. No naturalist would photograph it as exemplary of its kind. Twisted by wind, split and charred by lightning, scarred by brushfires, chewed on by insects, and pecked by birds. Human beings have stripped long strings of bark from its trunk, stapled barbed wire to it in using it as a corner post for a fence line, and nailed signs on it on three sides: NO HUNTING, NO TRESPASSING; PLEASE CLOSE THE GATE. In commandeering this tree as a corner stake for claims of rights and property, miners and ranchers have hacked signs and symbols in its bark, and left Day-Glo™ orange survey tape tied to its branches. Now it serves as one side of a gate between an alfalfa field and open range. No matter what, in drought, flood, heat, and cold it has continued. There is rot and death in it near the ground. But at the greening tips of its upper branches and in its berrylike seed cones, there is yet the outreach of life.

2 I respect this old juniper tree. For its age, yes. And for its steadfastness in taking whatever is thrown at it. That it has been useful in a practical way beyond itself counts for much, as well. Most of all, I admire its capacity for self-healing beyond all accidents and assaults. There is a will in it—toward continuing to be, come what may.

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Continue



Read these sentences from “The Old Juniper Tree.”

I respect this old juniper tree. For its age, yes. And for its steadfastness in taking whatever is thrown at it.

The best definition for the word steadfastness is

- A eagerness.
- B constancy.
- C skill.
- D consciousness.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 01

The Magic of Harry

- 1 Harry Houdini was a man who astonished and enthralled many people during his life. Whether he was escaping from a padlocked box or making things disappear and reappear, he definitely was entertaining. People thought that he must truly have some supernatural powers, but in fact, what Harry really had was drive.
- 2 Harry was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1874. His real name was Ehrich Weiss and he was the third of five children. His family moved to Wisconsin not long after he was born and by the time he was nine, he was tying ropes all over his backyard and learning amazing trapeze tricks to show his friends and neighbors. He visited the local locksmith, and when he had reached his teens he could pick almost any lock that was made. He also learned how to do card tricks. He and his brother, Theo, would often entertain at local parties and clubs for extra money.
- 3 When Ehrich was 16, he came across a book that would literally change his life: the biography of France's greatest magician, Jean Eugene Robert-Houdin. It showed Ehrich that his hobby of magic and tricks could also be a career. Immediately, he changed his name to Harry Houdini. He and Theo headed out to make a living as magicians.
- 4 In 1893, they were at the Chicago World's Fair, and after that they traveled around giving magic shows for anyone willing to listen and pay. Theo grew restless, however, as the jobs became scarce, so he left. His timing was perfect since Harry had just fallen in love with a lovely woman named Bess who was just the right size for slipping in and out of the trunk they used in their magic tricks.



Continue



They married immediately and then off they went, traveling with circuses and other road shows. Harry learned more and more tricks and spent much of his time reading and studying all kinds of locks, especially handcuffs. However, no matter what tricks they did or how hard they tried, Bess and Harry were not doing well. They tried to sell their shows for seven years and finally, in desperation, they went to Europe.

5 It was the right move. Harry's persistence and constant practice were about to pay off. To get people's attention, he walked into police stations and offered to be handcuffed by all the policemen. They were shocked when he was loose only seconds later. Soon, everyone in Europe was talking about Houdini's astounding feats. He was in high demand and found himself doing more and more dangerous acts. He escaped from a straitjacket hanging upside down over the street; he escaped from locked boxes of all kinds; and, of course, he got out of any kind of handcuffs put on him.

6 After several years in Europe, Bess and Harry returned to the United States in triumph. Harry was doing such amazing tricks that people felt he must have special powers. However, few realized how much time he spent practicing and studying. He would do special exercises to keep his body strong, and he would do tricks with his fingers to keep them nimble and flexible. He would spend large amounts of time tying and untying knots—with his toes! For his underwater tricks, he would get in the bathtub and practice holding his breath for longer and longer times. Since many of his tricks involved being plunged into icy water, he would pour buckets of ice in the tub to get accustomed to working in the cold.

7 The reason that Harry Houdini was such a success was that he practiced and prepared for whatever might happen. When a college student punched him in the abdomen in 1926, however, he wasn't prepared. The punch did internal damage that not even this magician could get out of. Harry died in 1926 at 52 years of age—a master of his trade and a true legend.

Read this sentence from the passage.

Harry's persistence and constant practice were about to pay off.

You can tell from the sentence that persistence means

- A desperation.
- B long journey.
- C refusal to quit.
- D education.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 02

Phaëthon Gets His Wish

1 Phaëthon stood impatiently at the heavy gilded doors. He ordered the guards, Month and Year, to let him approach his father's throne. As the doors creaked open, the sun's rays almost blinded him. Phaëthon shielded his eyes and groped his way toward Apollo's throne. "Come here, my son. Follow my voice," Apollo's voice echoed. "What is so urgent that you have my guards scrambling to do your bidding?"



2 "Father, I have a problem. All of my friends have been teasing me. They don't believe that you're my father or that you make the sun rise and set," complained Phaëthon.

3 Apollo replied, "Oh—that problem again? Well, just to prove it to your friends once and for all, I will grant you any wish you desire."

4 "Really? Then I have only one wish," answered Phaëthon. "I'd like to drive your chariot and make the sun rise tomorrow morning!"

5 Apollo was horrified. "No—not that! No one but me can drive the chariot. The horses are too powerful!"

6 "You said I could have anything," whined Phaëthon.

7 Bound by his promise, Apollo had to grant Phaëthon his wish. His heart was sick with worry as he ordered Dawn to hitch the horses, Hour and Day, to the Golden Chariot. Phaëthon could hardly wait to jump in the driver's seat and grab the reins. He hoped all his friends were watching the sky and anticipating his sojourn through the stars.

8 "Wait, my son! There are things you need to know!" cried Apollo.

9 Oh, Father! You worry too much. I've often seen you drive. I know what to do," Phaëthon answered.

Continue



10 Apollo hurried to give directions. "You have never driven my chariot before. You must make the horses stay on the path. If you are too low, you will scorch the earth."

11 "I know, Father. Now watch me take off!" shouted Phaëthon.

12 Dawn stepped back and released her grip on the horses' bridles. The horses pawed the ground and snorted with excitement. The sky begged for Dawn's light, so she ran toward the horizon in her glowing gown to make the darkness fade. As Phaëthon was about to ascend, Apollo grabbed his arm and said, "Please listen to me! If you go too high you will warm the cold depths of the heavens, and the Bear or Snake or Scorpion will come alive!"

13 Phaëthon just laughed. "My friends are waiting. I've got to go!" he shouted.

14 With that, the chariot was off. It was a wild ride. Hour and Day were unruly and difficult to control. Phaëthon did not have his father's strong arms or years of experience. The horses wove from side to side and bobbed up and down through the heavens, hitting everything in their way. The sun bounced along behind the chariot like a basketball. It grazed the stars and skidded along mountaintops, leaving charred remains behind. Phaëthon's friends ran for cover as they watched the spectacle. Just as his father had warned him, the figures in the sky began to move. Suddenly the Scorpion lunged toward him, but Phaëthon ducked out of the way in time. The Snake lashed out and bit a wheel off the chariot.

15 Apollo, witnessing the destruction, dashed up toward the heavens, but he was too late! The Bear had stirred from his icy hibernation and grabbed Phaëthon before his father could reach him. Apollo grabbed the reins and finally regained control of Hour and Day, but it was years before the earth's mountaintops were white with snow again. The scorched areas became deserts where very little would grow. Phaëthon became a part of the constellations alongside the Bear, where his father could regretfully keep an eye on him.

Which word from the passage comes from the Latin root meaning look or watch?

- ☐ A ascend
- ☐ B spectacle
- ☐ C urgent
- ☐ D figures



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 03

Read this sentence.

“Come on, Christopher!” Laura cried as Christopher continued to scrutinize the menu. “You’ve been looking at the menu all day—just pick something!”

To scrutinize means

A to study carefully.

B to read with difficulty.

C to skim quickly.

D to read carelessly.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development
(Performance Level: Basic) – Question 01

DOCUMENT A

It's easy to spot the winners . . .



WINNING STREAK

America's favorite and safest scooter!

Constructed from strong, high-quality aluminum.

Comes with

- ♦ Skid-resistant base control for added safety
- ♦ Adjustable steering arm that ranges from 23" to 38"
- ♦ Self-adjusting shoulder strap for comfortable carrying

THE WINNING STREAK SCOOTER WEIGHS ONLY 6½ POUNDS
AND MEASURES 4½" X 9" X 26" WHEN FOLDED

Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY **\$39.95**

Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

Northgate Mall
& Gateway Shopping Center

Continue



DOCUMENT B



WINNING STREAK scooters come with a 30-day money-back guarantee. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your **WINNING STREAK** scooter, simply return it for a refund of the purchase price.

WARRANTY

- ♦ Warranty does not cover normal wear and tear, improper assembly, or installation of parts or accessories not originally intended for **WINNING STREAK** products. Damages due to accident, neglect, or abuse are not covered under this warranty.
- ♦ **WINNING STREAK** accepts no responsibility for personal injury or product damage sustained as the result of an accident.
- ♦ Warranty claims must be shipped (prepaid) to the manufacturer in the original packaging and accompanied by the original sales receipt.

DOCUMENT C

U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau

Winning Streak, Inc., Announces Recall of Scooters

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Buyers Safety Bureau, Winning Streak, Inc., is voluntarily recalling about 25,000 scooters. The folding mechanism, where the steering column meets the scooter base, presents the danger of pinching. Winning Streak, Inc., has received six reports of users being injured while folding or unfolding the scooter.

The recall involves Winning Streak scooters sold between April and October 2002 for about \$70. The scooter has a lightweight aluminum frame with lavender foam handle grips. **WINNING STREAK** is printed in purple on the standing platform, and crossed black-and-white checkered flags appear on the base of the steering column. The scooter has 4" clear in-line style wheels.

Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which word from Document B comes from a Latin root meaning “to make”?

- A purchase
- B manufacturer
- C intended
- D return



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 02

The Magic of Harry

- 1 Harry Houdini was a man who astonished and enthralled many people during his life. Whether he was escaping from a padlocked box or making things disappear and reappear, he definitely was entertaining. People thought that he must truly have some supernatural powers, but in fact, what Harry really had was drive.
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Continue



However, no matter what tricks they did or how hard they tried, Bess and Harry were not doing well. They tried to sell their shows for seven years and finally, in desperation, they went to Europe.

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Read this sentence from the passage.

Harry Houdini was a man who astonished
and enthralled many people during his life.

You can tell from the sentence that enthralled means

- A apart.
- B vanished.
- C convinced.
- D fascinated.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 03

Which word is formed from the Latin root meaning “to carry”?

- ☐ A dissolve
- ☐ B attract
- ☐ C migrate
- ☐ D transport

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Systematic Vocabulary Development (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 04

DOCUMENT A

It's easy to spot the winners . . .



THE WINNING STREAK SCOOTER WEIGHS ONLY 6½ POUNDS
AND MEASURES 4½" X 9" X 26" WHEN FOLDED

Imagine being able to get a WINNING STREAK scooter for ONLY **\$39.95**
Reg. ~~\$69.95~~

All Sports Marketplace

Northgate Mall
& Gateway Shopping Center

Continue



DOCUMENT B



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Consumers should stop using these Winning Streak scooters immediately and call the store where the product was purchased for a refund or new scooter.

Which word from Document B comes from a Latin root meaning “to hold”?

- A cover
- B sustained
- C accepts
- D product



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics) (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 01

Read this sentence.

Although these plants mean trouble for crickets, flies, spiders, and other insects, they are safe—and fascinating—for people.

What is the best way to write the underlined words?

- ☐ A they are—safe and fascinating—for people
- ☐ B —they are safe and fascinating—for people
- ☐ C they are—safe—and fascinating for people
- ☐ D Leave as is.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics) (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Fame for Shame

- (1) Sometimes I turn on the television and see people making fools of themselves. (2) I wonder why they're willing to do this. (3) Is being seen so precious to these people that they don't even care what others think of them? (4) Do they think having their face on TV for a few minutes makes them famous, as though they had actually accomplished something worthwhile?
- (5) Are some people willing to look ridiculous merely for financial gain? (6) Many talk shows don't pay people to appear; in those instances, money is not a motive. (7) Other shows put people through horrible competitions, and in the end, only one person ends up with a big amount of cash. (8) The other contestants go home with nothing but faces that, to some, will be recognizable. (9) Is this such a great prize?
- (10) I just can't understand being eager to give one's privacy away. (11) If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way, that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen and having people recognize your face. (12) Some people, though, will want to know about your private life, even if it has nothing to do with your work.
- (13) I've heard this lack of privacy called "the price of fame." (14) As these words suggest, being famous has a cost—something you must give up in order to gain something you desire. (15) Isn't shame too high a price to pay, though—especially when you get hardly anything in return?

Continue



Which version of sentence 11 shows the correct place to put a dash?

- A If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others—in a positive way, that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen and having people recognize your face.
- B If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way, that's one thing—being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen and having people recognize your face.
- C If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way, that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen—and having people recognize your face.
- D If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way—that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen—and having people recognize your face.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 01

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

Which word best replaces the underlined word in sentence 2 to make the meaning more precise?

- ☐ A glimpse
- ☐ B picture
- ☐ C sight
- ☐ D view

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's report, which may contain errors.

Composting: Another Form of Recycling

- (1) Recycling can mean much more than aluminum cans, paper, and plastic. (2) Did you know that you can recycle much of your kitchen waste as well? (3) Not only that, but you can provide amazing help to your garden along the way! (4) It is called composting, and it is very easy to do.
- (5) When you compost, you put all organic material, except for anything containing animal fat, into a pile where natural bacteria begin the process of decomposition. (6) Items to put into your compost include: vegetable and fruit scraps, grass clippings, leaves, and even coffee grounds.
- (7) It is a good idea to “turn” your compost pile occasionally. (8) This process introduces oxygen into the pile, which is beneficial to the bacteria. (9) Also, keep your pile moist, about as moist as a damp sponge. (10) When it has become a dark brown color and has a composition like dirt, add the compost to your garden or lawn. (11) You will be thrilled by the results.

How should sentence 1 be rewritten for precision of word choice?

- A Recycling is more than the aluminum cans, paper, and plastic that people might first think about.
- B Recycling possibilities are much more than the stuff we trash on a daily basis.
- C Recycling does not have to be limited to aluminum cans, paper, and plastic.
- D The possibilities related to recycling extend past what we normally think of.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 03

Composting: Another Form of Recycling

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- (5) When you compost, you put all organic material, except for anything containing animal fat, into a pile where natural bacteria begin the process of decomposition. (6) Items to put into your compost include: vegetable and fruit scraps, grass clippings, leaves, and even coffee grounds.
- (7) It is a good idea to “turn” your compost pile occasionally. (8) This process introduces oxygen into the pile, which is beneficial to the bacteria. (9) Also, keep your pile moist, about as moist as a damp sponge. (10) When it has become a dark brown color and has a composition like dirt, add the compost to your garden or lawn. (11) You will be thrilled by the results.

Which sentence below should be added to the end of the second paragraph in order to most effectively transition to the third paragraph?

- A Overall, the process of composting can be a lot of fun to do with the whole family.
- B After that, the process of composting requires some additional maintenance.
- C Then you will need to put a lid on your compost bin, and you're done.
- D Nevertheless, the new mixture will need to blend together over time.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 04

Composting: Another Form of Recycling

- (1) Recycling can mean much more than aluminum cans, paper, and plastic. (2) Did you know that you can recycle much of your kitchen waste as well? (3) Not only that, but you can provide amazing help to your garden along the way! (4) It is called composting, and it is very easy to do.
- (5) When you compost, you put all organic material, except for anything containing animal fat, into a pile where natural bacteria begin the process of decomposition. (6) Items to put into your compost include: vegetable and fruit scraps, grass clippings, leaves, and even coffee grounds.
- (7) It is a good idea to “turn” your compost pile occasionally. (8) This process introduces oxygen into the pile, which is beneficial to the bacteria. (9) Also, keep your pile moist, about as moist as a damp sponge. (10) When it has become a dark brown color and has a composition like dirt, add the compost to your garden or lawn. (11) You will be thrilled by the results.

How should sentence 7 be written so that the ideas are most precisely stated?

- A Once items have been added and a substantial pile has developed, it is a good idea to turn, or rotate, the material using a pitchfork or shovel.
- B Turning the pile once in a while is an excellent idea because it really turns the substances around in there.
- C When many items are added and a large pile has amounted, turn it around a few times to mix it up.
- D If you keep adding various materials to the pile, it will then be necessary to turn it a little in order for the blending process to occur.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 05

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Cable Cars in San Francisco

- 1 The history of the cable car, or cable tramway, in San Francisco is an interesting one. How did San Francisco become home to this unique mode of transportation?
- 2 Cable cars were invented before the automobile, in the days when horse-drawn streetcars were a popular and inexpensive form of public transportation. Actually, it was a man from Great Britain, named Andrew Hallidie, who is credited with inventing the cable-car system. One day, Hallidie saw a terrible accident involving a streetcar. This event appantly influenced his decision to try to find a safer way to transport people.
- 3 Hallidie thought he could use wire rope, which his father had invented, to make wire cables. Hallidie believed that the cables would be strong enough to pull the cable cars up the steep slopes of the city. As a result, Hallidie began making wire cables. Next, he needed someone to help him design the cars, and he also needed money to put the system in place. He hired William E. Eppelsheimer, a German engineer, to design the first cable-car line. Now he was ready to “go onboard.” Hallidie also needed a franchise to build the system. He obtained a franchise from a lawyer named Benjamin Brooks.
- 4 On August 2, 1873, only four years after witnessing the tragic streetcar accident, Hallidie himself drove the first cable car from Jones Street to Kearney Street by way of Clay Street. This line came to be known as the Clay Street Hill line. About one month after the test run, the Clay Street Hill line opened for public use (Kessler 21). From that point on, other lines opened in San Francisco as well as in other U.S. cities and cities overseas. San Francisco, , is the only city today where the cable car still operates.

Works Cited

Kessler, Thomas. “Early Cable Car History.” SF Cable Cars. Online. Internet. 10 Oct. 2002.
Sanchez, Mariam. San Francisco Cable Cars. San Francisco: Hills Press, 1998.
Thompson, Joe. “Clay Street Hill Railroad.” San Francisco Today. Jan. 2000. Online. Internet. 15 Oct. 2002.

Continue 

Which of the following sentences from paragraph 3 would make the most logical concluding sentence for that paragraph?

A As a result, Hallidie began making wire cables.

B He hired William E. Eppelsheimer, a German engineer, to design the first cable-car line.

C Now he was ready to “go onboard.”

D Hallidie also needed a franchise to build the system.



Back

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 06

The following is a rough draft of Kelsey's report. It contains errors.

Puppets

- 1 Many people have had the experience of taking an old sock, placing it over one hand, and suddenly having a puppet “come alive.” Because of the fascinating way that even the most simple puppet can instantly take on a personality, the art of puppetry has been around for a long time.
- 2 A puppet is a figure controlled by a person using rods, strings, or hand movements. While no one knows exactly when or where puppetry began, evidence shows that ancient civilizations may have used it long ago. Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.
- 3 There is four common types of puppets: shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes, and hand puppets. Each kind has its own features. The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard. When placed in front of a lighted screen, these figures create a silhouette, or shadow, for the audience to see. The puppets are quite memorable because their shadows are so intricate. Rod puppets are more lifelike figures. Thin rods are attached to the puppet's jointed arms and legs, as well as to its waist, so that the puppeteer can move the figure. The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate. Between three and thirty strings are needed to move each figure. Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.
- 4 Some puppets and puppeteers have become quite famous. Punch, from the Punch-and-Judy shows in Great Britain, was a well-known puppet as early as the seventeenth century. In modern times, puppets such as Kukla and Ollie (and their human friend Fran), Howdy Doody, Shari Lewis' Lamb Chop, and Jim Henson's Muppets have entertained and educated audiences of all ages.
- 5 Knowing that puppets have such a long history, you may never look at your sock puppet the same way again.

Continue



Which statement in paragraph 3 of Kelsey's draft should be supported with facts and details?

- ☐ A The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard.
- ☐ B Rod puppets are more lifelike figures.
- ☐ C The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate.
- ☐ D Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Advanced) – Question 07

The following is a rough draft of a student's editorial. It contains errors.

Save the Oval Window!

- (1) The Oval Window, a lovely stained-glass window located in Hiram Public Library, is Hiram's most prestigious work of art. (2) This colorful window, unfortunately, is in great need of repair. (3) One civic-minded service group has stepped in to help save the Oval Window by selling sun catchers, small reproductions of the Oval Window. (4) The purchase of these sun catchers will help to fund the restoration of this glorious stained-glass window.
- (5) The Oval Window received extensive damage during last month's heavy rains. (6) Along with the recent damage, the already crumbling wooden framework should convince art and history enthusiasts to restore the Oval Window. (7) The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time by repair people. (8) Members of the Hiram County Service Society know that this task is painstaking and expensive! (9) The preservation must be accomplished so that the citizens of Hiram can enjoy this important part of Hiram's cultural heritage.
- (10) Think about the number of times visitors to Hiram Public Library have admired the stunning shades of ruby, topaz, and emerald cast on the floor by sunlight shining through the main window. (11) Now, people can enjoy those same colors at home by simply purchasing a sun catcher. (12) Imagine hanging a scale model of the famous Oval Window over a window wherever books are read. (13) The cascading light will almost make people think you are sitting in the library!
- (14) Remember, each purchase helps to preserve Hiram's Oval Window. (15) Customers can stop by the table in front of Hiram Public Library and purchase their own replica of the Oval Window. (16) Volunteers will remain at the table Monday through Saturday from 9:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon through the month of August. (17) Now everyone can enjoy and help save Hiram's greatest work of art.

Continue



Which is a correct bibliographic entry for the book about stained glass?

- ☐ A Henry Thurman. Rainbows and Riddles: A History of Stained Glass. New York: Archer Press, 1979.
- ☐ B Thurman's Rainbows and Riddles: A History of Stained Glass, New York, Archer Press, 1979.
- ☐ C Rainbows and Riddles: A History of Stained Glass. Henry Thurman, 1979. New York: Archer Press.
- ☐ D Thurman, Henry. Rainbows and Riddles:A History of Stained Glass. New York: Archer Press, 1979.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 01

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Fame for Shame

- (1) Sometimes I turn on the television and see people making fools of themselves. (2) I wonder why they're willing to do this. (3) Is being seen so precious to these people that they don't even care what others think of them? (4) Do they think having their face on TV for a few minutes makes them famous, as though they had actually accomplished something worthwhile?
- (5) Are some people willing to look ridiculous merely for financial gain? (6) Many talk shows don't pay people to appear; in those instances, money is not a motive. (7) Other shows put people through horrible competitions, and in the end, only one person ends up with a big amount of cash. (8) The other contestants go home with nothing but faces that, to some, will be recognizable. (9) Is this such a great prize?
- (10) I just can't understand being eager to give one's privacy away. (11) If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way, that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen and having people recognize your face. (12) Some people, though, will want to know about your private life, even if it has nothing to do with your work.
- (13) I've heard this lack of privacy called "the price of fame." (14) As these words suggest, being famous has a cost—something you must give up in order to gain something you desire. (15) Isn't shame too high a price to pay, though—especially when you get hardly anything in return?

Continue



Before writing his rough draft, the student organized the paper by writing an outline.
Here is the beginning of the outline:

- I. Introduction of topic
- II. Reasons people go on television
 - A. Money
 - B.

What subject belongs under II. B.?

- ☐ A Dare
- ☐ B Fame
- ☐ C Shame
- ☐ D Talent



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

The student explains that a big window may require some extra painting. The student supports this idea by

- A suggesting painting techniques.
- B describing types of supplies to buy.
- C offering suggestions of pictures to paint.
- D explaining the steps of window painting.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 03

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

How should the following Works Cited be revised?

Works Cited

Colvin, Hannah. Decorating Your Home.
New Bremen, CT: Carillon Publishing,
1999.

Henry Smith. Fun and Easy Pictures to
Paint. Fort Laramie, WY: Ace
Publications, 2002.

- A Remove the date the books were published.
B Put the authors' last names first in both entries.
C Arrange the books alphabetically by the publisher.
D Place quotation marks around the title of the second book.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 04

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Cable Cars in San Francisco

- 1 The history of the cable car, or cable tramway, in San Francisco is an interesting one. How did San Francisco become home to this unique mode of transportation?
- 2 Cable cars were invented before the automobile, in the days when horse-drawn streetcars were a popular and inexpensive form of public transportation. Actually, it was a man from Great Britain, named Andrew Hallidie, who is credited with inventing the cable-car system. One day, Hallidie saw a terrible accident involving a streetcar. This event appantly influenced his decision to try to find a safer way to transport people.
- 3 Hallidie thought he could use wire rope, which his father had invented, to make wire cables. Hallidie believed that the cables would be strong enough to pull the cable cars up the steep slopes of the city. As a result, Hallidie began making wire cables. Next, he needed someone to help him design the cars, and he also needed money to put the system in place. He hired William E. Eppelsheimer, a German engineer, to design the first cable-car line. Now he was ready to “go onboard.” Hallidie also needed a franchise to build the system. He obtained a franchise from a lawyer named Benjamin Brooks.
- 4 On August 2, 1873, only four years after witnessing the tragic streetcar accident, Hallidie himself drove the first cable car from Jones Street to Kearney Street by way of Clay Street. This line came to be known as the Clay Street Hill line. About one month after the test run, the Clay Street Hill line opened for public use (Kessler 21). From that point on, other lines opened in San Francisco as well as in other U.S. cities and cities overseas. San Francisco, , is the only city today where the cable car still operates.

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Sanchez, Mariam. San Francisco Cable Cars. San Francisco: Hills Press, 1998.
Thompson, Joe. “Clay Street Hill Railroad.” San Francisco Today. Jan. 2000. Online. Internet. 15 Oct. 2002.

Continue



Read this sentence.

San Francisco, _____, is the only city today where the cable car still operates

Which word or phrase could best provide a transition in this sentence that would unify its ideas with the previous sentence?

- ☐ A however
- ☐ B for example
- ☐ C as a result
- ☐ D nonetheless



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 05

The following is a rough draft of Kelsey's report. It contains errors.

Puppets

- 1 Many people have had the experience of taking an old sock, placing it over one hand, and suddenly having a puppet “come alive.” Because of the fascinating way that even the most simple puppet can instantly take on a personality, the art of puppetry has been around for a long time.
- 2 A puppet is a figure controlled by a person using rods, strings, or hand movements. While no one knows exactly when or where puppetry began, evidence shows that ancient civilizations may have used it long ago. Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.
- 3 There is four common types of puppets: shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes, and hand puppets. Each kind has its own features. The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard. When placed in front of a lighted screen, these figures create a silhouette, or shadow, for the audience to see. The puppets are quite memorable because their shadows are so intricate. Rod puppets are more lifelike figures. Thin rods are attached to the puppet's jointed arms and legs, as well as to its waist, so that the puppeteer can move the figure. The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate. Between three and thirty strings are needed to move each figure. Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.
- 4 Some puppets and puppeteers have become quite famous. Punch, from the Punch-and-Judy shows in Great Britain, was a well-known puppet as early as the seventeenth century. In modern times, puppets such as Kukla and Ollie (and their human friend Fran), Howdy Doody, Shari Lewis' Lamb Chop, and Jim Henson's Muppets have entertained and educated audiences of all ages.
- 5 Knowing that puppets have such a long history, you may never look at your sock puppet the same way again.

Continue



Which of the following questions did Kelsey most likely pursue in order to begin her research?

- ☐ A What is my favorite kind of puppet?
- ☐ B Are puppets popular with everyone?
- ☐ C How did puppets originate?
- ☐ D What are the most interesting puppets?



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 06

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
- 3 When she was young, Rachel Carson's mother encouraged her to study nature. As an adult, she became known as the mother of the modern environmental movement. After studying marine biology and zoology in college Carson worked as a government scientist and wrote several books on the interrelatedness of all living things. In 1951 her book *The Sea Around Us* made scientific knowledge about the sea accessible to the general reader and remained on the best-seller list for eighty-six weeks. In 1962 Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, a book that helped prompt reforms in the use of chemical pesticides.

Continue



4 Humanity has benefited greatly from the work of Marie Curie and Rachel Carson.

What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

Read this partial outline of the letter.

I. Introduction: women scientists

A. Marie Curie

1. Encouraged by her father

2. _____

3. Earned her doctorate

4. Awarded two Nobel Prizes

B. Rachel Carson

Which phrase completes the outline of paragraph 2 of the letter?

A Studied radioactivity

B Worked with X-rays

C Wrote books on the environment

D Laid the foundation for radiation treatment



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 07

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
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Continue



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What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

Which does the author use to support the belief that women have made many contributions to science?

- ☐ A statistics regarding the number of scientific discoveries made by women
- ☐ B facts about women who read articles on science
- ☐ C examples of women who made major scientific contributions
- ☐ D testimony from other scientists about discoveries made by women



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 08

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
- 3 When she was young, Rachel Carson's mother encouraged her to study nature. As an adult, she became known as the mother of the modern environmental movement. After studying marine biology and zoology in college Carson worked as a government scientist and wrote several books on the interrelatedness of all living things. In 1951 her book *The Sea Around Us* made scientific knowledge about the sea accessible to the general reader and remained on the best-seller list for eighty-six weeks. In 1962 Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, a book that helped prompt reforms in the use of chemical pesticides.

Continue



4 Humanity has benefited greatly from the work of Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

Read this sentence from paragraph 3 of the letter.

When she was young, Rachel Carson's mother encouraged her to study nature.

Which is the best revision of the sentence?

- A Rachel Carson's mother encouraged her to study nature when she was young.
- B When Rachel Carson was young, her mother encouraged her to study nature.
- C Rachel Carson's mother encouraged young Rachel Carson to study nature.
- D Encouraging Rachel Carson to study nature when she was young was her mother.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Proficient) – Question 09

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
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Continue



4 Humanity has benefited greatly from the work of Marie Curie and Rachel Carson.

What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

The author wants to inspire the reader to think about which question?

- A When did Rachel Carson work as a government scientist?
- B How can more women be encouraged to enter the field of science?
- C What types of professions are currently pursued by women?
- D Did Rachel Carson and Marie Curie use the same research methods?



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Writing Strategies (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 01

The following is a rough draft of Kelsey's report. It contains errors.

Puppets

- 1 Many people have had the experience of taking an old sock, placing it over one hand, and suddenly having a puppet “come alive.” Because of the fascinating way that even the most simple puppet can instantly take on a personality, the art of puppetry has been around for a long time.
- 2 A puppet is a figure controlled by a person using rods, strings, or hand movements. While no one knows exactly when or where puppetry began, evidence shows that ancient civilizations may have used it long ago. Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.
- 3 There is four common types of puppets: shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes, and hand puppets. Each kind has its own features. The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard. When placed in front of a lighted screen, these figures create a silhouette, or shadow, for the audience to see. The puppets are quite memorable because their shadows are so intricate. Rod puppets are more lifelike figures. Thin rods are attached to the puppet's jointed arms and legs, as well as to its waist, so that the puppeteer can move the figure. The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate. Between three and thirty strings are needed to move each figure. Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.
- 4 Some puppets and puppeteers have become quite famous. Punch, from the Punch-and-Judy shows in Great Britain, was a well-known puppet as early as the seventeenth century. In modern times, puppets such as Kukla and Ollie (and their human friend Fran), Howdy Doody, Shari Lewis' Lamb Chop, and Jim Henson's Muppets have entertained and educated audiences of all ages.
- 5 Knowing that puppets have such a long history, you may never look at your sock puppet the same way again.

Continue



Read this sentence.

Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.

Which word or phrase could best provide an effective transition between the two parts of the sentence?

- ☐ A in fact
- ☐ B even so
- ☐ C besides
- ☐ D additionally



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Advanced)

– Question 01

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

The underlined word in sentence 12 represents which grammatical part of the sentence?

- ☐ A simple subject
- ☐ B simple predicate
- ☐ C direct object
- ☐ D indirect object

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Advanced)

– Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's editorial. It contains errors.

Save the Oval Window!

- (1) The Oval Window, a lovely stained-glass window located in Hiram Public Library, is Hiram's most prestigious work of art. (2) This colorful window, unfortunately, is in great need of repair. (3) One civic-minded service group has stepped in to help save the Oval Window by selling sun catchers, small reproductions of the Oval Window. (4) The purchase of these sun catchers will help to fund the restoration of this glorious stained-glass window.
- (5) The Oval Window received extensive damage during last month's heavy rains. (6) Along with the recent damage, the already crumbling wooden framework should convince art and history enthusiasts to restore the Oval Window. (7) The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time by repair people. (8) Members of the Hiram County Service Society know that this task is painstaking and expensive! (9) The preservation must be accomplished so that the citizens of Hiram can enjoy this important part of Hiram's cultural heritage.
- (10) Think about the number of times visitors to Hiram Public Library have admired the stunning shades of ruby, topaz, and emerald cast on the floor by sunlight shining through the main window. (11) Now, people can enjoy those same colors at home by simply purchasing a sun catcher. (12) Imagine hanging a scale model of the famous Oval Window over a window wherever books are read. (13) The cascading light will almost make people think you are sitting in the library!
- (14) Remember, each purchase helps to preserve Hiram's Oval Window. (15) Customers can stop by the table in front of Hiram Public Library and purchase their own replica of the Oval Window. (16) Volunteers will remain at the table Monday through Saturday from 9:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon through the month of August. (17) Now everyone can enjoy and help save Hiram's greatest work of art.

Continue



Read this sentence from the editorial.

(7) The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time by repair people.

What is the best way to rewrite the sentence using consistent active voice?

- A Repair people must replace the entire frame of the window, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time.
- B The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and repair people must remove the stained glass pieces one by one.
- C Repair people must replace the entire frame of the window and remove the stained glass one piece at a time.
- D The stained glass pieces must be removed one at a time and the entire frame needs to be replaced, all by repair people.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Advanced)

– Question 03

The following is a rough draft of a student's editorial. It contains errors.

Save the Oval Window!

- (1) The Oval Window, a lovely stained-glass window located in Hiram Public Library, is Hiram's most prestigious work of art. (2) This colorful window, unfortunately, is in great need of repair. (3) One civic-minded service group has stepped in to help save the Oval Window by selling sun catchers, small reproductions of the Oval Window. (4) The purchase of these sun catchers will help to fund the restoration of this glorious stained-glass window.
- (5) The Oval Window received extensive damage during last month's heavy rains. (6) Along with the recent damage, the already crumbling wooden framework should convince art and history enthusiasts to restore the Oval Window. (7) The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time by repair people. (8) Members of the Hiram County Service Society know that this task is painstaking and expensive! (9) The preservation must be accomplished so that the citizens of Hiram can enjoy this important part of Hiram's cultural heritage.
- (10) Think about the number of times visitors to Hiram Public Library have admired the stunning shades of ruby, topaz, and emerald cast on the floor by sunlight shining through the main window. (11) Now, people can enjoy those same colors at home by simply purchasing a sun catcher. (12) Imagine hanging a scale model of the famous Oval Window over a window wherever books are read. (13) The cascading light will almost make people think you are sitting in the library!
- (14) Remember, each purchase helps to preserve Hiram's Oval Window. (15) Customers can stop by the table in front of Hiram Public Library and purchase their own replica of the Oval Window. (16) Volunteers will remain at the table Monday through Saturday from 9:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon through the month of August. (17) Now everyone can enjoy and help save Hiram's greatest work of art.

Continue



Read this sentence from the editorial.

(13) The cascading light will almost make people think you are sitting in the library!

Which word or words should be used to match the underlined pronoun to its antecedent?

A he or she

B they

C we

D I



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 01

Read this sentence.

The biggest earthquake on record is one that happened in 1964 in the city of Anchorage,
Alaska.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words?

A in the City Of Anchorage, Alaska

B in the City of Anchorage, Alaska

C in The City of Anchorage, Alaska

D Leave as is.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

What is the best way to write sentence 6?

- A It is important on the inside of your window to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- B It is important to do your decorating on the inside of your window because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- C Because rain may wash away outdoor painting, it is important on the inside of your window to do your decorating.
- D Leave as is.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 03

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Painting a Window

- (1) Decorating a window with a painted scene from nature might be of interest to you. (2) If you like to see nature outside your window, but you don't have a scene of real nature, you may want to try this idea. (3) Before you begin, be sure to ask your parents if it is okay.
- (4) The first step you should take is to purchase a paintbrush and powder paints in the colors that you enjoy. (5) When you have your supplies, mix the paints, place newspaper on your windowsill, and make sure your window is clean. (6) On the inside of your window, it is important to do your decorating because rain may wash away outdoor painting.
- (7) Use your imagination and begin painting a scene from nature on your window. (8) A sun, grass, trees, and flowers are good things to paint. (9) If you have a big window you may want to paint other things. (10) Painting people, balloons, and playground equipment on a window might be a fun idea. (11) When you are finished, stand back and look at your decorated window. (12) If you like the results, share the idea of window painting with someone else.

What is the best way to write the underlined part of sentence 9?

- ☐ A big window, you may want
- ☐ B big window. You may want
- ☐ C big window; you may want
- ☐ D Leave as is.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 04

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Cable Cars in San Francisco

- 1 The history of the cable car, or cable tramway, in San Francisco is an interesting one. How did San Francisco become home to this unique mode of transportation?
- 2 Cable cars were invented before the automobile, in the days when horse-drawn streetcars were a popular and inexpensive form of public transportation. Actually, it was a man from Great Britain, named Andrew Hallidie, who is credited with inventing the cable-car system. One day, Hallidie saw a terrible accident involving a streetcar. This event apparnly influenced his decision to try to find a safer way to transport people.
- 3 Hallidie thought he could use wire rope, which his father had invented, to make wire cables. Hallidie believed that the cables would be strong enough to pull the cable cars up the steep slopes of the city. As a result, Hallidie began making wire cables. Next, he needed someone to help him design the cars, and he also needed money to put the system in place. He hired William E. Eppelsheimer, a German engineer, to design the first cable-car line. Now he was ready to “go onboard.” Hallidie also needed a franchise to build the system. He obtained a franchise from a lawyer named Benjamin Brooks.
- 4 On August 2, 1873, only four years after witnessing the tragic streetcar accident, Hallidie himself drove the first cable car from Jones Street to Kearney Street by way of Clay Street. This line came to be known as the Clay Street Hill line. About one month after the test run, the Clay Street Hill line opened for public use (Kessler 21). From that point on, other lines opened in San Francisco as well as in other U.S. cities and cities overseas. San Francisco, , is the only city today where the cable car still operates.

Works Cited

- Kessler, Thomas. “Early Cable Car History.” SF Cable Cars. Online. Internet. 10 Oct. 2002.
- Sanchez, Mariam. San Francisco Cable Cars. San Francisco: Hills Press, 1998.
- Thompson, Joe. “Clay Street Hill Railroad.” San Francisco Today. Jan. 2000. Online. Internet. 15 Oct. 2002.

Continue 

Read this sentence.

Hallidie believed that the cables would be strong enough to pull the cable cars up the steep slopes of the city.

Which words from this sentence are adjectives?

- A strong, steep
- B would, enough
- C slopes, city
- D believed, pull



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 05

The following is a rough draft of Kelsey's report. It contains errors.

Puppets

- 1 Many people have had the experience of taking an old sock, placing it over one hand, and suddenly having a puppet “come alive.” Because of the fascinating way that even the most simple puppet can instantly take on a personality, the art of puppetry has been around for a long time.
- 2 A puppet is a figure controlled by a person using rods, strings, or hand movements. While no one knows exactly when or where puppetry began, evidence shows that ancient civilizations may have used it long ago. Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.
- 3 There is four common types of puppets: shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes, and hand puppets. Each kind has its own features. The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard. When placed in front of a lighted screen, these figures create a silhouette, or shadow, for the audience to see. The puppets are quite memorable because their shadows are so intricate. Rod puppets are more lifelike figures. Thin rods are attached to the puppet's jointed arms and legs, as well as to its waist, so that the puppeteer can move the figure. The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate. Between three and thirty strings are needed to move each figure. Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.
- 4 Some puppets and puppeteers have become quite famous. Punch, from the Punch-and-Judy shows in Great Britain, was a well-known puppet as early as the seventeenth century. In modern times, puppets such as Kukla and Ollie (and their human friend Fran), Howdy Doody, Shari Lewis' Lamb Chop, and Jim Henson's Muppets have entertained and educated audiences of all ages.
- 5 Knowing that puppets have such a long history, you may never look at your sock puppet the same way again.

Continue



Read this sentence.

The puppets are quite memorable because
their shadows are so intricate.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

- ☐ A quite
- ☐ B memorable
- ☐ C their
- ☐ D intricate



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Proficient)

– Question 06

The following is a rough draft of a student's editorial. It contains errors.

Save the Oval Window!

- (1) The Oval Window, a lovely stained-glass window located in Hiram Public Library, is Hiram's most prestigious work of art. (2) This colorful window, unfortunately, is in great need of repair. (3) One civic-minded service group has stepped in to help save the Oval Window by selling sun catchers, small reproductions of the Oval Window. (4) The purchase of these sun catchers will help to fund the restoration of this glorious stained-glass window.
- (5) The Oval Window received extensive damage during last month's heavy rains. (6) Along with the recent damage, the already crumbling wooden framework should convince art and history enthusiasts to restore the Oval Window. (7) The entire frame of the window has to be replaced, and the stained glass must be removed one piece at a time by repair people. (8) Members of the Hiram County Service Society know that this task is painstaking and expensive! (9) The preservation must be accomplished so that the citizens of Hiram can enjoy this important part of Hiram's cultural heritage.
- (10) Think about the number of times visitors to Hiram Public Library have admired the stunning shades of ruby, topaz, and emerald cast on the floor by sunlight shining through the main window. (11) Now, people can enjoy those same colors at home by simply purchasing a sun catcher. (12) Imagine hanging a scale model of the famous Oval Window over a window wherever books are read. (13) The cascading light will almost make people think you are sitting in the library!
- (14) Remember, each purchase helps to preserve Hiram's Oval Window. (15) Customers can stop by the table in front of Hiram Public Library and purchase their own replica of the Oval Window. (16) Volunteers will remain at the table Monday through Saturday from 9:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the afternoon through the month of August. (17) Now everyone can enjoy and help save Hiram's greatest work of art.

Continue



Read this sentence from the editorial.

(4) The purchase of these sun catchers
will help to fund the restoration of this
glorious stained-glass window.

What part of speech is the underlined word in the sentence?

- ☐ A conjunction
- ☐ B adjective
- ☐ C preposition
- ☐ D adverb



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 01

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Fame for Shame

- (1) Sometimes I turn on the television and see people making fools of themselves. (2) I wonder why they're willing to do this. (3) Is being seen so precious to these people that they don't even care what others think of them? (4) Do they think having their face on TV for a few minutes makes them famous, as though they had actually accomplished something worthwhile?
- (5) Are some people willing to look ridiculous merely for financial gain? (6) Many talk shows don't pay people to appear; in those instances, money is not a motive. (7) Other shows put people through horrible competitions, and in the end, only one person ends up with a big amount of cash. (8) The other contestants go home with nothing but faces that, to some, will be recognizable. (9) Is this such a great prize?
- (10) I just can't understand being eager to give one's privacy away. (11) If you have a talent and want to use it to reach others in a positive way, that's one thing being a great performer or creative artist can involve being seen and having people recognize your face. (12) Some people, though, will want to know about your private life, even if it has nothing to do with your work.
- (13) I've heard this lack of privacy called "the price of fame." (14) As these words suggest, being famous has a cost—something you must give up in order to gain something you desire. (15) Isn't shame too high a price to pay, though—especially when you get hardly anything in return?

Continue



What is the correct way to spell the underlined word in sentence 5?

- A finansial
- B financial
- C financial
- D Leave as is.



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 02

The following is a rough draft of a student's report, which may contain errors.

Composting: Another Form of Recycling

- (1) Recycling can mean much more than aluminum cans, paper, and plastic. (2) Did you know that you can recycle much of your kitchen waste as well? (3) Not only that, but you can provide amazing help to your garden along the way! (4) It is called composting, and it is very easy to do.
- (5) When you compost, you put all organic material, except for anything containing animal fat, into a pile where natural bacteria begin the process of decomposition. (6) Items to put into your compost include: vegetable and fruit scraps, grass clippings, leaves, and even coffee grounds.
- (7) It is a good idea to "turn" your compost pile occasionally. (8) This process introduces oxygen into the pile, which is beneficial to the bacteria. (9) Also, keep your pile moist, about as moist as a damp sponge. (10) When it has become a dark brown color and has a composition like dirt,

Which version of sentence 11 uses correct grammar?

- A You won't hardly believe the results.
- B You're results will be thrilling.
- C You will enjoy the results alot.
- D You will be thrilled by the results.

Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 03

The following is a rough draft of a student's report. It contains errors.

Cable Cars in San Francisco

- 1 The history of the cable car, or cable tramway, in San Francisco is an interesting one. How did San Francisco become home to this unique mode of transportation?
- 2 Cable cars were invented before the automobile, in the days when horse-drawn streetcars were a popular and inexpensive form of public transportation. Actually, it was a man from Great Britain, named Andrew Hallidie, who is credited with inventing the cable-car system. One day, Hallidie saw a terrible accident involving a streetcar. This event appantly influenced his decision to try to find a safer way to transport people.
- 3 Hallidie thought he could use wire rope, which his father had invented, to make wire cables. Hallidie believed that the cables would be strong enough to pull the cable cars up the steep slopes of the city. As a result, Hallidie began making wire cables. Next, he needed someone to help him design the cars, and he also needed money to put the system in place. He hired William E. Eppelsheimer, a German engineer, to design the first cable-car line. Now he was ready to “go onboard.” Hallidie also needed a franchise to build the system. He obtained a franchise from a lawyer named Benjamin Brooks.
- 4 On August 2, 1873, only four years after witnessing the tragic streetcar accident, Hallidie himself drove the first cable car from Jones Street to Kearney Street by way of Clay Street. This line came to be known as the Clay Street Hill line. About one month after the test run, the Clay Street Hill line opened for public use (Kessler 21). From that point on, other lines opened in San Francisco as well as in other U.S. cities and cities overseas. San Francisco, , is the only city today where the cable car still operates.

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- Thompson, Joe. “Clay Street Hill Railroad.” San Francisco Today. Jan. 2000. Online. Internet. 15 Oct. 2002.

Continue



Read this sentence.

This event apparnltly influenced his decision
to try to find a safer way to transport people.

Which underlined word is spelled incorrectly?

- A apparnltly
- B influenced
- C decision
- D transport



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 04

The following is a rough draft of Kelsey's report. It contains errors.

Puppets

- 1 Many people have had the experience of taking an old sock, placing it over one hand, and suddenly having a puppet “come alive.” Because of the fascinating way that even the most simple puppet can instantly take on a personality, the art of puppetry has been around for a long time.
- 2 A puppet is a figure controlled by a person using rods, strings, or hand movements. While no one knows exactly when or where puppetry began, evidence shows that ancient civilizations may have used it long ago. Puppet theaters can be traced back to ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, and China; _____, some people believe that puppet theaters may have been the first theater of any kind.
- 3 There is four common types of puppets: shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes, and hand puppets. Each kind has its own features. The Chinese used shadow figures made of animal skins or cardboard. When placed in front of a lighted screen, these figures create a silhouette, or shadow, for the audience to see. The puppets are quite memorable because their shadows are so intricate. Rod puppets are more lifelike figures. Thin rods are attached to the puppet's jointed arms and legs, as well as to its waist, so that the puppeteer can move the figure. The third kind of puppet, the marionette, is difficult to manipulate. Between three and thirty strings are needed to move each figure. Hand puppets are the fourth type of puppet.
- 4 Some puppets and puppeteers have become quite famous. Punch, from the Punch-and-Judy shows in Great Britain, was a well-known puppet as early as the seventeenth century. In modern times, puppets such as Kukla and Ollie (and their human friend Fran), Howdy Doody, Shari Lewis' Lamb Chop, and Jim Henson's Muppets have entertained and educated audiences of all ages.
- 5 Knowing that puppets have such a long history, you may never look at your sock puppet the same way again.

Continue



Read this sentence.

There is four common types of puppets:
shadow figures, rod puppets, marionettes,
and hand puppets.

What is the correct way to write the underlined words?

- ☐ A Their is
- ☐ B There are
- ☐ C Their are
- ☐ D They're



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 05

The following is a rough draft of a student's editorial. It contains errors.

Save the Oval Window!

- (1) The Oval Window, a lovely stained-glass window located in Hiram Public Library, is Hiram's most prestigious work of art. (2) This colorful window, unfortunately, is in great need of repair. (3) One civic-minded service group has stepped in to help save the Oval Window by selling sun catchers, small reproductions of the Oval Window. (4) The purchase of these sun catchers will help to fund the restoration of this glorious stained-glass window.
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Continue



Read this sentence from the editorial.

(9) The presurvation must be
accomplished so that the citizens of Hiram
can enjoy this important part of Hiram's
cultural heritage.

Which of the underlined words is spelled incorrectly?

- ☐ A presurvation
- ☐ B accomplished
- ☐ C cultural
- ☐ D heritage



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 06

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
- 3 When she was young, Rachel Carson's mother encouraged her to study nature. As an adult, she became known as the mother of the modern environmental movement. After studying marine biology and zoology in college Carson worked as a government scientist and wrote several books on the interrelatedness of all living things. In 1951 her book *The Sea Around Us* made scientific knowledge about the sea accessible to the general reader and remained on the best-seller list for eighty-six weeks. In 1962 Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, a book that helped prompt reforms in the use of chemical pesticides.

Continue



4 Humanity has benefited greatly from the work of Marie Curie and Rachel Carson.

What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

Read this sentence from paragraph 1 of the letter.

More young women may choose science
as a profession if women read featured
articles on female scientists like Marie Curie
and Rachel Carson.

Which word should replace the underlined word in the sentence?

- ☐ A we
- ☐ B she
- ☐ C her
- ☐ D they



Grade 7: English-Language Arts

Written and Oral English Language Conventions (Performance Level: Basic) – Question 07

The following is a rough draft of a student's letter to an editor of a magazine. It contains errors.

Dear Editor:

- 1 Please publish more articles about women scientists. Women scientists have made outstanding contributions to the world. These women make excellent role models. More young women may choose science as a profession if women read featured articles on female scientists like Marie Curie and Rachel Carson. Both women were encouraged to study science, and they both accomplished great things.
- 2 With her father's encouragement, Marie Curie made the world a better place through her scientific accomplishments. She studied the emission of rays from uranium, a property she called "radioactivity." Later, Curie and her husband, also a scientist, processed the mineral pitchblende before isolating two radioactive elements. With this discovery, Marie Curie earned her doctorate, and shortly thereafter, both she and her husband were awarded the 1903 Nobel Prize in physics. In 1911 Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for her work with the newly discovered elements; this work laid the foundation for X-rays and atomic physics.
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Continue



4 Humanity has benefited greatly from the work of Marie Curie and Rachel Carson.

What if these women had not been encouraged to become scientists? I believe that we need to influence young women to enter the field of science. With that goal in mind, I encourage your magazine to publish more articles about the contributions that women make to science.

Sincerely,

Annie Bastien, Grade 7
Capistrano Middle School

Read this sentence from paragraph 3 of the letter.

After studying marine biology and zoology
in college Carson worked as a government
scientist and wrote several books on the
interrelatedness of all living things.

What is the correct punctuation for the underlined part of the sentence?

- ☐ A college; Carson worked
- ☐ B college, Carson worked
- ☐ C college: Carson worked
- ☐ D college . . . Carson worked

