



ENGLISH

Public Release 2009

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Session 1

Sample A

Read these sentences from the story.

But when I returned to class, I slipped the jacket on and shivered until I was warm. I sat on my hands, heating them up, while my teeth chattered like a cup of crooked dice.

Which of these words is used as a modifier in these sentences?

- A slipped
- B shivered
- C chattered
- D crooked

Sample B

Read the following sentences from a student summary of "The Tree."

1. The tree is old and has a scar.
2. Father wants to move the tree.
3. The tree is planted in sandy soil.

Which of these most effectively combines the ideas into one sentence?

- F Planted in sandy soil, Father wants to move the old, scarred tree.
- G The old, scarred tree is planted in sandy soil, which Father wants to move.
- H Father wants to move the old, scarred tree, which is planted in sandy soil.
- J The old tree has a scar and is planted in sandy soil so Father wants to move it.



Directions

Read the story "Nonrepresentational Art." Then answer Numbers 1 through 6.

Nonrepresentational Art

by Bailey White

My sister, Louise, thinks our mother should get out more, broaden her views, and lead a rich, full life. I myself am content to let her sit in her reclining chair all day, reading the UFO newsletter, listening to the radio, and drawing conclusions. For one thing, it's hard for her to get around, and for another, she startles people sometimes with her bloodcurdling solutions for the world's problems.

So it was my sister's idea for us all to go to supper at the house of an artist friend of hers, and afterward to an opening at an art gallery where one of his paintings was part of a juried exhibit.¹

3 Louise, who is a great believer in the benefits of physical exercise, had the idea that it would be a pleasant excursion for us to walk from her house across Tallahassee² to her friend's house. She had even gone so far as to rent a wheelchair for our mother, who can walk, but not that far and not at the pace my sister thinks provides the most aerobic³ benefit. We settled Mama into the wheelchair and loaded her down with both our pocketbooks and a vase of flowers I had

picked to present to our host in hopes of softening the effects of any opinions Mama might vent during the evening. Louise got a grip on the handles, and off we went.

Tallahassee is an Indian word meaning "City of Seven Hills." Louise set the pace at what I considered breakneck speed—a "fitness walk" she called it. Mama hung on to the armrests of the wheelchair with both hands and clamped the vase of flowers between her knees. Every block or so I would sprint around to the front of the chair to see how she was doing. Her little face peered out grimly from behind the bobbing daisies, and her knuckles were white. Every time Louise would swoop her down one of those wheelchair-accessible curbs, a dollop⁴ of water would fly out of the vase and plop into her lap.

About halfway there Louise began giving Mama a breathless little preparatory lecture on the sort of art we were likely to see.

"What?" shouted Mama. "I can't hear you with this wind whistling around my ears."

"Nonrepresentational art!" my sister repeated.

¹**juried exhibit:** an exhibit in which only works of art approved by a jury or panel of artists are displayed

²**Tallahassee:** capital of Florida

³**aerobic:** that which strengthens the cardiovascular system

⁴**dollop:** splash



Mama's favorite pictures are all of cows—Holstein or Jersey cows in sunny fields.

"That means no cows, Mama!" I yelled.

"Or if there are cows, you won't be able to tell it," Louise explained, puffing up the seventh hill.

11 We arrived. Mama rose from the wheelchair and swept up to the door with her walking stick in full play. Louise and I hung back to catch our breath and straighten our clothing. Mama handed our host the flowers and said, "My daughters are maniacs."

12 Supper was elegant, but not substantial—little dabs of pink-and-white food on lettuce leaves. Mama pulled a saltshaker out of her pocket and gave everything on her plate a heavy sprinkling. The artist-host watched, mesmerized. It was like a little snowstorm.

On the way to the gallery Mama sat in the front with our host, and Louise and I sat in back. Mama was telling him all about Holstein cows. We were proud to see that his picture had won first place. It was a small watercolor, with streaks of light green and tan. It might have been a tiger in sunlight, but this being Florida, I thought

more of a palmetto frond. Louise and I looked carefully at all the pictures. Then we wandered out onto the porch, where we found Mama and the artist sitting in chairs and talking.

I could tell from the fully present look of the top of his glowing bald head that Mama was describing her invention of a cure for male-pattern baldness. She calls it "the axillary transplant." After a while we all headed back to Louise's house. The artist seemed a little distracted as he helped us unload Mama's wheelchair and then shook her hand. We told him good-night, and congratulations.

Driving Mama home from my sister's house, I wondered what that nonrepresentational artist would dream about that night as he lay in bed with the top of his head tingling. Probably he would dream about his prize-winning painting at the art gallery. But just maybe in his dreams, those dim green-and-tan vegetable tigers will melt away, and in their place will stand a herd of Holsteins in a sunny field, with all the light and all the shadows in the world seeping out of the black and white of those cows.

I can't wait for his next exhibit.

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- 1** Read this sentence from paragraph 3 of the story.

Louise, who is a great believer in the benefits of physical exercise, had the idea that it would be a pleasant excursion for us to walk from her house across Tallahassee to her friend's house.

The narrator most likely uses the words "pleasant excursion" in this sentence to suggest that her sister's idea is

- A brilliant
- B insightful
- C ridiculous
- D scary

- 2** Mama can best be described as

- F considerate
- G easy going
- H irritable
- J outspoken

- 3** Read the following sentence from paragraph 11 of the story.

Mama rose from the wheelchair and swept up to the door with her walking stick in full play.

The author uses the word *swept* instead of *walked* mostly to emphasize

- A the confidence of Mama's actions
- B the difficulty of Mama's movements
- C Mama's desire to meet their dinner host
- D Mama's renewed energy after the brisk walk





4 Mama calls her daughters *maniacs* in paragraph 11 because of their

- F unusual taste in art
- G haste to get across town
- H obvious lack of manners
- J decision to bring flowers

5 Read paragraph 12 of the story.

Supper was elegant, but not substantial—little dabs of pink-and-white food on lettuce leaves. Mama pulled a saltshaker out of her pocket and gave everything on her plate a heavy sprinkling. The artist-host watched, mesmerized. It was like a little snowstorm.

The author includes the details in these sentences most likely to show Mama's

- A dislike of ordinary food
- B discomfort in a new setting
- C disregard for appropriate behavior
- D disloyalty to her daughter's friend

6 In paragraph 14, the artist is distracted because he is most likely thinking about

- F giving Mama a ride home
- G his plans for his next exhibit
- H accepting his first-place award
- J his strange conversation with Mama



D

irections

After reading poems and essays about the natural world, students in Mrs. Edwards' English class wrote essays about nature. Numbers 7 through 9 are about activities the students completed while planning and researching their essays.

7 George decided to write about the birds he can see in his neighborhood. Which of these resources would most likely provide information to help him with his topic?

- A *The American Wildlife Encyclopedia*
- B *Biology: Understanding Nature in Maryland*
- C *Scientific Research: American Migratory Birds*
- D *The North American Birdwatcher's Guide Book*

8 George identified the following topics to include in his essay.

- common behaviors of birds
- enjoyment of bird watching

Which of these topics would be most appropriate for George to add to his list?

- F most interesting birds
- G birds in national forests
- H global warming and birds
- J titles of books about birds



9

Daniel, another student, wanted to learn about trees in the Baltimore area. Following which of these Internet links would most likely help Daniel locate the information he needs?

- A Tree Conservation
Threats to certain species of trees
- B Trees of Time and Place
Ways to encourage everyone to collect and plant tree seedlings
- C Tree Varieties and Distribution
Information about trees, organized by region, species, and subspecies
- D Trees in the Garden
Best bets and useful advice on planting, pruning, and general care of most trees



Directions

For Numbers 10 through 12, each sentence or statement needs to be revised for a new tone, purpose, or audience. Read the sentence or statement in bold print. Then choose the sentence that best incorporates the necessary revisions and maintains the meaning of the original sentence or statement.

- 10** People are irritating when they listen to their favorite kind of music but won't listen to other types of music.

Revise to the least critical tone.

- F People can annoy others when they listen only to their favorite music but won't listen to other types of music.
- G People are in danger of angering others when they insist on their favorite music despite other available music.
- H People who like a certain kind of music should be willing to recognize the value of other types of music as well.
- J People can be considered narrow-minded when they refuse to consider other types of music besides their own favorite tunes.

- 11** White light that hits a prism changes into colors ranging from red to violet.

Revise to the most descriptive style.

- A When a beam of white light strikes a prism, colors ranging from red to violet are created.
- B A beam of white light that goes through a prism breaks into different colors ranging from red to violet.
- C When white light moves through a prism, the beam is broken into colors that range from red to violet.
- D As a beam of white light passes through a prism, it spreads out in a rainbow of colors that range from red to violet.

- 12** While strolling through the woods, I noticed that leaves were turning red, yellow, and gold, signaling that autumn was upon us.

Revise for a younger audience.

- F As I walked through the woods, I knew that fall had arrived because I saw that the leaves were turning red, yellow, and gold.
- G The red, yellow, and gold leaves, which I acknowledged as I walked through the woods, announced that fall was here.
- H Wandering through the woods, I knew fall had begun, for the leaves were turning various colors of red, yellow, and gold.
- J Fall announced its presence in the red, yellow, and gold colors of the leaves, which I noticed while roaming through the woods.

Directions

Read the poem "The Gift." Then answer Numbers 13 through 16.

THE GIFT

by Li-Young Lee

To pull the metal splinter from my palm
 my father recited a story in a low voice.
 I watched his lovely face and not the blade.
 Before the story ended, he'd removed
 the iron sliver I thought I'd die from. 5
 I can't remember the tale,
 but hear his voice still, a well
 of dark water, a prayer.
 And I recall his hands,
 two measures of tenderness 10
 he laid against my face,
 the flames of discipline
 he raised above my head.
 Had you entered that afternoon
 you would have thought you saw a man 15
 planting something in a boy's palm,
 a silver tear, a tiny flame.
 Had you followed that boy
 you would have arrived here,
 where I bend over my wife's right hand. 20
 Look how I shave her thumbnail down
 so carefully she feels no pain.
 Watch as I lift the splinter out.
 I was seven when my father
 took my hand like this, 25
 and I did not hold that shard



between my fingers and think,
Metal that will bury me,
christen it Little Assassin,
Ore Going Deep for My Heart. 30
And I did not lift up my wound and cry,
Death visited here!
I did what a child does
when he's given something to keep.
I kissed my father. 35

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13 Which statement is most closely related to a theme of the poem?

- A Children exaggerate the pain of small injuries.
- B Parents distract children by telling them stories.
- C The wisdom of children helps to put things in focus.
- D Childhood memories gain added meaning over time.

14 Read lines 6 through 8 from the poem.

I can't remember the tale,
but hear his voice still, a well
of dark water, a prayer.

The images in these lines mostly suggest that

- F the speaker's father did not often tell stories
- G the speaker was once soothed by the words of his father
- H the speaker was confused about his father's behavior
- J the speaker's father scolded him when removing the splinter





15 In lines 20 through 23, the speaker most likely mentions the splinter in his wife's hand to show

- A his wife's appreciation of his kindness
- B the foolishness of his childhood fears
- C the connection between his past and present
- D his concern that the splinter would cause his wife pain

16 Read the following lines from the poem.

And I recall his hands,
two measures of tenderness
he laid against my face,

In these lines, the word *measures* is used as a

- F noun
- G verb
- H modifier
- J conjunction



Session **2**



Directions

Read this excerpt from the first chapter of *The Sea of Grass*, a novel set in New Mexico in the late 1800s. Then answer Numbers 17 through 23.



That lusty pioneer blood is tamed now, broken and gelded¹ like the wild horse and the frontier settlement. And I think that I shall never see it flowing through human veins again as it did in my Uncle Jim Brewton riding a lathered horse across his shaggy range or standing in his massive ranch house, bare of furniture as a garret,² and holding together his empire of grass and cattle by the fire in his eyes.

His rude empire is dead and quartered today like a steer on the meat-block, but I still lie in bed at night and see it tossing, pitching, leaping in the golden sunlight of more than fifty years ago, sweeping up to his very door, stretching a hundred and twenty miles north and south along the river, and rolling as far into the sunset as stock could roam—a ranch larger than Massachusetts with Connecticut thrown in, his fabulous herds of Texas cattle sprinkled like grains of cinnamon across the horizons, his name a legend even then, his brand familiar as the A B C's in every packing-house, and his word the law, not dead sentences in a book, but a moving finger

writing on a cottonwood tree where all who rode could very plainly read.

I can see his bedroom, just a bunk in the corner, with a fancy horsehair bridle and ropes on the wall, and a brown buckskin partly cut away in strips for whang leather. And I can see his huge parlor, without rugs or furniture, piled to the pine rafters with white sacks of flour and burlapped hills of sugar and green coffee, and wooden buttes³ of boxed tobacco, dried fruits, and canned tomatoes, just the provisions for his hundred hands and everyone else who passed that way, rancher or cowboy, settler or prospector, Mexican, Indian, or outlaw, all welcome at his table.

But what moves across my eye unforgettably is his spring roundup when six or seven wagons working back from the Arizona line reached the headquarters range with a vast, almost mythical herd the like of which will never be seen in this country again. Farther than the eye could strain through the dust, the grass was colored with milling cattle, while bulls rode and fought, and cows and calves bawled,⁴

¹gelded: weakened, made more manageable

²garret: small room on the top floor of a house; attic

³buttes: hills; mounds

⁴bawled: cried or sobbed loudly





and countless horns clacked, and sixty or seventy of us kept saddling fresh mounts and galloping here and there in a stirring, daylong excitement.

5 The free wild life we lived on that shaggy prairie was to me the life of the gods. And that there should be anyone who would not love it as we did, who should even hate it passionately and secretly, and yet the memory of whose delicate presence in that violent land still stirs me with emotion after fifty years, had not occurred to me then. But I was only a boy whose face had never known a razor, in a pair of California britches turned up to let my boots into the stirrups, that early fall day I rode with rebellious young back to Salt Fork to be shipped off to Missouri to school before my uncle would fetch back to the ranch the scarcest article in the territory, a woman, the one we had never seen, who was coming all the way from St. Louis to marry him.

6 At the edge of town I scowled⁵ at an encampment of settlers' tents and wagons, the largest I remembered. They seemed to be waiting for something. Then I rode up to the hotel and heard someone say that the telegraph line was open after having been cut again.

⁵**scowled:** frowned; gave a look of anger

"I'm going to let it to you, Hal, to see the Colonel gets this," the red-faced station agent told me mysteriously.

He handed me a sheet of unfolded gray paper, the writing in pencil and dated at St. Louis nearly a week before. It was, I think, the first telegram I had ever seen and for a moment I had the impression that the paper itself had come in some up-to-date manner over the telegraph wire and that the execrable⁶ writing was that of this woman who had signed it Lutie and who said with love that she was not stopping off in Denver as she had planned but would arrive in Salt Fork on a morning I knew was tomorrow.

I had not seen my uncle for more than two weeks, and with the telegram unpleasant as a perfumed handkerchief in my pocket, I rode down to the shipping corrals, half expecting to see his herd of fall beef steers come sweeping down off the sand hills into town like the Rio Grande running bank-full after the summer rains, washing across the tracks, flooding the stockpens and overflowing along the riverbank from where, until shipped, they would fill the town night and day with their bawling.

⁶**execrable:** extremely inferior; very bad

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17 After reading the excerpt, a reader can conclude that the narrator

- A enjoys running errands for his Uncle Jim
- B regrets the loss of a way of life he knew as a youth
- C is not impressed by the new technology of the time
- D is excited about meeting his Uncle Jim's bride-to-be

18 Which of these details from the description of the ranch house best suggests that the ranch house is plain?

- F massive ranch house
- G huge parlor, without rugs or furniture
- H fancy horsehair bridle and ropes on the wall
- J wooden buttes of boxed tobacco, dried fruits, and canned tomatoes

19 Read this sentence from the excerpt.

And I think that I shall never see it flowing through human veins again as it did in my Uncle Jim Brewton riding a lathered horse . . . and holding together his empire of grass and cattle by the fire in his eyes.

The phrase "fire in his eyes" suggests that Uncle Jim is

- A angry
- B brave
- C determined
- D impatient

20 Read this sentence from paragraph 5.

The free wild life we lived on that shaggy prairie was to me the life of the gods.

The words in this sentence suggest that the prairie was

- F ancient
- G dirty
- H unpleasant
- J untamed





21 According to information in paragraph 6, what is the narrator's attitude toward the settlers?

- A He fears them.
- B He distrusts them.
- C He is bored by them.
- D He is curious about them.

22 Reading this excerpt would most likely encourage a reader to

- F question why people marry
- G respect the authority of older relatives
- H appreciate the value of attending school
- J understand the lost freedom of the frontier

23 Read these sentences related to the excerpt.

1. Hal's Uncle Jim owned a ranch.
2. The ranch was in New Mexico.
3. The ranch was bigger than two small states combined.

Which of these most effectively combines the ideas into one sentence?

- A Hal's Uncle Jim owned a ranch in New Mexico bigger than two small states combined.
- B Bigger than two small states combined, Hal's Uncle Jim owned a ranch in New Mexico.
- C The ranch Hal's Uncle Jim owned was bigger than two small states combined in New Mexico.
- D Hal's Uncle Jim, who owned a ranch in New Mexico, was bigger than two small states combined.





Directions

Read the poem "The Armful." Then answer Numbers 24 through 26.

The Armful

For every parcel I stoop down to seize,
I lose some other off my arms and knees,
And the whole pile is slipping, bottles, buns,
Extremes too hard to comprehend at once,
Yet nothing I should care to leave behind. 5
With all I have to hold with, hand and mind
And heart, if need be, I will do my best
To keep their building balanced at my breast.
I crouch down to prevent them as they fall;
Then sit down in the middle of them all. 10
I had to drop the armful in the road
And try to stack them in a better load.

—Robert Frost

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24 The speaker in the poem most likely feels that sometimes challenges and responsibilities

- F should be abandoned
- G require a new approach
- H offer too many possibilities
- J are negative influences in life

25 The poem “The Armful” mostly develops the theme of

- A trying to manage the demands of life
- B facing disappointment without bitterness
- C remaining enthusiastic while pursuing goals
- D learning to accept responsibility for mistakes

26 Which word best describes the speaker’s tone in the poem?

- F apologetic
- G determined
- H humorous
- J suspenseful

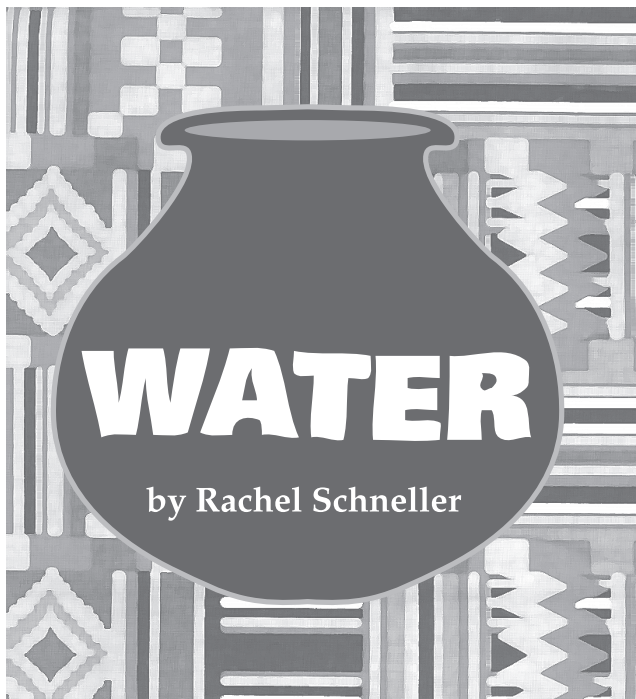




Directions

Read the essay "Water." Then answer Numbers 27 through 31.

Rachel Schneller was a Peace Corps volunteer in Mali, West Africa, from 1996 to 1998. In her essay "Water," Schneller describes her experiences while working in a West African village.



When a woman carries water on her head, you see her neck bend outward behind her like a crossbow. Ten liters of water weighs twenty-two pounds, a fifth of a woman's body weight, and I've seen women carry at least twenty liters in aluminum pots large enough to hold a television set.

To get the water from the cement floor surrounding the outdoor hand pump to the top of your head, you need help from the other women. You and another woman grab the pot's edges and lift it straight up between you. When you get it to the head height, you duck underneath the pot and place it on the wad of rolled-up cloth you

always wear there when fetching water. This is the cushion between your skull and the metal pot full of water. Then your friend lets go. You spend a few seconds finding your balance. Then with one hand steadying the load, turn around and start your way home. It might be a twenty-minute walk through mud huts and donkey manure. All of this is done without words.

It is an action repeated so many times during the day that even though I have never carried water on my head, I know exactly how it is done.

Do not worry that no one will be at the pump to help you. The pump is the only source of clean drinking water for the village of three thousand people. Your family, your husband and children rely on the water on your head; maybe ten people will drink the water you carry. Pump water, everyone knows, is clean. Drinking well water will make you sick. Every month, people here die from diarrhea and dehydration. The pump is also where you hear gossip from the women who live on the other side of the village. Your trip to the pump may be your only excuse for going outside of your family's Muslim home alone.

When a woman finds her balance under forty pounds of water, I see her eyes roll to the corners in concentration. Her head makes the small movements of the hands of someone driving a car: constant correction. The biggest challenge is to turn all the way





around from the pump to go home again. It is a small portion of the ocean, and it swirls and lurches on her head with long movements.

It looks painful and complicated and horrible for the posture and unhealthy for the vertebrae, but I wish I could do it. I have lived in this West African village for two years, but cannot even balance something solid, like a mango, on my head, let alone a pot filled with liquid.

When I lug my ten liter plastic jug of water to my house by hand, it is only a hundred meters, but the container is heavy and unwieldy. Changing the jug from one hand to the other helps, but it is a change necessary every twenty meters. Handles do not balance. On your head, the water is symmetrical like the star on top of a Christmas tree. Because my life has never depended on it, I have never learned to balance.

“Water” by Rachel Schneller from <http://www.peacecorpwriters.org>. Copyright © 1998 by Rachel Schneller. Used by permission of Peace Corp Writers.

27 Which of these topics would be best to discuss to help a reader prepare to understand the essay?

- A the illnesses caused by impure water
- B the origin of the Peace Corps program
- C traditional ceremonies in West African villages
- D challenging living conditions in some places

28 According to the essay, for many women in the village, the daily visits to the water pump

- F are an opportunity for social interaction
- G are a way of demonstrating physical strength
- H present a health risk due to contamination
- J improve the relationships among family members





- 29** Read this sentence from the first paragraph of the essay.

Ten liters of water weighs twenty-two pounds, a fifth of a woman's body weight, and I've seen women carry at least twenty liters in aluminum pots large enough to hold a television set.

The author most likely uses the phrase "aluminum pots large enough to hold a television set" to

- A** emphasize the amount and weight of the water
- B** stress the importance of using appropriate equipment
- C** focus on how discouraging it must be to attempt this job
- D** contrast the use of primitive methods to modern technology

- 30** Read these sentences related to the essay "Water."

1. People need safe drinking water.
2. Survival depends on safe drinking water.
3. Safe drinking water is increasingly difficult to find.

Which of these most effectively combines the ideas into one sentence?

- F** Finding safe drinking water is increasingly difficult when people depend on it for survival.
- G** For survival, people depend on safe drinking water, since it is becoming increasingly difficult to find.
- H** Because safe drinking water is increasingly difficult to find, people depend on it for survival.
- J** People need safe drinking water to survive, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to find.



31 Carefully examine the details of the photograph below.



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Which of these sentences from the essay “Water” is best supported by the details in the photograph?

- A It is an action repeated so many times during the day that even though I have never carried water on my head, I know exactly how it is done. (paragraph 3)
- B The pump is also where you hear gossip from the women who live on the other side of the village. (paragraph 4)
- C It is a small portion of the ocean, and it swirls and lurches on her head with long movements. (paragraph 5)
- D When I lug my ten liter plastic jug of water to my house by hand, it is only a hundred meters, but the container is heavy and unwieldy. (paragraph 7)



Directions

After seeing a film about secret military codes used during World War II, Anne decided to write an essay about code breaking during that war. Anne's draft requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer Numbers 32 through 36.

Cryptography¹ at Bletchley Park

¹ In 1938, the British government bought Bletchley Park, a sixty-acre estate about 90 miles north of London. ² At a safe distance from German air attacks, the estate being a secret location for decoding messages sent by the German army.

³ The coding machine used by the Germans, called Enigma, was invented in 1922 by a German engineer. ⁴ The code breakers at Bletchley Park obtained a replica of an Enigma machine in 1939. ⁵ The keyboard was similar to a German typewriter. ⁶ A system of parts changed the input letters many times.

⁷ The German government assumed that the Enigma's codes were unbreakable. ⁸ Nonetheless, a number of things helped the cryptographers at Bletchley Park break the code. ⁹ First, there was a flaw with the Germans' machine. ¹⁰ No letter could represent itself in a coded message. ¹¹ For example, the letter "A" could be represented by any other letter except "A." ¹² Messages also repeated formulaic information. ¹³ For example, standard greetings followed by a weather report were often the first part of messages. ¹⁴ The workers at Bletchley Park, knowing both the machine's flaw and the formulaic nature of German messages, worked until the code was eventually broken.

¹Cryptography: the process of coding or decoding secret messages





32 Which sentence most clearly and effectively adds supporting details to Sentence 6?

- F A system of electrically connected parts changed and transformed the input letters many times, and it made it into a complexly coded message.
- G A system of electrically connected parts changed the input letters many times, transforming the input text into a complexly coded message.
- H A system of parts connected electrically, which changed the letters of the input text many times, being transformed into a complexly coded message.
- J A system of electrically connected parts worked to change the input letters many times and transforming the input text and making it into a complexly coded message.

33 Which of these best combines the ideas in Sentences 9 and 10 into one sentence?

- A First, there was a flaw with the Germans' machine because no letter could represent itself in a coded message.
- B First, there was a flaw with the Germans' machine, although no letter could represent itself in a coded message.
- C No letter could represent itself in a coded message in the first place since there was a flaw with the Germans' machine.
- D No letter could represent itself in a coded message, being that there was a flaw with the Germans' machine in the first place.



34 Which of these is the most clear and effective revision of Sentence 14?

- F The code was eventually broken by workers at Bletchley Park, knowing the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages.
- G Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers at Bletchley Park eventually broke the code.
- H The code was eventually broken by workers, because they knew the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, at Bletchley Park.
- J Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers eventually broke the code, and they worked at Bletchley Park.

35 Which of these is an incomplete sentence that should be revised?

- A At a safe distance from German air attacks, the estate being a secret location for decoding messages sent by the German army.
- B The keyboard was similar to a German typewriter.
- C Messages also repeated formulaic information.
- D For example, standard greetings followed by a weather report were often the first part of messages.

36 Anne wanted to find more information about the Enigma's unique features. Which source would most likely have this information?

- F an encyclopedia article about spy equipment
- G a documentary video about famous cryptographers
- H an Internet site featuring personal accounts of soldiers who worked at Bletchley Park
- J a technical book about code machines used by nations involved in World War II



Directions

For Numbers 37 through 39 read the sentence in bold print. Then choose the most clear and effective revision of the sentence.

- 37** Amy, who spent many hours practicing, became an accomplished musician and performed at many concerts.
- A By practicing many hours, Amy became an accomplished musician and performed at many concerts.
 - B By practicing to perform at many concerts, Amy spent many hours becoming an accomplished musician.
 - C By practicing to become an accomplished musician, Amy spent many hours practicing and performing at many concerts.
 - D By practicing and spending many hours doing so, Amy became an accomplished musician and performed at many concerts.
-
- 38** A few inches of snow fell, canceling the game because the principal thought the roads were dangerous.
- F The principal thought the roads were dangerous, so after a few inches of snow fell she canceled the game.
 - G The principal thought the roads were dangerous because a few inches of snow fell, and the game was canceled.
 - H The principal canceled the game because she thought the roads were dangerous after a few inches of snow fell.
 - J The principal canceled the game because she thought a few inches of snow fell on the roads and made them dangerous.





39 Boston is a historic city with many fine museums and wonderful restaurants, all of which makes it a great city to visit.

- A With its many fine museums and wonderful restaurants, historic Boston is a great city to visit.
- B With it being a great city to visit, historic Boston has many fine museums, and it also has wonderful restaurants.
- C With Boston being a historic city that is great to visit, it has many fine museums and wonderful restaurants.
- D With everything that makes Boston a great, historic city to visit, it has fine museums and wonderful restaurants.







Directions

The student paragraph below requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer Numbers 40 through 42.

¹ Bird-watching is a fascinating hobby that almost anyone can enjoy.
² All a bird-watcher needs: a pad, a pen, and a bird guidebook, which usually can be found at a public library. ³ Binoculars are useful but they are not necessary. ⁴ Beginners just need to write descriptions of the birds they see and then find those birds in the guidebook. ⁵ Before long, those beginners will become experts on local birds. ⁶ After developing some expertise, bird sanctuaries attract many bird-watchers who have acquired an interest in more exotic birds and started to visit wildlife preserves.
⁷ This terrific hobby almost guarantees that there will always be something interesting to see.



40 Which of these is an incomplete sentence that should be revised?

- F All a bird-watcher needs: a pad, a pen, and a bird guidebook, which usually can be found at a public library.
- G Beginners just need to write descriptions of the birds they see and then find those birds in the guidebook.
- H Before long, those beginners will become experts on local birds.
- J This terrific hobby almost guarantees that there will always be something interesting to see.

41 What is the correct way to edit the underlined part of Sentence 3?

- A useful, but they
- B useful; but they
- C useful: but they
- D Best as it is

42 Which of these is the most effective revision of Sentence 6?

- F After developing some expertise, an interest in more exotic birds is acquired by many bird-watchers, and visits to wildlife preserves and bird sanctuaries are also started.
- G Many bird-watchers, after developing some expertise and also acquiring an interest in more exotic birds, they start to visit wildlife preserves and bird sanctuaries.
- H Many bird-watchers acquiring an interest in more exotic birds, after developing some expertise, and they also start to visit wildlife preserves and sanctuaries.
- J After developing some expertise, many bird-watchers acquire an interest in more exotic birds and start to visit wildlife preserves and bird sanctuaries.



Directions

Read the poem "Hope." Then answer Numbers 43 through 51.

The following poem "Hope" is one chapter from Karen Hesse's historical novel *Out of the Dust*, which is written as a series of poems. In the novel, Billie Jo, a teenage girl, describes her family's struggle to survive hardships and drought during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Hope

by Karen Hesse

It started out as snow,
oh,
big flakes
floating
softly, 5
catching on my sweater,
lacy on the edges of my sleeves.

Snow covered the dust,
softened the
fences, 10
soothed the parched lips
of the land.

And then it changed,
halfway between snow and rain,
sleet, 15
glazing the earth.

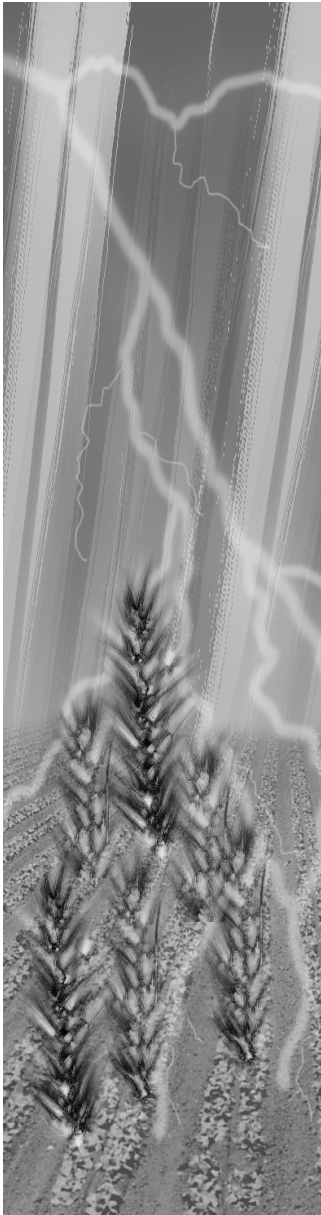
Until at last
it slipped into rain,
light as mist.

It was the kindest 20
kind of rain
that fell.





Soft and then a little heavier,	
helping along	
what had already fallen	25
into the	
hard-pan	
earth	
until it	
rained,	30
steady as a good friend	
who walks beside you,	
not getting in your way,	
staying with you through a hard time.	
And because the rain came	35
so patient and slow at first,	
and built up strength as the earth	
remembered how to yield,	
instead of washing off,	
the water slid in,	40
into the dying ground	
and softened its stubborn pride,	
and eased it back toward life.	
And then,	
just when we thought it would end,	45
after three such gentle days,	
the rain	
came	
slamming down,	
tons of it,	50



soaking into the ready earth
to the primed and greedy earth,
and soaking deep.

It kept coming,
thunder booming, 55
lightning

kicking,
dancing from the heavens
down to the prairie,
and my father 60
dancing with it,

dancing outside in the drenching night
with the gutters racing,
with the earth puddled and pleased,
with my father's near-finished pond filling. 65

When the rain stopped,
my father splashed out to the barn,
and spent
two days and two nights
cleaning dust out of his tractor, 70
until he got it running again.

In the dark, headlights shining,
he idled toward the freshened fields,
certain the grass would grow again,
certain the weeds would grow again, 75
certain the wheat would grow again too.

May 1935

"Hope" from *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse. Copyright © 1997 by Karen Hesse. Used by permission of Scholastic Inc.

43 In the poem, the rain is a force that is mostly

- A playful
- B destructive
- C mysterious
- D renewing

44 The events in the poem are presented from the point of view of someone who is

- F an amused participant
- G an uninterested observer
- H personally affected by them
- J physically defeated by them

45 Read lines 8 through 12 from the poem.

Snow covered the dust,
softened the
fences,
soothed the parched lips
of the land.

In these lines *soothed* means

- A cushioned
- B lightened
- C quieted
- D relieved

46 The speaker's attitude toward the rain is best revealed by

- F naming its forms
- G explaining its causes
- H comparing it to snow
- J giving it human qualities



47 Which of these lines from the poem best shows the importance of the rain?

- A it slipped into rain,
light as mist. (lines 18–19)
- B It was the kindest
kind of rain
that fell. (lines 20–22)
- C tons of it,
soaking into the ready earth
to the primed and greedy earth,
and soaking deep. (lines 50–53)
- D It kept coming,
thunder booming,
lightning
kicking, (lines 54–57)

48 The repetition of the word *certain* at the end of the poem emphasizes the father's

- F positive outlook
- G skill at farming
- H confusing behavior
- J knowledge of machinery

49 Which topic is mostly developed as a theme of the poem "Hope"?

- A people's connection to nature
- B unexplainable events in nature
- C parent and child relationships
- D lack of attention to people's needs

50 Read lines 35 through 43.

And because the rain came
so patient and slow at first,
and built up strength as the earth
remembered how to yield,
instead of washing off,
the water slid in,
into the dying ground
and softened its stubborn pride,
and eased it back toward life.

In line 43, the pronoun *it* refers to

- F the rain
- G strength
- H the ground
- J pride



51 Read these sentences about the poet Karen Hesse.

1. Karen Hesse was born in Baltimore in 1952.
2. She researched the lives of people who lived in Oklahoma in the 1930s.
3. Those people lived through the Depression.
4. Hesse did not experience the Great Depression directly.

Which pair of sentences most effectively combines the ideas of the four sentences?

- A** Karen Hesse, born in Baltimore in 1952, researched the lives of people who had lived in Oklahoma in the 1930s. The people lived through the Great Depression even though she did not experience it directly.
- B** Born in Baltimore in 1952, Karen Hesse did not experience the Great Depression directly. However, she researched the lives of people who lived through the Depression in Oklahoma in the 1930s.
- C** Because Karen Hesse did not experience the Great Depression directly, she researched the lives of people from Oklahoma who lived in the 1930s. She was born in Baltimore in 1952 while those people lived through the Depression.
- D** Before Karen Hesse researched the lives of people who had lived in Oklahoma in the 1930s, they lived through the Great Depression. She did not experience it directly, being born in Baltimore in 1952.

Directions

Read the following excerpt from an interview with Karen Hesse, author of *Out of the Dust*, from which “Hope” was taken. Then answer Number 52.

Question

Is there any discovery or experience you particularly hope readers will take away from *Out of the Dust*?

Answer

¹I have determined from the letters I receive from young readers that many of them believe they could never endure the hardships that so many of my fictional characters endure. ²I portray Billie Jo as an ordinary girl, a girl readers can relate to, who is thrust into extraordinary circumstances from which her first instincts are to turn tail and run. ³Readers watch Billie Jo struggle with her problems and reach an honest, empowering resolution. ⁴If readers come away believing in the ability of Billie Jo to confront, survive, and rise above her life challenges, perhaps they will also glimpse within themselves the strength of character to confront, survive, and rise above the life challenges facing them.

“An Interview with Karen Hesse” from *Out of the Dust, Exclusive Teacher’s Edition* by Karen Hesse. Copyright © 2001 by Scholastic Inc. Used by permission.

52 Which sentence from Hesse’s answer best explains the meaning of the title of her poem “Hope”?

- F Sentence 1
- G Sentence 2
- H Sentence 3
- J Sentence 4



No test material on this page





Directions

Saeed is writing an essay about keeping the Chesapeake Bay clean. The draft of Saeed's essay requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer Numbers 53 through 58.

Save the Bay

1 The Chesapeake Bay is not just a beautiful body of water where boats sail and people congregate. 2 The Bay, perhaps Maryland's greatest natural resource, is also home to some of the state's most amazing aquatic life. 3 Decades of pollution and neglect, however, have led to the endangerment of these plants and animals. 4 If we want these treasures around for future generations, we must vow today to protect the Chesapeake Bay waters.

5 Every time we allow unnatural substances to enter the Bay, we reduce our grandchildren's chances of seeing the wildlife we enjoy. 6 For example, from 1990 through 1992, 600 million pounds of nitrogen entered Chesapeake Bay from nine rivers. 7 Other toxic materials like fertilizer and used automobile oil harms the underwater grasses in the Bay. 8 These grasses can disappear, and aquatic animals cannot survive.

9 Many opportunities to help save the animals that are being harmed by pollution exist. 10 People can use their free time cleaning pollution from the water, they can write letters urging their local representatives to keep companies from polluting the Bay. 11 Maryland drivers can even purchase special "Save the Bay" license plates. 12 A portion of the money the state earns for these plates is donated to a variety of conservation programs.



13 No matter how you choose to show your support for the Chesapeake Bay, you must act immediately. 14 Ensuring that our aquatic life survives for future generations to enjoy is each Marylander's responsibility.

53 Saeed wants to insert a paragraph about additional effects of the pollutants in the Bay. Where would the paragraph best fit in the essay?

- A after paragraph 1
- B after paragraph 2
- C after paragraph 3
- D after paragraph 4

54 Which sentence uses information that requires documentation of a source?

- F Sentence 1
- G Sentence 6
- H Sentence 12
- J Sentence 14

55 Which of these is a run-on sentence that should be revised?

- A If we want these treasures around for future generations, we must vow today to protect the Chesapeake Bay waters.
- B Every time we allow unnatural substances to enter the Bay, we reduce our grandchildren's chances of seeing the wildlife we enjoy.
- C People can use their free time cleaning pollution from the water, they can write letters urging their local representatives to keep companies from polluting the Bay.
- D No matter how you choose to show your support for the Chesapeake Bay, you must act immediately.

56

A subject and verb should agree in number (singular or plural) even when other words come between them.

Singular subject and verb:

The catalogue of course requirements often confuses students.

subject verb

Plural subject and verb:

Details of course requirements often confuse students.
subject verb

Which sentence should Saeed edit using this rule?

- F** The Bay, perhaps Maryland’s greatest natural resource, is also home to some of the state’s most amazing aquatic life.
- G** Decades of pollution and neglect, however, have led to the endangerment of these plants and animals.
- H** Other toxic materials like fertilizer and used automobile oil harms the underwater grasses in the Bay.
- J** Many opportunities to help save the animals that are being harmed by pollution exist.

57 Which sentence most clearly and effectively adds a supporting detail to Sentence 8?

- A Losing their food supply and when these grasses disappear, aquatic animals cannot survive.
- B When these grasses disappear, aquatic animals lose their food supply and cannot survive.
- C These grasses can disappear, when aquatic animals lose their food supply, and cannot survive.
- D Losing their food supply and these grasses disappearing is what causes aquatic animals not to survive.

58 Saeed would like to add a list of resources about saving the Chesapeake Bay to the end of his essay. Which of these resources would be best to add to his list?

- F www.aboutthechesapeakebay.gov
- G www.chesapeakebaypreservationfoundation.org
- H *A Guidebook to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum*
- J *An Encyclopedia of the Wildlife of America's Inlets and Bays*

Directions

The student paragraph below requires revisions and edits. Read the paragraph. Then answer Numbers 59 and 60.

1 The Hoover Dam represents an amazing architectural feat of modern times. 2 Standing 726 feet high and 1,244 feet wide, it is one of the largest dams in the world. 3 The dam, built on the raging Colorado River, stores water in its reservoir, nearby Lake Mead. 4 _____ 5 Hoover Dam also serves as a powerful hydroelectric generator, turning energy from the river into an important electricity source for the Southwest.

59 Which of these sentences best fills the blank in the paragraph?

- A The lake is a center for recreational water sports.
- B The water is distributed for use in California, Nevada, and Arizona.
- C The construction of the Hoover Dam was part of the Boulder Canyon project.
- D The Hoover Dam is capable of supplying nearly 1.5 million kilowatts of electrical power.

60 What is the correct way to edit the underlined part of Sentence 3?

- F Colorado River stores water
- G Colorado river, stores water
- H Colorado river stores water
- J Best as it is





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Public Release 2009