

Test Booklet

Subject: LA, Grade: 07

TCAP Grade 7 Language Arts Item Sampler

Student name: _____

Author: Tennessee

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Luisa wrote the following essay. It contains mistakes. Read the essay and answer eleven questions.

Now I See!

(1) I never appreciated my eyeglasses until I had to write this report for history class. (2) Now I am having an appreciation for this wonderful invention.

(3) I always thought that Benjamin Franklin invented eyeglasses. (4) He simply added to the invention by creating bifocal lenses that allow a person to see both near and far out of the same lens. (5) In 1286 well before Benjamin Franklin the first eyeglasses were created in Italy.

(6) The first glasses were made by placing small magnifying lenses into two round frames connected by rivets. (7) People used these glasses for seeing things up close. (8) The first lenses were cloudy and fragile. (9) Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses holding them in place was a challenge. (10) People had to hold them in place by hand. (11) If they didn't hold them in place by hand, their noses were pinched severely. (12) The Spanish and Chinese tried ways of attaching ribbons to the frames to help keep those in place, but the attempts were unsuccessful because the lenses were too heavy.

(13) Even with all these problems, sales of eyeglasses never decreased. (14) In fact, when books became available, the demand for eyeglasses increased. (15) There in those days were no eye doctors, so people visited eyeglass peddlers. (16) People tried on pair after pair until they found one they could see through clear.

(17) In the early 1700s, Edward Scarlett solved the problem of keeping eyeglasses where they belonged. (18) He added wire sidepieces that pressed against the temple to hold the glasses in place. (19) About twenty-five years later sidepieces were invented.

(20) It is hard to imagine that it took seven hundred years to perfect eyeglasses. (21) This invention has a long and interesting history.

1 Read Sentence 12.

The Spanish and Chinese tried ways of attaching ribbons to the frames to help keep those in place, but the attempts were unsuccessful because the lenses were too heavy.

What is the correct way to write the underlined word?

- A them
- B him
- C these
- D correct as is

2 Read Sentences 1 and 2.

I never appreciated my eyeglasses until I had to write this report for history class. Now I am having an appreciation for this wonderful invention.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of Sentence 2?

- A has
- B have
- C are having
- D been having

3 Read Sentence 16.

People tried on pair after pair until they found one they could see through clear.

What is the correct way to write the underlined part of this sentence?

- A see through clearly
- B see through more clear
- C see through clearest
- D see through more clearer

4 Read Sentence 15.

There in those days were no eye doctors, so people visited eyeglass peddlers.

What is the best way to write this sentence?

- A So in those days there were no eye doctors because people visited eyeglass peddlers.
- B So people visited eyeglass peddlers because in those days there were no doctors.
- C In those days there were no eye doctors, so people visited eyeglass peddlers.
- D In those days, so people visited eyeglass peddlers; there were no doctors.

5 Read Sentence 5.

In 1286 well before Benjamin Franklin the first eyeglasses were created in Italy.

Choose the correct way to punctuate this sentence.

- A In 1286, well before Benjamin Franklin, the first eyeglasses, were created in Italy.
- B In 1286 well before, Benjamin Franklin, the first eyeglasses, were created in Italy.
- C In 1286, well before Benjamin Franklin, the first eyeglasses were created in Italy.
- D In 1286, well before Benjamin Franklin the first eyeglasses, were created in Italy.

6 Read Sentence 19.

About twenty-five years later sidepieces were invented.

Choose the revision that shows correct comma usage in the sentence.

- A About twenty-five years later, sidepieces, were invented.
- B About twenty-five years later, sidepieces were invented.
- C About twenty-five years later sidepieces, were invented.
- D About, twenty-five years later, sidepieces were invented.

7 Read Sentences 10 and 11.

People had to hold them in place by hand. If they didn't hold them in place by hand, their noses were pinched severely.

What is the **best** way to combine these sentences?

- A People had to hold them in place by hand, or, if they didn't hold them in place by hand, they severely pinched their noses.
- B Pinched severely were their noses if people did not hold them in place by hand.
- C When people did not hold them in place by hand, their noses were pinched severely.
- D People had to hold them in place by hand, so they held them in place by hand and were not pinched severely on their noses.

8 Read Sentence 9.

Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses holding them in place was a challenge.

What is the **best** way to correct this run-on sentence?

- A Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses; and holding them in place was a challenge.
- B Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses. Holding them in place was a challenge.
- C Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses, holding them in place was a challenge.
- D Cloudy lenses were not the only problem with early eyeglasses, so holding them in place was a challenge.

9 Read Sentence 6.

The first glasses were made by placing small magnifieing lenses into two round frames connected by rivets.

What is the correct way to spell the underlined word?

- A magnafying
- B magnefeing
- C magnifying
- D maganifing

10 What is the **main** purpose of this essay?

- A to persuade readers of the importance of eyeglasses
- B to describe to readers the many uses of eyeglasses
- C to entertain readers with a funny experience about eyeglasses
- D to inform readers of interesting facts about eyeglasses

11 To **best** support the essay, Luisa should include an illustration of

- A a person wearing modern eyeglasses.
- B both modern and old-fashioned eyeglasses.
- C an eyeglass peddler's cart with customers.
- D the glass and sidepieces used in making early lenses.

Read the speech. Then answer 14 questions.

Females and Football

Author of the passage

1 Most people have had someone tell them that they could not do something before seeing what their abilities really were. I have, and I am here to share some information with you and to ask you for your help. My name is Evelyn Foster, and it has always been my dream to play football for a school team.

2 Ever since I was a young girl, I have loved kicking the football as high and as far as I could. The more I practiced, the better I became at kicking field goals. Each of my brothers went on to play football for both West Middle School and West High School. I hope to do the same. I would be honored to be the first female to play football for West Middle School. However, the one obstacle standing in the way of my being part of the school's only football team is that I am a girl.



3 I have been told that my trying out for the boys' football team would upset the rest of the student body. I am here today to ask you to listen to my request and to please sign a petition that would allow me to try out for the boys' football team.

4 According to the Women's Sports Foundation, about 700 girls in the United States play football each year. This was made possible in 1972, when Congress passed Title IX of the Educational Amendments Act. Title IX was created to ensure fairness to public elementary, middle, and high school students. Chapter 38 of the law was written to protect students from discrimination based on gender or blindness. Any school that uses federal money is not allowed to discriminate against people based on these characteristics. Since our school uses government money, I believe that our school risks breaking the law if it remains impermissible for girls to try out for the boys' football team.

5 Some of you may think that football is too dangerous for girls to play. At the middle school level, this is simply untrue. From late elementary school through early high school, girls are often taller than boys. It is unlikely that boys at this age will have much greater strength.

6 Additionally, there are different positions on a football team, and some of these are considered to be less dangerous. It is true that players on the offensive and defensive line crash into each other. However, punters and kickers have no physical contact with other players. Many of you probably know that a punter kicks the ball when the offensive team doesn't move ten or more yards in three tries. Then, the punter leaves the playing field. A kicker makes the opening kickoff to start the first and second halves of the game. That person also kicks the ball after every touchdown and field goal. I want the opportunity to play either of these positions.

7 Football is a great sport, and I know it would be a great experience for me because I would be part of one of the best middle school teams. Any coach will tell you that it's good for students to be involved in sports and school activities. Sports teach kids how to get along with others and to meet goals. Sports also help individuals learn self-control. Sports teach kids about teamwork. Also, playing sports keeps kids out of trouble. In addition, regular physical activity helps students stay healthier, as well as sleep and manage stress better. As you can see, opening up one more sport to female students here at West Middle School will benefit us greatly.

8 Friends, I am asking for your help. I am collecting signatures from students who would support female students joining the football team. These signatures will be part of a petition that will be presented to the athletic department and to the school administration. With your help, West School District might open the sport of football to all players. Pick up a pen and do your part to make history today.

12 Read this sentence from Paragraph 2.

I would be honored to be the first female to play football for West Middle School.

What does honored mean in this sentence?

- A** eager
- B** proud
- C** surprised
- D** anxious

13 Read this sentence from Paragraph 4.

Since our school uses government money, I believe that our school risks breaking the law if it remains impermissible for girls to try out for the boys' football team.

What does impermissible mean in this sentence?

- A** complete directions
- B** not in need of
- C** having the right to do
- D** not being allowed

- 14** Evelyn gives this speech in order to
- A** inform school administrators of the importance of sports in schools.
 - B** persuade people to sign a petition requesting a change in school policy.
 - C** explain to the school athletic department that she is a talented football player.
 - D** entertain people with a story about appreciating the value of school athletics and activities.
- 15** Who is Evelyn asking for help?
- A** lawmakers in Congress
 - B** the school administrators
 - C** the school athletic department
 - D** students at West Middle School
- 16** Which sentence from the speech **best** expresses the thesis?
- A** I have, and I am here to share some information with you and to ask you for your help.
 - B** Ever since I was a young girl, I have loved kicking the football as high and as far as I could.
 - C** However, the one obstacle standing in the way of my being part of the school's only football team is that I am a girl.
 - D** Additionally, there are different positions on a football team, and some of these are considered to be less dangerous.
- 17** What can Evelyn do to **best** engage her audience?
- A** make eye contact with people around the room
 - B** laugh many times to make the audience feel relaxed
 - C** have others add comments to what she is saying
 - D** speak softly so people have to make an effort to hear her
- 18** What organizational pattern is used in this speech?
- A** cause-effect
 - B** comparison-contrast
 - C** problem-solution
 - D** sequential
- 19** If Evelyn must organize a group to help her gather signatures, which group member should keep track of the number of signatures on her petition?
- A** the leader
 - B** the recorder
 - C** the reporter
 - D** the timekeeper

20 Which paragraph is a critique of this speech?

- A Many boys play football at West Middle School, and Evelyn Foster would like to join them. She has played for many years with her older brothers and believes she would be a good asset to the team. She would like to try for the position of kicker or punter.
- B Evelyn Foster gives some interesting points to think about, but she does not consider the whole population of students. Not all students are interested in football.
- C At West Middle School, girls are not allowed to play on the football team. Evelyn Foster would like to change this. She hopes that other students will join her efforts.
- D Evelyn Foster has enjoyed playing football for many years and would like to participate on the middle school team. However, Evelyn has been told that playing on the boys' team may upset the student body. She would like for students to sign a petition to open football to all players.

21 After listening to Evelyn's speech, Tonya wants to learn more about the benefits of team sports.

Which of these is the **most** focused research topic?

- A rules of football
- B girls in school sports
- C sports funding through donations
- D character development in team sports

22 Choose the sentence from the speech that is a **fact**.

- A Any school that uses federal money is not allowed to discriminate against students based on these characteristics.
- B It is unlikely that boys at this age will have much greater strength.
- C Football is a great sport, and I know it would be a great experience for me because I would be part of one of the best middle school teams.
- D As you can see, opening up one more sport to female students here at West Middle School will benefit us greatly.

23 Which persuasive device does Evelyn use **most** in her speech?

- A plain folks
- B name-calling
- C bandwagon
- D loaded terms

24 Which sentence from the speech is an example of false premise?

- A Most people have had someone tell them that they could not do something before seeing what their abilities really were.
- B The more I practiced, the better I became at kicking field goals.
- C Title IX was created to ensure fairness to public elementary, middle, and high school students.
- D Some of you may think that football is too dangerous for girls to play.

25 Which picture could Evelyn use to make the speech more effective?

- A** a football field
- B** her kicking the football
- C** the football team
- D** her playing football as a small child

A student wrote this report. It contains mistakes. Read the report and answer ten questions.

1 Many insects wear a natural camouflage that helps them to hide from predators. Without this camouflage, these creatures might not survive.

2 Other insects do not blend in with their environment, but they still have fascinating disguises. The tails of swallowtail butterfly wings can be mistaken for antennae, and the red and blue spots can be mistaken for eyes. This makes it hard for other creatures to predict which way the swallowtail butterfly will go when it moves, allowing it to fly away quickly.

3 Most people are aware of the insects that blend in with their environment to avoid unwanted attention. For example, the walking stick appears to be an ordinary twig. Some insects are shaped like leaves. These insects are usually green or light brown and often look like a cluster of several leaves of different sizes.

4 Some kinds of moths are disguised to look like completely different creatures. Clearwing moths resemble bees. Clearwing moths can hover in flight, and they make a buzzing sound by beating their clear wings very quickly. The hummingbird clearwing moth has a two-inch wingspan and is often mistaken for a hummingbird. The slightly smaller snowberry clearwing moth has black and yellow bands of color on its body, often causing it to be mistaken for a bumblebee.

5 Some insects are disguised to look more dangerous than they really are. _____, swallowtail butterfly caterpillars act the part of the creature they look like. These caterpillars have big, yellow dummy “eyes” on their backs. When one of these caterpillars is hidden in leaves, it looks very much like a small snake. Even though it is not a snake, its appearance is deceiving. When the caterpillar is annoyed by a predator, it will rise up and pose like a snake that is about to strike.

6 These are just a few of the many different kinds of disguises in the insect world. There are many more insects to explore and to learn about!

26 Who would **most likely** be interested in reading this report?

- A** a person wanting to know about nature
- B** a teacher looking for an entertaining story
- C** a scientist who studies reptiles
- D** a student who is learning about insects

27 Which sentence from the report is the thesis statement?

- A** Many insects wear a natural camouflage that helps them to hide from predators.
- B** Without this camouflage, these creatures might not survive.
- C** Some kinds of moths are disguised to look like completely different creatures.
- D** There are many more insects to explore and to learn about!

- 28** Paragraph 2 is **not** in the correct place in the report. Where should it be moved?
- A** after Paragraph 3
 - B** after Paragraph 4
 - C** after Paragraph 5
 - D** after Paragraph 6
- 29** Read these sentences from Paragraph 5.
- Some insects are disguised to look more dangerous than they really are. _____, swallowtail butterfly caterpillars act the part of the creature they look like.**
- Choose the transition word or phrase that belongs in the blank.
- A** For instance
 - B** However
 - C** Consequently
 - D** Without a doubt
- 30** Which sentence **best** supports the ideas in Paragraph 3?
- A** Predators of the walking stick are birds, reptiles, and other insects.
 - B** Bright colors are important to many living creatures.
 - C** Many insects can fool predators because of their unique shape.
 - D** Many students have probably seen a walking stick in a science class or textbook.
- 31** Which sentence from Paragraph 5 is repetitive and unnecessary?
- A** Some insects are disguised to look more dangerous than they really are.
 - B** These caterpillars have big, yellow dummy “eyes” on their backs.
 - C** Even though it is not a snake, its appearance is deceiving.
 - D** When the caterpillar is annoyed by a predator, it will rise up and pose like a snake that is about to strike.
- 32** Which sentence is the **best** conclusion for Paragraph 3?
- A** Insects shaped like twigs and leaves avoid danger by looking like parts of a tree.
 - B** All these insects have to do to escape notice is to stay still.
 - C** Because these insects look like twigs and leaves, they prefer to live in trees.
 - D** Many predators search trees, looking for these tasty insects.
- 33** What would be a good title for this report?
- A** It Isn’t Easy Being an Insect
 - B** Fun With Insects
 - C** Insects in Disguise
 - D** Insect Safety
- 34** This report is an example of which type of writing?
- A** narrative
 - B** technical
 - C** persuasive
 - D** descriptive

35 Look at the list the student made before writing this report.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Insect Camouflage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resemble parts of a tree• Imitate other creatures• _____
--

What information is missing from the list?

- A Fly away quickly
- B Live high up in trees
- C Make loud buzzing sounds with their wings
- D Appear more dangerous than they are

Read the passage. Then answer 13 questions.

Eat Your Microbes, They're Good for You!

by Nidhi Kamra

1 Remember Little Miss Muffet? Yeah—the easily startled girl who sat on a tuffet,¹ eating her microbes.

2 “Microbes’? I think that’s curds and whey!” you say.

3 Relax. It’s the same thing. And I bet that you don’t even know what curds and whey are, anyway, do you?



Microbes in Your Food

4 Fermented dairy foods like curds (yogurt to you) and cheese (made from curds) contain probiotics—live microbes that provide numerous health benefits. Such “alive” foods are made by mixing a starter culture² containing microbes into pasteurized milk. Lactic acid bacteria (LAB) such as lactobacillus bulgaricus and streptococcus thermophilus are used as a starter for curds.

5 These bacteria, preferring desserts, make a meal out of lactose—the sugar found in milk. Once they’ve had their fill, they release lactic acid as a byproduct of their metabolism.³ If the milk is warm, the LAB multiply and increase the lactic acid. This makes milk sour and curdles the proteins in it, forming a gel-like curd. A greenish liquid, whey, floats on top (you’ve seen it on the top of a carton of yogurt) and is the result of noncurdled proteins. A gram of freshly made curds can contain 1,000,000,000 (one billion) LAB!

Eat ‘Em While They’re Alive

6 If eaten regularly, LAB can kill pathogens⁴ in your intestines and prevent diseases. However, these friendly microbes need to be eaten while they’re alive, energetic, and plentiful. (LAB in yogurt that are worn out due to an expired shelf-life, processing, and preservatives aren’t much help.) The acid in your stomach kills most microbes. If you eat enough LAB, though, some will survive and travel to your intestines.

7 Your intestines are like a city—with many types of microbes living together. The LAB will compete for a home in this city, and once they’re well settled in, they’ll police the bad guys. Many people who are lactose-intolerant eat yogurt, as LAB produce lactase—the enzyme that helps digest lactose. Ancient cultures ate yogurt to strengthen their immune systems and aid digestion, among many other benefits.

8 Now that you know what a bowl of curds and whey really is, have one yourself. (Find a spider and a tuffet, if you want the right effect.) Or, better yet, make yogurt at home. Little Miss Muffet used leftover curds as a starter to make more curds. Leftover LAB can provide a lifetime of delicious, warrior microbes!

- ¹ **tuffet**: a clump of low grass, or a low seat like a stool
- ² **culture**: living cells in a medium in which they can grow and multiply
- ³ **metabolism**: the complex of physical and chemical processes occurring within a living cell or organism that are necessary for the maintenance of life
- ⁴ **pathogens**: bacteria or viruses that cause disease

“Eat Your Microbes, They’re Good for You!” by Nidhi Kamra, adapted from Odyssey, Feb. 2007: Microbe Attack!, © 2007 by Carus Publishing Company, published by Cobblestone Publishing. All Rights Reserved.

36 Read this sentence from Paragraph 6.

(LAB in yogurt that are worn out due to an expired shelf-life, processing, and preservatives aren’t much help.)

The underlined root word helps the reader to understand that preservatives will make the product

- A** look attractive.
- B** sell quickly.
- C** last longer.
- D** taste better.

37 Read this sentence from Paragraph 7.

The LAB will compete for a home in this city, and once they’re well settled in, they’ll police the bad guys.

Which word is a synonym for **police** as used in this sentence?

- A** find
- B** arrest
- C** control
- D** use

38 Which of these would provide the **most** reliable information about the active bacterial cultures in a carton of purchased yogurt?

- A** an Internet article about yogurt
- B** an advertisement for the product
- C** a recipe for homemade yogurt
- D** a nutrition label on the product

- 39** Which of these would be the **best** source for additional information on symptoms of lactose intolerance?
- A** a magazine article
 - B** a journal entry
 - C** a newspaper article
 - D** a health textbook
- 40** Nadine is writing a report for her science class on how to ferment dairy foods. Which source is her primary source?
- A** a magazine article on the benefits of yogurt
 - B** a Web site about current dairy-farming practices
 - C** an interview with a local cheese maker
 - D** a video explaining the process of making yogurt
- 41** Complete the analogy based on the passage.
Energetic is to active
as preventive is to _____.
- A** suspicious
 - B** able
 - C** healthful
 - D** carefree
- 42** Which sentence from the passage shows an example of **deductive** reasoning?
- A** Fermented dairy foods like curds (yogurt to you) and cheese (made from curds) contain probiotics—live microbes that provide numerous health benefits.
 - B** A greenish liquid, whey, floats on top (you’ve seen it on the top of a carton of yogurt) and is the result of noncurdled proteins.
 - C** If eaten regularly, LAB can kill pathogens in your intestines and prevent diseases.
 - D** Now that you know what a bowl of curds and whey really is, have one yourself.
- 43** A reader can conclude that the food with the **best** source of friendly microbes is
- A** A B C D ice cream.
 - B** aged cheese.
 - C** cold, sweetened milk.
 - D** freshly cultured yogurt.
- 44** Which question is **not** answered in the passage?
- A** Which dairy products have the most LAB?
 - B** What type of food do LAB prefer?
 - C** Why should a person eat LAB?
 - D** How many LAB can live in a gram of curds?

- 45** Which sentence **best** supports the importance of eating LAB in foods?
- A** Lactic acid bacteria (LAB) such as lactobacillus bulgaricus and streptococcus thermophilus are used as a starter for curds.
 - B** If the milk is warm, the LAB multiply and increase the lactic acid.
 - C** (LAB in yogurt that are worn out due to an expired shelf-life, processing, and preservatives aren't much help.)
 - D** Leftover LAB can provide a lifetime of delicious, warrior microbes!
- 46** Where in the passage would the reader find the meaning of probiotics?
- A** in the footnotes
 - B** in the summary paragraph
 - C** in the section titled "Microbes in Your Food"
 - D** in the section titled "Eat 'Em While They're Alive"

47 Read this recipe.

Homemade Yogurt

1 gallon of milk
1 package of plain gelatin
¼ cup of boiling water
3 to 4 tbsp. of plain store-bought yogurt

Heat milk in large pot until very warm, yet not scalding hot because it will kill yogurt culture. Stir in the yogurt. Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Cool and add to warm milk and yogurt mixture. Pour into pint-size jars. Place closed jars into two large pots of very hot water. Set in oven or other warm place to incubate¹ for about four or five hours until set. Refrigerate for weeks. Now you have delicious plain yogurt.

¹ **incubate:** maintain a favorable temperature to promote development

Based on the passage and the recipe, which step is **most** important when making yogurt?

- A using the correct cooking utensils
- B mixing the ingredients correctly
- C keeping the mixture at a warm temperature
- D storing the mixture for any amount of time

48 What is the **main** organizational structure of Paragraph 6?

- A chronological
- B cause-effect
- C comparison-contrast
- D problem-solution

Read the poem. Then answer nine questions.

The Lighthouse Keeper and the Herring Gull

by Bill Scott



The lighthouse keeper sat on a rock and a sad, salt tear wept he.
'I'm tired of biscuits and tins of beef, I want a fish for tea!
But I haven't a hook and I haven't a line to throw in the salty sea.'

He peered to the east where the breakers broke, he blinked his teary eye.
5 He looked behind where his tower rose like a steeple in the sky
And he saw a wise old herring gull perched on a rock close by.

Said the keeper, 'A gull has an easy time when he wants a fish to swallow.
He rises up till he spies a shoal where the billows bellow hollow.
He dives down deep and he gulps a fish, with another one to follow.'

10 The keeper found a rusty nail and hammered it into a hook;
He ravelled a string both long and strong from his cozy sea-boot sock;
He baited the line and cast it in with a crafty, hungry look.

He caught a whiting and a bream, he almost caught a whale.
He hooked a crab by its big, round claws and a flathead by the tail,
15 And he tossed each fish behind him, where they fell in an old tin pail.

Then he snavelled a shark that broke his line. He didn't really care.
He had fish enough to fry for tea, and for breakfast, and to spare,
And even enough for the herring gull that he thought deserved a share.

So he turned around to view his catch with shouts of joy and mirth,
20 But his roar of rage at what he saw was heard from Cairns to Perth¹—
An empty pail, and the fullest, fattest herring gull on earth.

¹ **Cairns and Perth:** cities on opposite coasts of Australia

“The Lighthouse Keeper and the Herring Gull” by Bill Scott, © Dolphin Creative. Used by permission.

49 Read Lines 12 and 13.

He baited the line and cast it in with a crafty, hungry look.

He caught a whiting and a bream, he almost caught a whale.

Based on context, the reader can conclude that a whiting is a

- A** special food.
- B** type of fish.
- C** kind of fishing hook.
- D** small animal.

50 Based on events described in the poem, what will the lighthouse keeper probably do the next time he catches a fish?

- A** protect the fish from the herring gull
- B** keep only enough fish to eat that day
- C** divide the fish with the herring gull
- D** eat the fish before he leaves the beach

51 Which description identifies “The Lighthouse Keeper and the Herring Gull” as a poem?

- A** It has a plot that involves conflict and a solution.
- B** It uses imagery, rhyme, and a regular rhythmical pattern.
- C** It relates a true account of real people, places, and events.
- D** It tells a story about imaginary people, places, and events.

52 The poem is similar to a short story in that the poem

- A** has a unique setting.
- B** contains dialogue.
- C** is told in first person.
- D** has a conflict.

- 53** The empty bucket at the end of the poem is a symbol of the lighthouse keeper'
- A** hopefulness.
 - B** carelessness.
 - C** confidence.
 - D** boredom.
- 54** Which sound device does the author use **most** often in this poem?
- A** accent
 - B** onomatopoeia
 - C** repetition
 - D** rhyme
- 55** Which conflict is demonstrated in this poem?
- A** person vs. person
 - B** person vs. self
 - C** person vs. environment
 - D** person vs. technology
- 56** Read Line 20.
- But his roar of rage at what he saw was heard from Cairns to Perth—**
- The author uses hyperbole in this sentence to
- A** express the overwhelming emotions of the lighthouse keeper.
 - B** emphasize how far away the lighthouse keeper is from other people.
 - C** establish how aggressive the herring gull is.
 - D** explain how quickly the herring gull reacted.
- 57** Which line **best** suggests that this poem takes place outside the United States?
- A** The lighthouse keeper sat on a rock and a sad, salt tear wept he.
 - B** 'I'm tired of biscuits and tins of beef, I want a fish for tea!
 - C** He ravelled a string both long and strong from his cozy sea-boot sock;
 - D** And he tossed each fish behind him, where they fell in an old tin pail.

Read the passage. Then answer eight questions.

Sierra Oscar Sierra

by Lynn Murray

1 Outside Eric’s bedroom window the January blizzard raged. Treetops swayed dangerously as gusting winds sculpted snow into huge drifts.

2 Eric turned on his ham radio and tuned into a station talking about the weather. An operator was reporting, “The National Weather Service has just issued a heavy snow alert for the Colorado Rocky Mountains at 1 P.M. today. Accumulations of up to two feet of snow are expected.”

3 Bored, Eric programmed the receiver to scan different frequencies. If he heard any of his radio friends, he’d contact them. The radio squawked conversation then static as it flipped from frequency to frequency. He heard no familiar voices, though.

4 Then, the radio paused, emitting a series of loud sounds. It continued to cycle through the frequencies, stopping briefly at each one. Eric kept listening. Once more, the radio paused when it located the sounds; then it moved on again.

5 *How odd.*

6 Eric watched the numbers changing rapidly as the radio scanned. When it stopped on the sounds, he read the display: 144.200 MHz.

7 *That’s not interference. It’s too regular, too rhythmic. . . .* Eric jolted to attention. Three short clicks, three long, three short. Morse code!

8 It was an SOS!

9 He couldn’t believe it. Answering emergencies had come up on his licensing test, but this was no test. This was real.

10 The distress call repeated itself.

11 Eric grabbed his radio. “This is KC0ZSZ. Go ahead, SOS.”

12 A steady stream of Morse code erupted. All the dits and dahs blurred together. Eric could decode only two words— *hurt* and *help*. He felt as if he’d forgotten all his code. For his Technician Plus license, he’d learned to copy five words a minute, but this speed was sonic!

13 *Calm down. Think.* He grabbed a pen and paper, then said, “This is KC0ZSZ. Name’s Eric Bailey. I can’t copy that fast. Slow down and tell me your location.” He concentrated, deciphering one letter at a time until they made words, then phrases: BLACK BEAR ROAD. UP SLIDE MOUNTAIN. MAX K0IDX.



14 Slide Mountain was ninety miles away! And could this be Mac from the ham-radio club. The burly instructor he has taken classes from? He couldn’t forget Mac, the only man he knew with the same name as a semi-truck.

15 “Where on Black Bear?”

16 LASE RAVINE. TRUCK OVER EDGE.

17 “Stay on the radio. I’ll send help.” Eric bolted to the phone in the living room. The line was dead, probably severed by a falling tree. “No!” he shouted.

18 “What’s wrong?” asked Eric’s father, lowering his book.

19 “Someone on Slide Mountain needs help, and our phone’s dead. I need to do something fast.”

20 “That’s pretty far,” his father said. “He needs help from someone close. There must be another way to get him help.”

21 Eric’s mouth dropped open. “I know what to do.”

22 Eric ran back to his room. Outside, the wind moaned, but inside, his radio sat silent. He keyed the mike. “Mac, I’m still trying to get help. I’ll need to switch frequencies for a minute. Hang in there.”

23 Mac’s code returned garbled.

24 Eric switched to another frequency. He drew in a shaky breath. “HELP. EMERGENCY. KC0ZSZ.”

- 25 No response. He tried other frequencies. Finally he made contact.
- 26 “This is KC0WAA,” a man’s voice responded. “What’s the emergency? Go ahead.”
- 27 “This is Eric—KC0ZSZ. I’ve answered an SOS call—repeat, a Sierra Oscar Sierra call—on another frequency. My phone line is dead. Can you call for help?”
- 28 “Yes. What’s the location and problem?”
- 29 Eric rattled off the information, then added, “Mac’s not responding well anymore. Please hurry.”
- 30 “Hold on while I call.”
- 31 Eric’s body felt cold and numb. What was Mac feeling out there in the blizzard?
- 32 “Eric? Slide Mountain Rescue is on their way with a team and ambulance. They know the place you’re describing. I’ll monitor this frequency for a while yet. Good luck. KC0WAA—clear.”
- 33 Eric thanked him and signed off, switching back to 144.200. “Can you hear me, Mac? Help’s coming! They’re on their way.”
- 34 There was no reply, only dead air.
- 35 Eric kept trying and got a slow response from Mac.
- 36 “You’re doing great,” Eric said. “Keep talking. Stay with me.”
- 37 Mac responded occasionally, but slower each time.
- 38 Suddenly the radio crackled.
- 39 “This is Slide Mountain Rescue. We have Mac McKenzie.”
- 40 “Yee-haw!” Eric shouted as he punched the air. “How is he?”
- 41 “He was getting pretty cold, but we arrived in time. Luckily he was able to tap code to you on the steering wheel. He wants to talk to you.”
- 42 A barely audible voice asked, “You the Eric Bailey from ham-radio class in Leadville?”
- 43 “Yes, sir.”
- 44 “Great rescue, son.”
- 45 “Thanks. Great lessons, Mr. McKenzie.”
- 46 “Seventy-three, Eric.”
- 47 “Best regards to you, too,” Eric said. “Get better soon.”

“Sierra Oscar Sierra” by Lynn Murray, from Highlights for Children, January 2003, copyright © 2003 by Highlights for Children, Inc. Columbus, Ohio. Used by permission.

- 58** Read this excerpt from Paragraph 13.
He concentrated, deciphering one letter at a time until they made words, then phrases . . .
In the sentence above, the underlined word most likely means
- A** writing carefully.
 - B** sounding out.
 - C** taking slowly.
 - D** understanding meaning.
- 59** According to the passage, what causes Eric to change the radio channel?
- A** He is unable to contact his friends.
 - B** His home phone line does not work.
 - C** He is unable to write down the message.
 - D** His father will not allow him to help.
- 60** Choose the paragraph from the passage that **best** shows the climax.
- A** Paragraph 7
 - B** Paragraph 17
 - C** Paragraph 25
 - D** Paragraph 41
- 61** The reader knows this passage is told from a third-person limited point of view because
- A** Mac tells about Eric rescuing him in his own voice.
 - B** a narrator explains the details of Mac's accident without providing any feelings.
 - C** Eric's thoughts and feelings about Mac's accident are explained by Eric.
 - D** a narrator reveals only Eric's thoughts about rescuing Mac.
- 62** Which sentence **best** states the theme of the passage?
- A** Technology isolates people from the rest of the world.
 - B** By utilizing resources, people are able to overcome challenges.
 - C** Nature is an unpredictable force that people take for granted.
 - D** By making friends, people are able to share joint interests.
- 63** In the passage, the character of Mac is **best** revealed by what
- A** he says.
 - B** other characters say about him.
 - C** he thinks.
 - D** the author tells the reader.
- 64** What is Eric's **main** conflict?
- A** person vs. person
 - B** person vs. self
 - C** person vs. environment
 - D** person vs. technology

- 65** The author wrote this passage most likely to
- A** entertain the reader with a tale of a rescue mission.
 - B** persuade the reader to visit the Rocky Mountains.
 - C** inform the reader about the use of Morse code.
 - D** show the reader how a snowstorm affects a town.

66 Read the sentence.

_____ I have not done laundry in a couple of weeks, I must wear plaid pants with a striped shirt today.

Which subordinating conjunction belongs on the blank line?

- A Because
- B Although
- C However
- D Whenever

67 Which sentence correctly uses the underlined word?

- A Except for soccer, Darius has tried all sports offered at school.
- B I would like to send a note to everyone accept Melissa.
- C Harold did not know that all of the cast members, accept him, had been told about the surprise.
- D Should Carmen except the job offer from the local library?

68 Read the sentence.

The teacher suggested that each student bring these items for the field trip water, a sandwich, and a good book.

How should the underlined part of the sentence be revised to correctly use a colon?

- A suggested that each student bring: these items for the field trip water
- B suggested that each student bring these items for the field trip: water
- C suggested that each student: bring these items for the field trip water
- D suggested that: each student bring these items for the field trip water

69 Which sentence correctly uses an appositive phrase?

- A The caterpillar, a large one with black spikes scared Paul when it fell from a tree and onto his shirt.
- B Patti must clean her room the messiest room in the house, before her grandmother arrives for a weeklong visit.
- C Did you hear that Darius the kid who lives around the block from my house was voted class president?
- D Missy Truman, one of my favorite basketball players, is currently playing for a team in Minnesota.

70 Read this sentence.

We hoped to be invited again, so we promised to speak respectfully, to walk and not to run, and to properly dispose of trash.

Which part of the sentence uses an infinitive incorrectly?

- A to be invited
- B promised to speak respectfully
- C to walk and
- D and to properly dispose

71 Which sentence uses italics correctly?

- A The *word* capital has many meanings.
- B The *Titanic* is one of the most well-known ships that tragically sank.
- C All her sweaters are monogrammed with *JWM*.
- D I attended the *Learning and Technology* meeting at school last night.

72 Which sentence is written correctly?

- A The students project's will be displayed in the cafeteria.
- B Teds' book report included an excellent summary of the plot.
- C The children's toys were scattered throughout the room.
- D Elections for the Spanish clubs officer's will be held next month.

73 Which sentence is correctly written using quotation marks?

- A "What will we learn today"? one student asked, entering the classroom.
- B "Our goal for today," Mr. Jiménez announced, "is to read Chapter 8."
- C "I think that's the chapter about molecules, Trish told her friend Erik."
- D "I hope we get to do some experiments", Erik replied.

74 In a restaurant, the soup offered or served for the day is called the soup

- A *bon voyage*.
- B *déjà vu*.
- C *du jour*.
- D *faux pas*.

75 Michael is preparing to talk to his science class about his pet ferret. He plans to address the following topics.

1. **meeting the pet's dietary needs**
2. **choosing a pet by studying the available options**
3. **preparing the pet's living space for safety and comfort**
4. **learning how to care for the pet through classes and reading**

In what order should Michael present these topics?

- A 1, 3, 4, 2
- B 2, 4, 3, 1
- C 3, 4, 2, 1
- D 4, 2, 1, 3

76 Once a team has been put together and assigned a task, what is the **first** step that the team should do to begin its task?

- A outline the assigned goals to clarify the assignment
- B contribute individually to the assigned work
- C work together to determine how each team member should proceed
- D assign roles for each team member

77 Leo will assume Troy's responsibilities at the mail desk while Troy is out of town. What is the **best** tool for Troy to use in training Leo to do this job?

- A** a detailed report
- B** a report to their supervisor
- C** a lengthy office memo
- D** a list of instructions

78 A student created these notes after researching how to maintain a healthy diet. Read the notes and answer the question.

Choosing a Healthful Diet	
	• The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recommends that people eat a Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) of food to maintain a healthful diet.
	• There are five food groups: milk, vegetable, meat, fruit, and bread.
	• Yogurt is a food from the milk group that is good for digestion.
	• The USDA suggests that each person should eat a specific number of servings from each food group to create balanced meals throughout the day.
	• Avoiding fats, oils, and sweets is recommended.

If the student were to write a report on this topic, which fact in the notes should **not** be included?

- A The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recommends that people eat a Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) of food to maintain a healthful diet.
- B Yogurt is a food from the milk group that is good for digestion.
- C The USDA suggests that each person should eat a specific number of servings from each food group to create balanced meals throughout the day.
- D Avoiding fats, oils, and sweets is recommended.

79 Read these steps for washing dishes.

1. **Run warm water in the sink and add detergent.**
2. **Put the dirty dishes into the sink.**
3. **Use the dish cloth to wipe dishes clean.**
4. _____
5. **Dry the dishes and put them away.**

Which step belongs on Line 4?

- A Separate the dishes by type.
- B Rinse the dishes with clean water.
- C Save the dirtiest dishes for last.
- D Soak the dishes in cold water.

80 Jasmine is giving a report on her favorite author, Christopher Paul Curtis. Which of these would **best** suit her purpose for convincing her classmates to read his work?

- A a photograph of the author and a book he wrote
- B a list of the awards that the author has earned for his writing
- C a video recording of an interview with the author
- D an outline of the latest book by the author

81 A television commercial shows a video of a remote control car climbing up stairs and over large rocks, as well as jumping long distances over ramps. What is the **most likely** purpose of the commercial?

- A** to inform viewers about the variety of uses of the remote control car
- B** to describe the strength of the remote control car
- C** to entertain viewers with the exciting abilities of the remote control car
- D** to persuade viewers to buy the remote control car for its interesting features

82 Use the image below to answer the question.



What can the reader tell about the subjects of the image?

- A** They are selling homemade instruments.
- B** They are performing a community service.
- C** They are gathering together for a shared interest.
- D** They are playing for a school audience.

83 Look at the picture.



What would be an appropriate caption for a company selling paper products?

- A** Pet ownership demands careful attention to the actions of the pet.
- B** Dogs are smarter than many people imagine.
- C** Even your dog understands the value of a personal letter.
- D** Please clean up after your pets.

84 Look at the picture below.



What type of conflict is shown in the picture?

- A** person vs. environment
- B** person vs. self
- C** person vs. person
- D** person vs. technology

85 What characteristic do nonfiction and poetry have in common?

- A** They have a plot.
- B** They have major and minor characters.
- C** They have conflict.
- D** They have a tone that reflects the author's attitude.