



**GRADE 4**  
**Writing**

**Administered March 2017**

**RELEASED**



# WRITING



# WRITTEN COMPOSITION

## WRITTEN COMPOSITION: Expository

READ the information in the box below.

When we are young, we often imagine having the chance to meet someone we admire.

**THINK** about having the chance to meet anyone in the world. What person would you choose to meet?

**WRITE** about the person you would want to meet and explain why you would choose that person.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your central idea
- organize your writing
- develop your writing in detail
- choose your words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

USE THIS PREWRITING PAGE TO  
PLAN YOUR COMPOSITION.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU WRITE YOUR COMPOSITION ON  
THE LINED PAGE IN THE ANSWER DOCUMENT.

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# REVISING AND EDITING

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

*Mitchell wrote this story in response to a class assignment. Read Mitchell's story and look for the revisions he needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

## Lauren's New Game

(1) Lauren rips off the plastic wrapping, opens the case, and puts the new video game in the console. (2) She can't wait to play Zoo Madness. (3) She skips through the introduction and gets right to the action. (4) All the zoo animals have escaped and are running wild, terrifying the townspeople. (5) As a professional hunter and trapper, Lauren must capture all the animals and return them to the zoo without being trampled.



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(6) She easily catches and returns a frightened koala bear and a small zebra. (7) Then suddenly the screen freezes up. (8) Annoyed, Lauren starts pushing buttons in an attempt to reset the game. (9) As she pushes button after button, she hears a growl. (10) "Wow," she thinks. (11) "The special effects in this game are so realistic! (12) It not only sounds like an animal is nearby but smells like it!"

(13) Lauren looks up and realizes that she’s not just watching the game—she’s in it! (14) Wearing camouflage clothing, she has a bow slung over her shoulder and a pack of trapping gear on her back.

(15) “What is going on?” she asks in confusion.

(16) But this is no time for questions! (17) A tiger has its sights on her. (18) It’s growling and showing its teeth. (19) Lauren’s heart pounds in her chest, and cold sweat forms on her brow. (20) She grabs a net from her pack and wonders aloud, “Will this hold the tiger?” (21) The tiger springs. (22) Lauren tosses the net over the animal, tangling its feet. (23) The beast roars and growls, frantically trying to break free.

(24) She turns sharply and sees a huge rhinoceros charging toward her. (25) Its head is lowered, and its large horn is aimed directly at her. (26) As the animal gets closer, Lauren reaches for her pack but then remembers that she has already used her net.

(27) “Lauren!” someone screams. (28) Lauren begins to panic. (29) What will she do? (30) “Lauren!” the voice yells even more urgently. (31) Lauren knows that whoever it is will not reach her in time to save her. (32) The rhino is approaching too fast. (33) Suddenly Lauren feels a stabbing pain in it. (34) The rhino has rammed her! (35) Lauren cries out and doubles over.

(36) She waits for another hit from the powerful animal.

(37) “Lauren!” the familiar voice calls again.

(38) “Lincoln?” Lauren asks, puzzled. (39) She looks up and sees her brother.

(40) “Yes, it’s me,” Lincoln answers. (41) “I’ve been calling your name forever. (42) I even pinched your shoulder to get you to wake up. (43) Come on. (44) It’s time for dinner.”

(45) Lauren looks around and realizes that she’s safe in her living room. (46) She stands up slowly, still exhausted from the new game—and from her much-too-realistic dream.

1 What is the **BEST** way to combine sentences 2 and 3?

- A She can't wait to play Zoo Madness, so she skips through the introduction and gets right to the action.
  - B She can't wait to play Zoo Madness because she skips through the introduction and gets right to the action.
  - C She can't wait to play Zoo Madness, she skips through the introduction and gets right to the action.
  - D She can't wait to play Zoo Madness, and she skips through the introduction, and she gets right to the action.
- 

2 Mitchell would like to add the following sentence to the second paragraph (sentences 6–12).

*Feeling startled, she shakes her head and sits up straight.*

Where is the **BEST** place to insert this sentence?

- F At the beginning of the paragraph
- G After sentence 6
- H After sentence 8
- J After sentence 9

3 Mitchell wants to help readers move from the fourth paragraph (sentences 16–23) to the fifth paragraph (sentences 24–26). Which sentence or sentences should Mitchell insert at the beginning of the fifth paragraph, just before sentence 24?

- A It’s a rhinoceros! Oh, no!
  - B Uh-oh! Another animal is just around the corner.
  - C Then Lauren hears a stomp and a huff.
  - D The tiger is trapped and won’t be going anywhere.
- 

4 The meaning of sentence 33 is unclear. It can be clarified by changing *it* to —

- F her game
- G her shoulder
- H the voice
- J the rhino

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

*In the following paper Derrick tells about a fun way to help others. Read Derrick's paper and look for any revisions he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.*

## Pay It Forward

(1) When someone does something nice for you, you probably want to pay that person back. (2) But some people choose to do something different. (3) They're paying it forward! (4) In the process they hope to become part of a chain of good deeds that will grow and grow.

(5) The idea to "pay it forward" became popular in 2000 after a movie with the same title came out. (6) But the concept is at least as old as Ben Franklin. (7) In 1784 he helped a man by giving him some money. (8) Afterward he wrote the man a letter. (9) He told the man that he didn't want to be paid back. (10) As a result, he wanted the man to help someone who needed money in the future.

(11) Everyone can find ways to pay it forward. (12) Kids might pay for someone's lunch or give up their place in line. (13) Others could put extra money in parking meters or simply hold the door open for another person. (14) Many people enjoy coming up with creative ways they can pay it forward. (15) They



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visit nursing homes, serve on cleaning crews, collect cans for charity, and start recycling programs.

(16) When going to a drive-through restaurant, some customers like to tell the cashier that they'll pay for the order of the person in the car behind them. (17) Usually one or two drivers will do this at a time.

(18) Sometimes it might go on for several cars. (19) In 2003, at a drive-through coffee shop, the customers set a record and in Connecticut. (20) More than 1,000 drivers in a row paid for the order of the car behind them!

(21) So if you receive a random act of kindness one day, I'm sure you'll know exactly what to do.



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5 Derrick wants to further develop the central idea of this paper by adding a detail after sentence 3. Which of these sentences could **BEST** follow and support sentence 3?

- A Pay it forward today if you have an opportunity to do this.
  - B That means they're doing something nice by helping another person who may be in need.
  - C This is different and not the same as paying someone back.
  - D I had a friend who helped me when I had to clean out my garage.
- 

6 Derrick has not used the most effective transition at the beginning of sentence 10. Derrick should change **As a result** to —

- F To conclude
- G For example
- H Instead
- J In other words



- 7 What is the most effective revision to make in sentence 19?
- A In 2003 the customers set a record in Connecticut, and it was at a drive-through coffee shop, which was there.
  - B In 2003 the customers at a drive-through coffee shop in Connecticut set a record.
  - C In 2003, at a drive-through coffee shop, the customers set a record it was in Connecticut.
  - D In 2003 there were customers at a drive-through coffee shop in Connecticut that set a record at the shop.
- 

- 8 Derrick's paper ends abruptly. Which sentence can be added to the end of this paper to close it more effectively?
- F It's nice!
  - G I sure would!
  - H Say thanks!
  - J Pay it forward!

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

*Last fall Meg's teacher asked his students to write about something they had done over the summer. Meg wrote about a U.S. landmark she had visited. Read Meg's paper and look for any corrections she should make. Then answer the questions that follow.*



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## The Statue of Liberty: A Gift from a Friend

(1) Over the summer my family took a vacation to New York city. (2) I wanted to get my neighbor Callie a present from the "Big Apple," and I found just the right thing! (3) It was a little model of the famous Statue of Liberty. (4) Callie is my best friend, and the Statue of Liberty is a symbol of friendship. (5) What could be a more perfect present.

(6) I also gave Callie a little booklet that told about the statue. (7) It said that the country of France had sent the statue to the United States in 1886 as a sign of friendship. (8) Lady Liberty was designed in France she was made out of copper and steel. (9) She arrived in the United States in 350 different piece's. (10) Then she was

put together and placed on a cement pedestal. (11) Today she stands on that same pedestal on Liberty Island in New York harbor.

(12) Lady Liberty wasn't just a friendship gift. (13) She was also a birthday present. (14) Meant to celebrate America's independence from Great Britain. (15) The French people were very proud of the help they had given the United States during the revolutionary war.

(16) I bought Callie a model of the statue that is just six inches tall. (17) The real lady stands more than 151 feet tall from her base to the tip of her torch. (18) In 1886 she was our country's most tallest structure.

(19) The statue's many features have special meanings. (20) The broken chains at her feet are symbols of America's newly won independence. (21) Many people believe that the rays of her crown represent the seven oceans and seven continents of the world. (22) Her torch stands for the light of liberty guiding ships into the harbor.

(23) When I gave Callie the mini-statue, I promised that we would visit the real statue together someday. (24) I plan to keep my promise. (25) Then Callie will be able to see the awesome lady for herself!

9 What change should be made in sentence 1?

- A Change **took** to had took
  - B Insert a comma after **vacation**
  - C Change **city** to City
  - D No change should be made.
- 

10 How should sentence 5 be changed?

- F Change **more perfect** to perfecter
  - G Change the period to a question mark
  - H Insert quotation marks at the end of the sentence
  - J Sentence 5 should not be changed.
- 

11 What is the correct way to write sentence 8?

- A Lady Liberty was designed in France. Because she was made out of copper and steel.
- B Lady Liberty was designed in France and made out of copper and steel.
- C Lady Liberty was designed in France. And made out of copper and steel.
- D Sentence 8 is written correctly in the paper.

12 What change should be made in sentence 9?

- F Change **She** to They
  - G Change **in 350** to she was in 350
  - H Change **piece's** to pieces
  - J No change should be made in sentence 9.
- 

13 What is the correct way to write sentences 13 and 14?

- A She was also a birthday present she was meant to celebrate America's independence from Great Britain.
  - B She was also a birthday present meant to celebrate. America's independence from Great Britain.
  - C She was also a birthday present. Which was meant to celebrate America's independence from Great Britain.
  - D She was also a birthday present meant to celebrate America's independence from Great Britain.
- 

14 What change should be made in sentence 15?

- F Change **French** to french
- G Change **were** to was
- H Change **they** to it
- J Change **revolutionary war** to Revolutionary War

15 What change needs to be made in sentence 18?

- A Change ***In 1886*** to It was in 1886
  - B Change ***country's*** to countries
  - C Delete ***most***
  - D No change needs to be made in this sentence.
- 

16 How does sentence 21 need to be changed?

- F Change ***beleive*** to believe
- G Change ***rays*** to ray's
- H Insert a comma after ***oceans***
- J Sentence 21 does not need to be changed.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

*Natalie wrote the following story about a turtle returning home. Read Natalie's story and look for the corrections she should make. Then answer the questions that follow.*



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## Home

(1) The waves pounded the sandy beach, and the moon shone down brightly. (2) Zoey the sea turtle lumbered forward, not quiet used to the heavy weight of her shell out of the water. (3) She knew it was almost time to lay her eggs, and they needed to be on land so they could mature and hatch. (4) Something inside Zoey had drawn her to this beach. (5) Although she didn't yet understand why, she knew this was where she needed to be.

(6) As Zoey draged herself up the shore and away from the ocean, she felt the dry and grainy sand on her flippers. (7) The sharp tang of the sea air and the smell of the grasses on the shore began to bring back some memories. (8) Suddenly she remembered. (9) Zoey had been to this very place many years before.

(10) Zoey had been much smaller then, only about two inches long. (11) On a warm night a lot like this one, she had poked her foot out of an egg and then pushed the rest of her body threw the shell onto the sand. (12) Looking around, she noticed hundreds of other turtle hatchlings crowded on the beach. (13) Each had the same goal—to get to the water!

(14) Zoey joined the mass movement toward the waves. (15) Upon reaching the water, she splashes furiously. (16) The splashing of all the tiny turtle flippers made the water look like it was bubbling. (17) It took a very long time, but Zoey, along with many of her fellow hatchlings, finally made it out to sea.

(18) Zoey spent the next several years far out in the ocean waters. (19) She grew and grew. (20) Then one day she started swimming in a new direction, not really knowing why. (21) The journey finally ended on this fine May evening. (22) And now Zoey understood. (23) She had been making her way back home.

(24) Zoey found a dry spot on the beach and began her work. (25) She used her strong flippers to fling sand to the side and make a pit under her body. (26) Inside the pit she used her back flippers to carve out a hole. (27) When Zoey's nest was complete, she laid her eggs. (28) Then she carefully covered the nest with sand and began the slow crawl back to the sea. (29) Zoey took one last look at the sandy mound, then the waves carried her away again. (30) It was time for a new generation to begin.



17 What change needs to be made in sentence 2?

- A Change **lumbered** to lumbering
  - B Change **not** to she was not
  - C Change **quiet** to quite
  - D No change needs to be made in sentence 2.
- 

18 What change should be made in sentence 6?

- F Delete **As**
  - G Change **draged** to dragged
  - H Change **felt** to feeled
  - J Insert a comma after **dry**
- 

19 How should sentence 11 be changed?

- A Change **poked** to pokked
- B Change **an egg** to a egg
- C Change **threw** to through
- D Sentence 11 should not be changed.

20 What change needs to be made in sentence 15?

- F Change **reaching** to reeching
  - G Change **splashes** to splashed
  - H Change **furiously** to furious
  - J No change needs to be made.
- 

21 What change should be made in sentence 18?

- A Change **sevaral** to several
  - B Change **far** to she was far
  - C Change **waters** to water's
  - D Change the period to a comma
- 

22 What change needs to be made in sentence 24?

- F Change **found** to finds
- G Change **began** to begun
- H Change **her work** to their work
- J No change needs to be made in this sentence.

23 What change needs to be made in sentence 27?

- A Delete **When**
  - B Change **Zoey's** to Zoey's
  - C Change **laid** to lays
  - D No change needs to be made in sentence 27.
- 

24 What is the correct way to write sentence 29?

- F Zoey taking one last look at the sandy mound. Then the waves carried her away again.
- G Zoey took one last look at the sandy mound. Before the waves carried her away again.
- H Zoey taking one last look at the sandy mound, and then the waves carrying her away again.
- J Zoey took one last look at the sandy mound before the waves carried her away again.











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