

SKILLS LIST and SAMPLE TEST ITEMS

FOR

PRACTICE TEST FOR LANGUAGE ARTS, GRADE 7

(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 Research Process |
| 2.2 | Paragraph Organization | 4.2 | Identifying, Collecting, and Using Source Materials |

Number of questions: 50

Number of pages: 10

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(OVER)

GA03 PRACTICE TEST IN LANGUAGE ARTS - GRADE 7 FORM A

SECTION 1

Read the passages and answer the questions that follow.

Alfred Nobel invented dynamite to help builders. But it was used for war, and he hated that. He felt guilty that his invention was being misused. He was a rich man, and he set up a fund with nine million dollars. The fund is used today to reward people who have improved human life.

1. Which of the following would be the BEST choice for a closing sentence?
- A. Dynamite is commonly used by coal miners to blast through rock.
 - B. Nobel prizes are now given in six fields, including peace, medicine, and chemistry.
 - C. Many wars have begun with the use of dynamite.
 - D. Alfred Nobel was an inventor as well as a scientist.

The tornado raced through the town, tearing through everything in its path.

2. Which of the following words would BEST describe the word tornado in the sentence above?
- A. windy
 - B. dark
 - C. whirling
 - D. delightful

It takes a lot of work to produce the gasoline that runs cars and trucks. First, wells are drilled deep into the earth to find oil. Then the oil is pumped out of the ground and taken to large refineries. Here it is heated in special furnaces to 400 degrees Celsius. This high temperature causes the oil to boil and become a mixture of gases.

3. Which word in the above paragraph is used as a transition word?
- A. *Here*
 - B. *find*
 - C. *causes*
 - D. *Then*

Just outside of town, there is a cave where a mysterious man lives with his dog.

4. Which part of speech is the underlined word in the sentence above?
- A. adverb
 - B. adjective
 - C. preposition
 - D. interjection

Take this medicine tomorrow and don't forget to eat something before you do.

5. What type of sentence is shown above?
- A. declarative
 - B. imperative
 - C. interrogative
 - D. exclamatory

The grain (usually rice or wheat) is put in large cannons that are then plugged at one end. The cannons are pushed into an oven and heated to 550 degrees. After 40 minutes, the cannons' plugs are pulled. Hot air rushes into the cannons. Moisture in the cereal grains turns to steam. The grains puff up like popcorn.

6. Which of the following sentences would be the BEST choice as a topic sentence for the above paragraph?
- A. Many of the states in the South produce rice.
 - B. Cereal is usually eaten for breakfast, although it makes a delicious snack.
 - C. Puffed cereal is made in an odd way.
 - D. The cannons are made of steel or iron.