

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

English Language Arts  
Paper-Pencil Practice  
**Test Booklet**

Grades 6–High School

**This test booklet contains several different types of questions as shown below. Each sample shows what a certain type of question looks like in the test booklet. Respond to each problem in your answer booklet. Let's practice!**

**Sample A – Multiple-choice, single-correct response:**

Which sentence has an error in verb tense?

- A.** Even though we were both tired, we decided to go to the party.
- B.** After eating dinner, the family went for a walk in the nearby park.
- C.** He is not sure if he should drive to his friend's house or if he should take the bus.
- D.** Once she knows the due date, she made a plan to finish her paper over the weekend.

**Sample B – Multiple-choice, multiple-correct response:**

A student is writing a report about Spain. He is looking for information about the weather.

Choose **two** sentences that have information about the weather in Spain.

- A.** Madrid is the capital of Spain.
- B.** Spain usually has hot, dry summers.
- C.** Spain has both mountains and beaches.
- D.** Many people visit Spain to see its historic buildings.
- E.** November is the rainiest month in many parts of Spain.

**Sample C – Two-part multiple choice, with evidence responses:**

**Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.**

**From President Ronald Reagan’s First Inaugural  
Address, January 20, 1981**

We have every right to dream heroic dreams. Those who say that we are in a time when there are no heroes just don’t know where to look. You can see heroes every day going in and out of factory gates. Others, a handful in number, produce enough food to feed all of us and then the world beyond. You meet heroes across a counter—and they are on both sides of that counter.

This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

Which central idea is expressed in the passage?

- A.** People should work hard to become heroes.
- B.** People who believe there are no heroes are wrong.
- C.** Ordinary people we see in our daily lives are heroes.
- D.** Those people who feed the world are the greatest heroes.

**Part B**

Which detail from the passage **best** supports your answer to part A?

- A.** “We have every right to dream . . .”
- B.** “. . . a time when there are no heroes . . .”
- C.** “You can see heroes every day . . .”
- D.** “. . . produce enough food to feed all of us . . .”

**Sample D – Matching-table response:**

Complete the chart to show when different objects are usually visible in the sky. For each object listed, select either D for day or N for night.

	<b>day</b>	<b>night</b>
<b>a. clouds</b>	<b>(D)</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>b. comets</b>	<b>(D)</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>c. sun rays</b>	<b>(D)</b>	<b>(N)</b>
<b>d. moonbeams</b>	<b>(D)</b>	<b>(N)</b>

**Sample E – Short-text response:**

A student is writing a story for class about a busy day in the life of a teenager. Read the paragraphs from the story and complete the task that follows.

“Travis, don’t forget your soccer shorts and socks in the laundry room,” my mother called to me this morning as she ran out to catch the bus to work, coffee in hand.

“Sure thing, Mom!” I hollered as I wolfed down my cereal and grabbed my backpack.

Then I saw Sam outside waiting to walk to school, and out the door I went. No shorts or socks in hand.

Now here I am after school, late for soccer practice because I have to race home to get these pesky articles of clothing. Instead of slowing down and thinking about why I am so forgetful these days, I’m running as fast as I can. I’ve got to get back to practice before the coach notices!

In one or two paragraphs, write an ending for the narrative that solves the problem using details and description. **Write your answer in the lines provided in the answer booklet.**

**Sample F– Full write response:**

**Your Assignment:**

Now that you have completed research on the topic of sleep, the journalism club advisor has asked you to write an explanatory article about sleep and naps for the next issue of the school newspaper. The audience for your article will be other students, teachers, and parents.

Using more than one source, develop a thesis/controlling idea to explain about sleep and naps. Once you have a thesis/controlling idea, select the most relevant information from more than one source to support your thesis/controlling idea. Then, write a multiparagraph explanatory article explaining your thesis/controlling idea. Clearly organize your article and elaborate your ideas. Unless quoting directly from the sources, use your own words. Be sure to reference the source title or number when quoting or paraphrasing details or facts from the sources. **Write your answer in the lines provided in the answer booklet.**

**SAMPLES**

**A**  A  B  C  D

**D**  a  b  c  d

**B**  A  B  C  D  E  
Select **two**.

**b**  D  E

**C Part A**  A  B  C  D

**c**  a  b  c  d

**Part B**  A  B  C  D

**d**  D  E

**E**

Write your response here.

In no time, I turn onto my street and see my house ahead on the left. Running up the front steps of my porch, I slide my backpack around to my stomach so that I can get out my house key. I'm in such a desperate hurry that I pound on the front door even though I know that no one is home. Finally, I find the key and shove it into the lock to open the door. I rush into the laundry room and find my shorts and socks still lying right there. Sprinting back out the front door, I grab my bike off the porch.

As I pedal back to school, my mind is racing about what went wrong this morning. It seems I'm always rushing around in the morning on school days. My mother's voice rings in my head: "You just need to set your alarm earlier, Travis!" As I reach the school grounds, I let out a deep breath and admit to myself that Mom is probably right. I pedal around to the back of the school and decide to give her advice a chance this time. Anything will be better than feeling this worried. Dropping my bike near the soccer field, I run toward my teammates feeling a little relieved about my plan, but mostly excited that tomorrow is Saturday!

**Sample F is not included.**

### Practice Questions

**Student directions:** This section of the test booklet contains more questions to practice on your own. On the actual summative assessment you will read a passage before answering reading questions. For this practice test source materials are not included.

- 1 The reader can infer that the narrator is in charge of the group. Which sentence from the text best supports this inference?

Which sentence from the text **best** supports this inference?

- A. There we drove down a dry ravine on our winding way to the river bottoms, stopping now and then to gather a store of wild currants and gooseberries which grew in abundance.
- B. There was in the company a girl of about Susan's age, whose name was Mary Parker, and from that time I had two companions as I rode in advance of the train.
- C. I could have found no fault with these new members of our company, for they obeyed my orders without question from the oldest man to the youngest child.
- D. It was such a sight as I had seen more than once, but to my companions it was terrifying at the same time that it commanded their closest attention.

**Practice Questions**

- 2 This question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Part A**

Which statement **best** summarizes the central idea of the text?

- A. Several small families traveled the lengthy Oregon Trail.
- B. There were numerous small towns along the Oregon Trail.
- C. Many hardships and obstacles were met on the Oregon Trail.
- D. Stormy weather often faced the travelers on the Oregon Trail.

**Part B**

Which detail from the text **best** supports your answer in Part A?

- A. Susan rode with me, as she had from the beginning of the journey. Nothing of note happened to us, unless I should set down that this day was stormy, and on that day the sun shone, until we came into the valley of the North Fork of the Platte, through a pass which is known as Ash Hollow.
- B. Truly it was a small company to set out on so long a march, and when the leader begged that they be allowed to join us, I could not object, understanding that unless the strangers had someone of experience to guide them, the chances were strongly against their arriving at the Columbia River.
- C. Mary Parker was a companionable girl, and she and Susan often cheered me on the long way, for even when the rain was coming down in torrents, drenching them to the skin, they rode by my side, laughing and singing.
- D. This fort, if it can be called such, is simply a wall enclosing an open square of twenty-five yards each way, along the sides of which are the dwellings, storerooms, blacksmith shops, carpenter shops, and offices all fronting inside, while from the outside can be seen only two gates, one of which faces the north and the other the south.



## Grades 6-HS ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

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### Practice Questions

- 3 A student is writing a realistic fiction narrative for language arts class. Read the draft of the narrative and complete the task that follows.

#### An Important Decision

With a few clicks on the school's website, I find what I am looking for - the dates for volleyball tryouts. Nothing makes me happier than that sport. Whether I am casually bumping the ball with friends in the backyard or spiking one into the opposition's court with laser accuracy, I feel completely alive. Even though the official tryouts are a few weeks away, I have been practicing relentlessly when the gymnasium is open to students.

My excitement leads me to call my best friend Katelyn. As soon as I hear the line ringing, a thought occurs to me and makes my heart flutter. The first day of tryouts is the same date as Katelyn's dance recital! She is depending on my moral support. When Katelyn's chipper voice answers, a sudden paralysis takes over my mind and body. Eventually I mumble, "Hey Katelyn . . . hang on a second . . . uh, let me call you back."

Continue the narrative by writing one to three paragraphs that help readers better understand the central conflict of the story. **Write your answer in the lines provided in the answer booklet.**

- 4 Select the **two** sentences that are punctuated correctly.
- A. While I was growing up in the Midwest my favorite question to hear from my parents was "Guess where we're going this time?"
  - B. Although by that point, my parents had the whole vacation planned out; the moment they told me, I started looking up the location to see what activities were available.
  - C. When I was eight my family voted on a vacation to New York City where we stayed in downtown Times Square. Then later when I was ten we flew to Florida again, this time we departed on a cruise to Mexico, Jamaica and the Bahamas for a second time.
  - D. The average life expectancy is seventy years on this planet, this planet has so many different geological features, different climates and different cultures.
  - E. The places I have already visited make my curiosity even greater, and I think that it's important to view the world and ways of life from a different point of view.
  - F. Last year when I was sixteen we went on another cruise where we sailed the Western Caribbean to Puerto Rico, the Bahamas yet again and St Thomas.

**Practice Questions**

**Student Directions: On the actual summative assessment you will read multiple sources before answering research questions. For this practice test source materials are not included.**

**5** Look at the claims in the table. Decide if the information in Source #3, Source #4, both sources, or neither source supports each claim. Select the box that identifies the source that supports each claim. There will be only one box selected for each claim.

	<b>Source #3: Give a Penny—Save the Day!</b>	<b>Source #4: The Ever-Changing Penny</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Neither</b>
<b>a.</b> The penny has more value than what it can buy.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>b.</b> Rounding price totals will cause an increase in prices.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>c.</b> The low value of a penny is a good thing.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<b>d.</b> Changing the metals in the penny is a possible solution for people who want to keep the penny.	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)