

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS

FOR

PRACTICE TEST FOR LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADE 8

(Test items developed for skills measured in GA03)

Skills

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|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|---|
| 1.0 | Sentence Construction and Revision | 3.0 | Grammar and Mechanics |
| 1.1 | Types of Sentences | 3.1 | Capitalization |
| 1.2 | Parts of a Sentence | 3.2 | Punctuation |
| 1.3 | Problematic Sentences | 3.3 | Spelling |
| 1.4 | Appropriate Descriptive Word Choice | 3.4 | Standard Conventions |
| 1.5 | Combining Simple Sentences | 3.5 | Parts of Speech |
| 2.0 | Paragraph Content and Organization | 4.0 | Research Process |
| 2.1 | Parts of a Paragraph | 4.1 | Identifying and Using the Steps in the Research Process |
| 2.2 | Paragraph Organization | 4.2 | Identifying, Collecting, and Using Source Materials |

Number of questions: 50

Number of pages: 9

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(OVER)

GA03 PRACTICE TEST IN LANGUAGE ARTS - GRADE 8
FORM A

Section 1

Read each question and choose the best answer.

¹Raking leaves has never been my favorite activity. ²I'd rather just use a lawnmower to chop those pesky leaves into bits. ³Later in the fall, the pieces left in the yard are hardly noticeable. ⁴This is an easier way to get rid of those leaves that cause me so much agony. ⁵I can't think of a better way to avoid such a horrible task as raking.

1. Which sentence in the paragraph contains a transition?
 - A. sentence 2
 - B. sentence 3
 - C. sentence 4
 - D. sentence 5

2. Which sentence below is a fragment?
 - A. After we enjoy our dinner and settle down to hear one of Grandpa's stories.
 - B. Sitting on the porch were the mailman and my father.
 - C. Take your bicycle in for repairs Monday.
 - D. The decision to leave was made.

3. Which sentence below contains an error?
 - A. George W. Bush is a member of the Republican Party.
 - B. Who won the Civil War?
 - C. Hummingbirds always fly South when the winter turns cold.
 - D. Daniel is a Navaho Indian.

4. Which of the following is the BEST choice to correct the sentence below?

As he pulled his car up to the service window, it made a strange sound.

- A. Pulling up to the service window, it, his car, made a strange sound.
 - B. As he pulled his car up to the service window, his car, made a strange sound.
 - C. A strange sound was heard by the car as he pulled it up to the service window.
 - D. His car made a strange sound as he pulled up to the service window.
5. What type of sentence is the following?

When you hear the alarm, get out of the building immediately.

- A. simple
- B. compound
- C. complex
- D. compound/complex