

2023 STAAR Grade 7 Reading Rationales

Item #	Rationale	
1	Option A is correct	Sophia misses seeing whales twice because she is so involved in sharing her knowledge about them that she is not looking when they jump out of the water.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Sophia is friendly toward her peers, this is not what keeps her from seeing the whales.
	Option C is incorrect	Sophia shows enthusiasm for facts about whales, not for learning from challenging experiences.
	Option D is incorrect	Sophia sees the baby whale at the end of the drama, but she does not show patience while waiting.

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2	Option C is correct	In line 11, Sophia ignores the voice of the tour guide, so the meaning of <u>disregarding</u> is “ignoring.”
	Option A is incorrect	Sophia does not challenge the voice of the tour guide in line 11, so this is not the meaning of <u>disregarding</u> .
	Option B is incorrect	In lines 11 and 12, Sophia ignores the voice of the tour guide and shares her knowledge of whales instead. There is no mention of her mocking the tour guide, so this is not the meaning of <u>disregarding</u> .
	Option D is incorrect	Although Sophia does share her whale knowledge when the sound of the tour guide cuts out, there is no implication that she actively stops the sound, so <u>disregarding</u> does not mean “stopping.”

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3	Option D is correct	The setting affects the development of the plot because the children are on a whale-watching tour in Cape Cod. The tour guide's speaker system keeps cutting off, so Sophia begins to share her knowledge of whales without paying attention to her surroundings.
	Option A is incorrect	The characters learn about and discuss topics such as whales, but they do not change their opinion about any topic.
	Option B is incorrect	The setting does give the characters an opportunity to enjoy the weather, but the weather does not affect the development of the plot.
	Option C is incorrect	The characters do not go through a change that causes them to understand one another better.

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4	Option A is correct	This line indicates that the tour is significant for Sophia because she has never seen a whale in real life, even though she has been fascinated by whales for years.
	Option B is incorrect	In line 5, Sophia shares a whale fact as though she is an expert, but this does not indicate why the tour is significant for her.
	Option C is incorrect	In line 9, Sophia appoints herself as her friends' tour guide. This does not indicate why the tour is significant for her.
	Option D is incorrect	In line 23, Sophia watches the water while talking about a whale that, unbeknownst to her, her friends just saw. This detail does not indicate why the tour is significant for Sophia.

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Item #	Rationale	
5	Option B is correct	Sophia misses seeing the whales twice because she is too concerned with sharing her knowledge with her friends. The central theme is that it is important to focus on the present moment because this is what Sophia must do to finally see whales in real life.
	Option A is incorrect	Sophia has been fascinated with whales since fourth grade, and she is pursuing a childhood dream by joining a whale-watching tour, but the central theme is more about focusing on the moment than about pursuing lifelong dreams.
	Option C is incorrect	The children are taking advantage of an opportunity by joining the whale-watching tour, but education is not the focus of the passage.
	Option D is incorrect	The play does not show any character considering the interests of others before their own.

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6	Option D is correct	Line 34 signals a shift in Sophia’s attitude. Before this point, she was busy sharing her knowledge of whales, but in line 34 she is struck with wonder at the sight of a real-life whale.
	Option A is incorrect	Line 7 does not signal a shift in Sophia’s attitude; instead, she is showing interest in what the tour guide is saying. She expressed her fascination with whales earlier in the play, so this is not a shift.
	Option B is incorrect	In line 18, Sophia physically turns, which does not indicate anything about her attitude.
	Option C is incorrect	Sophia continues sharing her knowledge of whales in line 25, so her attitude has not shifted at this point in the passage.

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7	Option B is correct	The playwright says in line 24 that Maggie and Allen “have their eyes glued to the water.” This figurative language shows that their eyes are not moving from the spot because they want to see the whales.
	Option A is incorrect	The playwright does not mention Maggie and Allen squinting or their eyes being tired from watching for whales. In fact, the figurative language characterizes their excitement and anticipation to see more whales.
	Option C is incorrect	Nothing in line 24 indicates that Maggie and Allen need binoculars to see the whales. The context suggests they see the whales with no extra equipment.
	Option D is incorrect	Sophia struggles to notice the whales that everyone else sees, but Maggie and Allen do not have trouble noticing any objects in plain view.

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8	Option D is correct	The playwright’s use of the words “grinning” in line 34 and “laughing” in line 36 contribute to the mood of the play by describing the friends in a way that shows they are amused by Sophia’s behavior.
	Option A is incorrect	The words “grinning” in line 34 and “laughing” in line 36 do not reveal a critical mood.
	Option B is incorrect	Sophia’s friends do not show admiration for Sophia, because in line 27 they ignore her talking to watch the whales.
	Option C is incorrect	Although “grinning” in line 24 and “laughing” in line 36 are words that could be used to describe the making of jokes, none of the characters in the play make any jokes.

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Item #	Rationale	
9	Option C is correct	In the stage directions in lines 16 and 18, Maggie and Allen spot a whale, but Sophia misses it because her focus is on talking.
	Option A is incorrect	Although Maggie and Allen are the ones who spot the whale, it is not indicated in the play that they have more experience with whale-watching than Sophia does.
	Option B is incorrect	Sophia is being considerate of what her friends are saying. After Maggie and Allen reveal that they just saw a whale, Maggie is upset with herself for having missed it.
	Option D is incorrect	Maggie and Allen see the whale and Sophia does not, but in line 2 Sophia displays her fascination with whales and her excitement to see them in real life.

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10	Option A is correct	In paragraph 2 the author states that scientists are trying to determine whether there were ever microbes on Mars. In paragraph 6 the author reveals that water has been found on Mars and that some scientists wonder whether frozen microbes still exist there.
	Option B is incorrect	According to paragraph 2, astronomers proved that there were no crops growing on Mars, and according to paragraph 6, water does exist on Mars.
	Option C is incorrect	According to paragraph 6, because of the discovery of water on Mars, scientists are closer than ever to determining whether life once existed there.
	Option D is incorrect	The selection does not provide any evidence that people exploring Mars are unsure of how to identify living microbes.

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11	Option C is correct	This paraphrase accurately restates the ideas and information in paragraph 4.
	Option A is incorrect	The emphasis on photographs in this paraphrase excludes the other tasks done by rovers described in paragraph 4.
	Option B is incorrect	The rovers are not trying to show the scientists that it is difficult for life to grow on Mars. They are simply robots collecting samples.
	Option D is incorrect	Paragraph 5, not paragraph 4, mentions that Mars’s surface contains oxygen.

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Item #	Rationale	
12	Option A is correct	By describing different researched aspects of Mars, the author shows that scientists believe it likely that there was once life on the planet.
	Option B is incorrect	Although the author does present contrasting theories, the author does not identify different kinds of life that may have existed on Mars. The only kind of life that scientific research supports the existence of on Mars is microbes.
	Option C is incorrect	The issue of whether life existed on Mars is a problem addressed by the author. However, the author does not reveal why sending humans to Mars is necessary in the selection “Life on Mars.” That topic is explored in the selection “Say Yes to Exploring Mars.”
	Option D is incorrect	The features needed to support life on Mars are not listed in order of importance.

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Item #	Rationale	
13	Option C is correct	Throughout the selection, the author provides useful information for the average American citizen to consider when deciding which stance to take on whether to send humans to Mars.
	Option A is incorrect	The scientific community is most likely already aware of the benefits of exploring Mars.
	Option B is incorrect	While the selection does mention the development of advanced technologies necessary for exploring Mars, the author does not describe the benefits that a human mission to Mars would have for technology companies.
	Option D is incorrect	The author is most likely not addressing government representatives, because there is no focus on the legal and political side of sending humans to Mars.

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Item #	Rationale	
14	Option A is correct	Beginning with the title “Say Yes to Exploring Mars,” the author presents information intended to encourage the reader to support sending humans to Mars.
	Option B is incorrect	The author does not focus the selection on astronauts and their qualifications, but on the reasons why a human mission to Mars should be attempted.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the author does say in paragraph 2 that sending humans to explore Mars could provide evidence of life on the planet, this is a detail that supports the main claim.
	Option D is incorrect	The author supports this statement by quoting a U.S. representative in paragraph 5. However, this is a supporting detail and not the main claim of the selection.

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Item #	Rationale	
15	Option B is correct	The quotation from the U.S. representative urges people to explore Mars now rather than wait, because the technology for such a mission already exists. This supports the main claim that sending a human mission to Mars has many benefits.
	Option A is incorrect	The detail that firefighting gear was originally developed for astronauts supports the idea that a mission to Mars could improve the technology people use on Earth, rather than directly supporting the main claim.
	Option C is incorrect	In paragraph 1 the author lists places that humans have successfully explored most likely to introduce the topic of exploring Mars.
	Option D is incorrect	Although NASA is mentioned twice in the selection, the author does not discuss NASA's role in space exploration.

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Item #	Rationale	
16	Option B is correct	The idea that people might be able to create a breathable atmosphere on Mars is found only in “Say Yes to Exploring Mars,” in paragraph 4.
	Option A is incorrect	“Life on Mars” discusses NASA scientists’ interest in sending people to Mars in paragraphs 4 through 6 and “Say Yes to Exploring Mars” discusses the same idea in paragraph 3 and paragraph 6.
	Option C is incorrect	Scientists’ excitement about discovering frozen water on Mars is found in paragraph 6 of “Life on Mars” and paragraph 4 of “Say Yes to Exploring Mars.”
	Option D is incorrect	The benefits of astronauts visiting Mars is found in paragraph 7 of “Life on Mars” and throughout the selection in “Say Yes to Exploring Mars.”

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Item #	Rationale	
17	Option C is correct	The author of “Life on Mars” presents the argument that valuable information could be gained by travelling to Mars in paragraph 7, and the author of “Say Yes to Exploring Mars” presents the same idea throughout the selection.
	Option A is incorrect	Space-inspired inventions that can benefit life on Earth is found only in paragraph 3 of “Say Yes to Exploring Mars.”
	Option B is incorrect	The idea that humans naturally desire studying the land around them is not presented in either selection, though it could be inferred in both.
	Option D is incorrect	Evidence disproving the ideas of early astronomers about Mars is found only in paragraph 2 of “Life on Mars.”

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Item #	Rationale	
18	Option C is correct	The author of "Life on Mars" describes different discoveries about Mars and how they came about. For example, photos taken and data gathered by rovers showed that Mars's surface contains some of the key elements for life to exist. The author of "Say Yes to Exploring Mars" describes the benefits of sending humans to Mars; for example, the inventions used for space exploration are often used on Earth as well.
	Option A is incorrect	Both authors explain how pictures of Mars help scientists. In "Life on Mars," the author addresses photos in paragraph 4. In "Say Yes to Exploring Mars," the author addresses the use of photos in paragraph 2.
	Option B is incorrect	Both authors explore what is known about Mars as well as what remains to be discovered. In "Life on Mars," the author addresses what is known about Mars in paragraphs 3 through 6 and addresses what remains to be discovered in paragraphs 5 through 7. In "Say Yes to Exploring Mars," the author addresses what is known about Mars in paragraph 2 and addresses what remains to be discovered in paragraphs 2 and 6.
	Option D is incorrect	Both authors propose that there may be or may have been life on Mars. The author of "Life on Mars" discusses theories and potential evidence throughout the article, while the author of "Say Yes to Exploring Mars" discusses the same theories in paragraph 2.

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Item #	Rationale	
19	Option B is correct	Both sentences express the idea that sending humans to Mars would be beneficial in gathering more information about the planet.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence notes that humans have already done much exploration but does not focus on the idea of a human mission to Mars.
	Option C is incorrect	The idea the author expresses in this sentence focuses on the benefit of innovative inventions rather than the benefit of confirming findings about Mars.
	Option D is incorrect	This sentence expresses the idea of previous findings on Mars. It does not confirm that further human exploration would confirm these findings.

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Item #	Rationale	
20	Option D is correct	The controlling idea of the article is that robots offer beneficial uses for humans in different areas of their lives including in the home and at work.
	Option A is incorrect	The focus of the article is not on the appearance of cobots and robots. This is a detail.
	Option B is incorrect	The information about exoskeletons benefitting the field of medicine is a detail that supports the controlling idea that robots can be useful for humans.
	Option C is incorrect	This sentence is a detail that supports the controlling idea by suggesting that robots can be useful in ever-evolving ways.

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21	Option A is correct	The design requirements for exoskeletons should be included in a complete summary of the article. They provide the purpose of exoskeletons in a way that fits into the provided summary structure.
	Option B is incorrect	The fact that exoskeletons are worn by warehouse workers should not be included in a complete summary, because it is a small idea rather than a main supporting detail.
	Option C is incorrect	The exoskeletons not only allow workers to perform their normal activities but also assist workers in doing more than they could without the exoskeleton. This idea should not be included in a complete summary.
	Option D is incorrect	The idea that exoskeletons make people look as though they are in a science fiction movie is a minor detail; therefore, it should not be included in a complete summary.

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Item #	Rationale	
22	Part A	
	Option C is correct	It can be inferred that some people think robots are objects to be feared based on the author’s opening paragraph. The author explains how science fiction and movies often portray robots that are “bent on taking over the world,” which shapes people’s perception.
	Option A is incorrect	At the beginning of the article, the author does not mention that some people think robots are an inappropriate use of technology.
	Option B is incorrect	The author does not explore the idea that robots are unnecessary in a home setting at the beginning of the article. In fact, the last sentence of paragraph 1 states that robots are helpful in “almost every aspect of life.”
	Option D is incorrect	It cannot be inferred that some people think robots are a threat to many industrial jobs when taking into account that the beginning of the article does not mention jobs, only that robots are helpful in “almost every aspect of life.”
	Part B	
	Option B is correct	This sentence best supports the idea that some people think robots are to be feared because it states that some movies show robots trying to take over the world.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence does not support that some people think robots are to be feared, because it calls the movies and books about the future “unrealistic,” indicating that the author believes that the fears are unfounded.
	Option C is incorrect	The idea of humans and robots working together does not support that some people think robots are to be feared, because it shows that robots can be helpful.
	Option D is incorrect	Robot arms aiding workers in assembling parts shows that robots are helpful and not something to be feared.

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Item #	Rationale	
23	Option B is correct	The author poses a rhetorical question in the title so that readers can begin to think about the topic of the article and their own opinion about that topic.
	Option A is incorrect	Since the article addresses the helpfulness of robots for humans, the author most likely includes a rhetorical question in the title of the article to alleviate suspicion about robots.
	Option C is incorrect	The rhetorical question in the title is most likely meant to engage readers rather than suggest that they should take up the task of researching the topic.
	Option D is incorrect	The rhetorical question in the title does not hint at anything. It is simply asking a question for readers to think about.

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Item #	Rationale	
24	Option C is correct	In paragraph 7 the author’s use of words such as “even” and “almost no limit” contributes to a mood of excitement about the ways robots may help people in the future.
	Option E is correct	In paragraph 6 the author’s use of the word “promising” contributes to an optimistic mood that one day people will use robots to overcome certain physical conditions.
	Option A is incorrect	Neither paragraph 6 nor paragraph 7 uses language that contributes to a cautious mood.
	Option B is incorrect	Neither paragraph 6 nor paragraph 7 uses language that hints at patience being required.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the language in paragraphs 6 and 7 does indicate a mood of hope, it does not indicate hope toward people one day fully embracing assistance from robots; rather, the language in these paragraphs indicates hope that robots will be helpful to people with their health and within their homes.

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25	Option D is correct	The author uses a comparison organizational pattern in paragraphs 2 and 3 to support the topic by contrasting the use of multiple robot arms in a factory with delivery cobots at a university, thereby giving multiple examples of ways that robots help people at workplaces.
	Option A is incorrect	Opposing views on using robots in industry are not given in paragraphs 2 and 3. In fact, both paragraphs' examples support the use of robots in industry.
	Option B is incorrect	While both paragraphs show the need for human programming to set up robots, the ways that robots are programmed are not contrasted.
	Option C is incorrect	In neither paragraph 2 nor paragraph 3 does the author demonstrate ways that robots are used in homes. In both paragraphs the author shows ways that robots are used in workplaces.

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Item #	Rationale	
26	Option A is correct	The most likely reason the author wrote this article is to explain how robots are affecting the lives of people in the modern world. Several examples are given showing how robots help in the workplace, medical field, and households.
	Option B is incorrect	The facts shared in the article involve robots in the modern world and are not historical facts from the past.
	Option C is incorrect	Although paragraphs 6 and 8 include examples of how robots can help people feel a greater sense of well-being, including the use of exoskeletons to help people walk and how robotic pets offer companionship, these examples and the article as a whole more precisely explain robots' positive effect on the lives of people in the modern world.
	Option D is incorrect	The exact methods experts use to program robots for specific jobs are only briefly mentioned at the end of paragraph 3, so these methods are not the most likely reason the author wrote this article.

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Item #	Rationale	
27		For ECR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

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Item #	Rationale	
28	Option A is correct	Sentence 3 repeats the information in sentence 2 that Rory is unsure about how long the Popsicle has been in the freezer.
	Option B is incorrect	In sentence 4 Rory expresses a new idea about how old the Popsicle might be. It is not a repeated idea.
	Option C is incorrect	The new idea Rory expresses in sentence 5 is her opinion of the old Popsicle and her preference for a banana split from By the Scoop.
	Option D is incorrect	Rory’s wish to be sitting in the By the Scoop Ice Cream Shop in sentence 6 is a new idea, not a repeated one.

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Item #	Rationale	
29	Option B is correct	This sentence corrects the disjointed clauses and the awkward passive voice in sentence 14. It also corrects the misplaced modifier by moving “Mom” after “puzzled.”
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence is wordy and awkward because it has a series of three verbs—two in active voice and one in passive voice—connected by a redundant “and.”
	Option C is incorrect	The sentence is disjointed, and the events are described out of logical order.
	Option D is incorrect	This sentence corrects the misplaced modifier by moving “Mom” after “puzzled.” However, it is still awkward because it creates another misplaced modifier by moving “who walked ahead” after “squinted.”

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Item #	Rationale	
30	Option C is correct	“In fact” is the most effective transition to use here because it is expanding on the information in the previous sentence.
	Option A is incorrect	“In conclusion” indicates the end of a group of ideas, but sentence 22 expands on the previous idea.
	Option B is incorrect	“Meanwhile” implies that the two ideas are happening at the same time, yet the context of the sentence states that winter storms are rare.
	Option D is incorrect	“Frequently” suggests the opposite of the context of these sentences—that winter storms are rare in the area.

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Item #	Rationale	
31		For SCR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

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Item #	Rationale	
32	Option B is correct	This sentence relays a more positive message and reiterates the purpose of the letter.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence focuses on Rory’s family rather than the request for By the Scoop to extend its store hours.
	Option C is incorrect	The sentence focuses on the old Popsicle rather than the request for By the Scoop to extend its store hours.
	Option D is incorrect	Although this sentence supports Rory’s request for the ice cream shop to extend its hours, it is not possible that she could be “absolutely certain that everyone” in the local community agrees with her.

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33	Option B is correct	This sentence introduces the controlling idea for Maylin’s paper, the Spartan Race.
	Option A is incorrect	Maylin’s paper does not focus on the pace of participants and the rewards of an obstacle course. Her controlling idea is specifically the Spartan Race.
	Option C is incorrect	In this sentence Maylin describes parts of the obstacle course, which is a detail in the paper, not the controlling idea.
	Option D is incorrect	Not only would using this sentence to replace sentence 8 repeat a form of the word “popular” a third time within one paragraph, but this sentence would also focus on general obstacle course races rather than the Spartan Race.

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Item #	Rationale	
34	Option D is correct	Maylin discusses competitors' clothing in this sentence, which does not support the key idea of the second paragraph. The key idea of the second paragraph is the expansion of the original Spartan Race.
	Option A is incorrect	In this sentence, Maylin gives part of the history of the Spartan Race which is an important part of the key idea of the paragraph.
	Option B is incorrect	Maylin provides information about an expanded version of the original race, providing information directly related to the key idea of the paragraph.
	Option C is incorrect	Maylin uses this sentence to give an example of how the Spartan Race has expanded to include other types of races.

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Item #	Rationale	
35	Option B is correct	This sentence ties the paragraph together by pointing out what the various challenges have in common in the Spartan Race and should replace sentence 20.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence gives another example of a task in the Spartan Race rather than bringing the paragraph to a conclusion.
	Option C is incorrect	Although this sentence focuses on participants' experiences, including it within the third paragraph would be off topic because the key idea of the paragraph does not deal with ways participants share information.
	Option D is incorrect	The paragraph is not about how and when to register to take part in the Spartan Race, so the sentence would not be an appropriate closing.

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Item #	Rationale	
36	Option B is correct	“Satisfaction” is a more effective word than “quality” because satisfaction is something people can feel about themselves or a situation.
	Option A is incorrect	“Confirmation” generally means that a person receives assurance that a decision was correct. In this context, the participant does not require assurance since the paragraph already says the race gives them a sense of purpose.
	Option C is incorrect	“Refreshment” does not mean the same thing as “quality,” and participating in the Spartan Race is not likely to be refreshing. In fact, sentence 25 states that it is “grueling.”
	Option D is incorrect	In the fifth paragraph, Maylin does not discuss anything that would support the use of the word “agreement” in sentence 27.

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Item #	Rationale	
37	Option D is correct	This sentence is grammatically accurate.
	Option A is incorrect	This sentence is missing an important clause identifying helpers, which creates a confusing meaning.
	Option B is incorrect	This sentence misuses “since” as a conjunction and includes a redundancy (“complete and finish”).
	Option C is incorrect	This sentence is awkward because it connects three clauses together with "and" and fails to use appropriate adverbs to show a meaningful connection between the clauses.

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Item #	Rationale	
38	Option C is correct	This sentence corrects the run-on and illogical idea in the original sentence by replacing the prepositional phrase "at the time" with the subordinate adverb "when" and positioning it to create a complex sentence that makes sense.
	Option A is incorrect	The first period should instead be a comma for proper grammatical construction and syntax.
	Option B is incorrect	This sentence is improperly punctuated. The use of the period creates two incomplete sentences.
	Option D is incorrect	This sentence is a disjointed and awkward run-on sentence.

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Item #	Rationale	
39	Option A is correct	“Instead” shows the contrast between what Presley hopes to find and what she finds.
	Option B is incorrect	“Also” indicates an addition, but Logan tells in sentence 2 what Presley hopes to find rather than what she has already found.
	Option C is incorrect	Logan does not get more specific in sentence 3 about what is found in sentence 2, as “namely” would imply.
	Option D is incorrect	Using the word “certainly” would not make sense with the rest of sentences 2 and 3.

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Item #	Rationale	
40	Option C is correct	The subordinate clause “as Presley opened the box” should be followed by a comma because it precedes the independent clause.
	Option A is incorrect	“Even though” changes the meaning of sentence 4, and the new meaning does not make sense.
	Option B is incorrect	Logan wrote the paper in past tense, so changing the verb “opened” from past to present tense would not maintain the verb tense of the paper.
	Option D is incorrect	The story so far has not indicated that anyone else is working with Presley, so changing "she" to "they" would be a pronoun agreement error.

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41	Option D is correct	The name of the magazine is a proper noun and needs to be capitalized.
	Option A is incorrect	Logan wrote the paper in past tense, so changing the verb “was” from past to present tense would not maintain the verb tense of the paper.
	Option B is incorrect	Presley finds the magazine after it was published, so it is “from” the time it was published.
	Option C is incorrect	This change would cause a run-on.

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42	Option D is correct	When a city and its state are written together, a comma comes between them.
	Option A is incorrect	“Decades” is spelled correctly as is.
	Option B is incorrect	The verb tense “has been painting” is correct as is.
	Option C is incorrect	“Hometown” is not a proper noun and, therefore, should not be capitalized.

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Item #	Rationale	
43	Option D is correct	The semicolon correctly separates these two complete, but related, ideas and corrects the run-on.
	Option A is incorrect	The original run-on sentence could be corrected by adding either a semicolon or a comma followed by a conjunction, but not both. This sentence incorrectly uses a semicolon and a conjunction together. Also, the choice of the conjunction “so” is illogical in this sentence.
	Option B is incorrect	The first sentence is complete and correct, but the punctuation makes the second sentence incomplete and illogical.
	Option C is incorrect	The first sentence is complete and correct. The punctuation placement makes the second sentence illogical.

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Item #	Rationale	
44	Option C is correct	“The Smithsonian American Art Museum” is a singular noun and, therefore, requires a singular verb. Changing “display” to “displays” correct the subject-verb agreement error.
	Option A is incorrect	“In fact” shows that there is an example presented that demonstrates the information in sentence 6, so it should not be replaced.
	Option B is incorrect	“Washington, D.C.,” is correct as written.
	Option D is incorrect	The paintings in this sentence are Treviño’s, which is a singular possessive. Changing “his” to the plural possessive “their” would cause an agreement error.

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Item #	Rationale	
45	Option B is correct	Removing the apostrophe from the word “it’s” corrects the error because the word “its” correctly shows Treviño’s possession of cultural importance.
	Option A is incorrect	“Appreciated” is spelled correctly as is.
	Option C is incorrect	“Importance” is spelled correctly as is.
	Option D is incorrect	There is a change needed because of the apostrophe error.