

Tennessee Blueprint TCAP Coach, Gold Edition,
Reading & Language Arts, Grade 7

PRACTICE TEST A



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Tennessee Blueprint TCAP Coach, Gold Edition, Reading & Language Arts, Grade 7,
Practice Test A

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Directions Read the passage. Then answer Sample A.

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Sample Passage

The day of the music recital had finally arrived. Phil had been practicing the piano for weeks. All of Mrs. Overton's students were going to perform at the recital. Phil's piece was a movement from a sonata by Haydn. It was by far the most challenging piece Phil had ever played. But Mrs. Overton had convinced Phil that he could do it. He just hoped she was right.

Sample A This passage is mostly about

- A** a composer named Haydn
- B** Phil getting ready for a recital
- C** Mrs. Overton's piano lessons
- D** different kinds of music

Directions

Here is a passage a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 The librarian at my school told me “about a dog from her neighborhood that had been picked up and taken to the pound.”
2 When I went home and told my dad, he decided we should go to the pound to rescue the dog. 3 She was a blue-eyed husky. 4 At the pound, us saw another dog that was very friendly. 5 He was black and white and looked like a lab.
6 The man at the pound said that a lot of people were interested in the husky. 7 We decided to take home the friendly dog instead.
8 We named him Henry.

Sample B

Choose the best way to write Sentence 1.

- F The librarian at my school told me about a dog from her neighborhood that had been picked up and taken to the pound.
- G “The librarian at my school told me about a dog from her neighborhood that had been picked up and taken to the pound.”
- H The “librarian at my school” told me about a dog “from her neighborhood” that had been picked up and taken to the pound.
- J Best as it is

Sample C

Choose the best way to write Sentence 4.

- A At the pound, they saw another dog that was very friendly.
- B At the pound, me saw another dog that was very friendly.
- C At the pound, we saw another dog that was very friendly.
- D Best as it is

Part 1

Directions

Read the passage. Then answer Numbers 1 through 10.

Storytelling

People have been telling stories for a long time. Before the written word existed, the village or family storyteller passed on knowledge to others in a better way. It could be in the form of history, instruction, or the celebration of great deeds or foolish actions. The storyteller held a privileged position in the community. Young people also told stories as a way to learn how to deal with an often-mysterious world. And old people used stories to keep memories alive and to draw lessons from the past.

The storyteller has an honored place in eastern Tennessee. The town of Jonesborough holds the National Storytelling Festival every October. Thousands of people attend and listen to famous storytellers from around the country. The festival's success has inspired other communities to hold similar storytelling events. Jimmy Neil Smith, a former journalism teacher and mayor, began Jonesborough's festival as a way to turn the Appalachian community into a tourist attraction. And the festival has done just that.

The oral story has a quality that makes it different from the written story. Although the written story has the advantage of being revised to near perfection, the oral story benefits from word tones and nonverbal gestures. The storyteller can also alter the story to suit his or her audience. (You would probably not tell a story the same way if you were telling it to parents as opposed to friends.) Some of the world's most famous stories began as oral stories. The fables of Aesop and the fairytales and nursery rhymes of Europe, Africa, and other continents were handed down from generation to generation before being put into print. The most common Cinderella story came from France, but there are more than 700 similar versions coming from different places around the world. That is because folktales have universal appeal, and storytellers use the same storylines.

Jonesborough's festival has made the town of about 4,000 central to the oral storytelling movement. Two organizations based in Jonesborough advocate storytelling. The National Storytelling Network links storytellers to other festivals. The International Storytelling Center, housed in a new building built for the organization, runs programs year-round to promote storytelling on an international level. Another group, the National Youth Storytelling Showcase, began in Jonesborough and has since moved to nearby Pigeon Forge. It gives young people a place to come and tell their stories at a separate festival.

Educators use the oral story as another way to teach language. Young Americans need to master reading skills if they are to do well with other subjects. Oral stories reinforce written stories and help students better understand wisdom and instruction. All of us tell stories at one time or another. Stories are one of the main ways we communicate. And stories can bring people together. To quote a storyteller at a recent National Storytelling Festival, "Go home. Tell stories to the people you love."

1 The author most likely wrote this passage to

- A entertain readers with a folktale
- B inform readers about oral storytelling
- C describe various ways to tell a story
- D convince readers to visit Jonesborough

2 Based on information presented in the passage, the reader can infer that

- F oral storytelling first began in Tennessee
- G no one cares about oral storytelling anymore
- H oral storytelling is very old
- J Cinderella was first a written story

3 What would be the most appropriate title for this passage?

- A Visiting Jonesborough
- B The History of Aesop's Fables
- C Stories from Around the World
- D The Revival of Oral Storytelling

4 Read the sentence.

Although the written story has the advantage of being revised to near perfection, the oral story benefits from word tones and nonverbal gestures.

The word *revised* could best be replaced by

- F** cleaned
- G** updated
- H** whispered
- J** spoken

5 Which sentence from the passage is an opinion?

- A** Before the written word existed, the village or family storyteller passed on knowledge to others in a better way.
- B** The town of Jonesborough holds the National Storytelling Festival every October.
- C** Another group, the National Youth Storytelling Showcase, began in Jonesborough and has since moved to nearby Pigeon Forge.
- D** To quote a storyteller at a recent National Storytelling Festival, “Go home. Tell stories to the people you love.”

6 Which sentence best describes the type of audience this passage was written for?

- F** It was written for little kids because it talks about Cinderella.
- G** It was written for teachers because it describes using storytelling to teach language.
- H** It was written for professional writers because it presents details about stories.
- J** It was written for a general audience because it uses informal language.

7 Read this sentence from the passage.

Two organizations based in Jonesborough advocate storytelling.

Which of these is the best meaning for *advocate*?

- A** welcome
- B** criticize
- C** promote
- D** dislike

8 What is the main idea of the passage?

- F** Oral storytelling is an old tradition that is getting a new life.
- G** Oral storytelling isn't important anymore now that there is writing.
- H** Only people in Tennessee care about oral storytelling.
- J** Oral storytelling has some advantages over written stories.

9 Why did other storytelling organizations start up in Jonesborough after the Storytelling Festival began?

- A** People wanted to make money from visitors coming to Jonesborough for the festival.
- B** People realized how important oral storytelling is once they saw how popular the festival was.
- C** There are a lot of stories to tell about Jonesborough, Tennessee.
- D** People thought they could do a better job of sharing oral storytelling than the people who run the festival.

10 Eloise wants to learn more information about oral storytelling.

Which source of information would be the most reliable?

- F** a diary
- G** a short story
- H** an encyclopedia entry
- J** a biography about Aesop

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

¹ Pizza has been around in some form for centuries. ² Many cultures that developed near the Mediterranean Sea made simple types of flat bread, but it wasn't until the 1800s that pizza as we know it first appeared in Italy. ³ It was made mainly by peasants who wanted a cheap, easy way of feeding his families. ⁴ This basic pizza was topped with olive oil cheese and tomatoes. ⁵ Italian immigrants brought pizza with them when they came to America at the turn of the century but it wasn't until the 1940s and '50s that pizza became popular across the country. ⁶ Soldiers returning from World War II will bring back a taste for this strange European food. ⁷ Americans gave it their own twist by adding different meats and vegetables. ⁸ Before long, pizza had become as American as apple pie.

11 Choose the best way to write Sentence 2.

- A** Many cultures that developed near the Mediterranean Sea made simple types of flat bread but it wasn't until the 1800s that pizza as we know it first appeared in Italy.
- B** Many cultures that developed near the Mediterranean Sea made simple types of flat bread but, it wasn't until the 1800s that pizza as we know it first appeared in Italy.
- C** Many cultures that developed near the Mediterranean Sea made simple types of flat bread it wasn't until the 1800s that pizza as we know it first appeared in Italy.
- D** Best as it is

12 Choose the best way to write Sentence 3.

- F** It was made mainly by peasants who wanted a cheap, easy way of feeding their families.
- G** It was made mainly by peasants who wanted a cheap, easy way of feeding they families.
- H** It was made mainly by peasants who wanted a cheap, easy way of feeding our families.
- J** Best as it is

13 Choose the best way to write Sentence 4.

- A** This basic pizza was topped with, olive oil, cheese, and, tomatoes.
- B** This basic pizza was topped with olive oil, cheese, and tomatoes.
- C** This basic pizza, was topped with, olive oil cheese, and tomatoes.
- D** Best as it is

14 Choose the best way to write Sentence 6.

- F** Soldiers returning from World War II will have brought back a taste for this strange European food.
- G** Soldiers returning from World War II brought back a taste for this strange European food.
- H** Soldiers returning from World War II are bringing back a taste for this strange European food.
- J** Best as it is

15 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- A** Before long pizza, had become as American as apple pie.
- B** Before long pizza had, become as American as apple pie.
- C** Before long pizza had become, as American as apple pie.
- D** Best as it is

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 The movie Jurassic Park was a made-up story over dinosaurs.
2 It was about bringing prehistoric creatures back to life. 3 Of course, we was just a movie. 4 Nothing like that could really happen, right? 5 In 1938, however, an odd-looking fish was caught off the coast of Africa. 6 Scientists identified the strange fish as a coelacanth they were very excited. 7 This type of fish had lived 300 million years ago. 8 Since 1938, many more coelacanths have been caught. 9 Although the rediscovery of a fish may not be as dramatic as Jurassic Park. 10 The coelacanth is one prehistoric animal that has actually come back to life.

16 Choose the best way to write Sentence 1.

- F The movie Jurassic Park was a made-up story without dinosaurs.
- G The movie Jurassic Park was a made-up story under dinosaurs.
- H The movie Jurassic Park was a made-up story about dinosaurs.
- J Best as it is

17 Choose the best way to write Sentence 3.

- A Of course, they was just a movie.
- B Of course, it was just a movie.
- C Of course, he was just a movie.
- D Best as it is

18 Choose the best way to write Sentence 6.

- F Scientists identified the strange fish as a coelacanth; they were very excited.
- G Scientists identified the strange fish as a coelacanth and they were very excited.
- H Scientists identified the strange fish as a coelacanth, they were very excited.
- J Best as it is

19 Choose the best way to write Sentence 7.

- A This type of fish will live 300 million years ago.
- B This type of fish lives 300 million years ago.
- C This type of fish is living 300 million years ago.
- D Best as it is

20 Choose the best way to combine Sentences 9 and 10.

- F Although the rediscovery of a fish may not be as dramatic as Jurassic Park, and the coelacanth is one prehistoric animal that has actually come back to life.
- G Although the rediscovery of a fish may not be as dramatic as Jurassic Park and the coelacanth is one prehistoric animal that has actually come back to life.
- H Although the rediscovery of a fish may not be as dramatic as Jurassic Park, the coelacanth is one prehistoric animal that has actually come back to life.
- J Best as it is

Directions

Read the poem. Then answer Numbers 21 through 30.

Traffic Tale

by Julian Green

Here's a tale of automotive anxiety,
and I know it is the truth because it happened to me.
Don't dis it, dismiss it, or otherwise kiss it
good-bye before you listen or you'll miss the bliss. It
is a summer day, the sun is hanging high.
I am flying down the street like I am Super Guy.
All at once I see—this dude in back of me
in my mirror coming nearer like a swarming bee!
His mouth is open wide, and he's "dissatisfied."
Figure I'd be driving faster if I let him decide.
But check the light, it's red, and I slow down instead.
In the reflection, he's an animal that hasn't been fed.
Now the light turns green, my foot comes off the brake,
and I'm about to stomp the gas when there's a major earthquake.
No, wait—I guess that sound is just a honking horn.
The guy behind me thinks I'm slower than growing corn.
We start to move, he passes—like he's racing molasses.
He disappears so fast, I think I might need new glasses.

In part two of our story, our tale of traffic and glory,
the tables are spun, and I am only sorry
I never saw his face when I put him in his place.
So listen while I glisten like a star up in space.
Now I am heading back—along the very same track—
when I find that I'm behind Mr. Sonic Attack.
The situation's the same, both the players and the game.
But this time, in this rhyme, the rear car's in *my* name.
Again the light turns green, and I wait and I wait,
and if he hit the gas now, it would still be too late.
So with a delicate touch, I give my horn a blast,
and ahead of me the rocket man takes off at last.

I'll never know whether it occurred to this clown,
but the lesson is, what goes around—comes around.

21 Which line from the poem contains an example of a simile?

- A All at once I see—this dude in back of me
- B in my mirror coming nearer like a swarming bee!
- C His mouth is open wide, and he’s “dissatisfied.”
- D Figure I’d be driving faster if I let him decide.

22 Read this line from the poem.

In the reflection, he’s an animal that hasn’t been fed.

Which kind of figurative language is the author using here?

- F personification
- G simile
- H alliteration
- J metaphor

23 What rhyme pattern does the poem follow?

- A *aabb*
- B *abba*
- C *abcb*
- D *abca*

24 What is the theme of “Traffic Tale”?

- F Always put safety first.
- G You get what you give.
- H It pays to be prepared.
- J It’s better to ride the bus.

25 The author most likely wrote this poem to

- A persuade readers to drive more slowly
- B inform readers about the importance of traffic lights
- C convince readers to treat others how they want to be treated
- D tell a funny story about an impatient driver

26 Read this line from the poem.

Here's a tale of automotive anxiety,

Which of these is the best meaning for *anxiety*?

- F stress
- G peace
- H fun
- J anger

27 Read this line from the poem.

Don't dis it, dismiss it, or otherwise kiss it

Which kind of literary device is the author using here?

- A simile
- B onomatopoeia
- C alliteration
- D rhyme

28 The poem is written from which point of view?

- F** first person
- G** second person
- H** third-person limited
- J** third-person omniscient

29 What conclusion can be drawn about the speaker of this poem?

- A** He doesn't care if he gets to go through the light.
- B** He knows that you will eventually be treated the way you treat others.
- C** He thinks the other driver must be somebody very important.
- D** He is afraid the other driver will yell at him.

30 Read this line from the poem.

His mouth is open wide, and he's "dissatisfied."

The word *dissatisfied* means

- F** less satisfied
- G** oversatisfied
- H** not satisfied
- J** satisfied before

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

¹ Shipwrecks in rivers lakes and ocean beds around the world provide a wealth of information on the lives of our ancestors.

² Water preserves objects for thousands of years, keeping it in far better condition than if it had been buried underground. ³ Treasure-hunting is a very profitable activity, and thousands of treasure hunters rob shipwrecks to cell they're contents. ⁴ Collectors pay enormous prices for treasures found in shipwrecks. ⁵ When treasures end up in private colleckshuns, they cannot be studied, understood, or shared buy the public. ⁶ To protect this cultural heritage, the United Nations adopted an agreement in 2001 that prohibits underwater digs for commercial profit.

31 Choose the best way to write Sentence 1.

- A** Shipwrecks in rivers, lakes, and ocean beds around the world provide a wealth of information on the lives of our ancestors.
- B** Shipwrecks in rivers, lakes, and, ocean beds, around the world provide a wealth of information on the lives of our ancestors.
- C** Shipwrecks in rivers, lakes, and ocean beds, around the world, provide a wealth, of information on the lives of our ancestors.
- D** Best as it is

32 Choose the best way to write Sentence 2.

- F** Water preserves objects for thousands of years, keeping them in far better condition than if it had been buried underground.
- G** Water preserves objects for thousands of years, keeping it in far better condition than if they had been buried underground.
- H** Water preserves objects for thousands of years, keeping them in far better condition than if they had been buried underground.
- J** Best as it is

33 Choose the best way to write Sentence 3.

- A** Treasure-hunting is a very profitable activity, and thousands of treasure hunters rob shipwrecks to sell they're contents.
- B** Treasure-hunting is a very profitable activity, and thousands of treasure hunters rob shipwrecks to cell there contents.
- C** Treasure-hunting is a very profitable activity, and thousands of treasure hunters rob shipwrecks to sell their contents.
- D** Best as it is

34 Choose the best way to write Sentence 5.

- F** When treasures end up in private collections, they cannot be studied, understood, or shared by the public.
- G** When treasures end up in private collections, they cannot be studied, understood, or shared by the public.
- H** When treasures end up in private collections, they cannot be studied, understood, or shared by the public.
- J** Best as it is

35 Choose the best way to write Sentence 6.

- A** To protect this cultural heritage, the United Nations adopted an agreement in 2001 that prohibit underwater digs for commercial profit.
- B** To protect this cultural heritage, the United Nations adopt an agreement in 2001 that prohibit underwater digs for commercial profit.
- C** To protect this cultural heritage, the United Nations will adopt an agreement in 2001 that prohibits underwater digs for commercial profit.
- D** Best as it is

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 I've never met a nicer cat than my cat, Morris. 2 From the first moment I saw him, I knew he was no tough guy. 3 His fur is as soft as any fur you've ever felt, and he doesn't have stinky cat breath like other cats do. 4 I also have a pet turtle. 5 Morris immediately crawls into my lap or starts purring when I pulled him from his cage at the animal shelter. 6 I knew right away that this was the cat for me. 7 He's good-natured, and he's also cleanest and pleasanter to be around. 8 His coat shines for health. 9 You've never seen a better looking (or smelling) cat.

36 Which sentence does not belong in this paragraph?

- F sentence 2
- G sentence 3
- H sentence 4
- J sentence 5

37 Choose the best way to write Sentence 5.

- A Morris immediately crawled into my lap but started purring when I pulled him from his cage at the animal shelter.
- B Morris immediately crawled into my lap and started purring when I pulled him from his cage at the animal shelter.
- C Morris immediately crawled into my lap yet started purring when I pulled him from his cage at the animal shelter.
- D Best as it is

38 Choose the best way to write Sentence 7.

- F** He's good-natured, and he's also clean and pleasant to be around.
- G** He's good-natured, and he's also more clean and most pleasant to be around.
- H** He's good-natured, and he's also cleaner and pleasanter to be around.
- J** Best as it is

39 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- A** His coat shines with health.
- B** His coat shines without health.
- C** His coat shines under health.
- D** Best as it is

Part 2

Directions

Read the passage. Then answer Numbers 40 through 48.

My Sister Is a Mermaid

by Sue Everton

Dad was pretty upset. Mom told him to relax and that it was only a “phase.” I had to look up the word. The first definition the dictionary gave was “phase: a part of a regular cycle of changes (a phase of the moon).” That’s my sister Ginger for you. She’s been touched by the moon.

It started when Ginger called home to say she had dropped out of UT Knoxville. She’d been there one year. Dad lost his mind. “I paid for a whole year, and she quit with three weeks to go?”

Mom said, “Alex, let her try it out. She’s only 18.”

Ginger’s real name is Margaret. She was named after my dad’s mom. She’s called Ginger because of her red hair. I was named June after my mom’s mom. I’m in seventh grade, just in case you’re wondering.

You might also be wondering what it was Ginger did to make Dad so upset.

She quit school to become a mermaid.

I also looked that up in the dictionary. It said, “a fabled marine creature with the upper half of a woman and the bottom half of a fish.” I think there were mermaids in that Greek story we had to read by a guy named Homer. It was called *The Odyssey*.

Mom took Ginger’s side. “I remember going to Weeki Wachee when I was in high school. The Mermaids give a wonderful show.”

Weeki Wachee is this little town in Florida. The town has these natural springs, and it also has a park that features the Weeki Wachee Mermaids.

“No daughter of mine is going to be a mermaid,” said Dad.

“Let’s go and see her show,” said Mom.

Which is what we did. That Saturday, we got into the car and away we went. It was a long drive. The whole time, I sat in the back and listened to music on my headphones. I know that Mom and Dad spent most of the ride having a “serious” discussion. Dad is always worried about what phase Ginger happens to be going through. Mom’s a little less intense, but she loves Dad, so she lets him do what he has to do. Me, too. Fish swim, birds fly, Dad worries.

Ginger says she wants to go to Hollywood. If Dad knew that, he’d lose his mind some more. I think that compared to Hollywood, Florida’s a lot better. It has Disney World and Universal and a lot of ways of getting into the entertainment business. Ginger probably thinks she’s using Weeki Wachee to get her career started. I’ll believe she has an acting career when I see it.



We got to Weeki Wachee late that night and checked into a motel. The next morning, we got up and looked around. I couldn't believe a town would have that name, but there's this river that runs through town called Weeki Wachee, so I guess the town was named after the river. The place was kind of cool. There was a big water slide, a boat ride where you could see lots of pretty birds and animals, and, of course, the mermaid show.

Ginger had already told me that the Mermaids were a water ballet. The swimmers swayed around under water to music and breathed air from pipes that looked like they were part of what grows underwater.

The audience actually got to go underground and watch the mermaids from behind glass walls. It took me a while to figure out which mermaid was my sister. Three of them had red hair. The thing they did—I guess you could call it underwater ballet—was really quite beautiful. I knew Mom was impressed. I could hear her sniffing, and when I looked, she was wiping away a tear. Even Dad seemed to like it. He wasn't grumbling, at least.

Soon, we were back at the car waiting for Ginger to come out. Dad said, "Well, it wasn't as bad as I thought."

Mom said, "Alex, it was beautiful."

Dad looked over his shoulder to me. "Now don't you be getting any ideas, June."

"You don't have to worry about me, Dad. I'm going to college. I'm not quitting early, either."

"June wants to be a doctor," said Mom.

"What kind?" asked Dad.

"A psychiatrist, Dad." I had already looked it up. That's a doctor who studies what goes on in people's heads. We need somebody like that in my family.

40 In the seventh paragraph of the passage, the word *fabled* means

- F** coming from the sea
- G** told about in stories
- H** a kind of fish or animal
- J** something that dances

41 Why does Dad say that no daughter of his is going to be a mermaid?

- A** He doesn't think that Ginger has the talent to make it in show business.
- B** He doesn't believe that Ginger has already started to work as a mermaid.
- C** He is angry that Ginger quit college to become an underwater dancer.
- D** He is worried that Ginger won't be able to breathe while underwater.

42 This passage is an example of

- F** biography
- G** fiction
- H** drama
- J** poetry

43 What will Dad most likely do after he sees Ginger perform?

- A** feel better about her becoming a mermaid
- B** move the entire family to Weeki Wachee
- C** stay angry and think about making her quit
- D** hope that June will attend UT Knoxville

44 Read the sentence.

She probably thinks she's using Weeki Wachee to get her career started.

The word *career* could best be replaced by

- F** show
- G** dream
- H** plan
- J** profession

45 According to the passage, what makes Mom cry?

- A the argument she is having with Dad
- B worry about the college tuition money
- C enjoyment of the show and pride in Ginger
- D fear that June will become a mermaid

46 Which of these best describes the main conflict in the passage?

- F a daughter's decision to be a psychiatrist
- G a daughter's anger at her sister
- H a father's doubts about his daughter's talent
- J a girl's dangerous job

47 Which word or phrase best describes June?

- A disobedient
- B loyal to her sister
- C difficult to get along with
- D eager to please

48 This passage is an example of what kind of writing?

- F narrative
- G informative
- H persuasive
- J technical

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 Richard Sears was a station master at a rural train station in Minnesota. 2 One day in 1886, his station received a shipment of watches. 3 That no one ever claimed. 4 Sears decided to sell them through the mail. 5 He quickly saw that there were many goods needed by people who lived on farms and were isolated from major shopping areas. 6 Sears's mail-order business took off, and they sold everything from bandannas to barbed-wire fencing. 7 It often took a long time to fill orders. 8 Sears made up for his company's lack of speed by writing colorful descriptions in his catalog that entertained readers. 9 People began to wait for the Sears catalog to arrive with great eagerness and the number of orders grew, and grew.

49 Choose the best way to combine Sentences 2 and 3.

- A One day in 1886, his station received a shipment of watches that no one ever claimed.
- B One day in 1886, his station received a shipment of watches, and that no one ever claimed.
- C One day in 1886, his station received a shipment of watches; that no one ever claimed.
- D One day in 1886, his station received a shipment of watches. And that no one ever claimed.

50 Choose the best way to write Sentence 5.

- F** He quickly sees that there were many goods needed by people who will live on farms and are isolated from major shopping areas.
- G** He quickly will see that there are many goods needed by people who are living on farms and were isolated from major shopping areas.
- H** He quickly saw that there will be many goods needed by people who live on farms and will be isolated from major shopping areas.
- J** Best as it is

51 Choose the best way to write Sentence 6.

- A** Sears's mail-order business took off, and it sold everything from bandannas to barbed-wire fencing.
- B** Sears's mail-order business took off, and we sold everything from bandannas to barbed-wire fencing.
- C** Sears's mail-order business took off, and them sold everything from bandannas to barbed-wire fencing.
- D** Best as it is

52 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- F** Sears maid up four his company's lack of speed by writing colorful descriptions inn his catalog that entertained readers.
- G** Sears made up for his company's lack of speed by writing colorful descriptions in his catalog that entertained readers.
- H** Sears maid up for his company's lack of speed buy writing colorful descriptions in his catalog that entertained readers.
- J** Best as it is

53 Choose the best way to write Sentence 9.

- A** People began to wait, for the Sears catalog, to arrive with great eagerness, and the number of orders grew, and grew.
- B** People began to wait for the Sears catalog to arrive with great eagerness, and the number of orders grew and grew.
- C** People began to wait for the Sears catalog, to arrive with great eagerness and the number of orders grew, and grew.
- D** Best as it is

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 Tara and I went to volleyball camp this summer. 2 We knew we wanted to try out for the team. 3 School started in the fall. 4 Going to camp was Tara's idea. 5 "That way, she said, "we would be sure to make the team. 6 Camp was a lot more difficult than I thought it would be. 7 The camps' instructors made it sound like it would be fun, and I was relieved. 8 I soon learned the hard way how wrong I had been. 9 After the first day of camp, my legs were so sore I could barely walk. 10 It only got worse as the week went on! 11 On the plus side, our skills improved incredibly I recommend volleyball camp to anyone who likes the sport.

54 Which sentence does not belong in this paragraph?

- F sentence 1
- G sentence 2
- H sentence 3
- J sentence 4

55 Choose the best way to write Sentence 5.

- A "That way," she said, "we would be sure to make the team."
- B "That way, she said, we would be sure to make the team."
- C That way, "she said," we would be sure to make the team.
- D Best as it is

56 Choose the best way to write Sentence 7.

- F** The camp's' instructors made it sound like it would be fun, and I was relieved.
- G** The camp's instructors made it sound like it would be fun, and I was relieved.
- H** The camps instructors made it sound like it would be fun, and I was relieved.
- J** Best as it is

57 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- A** I soon learned the harder way how wrong I had been.
- B** I soon learned the hardest way how wrong I had been.
- C** I soon learned the more hard way how wrong I had been.
- D** Best as it is

58 Choose the best way to write Sentence 11.

- F** On the plus side, our skills improved incredibly, I recommend volleyball camp to anyone who likes the sport.
- G** On the plus side, our skills improved incredibly and I recommend volleyball camp to anyone who likes the sport.
- H** On the plus side, our skills improved incredibly, and I recommend volleyball camp to anyone who likes the sport.
- J** Best as it is

Directions

Read the passage. Then answer Numbers 59 through 67.

The Virtual Dollhouse

by Patricia Covey

The Beginning

When *The Sims* was released in February 2000, how could anyone have guessed that it would become the best-selling computer game in history? Most computer games are based on fantasy. This means they are set in unreal worlds with superhuman characters, monsters, or other impossible events. *The Sims*, on the other hand, simulates daily life. The characters are regular people, called “Sims.” Sims live in a world that may be even more ordinary than ours.

The Sims is different from other games because it is based in reality. It is different in another way, as well. In most computer games, you try to reach a certain goal, usually the defeat of some enemy. In *The Sims*, the goal is basically to get through the day. You make sure your characters pay their bills, exercise, call long-lost friends, or even bathe. If you ignore your Sims, they get into trouble by fighting, losing their jobs, or becoming sick. Their fate is in your hands. If you ignore your toy dollhouse for a few weeks, all that happens is it gets dusty.

When the game’s designer, Will Wright, came up with *The Sims*, he already had an excellent record for designing popular computer games. In 1989, he designed *SimCity*, a computer game in which players plan and build cities. Until *The Sims* came out, the *SimCity* series had been the best-selling computer games. In spite of this, Wright had a hard time selling his idea for *The Sims* to the people who decide which new products to make. “Who would want to play a game that reflects the work of ordinary life?” they wondered. It turned out that a lot of people did.

Popularity

The Sims attracted serious, long-time game players. It also attracted people who hadn’t played a lot of computer games: new players, casual players, older players, and female players. Usually, young men account for most computer game sales. But girls and women buy half of the copies of *The Sims* that are sold.

There are as many reasons to like *The Sims* as there are types of people who play it. Some players enjoy designing their Sims’ houses. Of these players, some have fun making houses that look exactly like their own. Other players want to make their Sims happy by giving them vacations. In one version of *The Sims*, players can even allow their Sims to raise pets. Most players like buying things for their Sims. One way to keep Sims happy is to buy them things like pool tables and fancy outdoor grills. But this is not all they need. A Sim needs a strong social group, as well. Without friendship and contact with others, a Sim will get very lonely and sad.

The Sims Today

The thing that people seem to like the most about *The Sims* is not how the game is *like* the player's real life but how it is *different*. In the real world, there are few things we can control. For example, at school or at work there are many rules made by other people we are told to follow. If we don't follow the rules, there are consequences. But in *The Sims* the player doesn't feel the effect of not following the rules; the Sim does.

Whatever the reason for liking it, the game is fun, and it continues to be wildly popular. *The Sims* has been translated into 17 languages and has won many awards. Years after its release, Will Wright's "dollhouse" remains at the top of the computer game sales charts.

59 Read the sentence.

The Sims, *on the other hand*, *simulates* daily life.

Which of these would be the best meaning for *simulates*?

- A** copies
- B** makes fun of
- C** erases
- D** steals from

60 What is the organizational structure of this passage?

- F** chronological
- G** comparison-contrast
- H** problem-solution
- J** cause-effect

61 Which sentence from the passage is an opinion?

- A** You make sure your characters pay their bills, exercise, call long-lost friends, or even bathe.
- B** But girls and women buy half of the copies of *The Sims* that are sold.
- C** For example, at school or at work there are many rules made by other people we are told to follow.
- D** Whatever the reason for liking it, the game is fun, and it continues to be wildly popular.

62 What effect does a strong social group have on a Sim?

- F** It helps the Sim build a house.
- G** It helps the Sim figure out how to break rules.
- H** It helps the Sim take care of its pets.
- J** It keeps the Sim from getting lonely and sad.

63 What is the main idea of this passage?

- A** Only serious game players should try to play *The Sims*.
- B** Computer game designers have a hard job.
- C** People enjoy playing a computer game that is just like real life.
- D** The best computer games are based on fantasies.

64 According to the passage, why did Will Wright have a hard time selling his idea for *The Sims*?

- F His first computer game, *SimCity*, was not very successful.
- G The people in charge didn't think customers would want to play a game that was like real life.
- H Not enough different groups would be interested in playing *The Sims*.
- J It was too similar to other computer games that were based on fantasies.

65 This passage is an example of what kind of writing?

- A technical
- B informative
- C persuasive
- D narrative

66 Which sentence best describes the type of audience this passage was written for?

- F It was written for people who know a little about computer games.
- G It was written for people who design computer games.
- H It was written for professional computer game players.
- J It was written for kids because the language is very informal.

67 What would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

- A How to Make Your Sim Happy
- B The History of Computer Games
- C A New Kind of Computer Game
- D How to Design Computer Games

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 Suzy looked at the ten bowling pins in front of her. 2 She wanted to go home. 3 It was already the ninth frame. 4 She had thrown a gutter ball every time. 5 She turned around look at her mom, dad, and little brother, Tommy. 6 Her parents smiled, but Tommy made a zero with his hands and laughed. 7 It was his fault they is here. 8 Him had been begging their parents to take them to Bowlerama for weeks. 9 Suzy stuck her tongue out at Tommy and turned back around. 10 "We can do this, Suzy whispered to the bowling ball." 11 She took five steps and sent the ball hurtling toward the center pin.

68 Choose the best way to combine Sentences 3 and 4.

- F It was already the ninth frame, and she had thrown a gutter ball every time.
- G It was already the ninth frame she had thrown a gutter ball every time.
- H It was already the ninth frame; and she had thrown a gutter ball every time.
- J Best as it is

69 Choose the best way to write Sentence 5.

- A She turned around to look at her mom, dad, and little brother, Tommy.
- B She turned around looked at her mom, dad, and little brother, Tommy.
- C She turned around am looking at her mom, dad, and little brother, Tommy.
- D Best as it is

70 Choose the best way to write Sentence 7.

- F** It was his fault they are here.
- G** It was his fault they was here.
- H** It was his fault they were here.
- J** Best as it is

71 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- A** He had been begging them parents to take them to Bowlerama for weeks.
- B** He had been begging their parents to take them to Bowlerama for weeks.
- C** Him had been begging they parents to take them to Bowlerama for weeks.
- D** Best as it is

72 Choose the best way to write Sentence 10.

- F** “We can do this,” Suzy whispered to the bowling ball.
- G** We can do this, Suzy whispered to the bowling ball.
- H** “We can do this,” Suzy whispered to the bowling ball.”
- J** Best as it is

Directions

Here is a paragraph a student wrote. There are some mistakes that need correcting.

1 Many people consider Seinfeld the greatest sitcom in television history. 2 Jerry Seinfeld and Larry David created the show in 1989. 3 It was based loosely on Jerry Seinfeld's life as a comedian in New York. 4 When Seinfeld first started NBC almost canceled it because so few people watched it. 5 However, it became the most-watched show in America by its fourth season. 6 Seinfeld was the favorite show of a lot of people because of its wacky characters. 7 For example, Cosmo Kramer made people laugh every time he will walk into a room. 8 His hair stuck straight up, he war interesting close, and he wood often trip over things.

73 Choose the best way to write Sentence 1.

- A Many people consider Seinfeld the great sitcom in television history.
- B Many people consider Seinfeld the more greater sitcom, in television history.
- C Many people consider Seinfeld the most greatest sitcom in television history.
- D Best as it is

74 Choose the best way to write Sentence 4.

- F** When Seinfeld first started, NBC almost canceled it because, so few people watched it.
- G** When Seinfeld first started NBC almost canceled it, because so few people watched it.
- H** When Seinfeld first started, NBC almost canceled it because so few people watched it.
- J** Best as it is

75 Choose the best way to write Sentence 6.

- A** Seinfeld was the favorite show of a lot of people because of it's wacky characters.
- B** Seinfeld was the favorite show of a lot of people because of its' wacky characters.
- C** Seinfeld was the favorite show of a lot of people because of its's wacky characters.
- D** Best as it is

76 Choose the best way to write Sentence 7.

- F** For example, Cosmo Kramer will make people laugh every time he walked into a room.
- G** For example, Cosmo Kramer makes people laugh every time he was walking into a room.
- H** For example, Cosmo Kramer made people laugh every time he walked into a room.
- J** Best as it is

77 Choose the best way to write Sentence 8.

- A** His hare stuck straight up he wore interesting clothes and he wood often trip over things.
- B** His hare stuck straight up, he wore interesting close, and, he would often trip over things.
- C** His hair stuck straight up, he wore interesting clothes, and he would often trip over things.
- D** Best as it is

Directions

Read this passage. Then answer Numbers 78 through 83.

from

THE ADVENTURES OF THE GREAT GEOMETER

by J. T. Stanley

You could tell there was trouble because people were pointing. You never see a bunch of people pointing their fingers unless something bad is going on. When a star basketball player makes a last-second shot, people cheer, but they don't point.

I pulled my bike over to the side of the street. Traffic had stopped anyway. Inside the stores, people were crowded around the windows, trying to get a glimpse of whatever it was that was going on. Children cried in the doorways, trembling with fear. I hopped off my bike and joined some people on the sidewalk. That was when I saw it.

The scene was like something out of a monster movie. In the distance, a skyscraper coughed out smoke in a long, black column rising to the sun. A mammoth creature, covered in white fur, was perched two-thirds of the way up one side of the skyscraper. A great, black toe from his right foot plugged up a window about ten flights up. His other leg disappeared around the corner of the building. He kept clawing and clawing at the wall above his head, which made bricks and glass rain down into his wild eyes. This seemed to make him furious! He let out a bellow that shook the ground where I stood.

I'd seen enough. I ducked into an alley, making sure I wasn't being watched, and I tapped my Cosmic Protractor three times. Instantly, my clothes were transformed into the gleaming, silver uniform of the Geometer!¹ My glasses melted into reflective goggles, which were part of my disguise. Time to go to work.

I stared at the ground around my feet and created my favorite method of transport, the flying circle. I swooped up on the disc and out of the alleyway. All eyes were still fixed on the monster attacking Hansen Tower, so no one noticed me soaring into battle until I was nearly there.

As I approached, I could see that people were trapped inside of the building! No doubt the elevators had been damaged by the beast. Now I had two tasks: defeat the monster and rescue those people.

First of all, that creature had to go. My flying circle's mirror-reflective surface caught the sun in a flash of light that drew the monster's attention. He turned to find the light, and that's when he saw me. He began sweeping a huge, heavy arm through the air. If his arm connected with me, I was finished. I might be able to create strong and powerful shapes out of nothing, but I'm as fragile as the next guy!

I thought about an enormous octagon, and, by just by thinking about it, created it. It hung in the air in front of me and blocked his huge fist. I hoped he'd recognize it as a stop sign, but

¹**Geometer:** person who studies geometry

it wouldn't matter in a moment because this was just the first part of my plan. While the monster pounded the octagon with echoing thuds, I began to measure him, trying to figure out how big to make the sphere I was planning. I solved the math problem and drew a wide circle around Mr. Big Guy. I spun it around and around, and soon I had the creature separated from the building and caged in a shining globe. He looked like an enormous disco ball. He started roaring again. Even though he was muffled by the sphere, hearing him from this close made my head spin.

I had to move him, but where do you set down a hundred-foot ball? It was hollow and, except for Ol' Sourpuss inside, it didn't weigh anything. It would float! With both hands, I gave the sphere a slight push to the east, and it glided down toward the bay. Now the beast was out of the way. But there were still people in trouble!

With Captain Cranky no longer blocking my view, I noticed that most people in the building were on the thirtieth floor. Then, I noticed why—the monster had knocked out the stairwell on this side of the building. The damage must have messed up the electricity, too, which was why the elevators weren't working. I whipped up a thirty-story cylinder as close to the side of the building as I could get it. I made a little rectangle from the window on the thirtieth floor to the cylinder for a bridge.

Everyone walked across the rectangle onto the cylinder, then I began slowly changing the cylinder's height. "Going down!" I shouted to the relieved passengers. Before long, the cylinder was only a few feet tall, then a few inches, then it was at ground level. I figured the firefighters could take it from here. Now, to finish off that monster!

78 Read this sentence from the story.

The scene was like something out of a monster movie.

The narrator compares the scene to a monster movie because the scene is

- F** funny
- G** serious
- H** common
- J** scary

79 Read the sentence from the passage.

In the distance, a skyscraper coughed out smoke in a long, black column rising to the sun.

The personification in the sentence shows

- A** the Geometer's weakness
- B** the monster's whiteness
- C** the danger to the building
- D** the fact that it is daytime

80 Why does the Geometer decide to get rid of the creature before rescuing the trapped people?

- F** He can't help the people if the creature is still a threat.
- G** The creature will tear off the side of the building.
- H** The creature is blocking the entrance to the elevators.
- J** He can't rescue anyone if he doesn't talk to the creature.

81 How does the Geometer get rid of the creature and save the people?

- A by talking the creature into leaving the building alone
- B by using his mind to create differently shaped objects
- C by attacking the creature with the Cosmic Protractor
- D by using his physical strength to fight the creature

82 What will most likely happen next in the story?

- F The creature breaks free and attacks the Geometer.
- G The ball bursts and the monster squishes firemen.
- H The Geometer chases the ball to finish off the monster.
- J The monster and the Geometer become friends.

83 Read the following sentence from the passage.

I might be able to create strong and powerful shapes out of nothing, but I'm as fragile as the next guy!

An antonym for the word *fragile* is

- A skinny
- B tough
- C breakable
- D creative

Answer Key

**Tennessee Blueprint TCAP Coach,
Gold Edition, Reading & Language
Arts, Grade 7, Practice Test A**



Answer Key

Item	Answer	Reporting Category	SPI
1	B	2	0701.8.12
2	H	2	0701.5.8
3	D	4	0701.3.10
4	G	3	0701.1.19
5	A	2	0701.5.2
6	J	5	0701.3.2
7	C	3	0701.1.18
8	F	2	0701.6.2
9	B	2	0701.5.8
10	H	7	0701.4.2
11	D	6	0701.1.6
12	F	6	0701.1.1
13	B	6	0701.1.6
14	G	6	0701.1.2
15	D	6	0701.1.6
16	H	6	0701.1.5
17	B	6	0701.1.1
18	F	6	0701.1.7
19	D	6	0701.1.2
20	H	6	0701.1.6
21	B	7	0701.8.10
22	J	7	0701.8.10
23	A	7	0701.8.8
24	G	1	0701.8.5
25	C	2	0701.8.12
26	F	3	0701.1.18
27	D	7	0701.8.8
28	F	1	0701.8.2
29	B	2	0701.5.8
30	H	3	0701.1.18

Item	Key	Reporting Category	Standard
31	A	6	0701.1.6
32	H	6	0701.1.1
33	C	7	0701.1.9
34	G	7	0701.1.16
35	D	6	0701.1.2
36	H	7	0701.3.7
37	B	6	0701.1.4
38	F	6	0701.1.3
39	A	6	0701.1.5
40	G	3	0701.1.18
41	C	2	0701.5.8
42	G	1	0701.8.3
43	A	2	0701.5.1
44	J	3	0701.1.19
45	C	2	0701.5.8
46	H	1	0701.8.1
47	D	1	0701.8.6
48	F	2	0701.3.11
49	A	6	0701.1.7
50	J	6	0701.1.2
51	A	6	0701.1.1
52	G	7	0701.1.9
53	B	6	0701.1.6
54	H	7	0701.3.7
55	A	6	0701.1.15
56	G	6	0701.1.14
57	D	6	0701.1.3
58	H	5	0701.1.8
59	A	3	0701.1.18
60	F	4	0701.6.6
61	D	2	0701.5.2

Item	Key	Reporting Category	Standard
62	J	2	0701.5.3
63	C	2	0701.6.2
64	G	2	0701.5.8
65	B	2	0701.3.11
66	F	5	0701.3.2
67	C	4	0701.3.10
68	F	6	0701.1.7
69	A	6	0107.1.12
70	H	6	0701.1.2
71	B	6	0701.1.1
72	F	6	0701.1.15
73	D	6	0701.1.3
74	H	6	0701.1.6
75	D	6	0701.1.14
76	H	6	0701.1.2
77	C	7	0701.1.9
78	J	7	0701.8.10
79	C	7	0701.8.10
80	F	2	0701.5.8
81	B	2	0701.5.3
82	H	2	0701.5.1
83	B	3	0701.1.19


Answer Sheet

Practice Test A

1. (A) (B) (C) (D)
2. (F) (G) (H) (J)
3. (A) (B) (C) (D)
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80. (F) (G) (H) (J)
81. (A) (B) (C) (D)
82. (F) (G) (H) (J)
83. (A) (B) (C) (D)

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107TNAF

Tennessee Blueprint TCAP Coach, Gold Edition, Reading & Language Arts, Grade 7, Practice Test A Answer Key
107TNAF

Cover Image: Guitar picks. Tennessee has played a major role in the history of American music.

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