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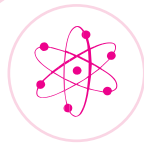
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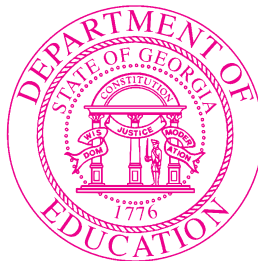


Course



Tests

Ninth Grade
Literature & Composition
Test Booklet
Spring 2005



Georgia Department of Education
Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools
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SECTION I

Directions:

Today you will be taking the Ninth Grade Literature and Composition End-of-Course Test. To answer some of the questions on this test, you will be asked to read a passage first. Other questions will not be based on a passage.

As you take the test, read each passage carefully. Read each question carefully and then choose the *best* answer. You may look back at the reading passage as often as necessary.

Be sure that the question number on the answer sheet matches the number on the test. Then mark your answer by filling in the circle on your answer sheet. Do not write your answers in the test booklet. If you do not know the answer to a question, skip it and go on. You may return to it later if time permits.

If you need to change an answer on your answer sheet, be sure to erase your first mark completely. Do not make any stray marks on the answer sheet.

If you finish the part of the test you are currently working on, you may review your answers in that part only. Do not go on to the next part of the test.

The two practice test questions below are provided to show you what the questions in the test are like. Remember that for each question you should choose the one *best* answer and fill in the circle in the space provided on your answer sheet.

Practice Items:

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford, England, in 1564. It is generally believed that his birth date was April 23. Young William was the third of eight children. He probably went to the local school in Stratford starting at the age of seven. There he would have studied Latin and probably read the works of many outstanding ancient Romans.

P1 The main purpose of this paragraph is to

- A give some details about Shakespeare's early life
- B encourage people to learn more about Shakespeare's works
- C describe conditions in the town where Shakespeare was born
- D explain how Roman authors influenced the works of Shakespeare

P2 Which word in the sentence below is NOT correctly spelled?

Every early society developed its own myths, which were an important part of the culture.

- A society
- B developed
- C important
- D culture



Maria Tallchief: Dancing to Her Inner Music

- 1 Inspired by childhood memories of tribal dances, Native American Maria Tallchief conquered the great ballet stages of the world. She drew strength from her two worlds, that of her Native-American past and her inner world of music and dance. She became the best-known American dancer and one of the most accomplished prima ballerinas in history.
- 2 Tallchief was born in 1925 in Fairfax, Oklahoma, on the Osage Indian Reservation. She was then known as Betty Marie Tall Chief. From the time she was old enough to sit at a piano, Tallchief knew that music and dance lived inside her. She also knew she had to find ways to express them.
- 3 “Those of us born with music, poems, or colors inside always know it right away. I would only have to hear a melody and out it came from the piano keys or in dance,” says Tallchief.
- 4 As a child, Tallchief went with her grandmother to see the colorful Osage Indian dances performed at tribal ceremonies. The rhythm of the drums and the movement of the dancers stayed with Tallchief and fed her inner music. Tallchief’s mother sensed her talent and encouraged her. Tallchief and her sister Marjorie took piano and dance lessons at very young ages. Unfortunately for Tallchief and her sister, their first dance teacher was not very experienced. The teacher pushed them to do ballet moves they were not ready for physically.
- 5 Tallchief’s parents decided that to get the best teachers for their daughters they should move away from the reservation to a larger city. In 1933 the Tallchief family moved to Los Angeles, California. There, in Los Angeles, Tallchief studied hard under talented teachers including Madame Nijinska, who was the sister of a very famous Russian dancer named Nijinsky.
- 6 As her talents for both ballet and piano continued to grow, Tallchief knew she now had to choose between her two great loves.
- 7 Tallchief concentrated on dancing, continuing to work hard under Madame Nijinska. She performed at the Hollywood Bowl, a huge outdoor theatre. It was a great honor, and Tallchief was very nervous about the performance. During one of her dance moves, she slipped and fell on stage. Embarrassed but not hurt, Tallchief picked herself up and finished the performance.
- 8 Because of her incredible spirit and great talent, Tallchief was asked to join Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, a professional ballet company, in 1942. It was hard touring around the world as a teenager, and she missed her family. But Tallchief loved dancing for the different audiences.
- 9 A director told Tallchief she needed a fancier name than “Betty Marie” to be a famous dancer. Tallchief changed her name to Maria but refused to change her last name. She told the director she was proud of her Native-American heritage and her “Tall Chief” family. She did, however, compromise and make “Tall Chief” one word.
- 10 After a season dancing in Paris, Tallchief joined the New York City Ballet in 1947. The NYC Ballet was new then, but it was becoming one of the most famous in the world. Tallchief became its principal dancer or prima ballerina. Tallchief’s greatest role would come with a production called *The Firebird*. In the performance, Tallchief soared, leapt, and almost seemed to fly across the stage in a flaming red costume. Many people thought her performance was the perfect blend of her Native-American past and her life as a

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

ballerina. Perhaps the childhood images of her tribe's dances, paired with the many lessons of Madame Nijinska, inspired her performance. *The Firebird* made Tallchief known around the world for her talents as a ballerina.

- 11 In 1956 Tallchief was honored by the Osage tribe for her efforts in promoting a positive image of Native Americans. Since she had represented the world of Native Americans and the world of dance so well, the tribe gave her the name Wa-Xthe-Thomba. The name means "woman of two worlds." After leaving the dancing world, Tallchief went on to found the Chicago City Ballet in 1979. She served as the Ballet's director until 1987. In 1999, at nearly 75 years old, Tallchief helped write a children's book about her life as a prima ballerina.
- 12 Though she performed on stages around the world, she never forgot her Native-American childhood. She was true to her heritage and always faithful to the music that lived inside her.

1 Which statement from the passage is MOST likely an opinion?

- A She became the best-known American dancer and one of the most accomplished prima ballerinas in history.
- B As a child, Tallchief's grandmother took her to see the colorful Osage Indian dances performed at tribal ceremonies.
- C Tallchief changed her name to Maria but refused to change her last name.
- D In 1956 Tallchief was honored by the Osage tribe for her efforts in promoting a positive image of Native Americans.

2 Read this sentence from Paragraph 10.

Tallchief became its principal dancer or prima ballerina.

The author uses the word *principal* to convey the idea of being

- A the tallest
- B the only one
- C the first to be hired
- D the most important

3 How is this passage BEST classified?

- A a short story
- B history
- C biography
- D a personal essay

4 According to the passage, Tallchief was primarily inspired by her

- A memories of her grandmother
- B admiration for the Russian dancer Nijinsky
- C desire to bring honor to the Osage tribe
- D inner passion for music and dance

5 When the Osage tribe gave Tallchief a name meaning "woman of two worlds," they did so to acknowledge that she represented the worlds of both

- A dance and music
- B Europe and America
- C Native Americans and dance
- D personal achievement and community

6 You can assume that Tallchief was hired by the New York City Ballet in 1947 because of her

- A willingness to travel
- B success in performing *The Firebird*
- C extensive dance experience
- D willingness to change her name

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

7 Which hypothesis BEST accounts for Tallchief's success in *The Firebird*?

- A She was able to draw on the dances of her tribe.
- B She was able to invent her own dance moves for the role.
- C She was able to study the role for years before dancing it.
- D She was able to use her talent for piano.

8 The author expects the reader to assume that Tallchief

- A preferred dance to piano
- B had always dreamed of traveling the world
- C wanted to change her original name
- D planned to return to her home when she retired

9 The author wrote this passage in order to

- A entertain readers with made-up details
- B share an amusing story with readers
- C persuade readers to attend ballets
- D inform readers about a famous Native American

10 Based on the passage, you can conclude that the Chicago City Ballet

- A was formed years after the New York City Ballet
- B became one of the most famous in the world
- C featured mostly Native-American dancers
- D caused Tallchief to be honored by her tribe

11 Which statement from the passage supports the conclusion that Tallchief had the instincts of a true professional performer?

- A The teacher pushed them to do ballet moves they were not ready for physically.
- B As her talents for both ballet and piano continued to grow, Tallchief knew she now had to choose between her two great loves.
- C It was a great honor, and Tallchief was very nervous about the performance.
- D Embarrassed but not hurt, Tallchief picked herself up and finished the performance.

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Best in Show

<p>1 Some owners of purebred dogs enter their dogs into competition for prizes or titles based on show qualities or training. Typically, competitions occur in three different arenas: dog shows, obedience trials, and field trials.</p>	<p>bred, bred by exhibitor, or open classes.</p>	<p>classes for titles like Tracking Dog, Companion Dog, and Utility Dog. Tested skills include heeling, standing for examination, and various types of sitting. More advanced competitors are judged on retrieving, tracking of scents, jumping over hurdles, and obeying hand signals.</p>
<p>2 Dog shows and trials are popular events held most places in the world. The United Kingdom and the United States lead other countries in hosting dog shows. Most dog shows are associated with the American Kennel Club, which boasts the largest registry of purebred dogs.</p>	<p>4 The criteria for judging differs with each breed. Judges look for things like shape of head, gait, placement of ears, color, and coat texture. An official American Kennel Club champion must accumulate 15 points under three different judges. A champion also must earn two major wins by scoring at least 3, 4, or 5 points in one category.</p>	<p>7 Field trials include testing for skills actually associated with hunting and include only dogs bred to hunt. The most popular field trials are those for hounds, bird dogs, and retrievers. Hounds must demonstrate the ability to run down and corner rabbits. Bird dog breeds are tested on their ability to track and point to birds in their hiding places. The dog must stand still and point at the bird until the hunter flushes the bird out of hiding so he can fire at it. Retrievers are judged on their ability to fetch fallen birds from both land and water locations. Dogs earn points based on their abilities. The American Kennel Club requires that dogs earn 10 points in their respective classes to receive the champion title.</p>
<p>3 Dog shows fall into either benched or unbenched events. During benched shows, dogs are individually displayed on benches or platforms prior to judging. At unbenched shows, the dogs are led into judging rings by their owners and displayed there. In both dog shows, the breeds are divided into seven groups: sporting, nonsporting, hound, working, herding, toy, and terrier. They also are placed into either puppy, novice, American</p>	<p>5 Champions in each class then move on to compete for the top honor of “Best in Show.” Each breed competes within one of the seven groups. The dogs placed first in each of the seven groups then compete against each other for the “Best in Show” title. That is the final judging of all dog shows. The winner receives a sterling silver bowl in addition to the prestigious title.</p> <p>6 Obedience trials are held in conjunction with most dog shows. They are competitions which test a dog’s ability to obey verbal and nonverbal commands. Dogs compete in</p>	

12 According to the passage, an *unbenched* show differs from a *benched* show because it is

- A hosted by foreign countries
- B divided into various categories
- C judged by a team of kennel officials
- D opened by owners leading their dogs

13 This passage is an example of

- A biography
- B nonfiction
- C folktale
- D poetry

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

14 In the last paragraph, the word *flushes* means

- A escapes into
- B runs ahead
- C looks about
- D drives out

15 Based on what you have read, which description represents a nonverbal cue?

- A jumping for a whistle
- B responding to name
- C coming when called
- D obeying hand signals

16 The dog that is “Best in Show” is judged by its

- A appearance
- B obedience
- C ability
- D registry

17 Owners interested in competing for “Best in Show” must first

- A join the American Kennel Club
- B purchase a prize hunting dog
- C construct an exhibition platform
- D learn verbal and nonverbal cues

18 Obedience and field trials are examples of

- A breeds
- B classes
- C registries
- D competitions

19 Which sentence states an opinion from this passage?

- A The criteria for judging differs with each breed.
- B Retrievers are judged on their ability to fetch fallen birds.
- C Dog shows are popular events held throughout the world.
- D The winner receives a sterling silver bowl.

20 What mood MOST likely prevails while the judges score the dogs?

- A tension
- B confusion
- C satisfaction
- D peace

21 One main reason to analyze a short story is to

- A entertain your teacher and classmates
- B show an understanding of the text
- C take a controversial position
- D narrate the events of the author’s life

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

FIELD TEST PASSAGE

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Blackberries

By Leslie Norris

- 1 Although it was late in September, the sun was warm and the paths dry. The man and his boy walked beside the disused canal and powdery white dust covered their shoes. The boy thought of the days before he had been born, when the canal had been busy. He thought of the long boats pulled by solid horses, gliding through the water. In his head he listened to the hushed, wet noises they would have made, the soft waves slapping the banks, and green tench looking up as the barges moved above them, their water suddenly darkened. His grandfather had told him about that. But now the channel was filled with mud and tall reeds. Bullrush and watergrass grew in the damp passages. He borrowed his father's walking stick and knocked the heads off a company of seeding dandelions, watching the tiny parachutes carry away their minute dark burdens.
- 2 "There they go," he said to himself. "There they go, sailing away to China."
- 3 "Come on," said his father, "or we'll never reach Fletcher's Woods."
- 4 The boy hurried after his father. He had never been to Fletcher's Woods. Once his father had heard a nightingale there. It had been in the summer, long ago, and his father had gone with his friends, to hear the singing bird. They had stood under a tree and listened. Then the moon went down and his father, stumbling home, had fallen into a blackberry bush.
- 5 "Will there be blackberries?" he asked.
- 6 "There should be," his father said. "I'll pick some for you."
- 7 In Fletcher's Woods there was shade beneath the trees, and sunlight, thrown in yellow patches onto the grass, seemed to grow out of the ground rather than come from the sky. The boy stepped from sunlight to sunlight, in and out of shadow. His father showed him a tangle of bramble, hard with thorns, its leaves just beginning to color into autumn, its long runners dry and brittle on the grass. Clusters of purple fruit hung in the branches. His father reached up and chose a blackberry for him. Its skin was plump and shining, each of its purple globes held a point of reflected light.
- 8 "You can eat it," his father said.
- 9 The boy put the blackberry in his mouth. He rolled it with his tongue, feeling its irregularity, and crushed it against the roof of his mouth. Released juice, sweet and warm as summer, ran down his throat, hard seeds cracked between his teeth. When he laughed his father saw that his mouth was deeply stained. Together they picked and ate the dark berries, until their lips were purple and their hands marked and scratched.
- 10 "We should take some for your mother," the man said.
- 11 He reached with his stick and pulled down high canes where the choicest berries grew, picking them to take home. They had nothing to carry them in, so the boy put his new cap on the grass and they filled its hollow with berries. He held the cap by its edges and they went home.

Leslie Norris. *Collected Short Stories*. Seren, Wales. 1996.

28 In the last sentence of Paragraph 1, the word *minute* means

- A small
- B quick
- C beautiful
- D timeless

29 How does the reader know that the boy is imaginative?

- A He pictures the canal in the old days when it was busy.
- B He knocks the heads off dandelions.
- C He asks if there will be blackberries in Fletcher's Woods.
- D He fills his new cap with blackberries.

30 Which of these statements BEST adds poetic language to the passage?

- A . . . in September, the sun was warm and the paths dry.
- B . . . the channel was filled with mud and tall reeds.
- C . . . his father, stumbling home, had fallen into a blackberry bush.
- D . . . sunlight, thrown in yellow patches onto the grass, seemed to grow out of the ground . . .

31 The author of the passage creates a peaceful mood mainly through

- A the setting
- B the characters
- C foreshadowing
- D flashback

32 Which event is used as a flashback in the passage?

- A the boy knocking the heads off dandelions
- B the father hearing a nightingale
- C the father choosing a blackberry
- D the boy crushing the blackberry in his mouth

33 Which paragraph from the passage supports the idea that the father shares his past with his son?

- A Paragraph 4
- B Paragraph 7
- C Paragraph 9
- D Paragraph 11

34 What is the main idea of Paragraph 1?

- A The boy misses the old days.
- B The canal is full of plants.
- C The boy loves his grandfather.
- D The boy is out for a walk with his father.

35 Which action taken by the father BEST shows the affection he has for his son?

- A He tells his son to hurry or they'll never reach Fletcher's Woods.
- B He goes to hear a nightingale with his friends.
- C He chooses a blackberry for his son to eat.
- D He picks berries for the boy's mother.

36 *Concern* is to *sympathy* as

- A *affection* is to *forgiveness*
- B *interest* is to *kindness*
- C *dishonor* is to *shame*
- D *annoyance* is to *rage*

37 *Stitch* is to *seamstress* as

- A *salt* is to *chef*
- B *uniform* is to *policeman*
- C *computer* is to *programmer*
- D *leap* is to *ballerina*

How the Mosquitoes Left Kambara

A Tale From Fiji

By Pleasant DeSpain

- 1 Once long ago, a small island in the Pacific called Kambara was infested with mosquitoes. The island people were constantly at war with the pesky insects and grew weary of being bitten, especially at night. All day long the women of the tribe pounded tree bark into fine-mesh screens to keep the mosquitoes out.
- 2 Now it happened that a prince from the island of Oneata sailed throughout the South Pacific in search of treasures for his people. He landed on Kambara, and the chief welcomed him as an honored guest. After a great feast, the prince was shown to a sleeping room. It was surrounded with beautifully painted mosquito screens.
- 3 “Tell me, O Chief of Kambara,” said the prince, “why do you hang such wonderful cloth all about the room?”
- 4 “For the mosquitoes,” replied the chief.
- 5 “Mosquitoes? What are mosquitoes?” asked the prince.
- 6 “Our little . . . friends of the night. They are small flying insects that . . . sing us to sleep each night,” said the chief. He was too embarrassed to tell the truth.
- 7 “How nice,” said the prince. “We have nothing like mosquitoes on Oneata.”
- 8 “Too bad,” said the chief. “We have more than we need.”
- 9 The prince yawned, and just as he began to fall asleep, the night air filled with the hum and buzz of thousands of hungry mosquitoes flying outside the curtain. “Such a soothing sound,” he muttered. “A rare treasure, indeed.”
- 10 The next morning the prince asked the chief if he could take some mosquitoes back to Oneata with him.
- 11 “You would have to take *all* of them,” replied the chief, “since they are a close-knit family and couldn’t stand to be separated.”
- 12 “But what about your people?” asked the worried prince. “Wouldn’t they be unhappy if I took *all* of your lovely mosquitoes?”
- 13 “Yes, they would,” replied the chief, “but if you were to give us something in return, I think they would be satisfied.”
- 14 “I have a special conch shell in my canoe,” said the eager prince. “You blow it like a trumpet and the fish swim to shore and let themselves be caught. Your people will never grow hungry!”
- 15 “It’s a bargain,” said the chief of Kambara happily. “Our mosquitoes for your special shell!”
- 16 The people of Kambara set a trap for the mosquitoes, using a huge basket so tightly woven that even the smallest of the insects couldn’t get out. They placed a freshly killed pig in the basket, and the chief waited behind a nearby tree with the lid.

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- 17 The sun began to set and the mosquitoes came out in droves in search of victims. Some of the pests found the pig, and it wasn't long before every mosquito on the island was in the basket enjoying the feast. The chief jumped out from behind the tree, popped the lid on the basket, and tied it securely with long vines.
- 18 With the basket in his canoe, the prince sailed back to Oneata. He thought of how happy his people would be with the restful sounds of the mosquitoes.
- 19 The chief of Kambara was also happy. He blew on the conch shell and the islanders began gathering in the fish for a celebration feast!

Slightly adapted from THIRTY – THREE MULTICULTURAL TALES TO TELL by Pleasant DeSpain. Copyright © 1993 Pleasant DeSpain. Used by permission of August House Publishers, Inc.

38 What characteristic of the chief would MOST likely be found in other mythological characters?

- A cleverness
- B attitude of superiority
- C stupidity
- D self-righteousness

39 How did the island people lure the mosquitoes into their trap?

- A by waving curtains near a tree
- B by painting screens on the doors
- C by placing a pig in a basket
- D by pounding bark on a tree

40 What problem did the people of Kambara have?

- A They constantly fought with other islands.
- B They rarely caught enough fish for food.
- C They had no treasure.
- D Their island was infested with mosquitoes.

41 What might the prince do after he realizes the mosquitoes are a nuisance?

- A catch more mosquitoes
- B find a new special shell
- C welcome island guests
- D return them to Kambara

42 What characteristic does this story share with many other stories?

- A It is set on an island.
- B The main characters are brave.
- C Some of the events could not really happen.
- D The characters are male rather than female.

43 This passage MOST likely could be found in a collection of

- A documentaries
- B poems
- C speeches
- D narratives

44 Which characteristic indicates that this passage is a myth?

- A It has a realistic setting.
- B It emphasizes the conclusion.
- C It uses interesting characters.
- D It explains a natural phenomenon.

45 Which would be the BEST method for reading the directions for playing a new board game?

- A skim the directions
- B look for a summary or list of key points
- C slowly read all of the directions
- D read the first few paragraphs only



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SECTION II

Do not turn page until instructed to do so.

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

In this section of the test, you will be answering questions about research, composition, grammar, and the use of words.

46 Alan wants to write his research paper for his class on whales. Which problem exists with his topic selection?

- A It is too controversial.
- B It is too broad.
- C It is not an appropriate topic for a biology class.
- D It will be hard for him to find any information on his topic.

47 Sonya wants to write a report about the various types of poetry. Which source would probably provide Sonya with the MOST information on her topic?

- A *Great Poems of the Twentieth Century*
- B Robert Frost's poem "The Runaway"
- C "An Interview With Gwendolyn Brooks—A Prolific American Poet"
- D *Samples of Styles That Cross the Miles—Rhymes to Prose That Everyone Knows*

48 Clarissa wants to find information on the Internet about what she can do to help the environment. Which keywords would probably help her find the MOST information?

- A learning about the environment
- B activities for young people
- C getting involved
- D ways to save the earth

Read the following passage. Use it to answer questions 49 and 50.

Twelfth Night

Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night* is set in the fantastic place of Illyria. In this fictional world anything can happen, and life is filled with unlimited possibilities. Shakespeare uses the world of disguise and mistaken identity to create an imaginary place where nothing is quite what it seems. The real and the unreal collide, common sense is mocked, and folly is plentiful. Yet, despite the illusions and unbelievable situations, most of the characters achieve happiness at the end of the play. However, Shakespeare, in the play's subtitle *What You Will*, seems to caution his readers not to take him too seriously in this delightful comedy.

49 Which set of notes BEST summarizes this passage?

- A –*Twelfth Night*
–imaginary place called Illyria
–unreal seems to be real
–filled with unbelievable situations
–subtitled *What You Will*
- B –setting is called Illyria
–fantastic things happen
–many things are illusions
–most everyone achieves happiness
–delightful comedy by Shakespeare
- C –*Twelfth Night*, a comedy by Shakespeare
–set in Illyria, an imaginary place
–nothing is quite what it seems
–uses disguise and mistaken identity
–most characters achieve happiness
- D –Shakespearean comedy
–characters are imaginary
–situations are illusions
–common sense is mocked
–not meant to be taken seriously

50 Which word or words would be the BEST to use for an Internet search about the setting of this play?

- A Twelfth Night
- B Shakespeare
- C Illyria
- D setting

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

- 51** Use the bibliography card to answer the question below.

“Living in Cambodia.” Garrison,
Charles. Posted: 10 February, 1999.
<http://www.truelife.edu> Accessed:
20 September, 2001.

What is wrong with the format of this bibliography card?

- A The card should not show the date accessed.
 - B The author should be listed first.
 - C The second and third line should not be indented.
 - D The title of the work should not be in quotes.
- 52** Which page from a book would MOST likely contain information about physical conditioning in the military?

Table of Contents

Introduction	vii
Codes of Conduct	1
Drills and Ceremonies	6
Fitness Training	13
Field Hygiene	16
First Aid	21
Leadership	24
Team Building	27

- A page 1
- B page 6
- C page 13
- D page 16

- 53** Larry is finishing a report on Gwendolyn Brooks. Which of these should NOT be included on the first page of his report?

- A the title of his report
- B the date his report was due
- C his name
- D a list of sources

- 54** Where should Corinne look to find out which pages discuss the childhood of Emily Dickinson in a biography of her life?

- A the title page
- B the appendix
- C the table of contents
- D the copyright page

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Tim gave a report in class. Read the following excerpt from his report, and use it to answer questions 55 and 56.

The International Space Station (ISS) is the largest effort undertaken by both Russia and the United States to promote advancement in space exploration. While the ISS differs greatly from the space stations in science-fiction movies, it still represents an incredible array of technological advances. Astronauts aboard the station conduct “micro-gravity” experiments to develop new medicines, metals, crystals, and fabrics. State-of-the-art equipment monitors the Earth to offer improved weather studies. In addition, more studies than ever before have been conducted on the effects of space on animals and plants. The ISS may not be able to teleport anyone to another location, but it is still a great technological advance.

55 Choose the set of notes that **MOST** accurately reflects the main idea of this report.

- A** Space Station
 - both United States and Russia
 - incredible array of advances
 - developing new medicines
 - differs from those in science fiction
- B** International Space Station
 - largest effort by U.S. and Russia
 - “micro-gravity” experiments
 - improved weather studies
 - studies space effect on plants/animals
- C** Space Station
 - by Russia and United States
 - improved weather studies
 - state-of-the-art equipment
 - not able to teleport anyone
- D** International Space Station
 - largest effort by Russia and U.S.
 - differs in science fiction
 - developing new fabrics
 - conducting studies on plants

56 Which title **BEST** reflects the main topic of this report?

- A** Micro-Gravity Experiments in Space
- B** Effects of Space on Animals
- C** Cooperative Effort for Scientific Progress
- D** State-of-the-Art Space Equipment

Use the notes below to answer question 57.

The Romans had subdued much of the known world, but they still faced a dangerous enemy: the Parthians. The Parthians had a very different military strategy from that of the Romans. While the foot soldier was the building block of the Roman army, Parthian soldiers were more likely to be mounted on horseback, and more likely to abandon a battleground if the clash was not going their way.

(pg. 120)

57 Which heading would be appropriate for these notes?

- A** The Roman Empire—Building of
- B** The Parthians—Social Customs Observed by
- C** Roman and Parthian Armies—Differences Between
- D** The Ancient World—Peoples of

58 Aaron wants to find the adjective form of the noun *amphitheater*. Which of the following sources would BEST help him?

- A an encyclopedia
- B the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*
- C an almanac
- D a dictionary

59 Use this thesaurus entry to answer the question below.

sound *a.* 1. reliable 2. stable *v.* 3. ring out
n. 4. racket

Which meaning of *sound* fits the following sentence?

The alarm *sounded* at the library when the door opened.

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

60 The prefix *astro-* is related to

- A technology
- B space
- C altitude
- D distance

Use the paragraph below to answer questions 61 through 63.

1)Everybody's always talking about the need for a good friend. 2)Procrastination is my best friend. 3)My friends and I often share books and magazines. 4)Procrastination follows me wherever I go—into my room at night when it's time to do homework, to basketball practice when it's time to do sprints, even to the Hamburger Hut on Saturday mornings when I show up ten minutes late for my meeting with friends. 5)I don't know what the attraction is, but Procrastination and I have had a longstanding relationship. 6)Now that I think about this, I realize the time has come to call it quits, to find another close companion and rid myself of Procrastination once and for all. 7)Hold on a minute now. 8)I'd better give this more thought.

61 Which sentence is the topic sentence of this paragraph?

- A sentence 1
- B sentence 2
- C sentence 3
- D sentence 4

62 Which sentence would BEST conclude the paragraph?

- A Of course, I have a really close friend, John Jeffries.
- B Tomorrow would be a better day to make such a life-altering decision!
- C When I was younger, I had an incredible amount of energy.
- D One time I was almost half an hour late!

63 Which sentence in the paragraph is off topic?

- A sentence 1
- B sentence 2
- C sentence 3
- D sentence 6

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

64 Which of these sentences would NOT be included in a letter expressing thanks?

- A Maybe you can visit our English class again next year.
- B I'm glad you could make it to the awards banquet.
- C The players on our soccer team enjoyed your presentation.
- D I sure was hoping for a different book.

65 From the words *phonics* and *telephone*, you can conclude that the root word *phon-* relates to

- A speech
- B learning
- C technology
- D children

66 Which sentence should NOT be included in a student's critique of a classmate's essay?

- A The story line could be helped by more specific transitions.
- B Overall, the content is adequate, but your grammar could use some work.
- C This paper is poorly written; there's not much you can do to improve it.
- D Although your essay is interesting, not all the details seem relevant.

Read the following passage. Use it to answer questions 67 through 72.

Isak Dinesen

1)Karen Blixen, the author of the critically acclaimed book *Out of Africa*, adopted the pen name Isak Dinesen because of the meaning and history behind the pen name. 2)She chose Isak which is Danish for Isaac and means “laughter”; Dinesen was her maiden name. 3)Moving to Africa when she was 28, Dinesen and her husband settled on a 1500-acre coffee plantation near Nairobi in Kenya. 4)Dinesen struggled valiantly to maintain a successful crop, but after ten years of effort, failed. 5)At the age of 46, Dinesen sold her land and returned to Denmark. 6)Once home, she turned to literature and wrote *Out of Africa*. 7)Although Danish was her native language, Dinesen wrote *Out of Africa* and all her subsequent works in English. 8)Recounting her struggles, both personal and with the environment, Dinesen is maintaining that her life will become more meaningful because of the hardships she experiences. 9)Her connections with the people and the landscape left an enduring impression on her. 10)Isak Dinesen also wrote *Seven Gothic Tales* as well as several collections of short stories and nationalist works.

67 Which, if any, is the BEST way to write sentence 4?

- A Dinesen struggled valiantly to maintain a successful crop but failed after ten years of effort.
- B After ten years of effort, Dinesen failed although she struggled valiantly to maintain a successful crop.
- C Although she struggled valiantly, she failed to maintain a successful crop, and after ten years of effort.
- D Leave as is

68 Which, if any, is the BEST way to write sentence 8?

- A Recounting her struggles, both personal and with the environment, Dinesen has been maintaining that her life will become more meaningful because of the hardships she experiences.
- B Recounting her struggles, both personal and with the environment, Dinesen is maintaining that her life will become more meaningful because of the hardships she experienced.
- C Recounting her struggles, both personal and with the environment, Dinesen maintained that her life became more meaningful because of the hardships she experienced.
- D Leave as is

69 What transition would BEST begin sentence 9?

- A Yet,
- B Then,
- C Instead,
- D In addition,

70 Which sentence, if added, would be consistent with the tone of the passage?

- A Her husband and Ernest Hemingway were buddies.
- B Her novel was made into a really cool movie.
- C Writing in English gave her a wider audience.
- D Her adventures sound kind of exciting to me.

71 Which of the following writing modes did Dinesen MOST likely employ when writing *Out of Africa*?

- A persuasive
- B descriptive
- C analysis
- D definition

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

72 What is the purpose of this passage?

- A to offer a solution to a problem
- B to evaluate a work of art
- C to provide information on a subject
- D to illustrate steps in a process

73 How is the sentence below **BEST** revised?

I could really use some help and assistance in getting the very difficult project done.

- A I could really use some assistance in getting this very difficult project done.
- B I could really use some help in getting this very difficult project accomplished and done.
- C I could really use some helpful assistance in getting this very difficult project done.
- D I could really use some help in getting this very hard, difficult project done.

74 For her English class, Jana is brainstorming for a paper about Shakespeare plays. Use her chart to answer the question below.

Shakespeare's Plays	
Actors	a. no women
	b. used many props
Globe Theatre	c. built by Shakespeare's acting company
	d. rebuilt in the twentieth century
Stage	e. no scenery
	f. played many different roles

Which item is in the wrong box?

- A item a
- B item c
- C item e
- D item f

Use the paragraph below to answer questions 75 and 76.

1)Each morning, dew glistens on the grass.
2)The sun yawns, scanning the horizon for companion clouds. 3)Perched high in ancient oak trees, starlings and sparrows announce a new day.

75 This paragraph is an example of what type of writing?

- A expository
- B persuasive
- C narrative
- D descriptive

76 Which sentence would **BEST** conclude the paragraph?

- A It's easy to mistake dew for rain.
- B Clouds loom overhead, warning of a coming storm.
- C Other kinds of birds may also be present.
- D In towns along the highway, people slowly put away their dreams.

77 How should the fragment below BEST be revised?

Sleeping on its side, the mule twitching as it dreamed.

- A Sleeping on its side, the mule twitched as it dreamed.
- B The mule was sleeping on its side, it twitched as it dreamed.
- C Sleeping on its side. The mule twitched as it dreamed.
- D The mule, sleeping on its side, twitching. As it dreamed.

Use the letter below to answer questions 78 and 79.

Dear Ms. Collins:

1)On behalf of the senior class at Lee High School, I would like to invite you to speak at our May 28 commencement exercise. 2)As a Lee graduate, your words will be particularly meaningful to the student body. 3)Please check your schedule and see if you are available the last week in May. 4)I will contact you again in another week to elaborate upon the details of graduation, i.e., time and location. 5)I hope you can find an opening in your busy schedule to share words of wisdom with the graduating class. 6)I look forward to hearing from you.

Bye for now,
Sarah Rodriguez

78 Which sentence could BEST be added after sentence 2?

- A Your outstanding contributions to the community have already inspired so many of us.
- B Graduation was originally scheduled for May 25 but has now been changed.
- C You can discuss the experiences at Lee that you hope never to relive.
- D Do you have any fears about public speaking?

79 Which part of the letter is too informal?

- A Dear Ms. Collins:
- B Please check your schedule and see if you are available the last week in May.
- C I look forward to hearing from you.
- D Bye for now,

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

80 How is the sentence below **BEST** written?

Hector saw how the problem could be solved rapid and offered the astounded class his answer.

- A change *saw* to *seen*
- B change *rapid* to *rapidly*
- C change *offered* to *offers*
- D change *his* to *them*

81 Which of these sentences is correctly written?

- A Of the three plans, I think Carla's is the more efficient approach.
- B Of the three plans, I think Carla's is the efficienter approach.
- C Of the three plans, I think Carla's is the most efficientest approach.
- D Of the three plans, I think Carla's is the most efficient approach.

82 How should the sentence below be changed to correct the problem of capitalization?

Did you hear that Colonel Jeffries' son will attend west point, the prestigious military academy in the North?

- A use a lowercase *c* in *Colonel*
- B use a capital *W* and *P* in *west point*
- C use a capital *M* and *A* in *military academy*
- D use a lowercase *n* in *North*

83 How is the sentence below correctly punctuated?

Ellen, I wonder if you would mind giving our new neighbor, Ms. Takahashi a ride to work.

- A remove the comma after *Ellen*
- B change the comma after *neighbor* to a dash
- C add a comma after *Takahashi*
- D change the period to a question mark

84 How is the sentence below **BEST** written?

The Edwards family will meet _____ outside the auditorium about 8 o'clock.

- A she and me
- B her and I
- C her and me
- D she and I

85 In the sentence below, what change must be made to correct the problem in capitalization?

The chinese designs on the living room rug fascinate Arnold, a student of the Far East.

- A use a capital *C* in *chinese*
- B use a capital *L* and *R* in *living* and *room*
- C use a capital *S* in *student*
- D use a lowercase *f* and *e* in *Far* and *East*

86 How is the sentence below correctly punctuated?

Although carbonated beverages can upset the stomach many people still drink them.

- A add a comma after *Although*
- B add an apostrophe after *beverages*
- C add a comma after *stomach*
- D The sentence is punctuated correctly.

NINTH GRADE LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

87 How is the sentence below **BEST** written?

Water satisfies your thirst even better than lemonade does.

- A change *satisfies* to *had satisfied*
- B change *your* to *you're*
- C change *then* to *than*
- D change *better* to *more better*

88 Which word, or words, will correctly fill in the blank?

In my opinion, Cecil Fountain is the _____ stand-up comic I have ever heard.

- A more witty
- B wittier
- C most wittiest
- D wittiest

89 Patricia showed a draft of an essay to her English teacher. Which of her teacher's comments shows that Patricia did **NOT** follow correct formal essay format?

- A The essay needs a title.
- B The conclusion of the essay needs to be longer.
- C The essay needs more details.
- D The third paragraph needs a topic sentence.

90 Which word in the following sentence is **NOT** correctly spelled?

To the child's dissatisfaction, the father thoroughly enjoyed eating vegetables for dessert.

- A dissatisfaction
- B thoroughly
- C vegetables
- D dessert

