

_____ Name _____ Date _____ Score _____

1. Use the rubric to answer the following question(s).

Score

- 4- All of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 3- Most of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 2- Only some of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 1- None of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.

2. Robert is giving an oral presentation about someone special to him.

Based on the rubric, which sentence does NOT belong in his presentation?

(1) My aunt lives in Washington. (2) She has visited me several times in the past 5 years. (3) Every time she comes to visit, she takes me and my brother to the movies and buys us popcorn. (4) I will write her a letter and express how grateful I am to have such a cool aunt. (5) Hopefully she will visit us soon so that we can tell her what a great aunt she is. (6) My best friend is lucky his aunt lives near him.

- A** Sentence 1 **C** Sentence 4
B Sentence 2 **D** Sentence 6

3. Samantha is giving an oral presentation describing a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., the week before. Based on the rubric, which score BEST describes the presentation?

There was a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., last week. I was at home and had a dance recital to attend that evening. My friend and I had practiced for several weeks for that performance. I was very cold outside. I looked out the window, and all the houses and cars on my block were covered in snow. I hope we can reschedule our dance performance for another day.

- A** Score 1 **B** Score 2 **C** Score 3 **D** Score 4

4. Read the following writing rubric.

Score

- 3 – Paragraphs begin with a topic sentence to introduce the main idea.
- 2 – Paragraphs have topic sentences, but they fail to introduce the main idea.
- 1 – Paragraphs do not have a topic sentence.

Based on the rubric, which sentence should be added to the BEGINNING of the following paragraph?

She enjoys swimming in their pool. The water is always warm and sparkly blue. Alma loves her uncle's hamburgers. They are the tastiest she has ever eaten. Alma's favorite summer fun is at their house.

- A** Alma loves visiting her aunt and uncle.
- B** There are many things to do in the summer.
- C** Alma loves summertime fun and food.
- D** Swimming is fun in the summertime.

6. Read the following writing rubric.

Score

- 4 – All of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 3 – Most of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 2 – Only some of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 1 – None of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.

Based on the rubric, which sentence does NOT belong in the paragraph below?

(1) Trains are a fun way to travel. (2) Airplane travel is also fun. (3) There are many things to do on a train. (4) People can walk from one car to another. (5) They can eat meals in the dining car. (6) They can watch the scenery go by. (7) More and more people are choosing to travel by train.

- A** Sentence 1
- B** Sentence 2
- C** Sentence 4
- D** Sentence 7

7. Read the following writing rubric.

Score

- 4 – All of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 3 – Most of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 2 – Only some of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.
- 1 – None of the sentences are about the main idea of the paragraph.

Based on the rubric, which sentence does NOT belong in the paragraph below?

(1) My first day at my new school was very scary. (2) I did not know anyone and I was sure that no one would pay any attention to me. (3) When I walked into my classroom, a girl named Nelly greeted me. (4) She showed me to my seat and made me very happy. (5) She and I are best friends now. (6) I used to have a friend named Sarah.

- A** Sentence 2
- B** Sentence 3
- C** Sentence 5
- D** Sentence 6

Cynthia's teacher asked students to write a report about the rattles used by Native Americans. Here is the first draft of Cynthia's report. It may contain errors.

Native American Rattles

1 When you think of the music of Native Americans, do drums come to your mind? Although many tribes used drums, the California Luiseño Indians used only rattles with their music. Their rattles told dancers when to dance or singers when to change the words to a song.

2 The Luiseño made many different kinds of rattles. Each had its own special meaning. One kind was the deer hoof rattle. This rattle stood for the sacrifice of the deer. This animal was the first to be eaten by man. Another kind of rattle made by the Luiseño was the turtle shell rattle. This kind of rattle was a symbol of this animal's unusual ability to travel between the two worlds of air and water. The cocoon rattle, made from the cocoon of a silk moth, was also made by these Indians.

3 Each rattle the Luiseño made had its own special purpose. They used one kind of rattle during a funeral. To send the dead into the next world. Other rattles celebrated a new life coming into the world. Often, families kept rattles and handed them down for generations. They even used some rattles to bring healing to a sick person.

4 They filled some of the rattles with coyote seeds. Coyote seeds were actually a type of seed called manzanita that was eaten by coyotes. Indians collected them from the coyote's scat, or its droppings. They also used small rocks that they found around an anthill. The Luiseño thought the rocks would make the sound of the earth when they played the rattle.

5 Using rattles was an important part of this Native American tribe's past, and continues to be a part of their culture even today.

8. Which sentence would be BEST to add to the beginning of paragraph 4 to improve the focus?

- A** The rattles can make many different sounds.
- B** The rattles could be either large or small in size.
- C** Seeds were very important to the Luiseño's culture.
- D** The Luiseño chose different types of items to fill the rattles.

9. Which of these would be the BEST way to begin paragraph 5?

- A** Clearly,
- B** Instead,
- C** Next,
- D** Then,

10. Which of the following questions could be answered to the end of paragraph 2 to further expand on the ideas within the paragraph?

- A** What materials were needed to make the rattle?
- B** What did they put inside the cocoon rattle?
- C** How significant is the cocoon rattle to the Luiseño?
- D** How did they make the cocoon rattle?

Read the passage and answer the following question(s). This passage may contain errors.

My Favorite Restaurant

My favorite restaurant is called Miguel's. It is a Mexican restaurant. The restaurant is close to my house. It is my favorite because the food is very good. The people that work there are nice. I also like the music they play. I always order the same food, two tacos with beans and rice. The last time we went to Miguel's, my sister spilled her water. I hope that we get to go back soon.

11. Which of the following sentences from the passage does NOT belong in the passage?

- A** It is a Mexican restaurant.
- B** The last time we went to Miguel's, my sister spilled her water.
- C** The people who work there are nice.
- D** My favorite restaurant is called Miguel's.

12. Read the following sentence from "My Favorite Restaurant."

I always order the same food, two tacos with beans and rice.
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This sentence should be AFTER one of the following sentences. Which sentence is it?

- A** It is my favorite because the food is very good.
- B** The last time we went to Miguel's, my sister spilled her water.
- C** I hope that we get to go back soon.
- D** It is a Mexican restaurant.

13. Which of the following sentences is the topic sentence from "My Favorite Restaurant"?

- A** My favorite restaurant is called Miguel's.
- B** I hope that we get to go back soon.
- C** It is a Mexican restaurant.
- D** The restaurant is close to my house.

14. Which of the following sentences is NOT a good supporting detail from "My Favorite Restaurant"?

- A** It is my favorite restaurant because the food is very good.
- B** The people that work there are nice.
- C** I also like the music they play.
- D** The last time we went to Miguel's, my sister spilled her water.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

The Wolf, The Goat, and The Kid

A goat was leaving to graze among the fresh grass. Before she went, she had a warning for her kid. She pointed to her white hoof and said, "Do not open the door unless you see this sign and hear the password, 'honey'." The wolf, who was prowling around outside, overheard the password. The goat did not see the wolf and went on her way. As soon as she left, the wolf knocked at the door. He asked to be let in, saying, "honey." The very smart kid peeked through the crack in the door and said, "Show me your white hoof, or else I will not open the door." Upon hearing these words, the wolf went slinking home. Where would the kid be now if he believed the password that the wolf overheard?

15. Which sentence would you add to make the story easier to understand?

- A** The wolf's paws were grey, not white.
- B** The goat was going out to gather dinner for her kid.
- C** The wolf liked to trick goats and their kids.
- D** The goat would not have left if she knew that the wolf was there.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Earth

Earth is very different from the rest of the planets in our solar system. Our solar system contains four inner planets and four outer planets. The inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. The outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are often called the "gaseous planets" because they are mostly made of gases. The inner planets are often called the "rocky planets." Earth is the largest of the four inner planets. It is also the third planet from the Sun.

Earth is often called the "Water Planet." This is because it is the only planet which has water in its liquid form on its surface. About 70% of the surface of Earth is covered by water. The rest of the Earth is made of landforms.

Earth spins very quickly compared to other planets. It only takes Earth 23 hours and 56 minutes to spin around its axis one time. One Earth day is nearly 24 hours long. Earth orbits the sun in 365 days. This makes one Earth year 365 days long. In comparison, it takes Mars 24 hours and 36 minutes to spin around its axis one time. A Martian year is 670 days long.

16. Which sentence is the BEST topic sentence for the passage?

- A** Earth is very different from the rest of the planets in our solar system.
- B** Earth is often called the "Water Planet."
- C** Our solar system contains four inner planets and five outer planets.
- D** Earth spins very quickly compared to other planets.

17. Which sentence could be added to the passage to give more information about MAIN idea?

- A** Earth is the only planet that appears able to sustain complex life forms like humans and other animals.
- B** There are visible rings of gas and ice surrounding the planet Saturn.
- C** Neptune is the planet furthest away from the Sun.
- D** Venus is similar to Earth in size and has similar levels of gravity.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Owning A Dog

Dogs need to be loved and cared for. They love to be played with and taken care of. Dogs also love to run around, chew on bones, and sleep in the warm sun. Dogs are not always easy though. They need to be fed every day and they need lots of attention. They also need someone to clean up after them and bathe them when they are dirty. Dogs are so much fun, but remember that they need lots of care.

18. Which sentence would make the BEST topic sentence for the passage?

- A** Dogs chew on bones and make messes.
- B** I love my dog because he is a lot of fun.
- C** Dogs are great pets to have.
- D** Pets are a big responsibility.

19. Which sentence could be added to the passage to help support the main idea?

- A** Cats are also need lots of attention.
- B** Bull dogs are the best kind of dogs.
- C** Buying a dog is a bad idea.
- D** Dogs lick you and wag their tail when they see you.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Theme Parks

Theme parks are a great place to visit. They have many different rides. Some of the rides are fast and some are scary. If you get tired, you can find somewhere relaxing to rest. You can rest on a bench or a nice patch of grass. When you get hungry, there are many places to eat. You can choose food such as pizza and hamburgers. After you eat, you can get in line for another ride. At the end of the day, you will be happy because you had a fun time.

20. Which of the following sentences would make the BEST topic sentence for the passage?

- A** Disneyland is the best theme park of all.
- B** If you want to have a fun day outside, then you should visit a theme park.
- C** Pizza would be the best choice for lunch at a theme park.
- D** The scariest rides will make your day.

21. Which sentence could be added to the passage to help support the main idea?

- A** You can visit theme parks with family and friends.
- B** Knott's Berry Farm is also a great place to visit.
- C** The worst part about theme parks is that they can be very crowded.
- D** Hamburgers are the best choice because they are juicy.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Tortoise and Turtle

Did you know that a tortoise is not a turtle? Tortoises spend the majority of their time on land. They visit bodies of water only to drink or bathe. In contrast, turtles live in water all the time. Many people have pet turtles. People feed them apples, grapes, beans, and corn. Surprisingly, they even eat spinach! But, you may wonder, how exactly do turtles eat?

Did you know that turtles don't have teeth? Some people think they do. Instead, turtles have beaks for biting. Baby turtles have an egg-tooth, which is like a scale. Baby turtles use this scale for eating. The scale goes away when the turtle is still young.

As they age, both turtles and tortoises can become very large. The largest tortoise living today is in a zoo. It weighs in at an incredible 882 pounds! There is a tortoise in the wild that weighs 672 pounds. Both of these big creatures are island tortoises. Interestingly, the biggest turtle living today is not a tortoise. It is a sea turtle that is six feet long. It weighs a whopping 1,300 pounds! Even though we imagine that turtles are smaller than tortoises, turtles can actually be much bigger than their shelled relatives.

22. Which sentence is the topic sentence for the passage?

- A** Did you know that a tortoise is not a turtle?
- B** Many people have pet turtles.
- C** As they age, both turtles and tortoises can become very large.
- D** Tortoises spend the majority of their time on land.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Ice Cream

Rebecca loves to eat ice cream. She would eat it after every meal. Her favorite flavor is vanilla.

Rebecca got an ice cream maker for her birthday. Now she makes ice cream for all of her friends.

Rebecca has to go to the dentist! She ate too much ice cream.

23. What is the topic sentence for this passage?

- A** Rebecca got an ice cream maker for her birthday.
- B** Rebecca has to go to the dentist.
- C** Rebecca loves to eat ice cream.
- D** Now she makes ice cream for all of her friends.

32 Read the following draft of a paragraph. It is missing a topic sentence.

Where could his shoes be? He looked under his bed, but only found an old peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Jeremy looked in his dark closet, but only found his dirty pair of jeans. Where could they be? Jeremy suddenly remembered. His shoes were still on his feet.

Which of the following sentences would be the BEST topic sentence for the paragraph?

- A** Jeremy loves his new shoes.
- B** Jeremy found his shoes.
- C** Jeremy could not find his shoes.
- D** Jeremy has misplaced several things.

24. Read the following draft of a paragraph. It is missing a topic sentence.

Scientists say that a disease could be causing the bees to disappear. Another cause of their disappearance may be the chemicals that farmers use to get rid of unwanted insects on crops.

Which of the following sentences would be the BEST topic sentence for the paragraph?

- A** More than one-fourth of the honey bees in the United States have disappeared, and scientists are trying to figure out why.
- B** It is important to be careful around bees, because they can possibly harm you.
- C** Entomologists are scientists who study bees and other insects.
- D** As they feed, honeybees spread pollen from flower to flower.

25. Read the paragraph:

It was fun to sleep in a tent because I could hear all of the animals at night. The top of the tent looked like a screen so we could see all of the stars. We made all of our meals using our camping stove. We had to fill up a bucket with water to wash the dishes. At night we roasted marshmallows on the campfire. During the day we took small hikes down into the canyon. We also rode our bikes around the campground. I can't wait until I go camping again.

Which of the following sentences would be the BEST topic sentence for the paragraph?

- A** Last summer, I went camping with my family at the Grand Canyon.
- B** I like camping.
- C** I like the Grand Canyon.
- D** I went hiking at the Grand Canyon.

26. For a paragraph about wild zebras in Africa, which of the following would be the BEST topic sentence?

- A** Zebras can be found in zoos all over the world.
- B** Many types of zebras live on the plains of Africa.
- C** Every zebra has a unique stripe pattern.
- D** Zebras look much like horses.

This is the first draft of Joshua's report on porcupine fish. It may contain errors.

Porcupine Fish

(1) I visited the aquarium. (2) I wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish. (3) There were also many other unusual fish there. (4) First, I learned that the porcupine fish gets its name from the spines all over its body and head. (5) These spines are very important to this fish. (6) If it is in danger, it can puff up its body by taking in water. (7) When its body puffs up, the spines sticks up and scare other animals away. (8) I also discovered that these fish are found mostly in coral reef areas near the seashore. (9) They are nocturnal fish. (10) They only come out of their shelters at night. (11) I learned these fish have strong, beak-like mouths for eating animals such as snails hermit crabs and sea urchins. (12) Their powerful jaws can crack open the shells of these animals before eating them. (13) These incredible porcupine fish have become my favorite ocean creature!

27. Joshua wants to explain more about where the porcupine fish get shelter with the following sentence.

They find shelter in holes or cracks within the reef.

Where should Joshua place this supporting detail in this paragraph?

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| A after sentence 5 | C after sentence 10 |
| B after sentence 8 | D after sentence 12 |

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

A Real Blast

Mount St. Helens is a volcano in the state of Washington. In 1980, it erupted for the first time in 123 years. Scientists had thought that it was going to erupt. For months, they had been tracking the rumbling in the mountain. They warned the people who lived on the mountain to leave their homes. On May 18, 1980 an earthquake started before the eruption. The volcano blew off the top of the mountain.

The explosion was very powerful. It blew off the top 1,300 feet of the mountain! The shock from the blast knocked down all the trees for many miles. Ash rose 80,000 feet into the air. Large rocks and wet dirt rolled down the mountain in a huge landslide. Boiling lava melted the snow instantly. The water and the soil mixed, creating a huge mudflow. The mudflow raced down the mountain. It buried the forests and killed the animals that lived there. It ripped apart homes.

For hours after the explosion, the sky was dark. The ash was so thick it blocked the sunlight. Wind blew the ash to a dozen states. It covered cars and lawns. Sometimes the ash started fires.

Fifty-seven people died the day Mount St. Helens erupted. They did not want to leave their homes. Other people left their homes in time. They were safe.

28. Which sentence from the passage "A Real Blast" BEST supports the main idea below?

The explosion was very powerful.

- A** Mount St. Helens is a volcano in the state of Washington.
- B** It blew off the top 1,300 feet of the mountain!
- C** Sometimes the ash started fires.
- D** In 1980, it erupted for the first time in 123 years.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Thank a Sheep

Things Made from Wool

Wool is used for many things. You might have a wool sweater or a pair of wool socks. A wool blanket might be used to keep you warm at night. Wool is used for many other things too. Did you know that wool is used to create baseballs? Wool is stuffed inside a baseball and the baseball is sewn with wool thread.

Getting the Wool

Wool comes from a living thing. Every spring, ranchers round up their sheep to shear, or remove, their thick wool coats. Shearing does not hurt the sheep. It is like getting a haircut. When the shearing is finished, the wool is taken to a factory.

Preparing the Wool

At the factory, the wool is washed. Body oil trapped in the wool is separated from the wash water. This is easy to do because water and oil do not mix. The oil is called lanolin. Companies buy lanolin to add to skin lotions, soap, and even makeup. Lanolin is helpful for softening people's skin.

Uses of Wool

After the wool is washed, a machine combs it to make it straight. Most of the wool is dyed different colors. Then the wool is spun into yarn. Many items in our homes are from yarn. Our clothes, blankets, and rugs all come from yarn. Baseballs, mats to soak up oil spills, and stuffing inside walls come from the rest of the wool. Wool is a lot different than cotton. We need wool. Thank you, sheep!

29. Which of the following sentences from the passage "Thank a Sheep", is a good supporting detail for the sentence below?

Wool is used for many things.

- A** Wool comes from a living thing.
- B** Did you know wool is used to create baseballs?
- C** After the wool is washed, a machine combs it to make it straight.
- D** We need wool.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Ocean Waves

Ocean waves are very powerful. Over hundreds of years, they can wear away even the hardest kinds of rock. In some places, crashing waves turn land along the coast into steep rocky cliffs.

39 Which of the following sentences would provide the BEST supporting detail for "Ocean Waves"?

- A** Waves can cause the cliffs to wear down just by making pebbles or stones crash into the cliffs over and over.
- B** I like to watch the waves fall over the cliffs, especially during a storm.
- C** Waves are not the only things that can cause the cliffs to wear down.
- D** The ocean is home to millions of different kinds of creatures, and the cliffs are a good place to go to find some of them.

Read the passage and answer the following question(s).

Earth

Earth is very different from the rest of the planets in our solar system. Our solar system contains four inner planets and four outer planets. The inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. The outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. The outer planets are often called the "gaseous planets" because they are mostly made of gases. The inner planets are often called the "rocky planets." Earth is the largest of the four inner planets. It is also the third planet from the Sun.

Earth is often called the "Water Planet." This is because it is the only planet which has water in its liquid form on its surface. About 70% of the surface of Earth is covered by water. The rest of the Earth is made of landforms.

Earth spins very quickly compared to other planets. It only takes Earth 23 hours and 56 minutes to spin around its axis one time. One Earth day is nearly 24 hours long. Earth orbits the sun in 365 days. This makes one Earth year 365 days long. In comparison, it takes Mars 24 hours and 36 minutes to spin around its axis one time. A Martian year is 670 days long.

30. Which sentence could be added to the passage to provide clarity to its main idea?

- A** Earth is the only planet that appears able to sustain complex life forms like humans and other animals.
- B** There are visible rings of gas and ice surrounding the planet Saturn.
- C** Pluto is the planet furthest away from the Sun.
- D** Venus is similar to Earth in size and has similar levels of gravity.