

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
Grade 11

2010 Sample Items



A Couple of Good Joes

This is a story about a boy named Joey. His father expects him to work for the family company this summer. Joey is disappointed. After a couple of bad days, a conversation with a classmate named Christy helps Joey. Read the story to find out what happens when Joey works with his dad.

A Couple of Good Joes

- 1 The bright yellow truck had a slogan painted on both sides. It said "Need window screens? Call now for a Good Job by a Good Joe!"
- 2 Joey cringed every time he saw it, and he was always grateful that his father Joe parked that ugly truck behind the house. It was bad enough that his dad drove all over the city in that truck and that people actually called him Good Joe. To make matters worse, his dad loved to sport a black T-shirt with the same slogan as the truck. Joey was humiliated by all of it.
- 3 One morning at breakfast, his dad seemed to be studying him and waiting to say something. "Joey," he finally said, "I am happy to say that I have more work than I can handle this summer. So I'm going to need your help. It'll give you the chance to start earning and saving money to cover extras when you go off to college."
- 4 Joey was shocked. "But Dad, I told the baseball team that I would play in the city league this summer. This is my last summer to play. After I graduate next year, the team will be splitting up. They're counting on me."
- 5 "I know, Joey," said his dad. "But I'm counting on you, too. It's time you became more responsible. That baseball team isn't going to help us with any of your college expenses."

- 1** What is paragraph 3 mostly about?
- A** Joey and his dad eat breakfast together.
 - B** Joey and his dad decide to start a business together.
 - C** Joey is told that he will be working with his dad.

Objective 1

- 2** Which sentence best supports the conclusion that business is going well for Joey's dad?
- A** *"I am happy to say that I have more work than I can handle this summer."*
 - B** *"It's time you became more responsible."*
 - C** *"That baseball team isn't going to help us with any of your college expenses."*

Objective 2

- 6 Joey felt as if he were being punished for something he didn't do. "This is unfair, Dad. I already have plans for the summer."
- 7 "You're going to have to change them," his dad said bluntly. He went on more gently, saying, "I'll pay you a good salary, Joey, and I'll provide you with a full benefits package. You'll get room, board, and health insurance!" After a little chuckle, he added, "This is a great way to help you prepare for the future and help the family at the same time."
- 8 "Apparently, I don't have a choice in the matter," Joey said bitterly.
- 9 His dad stood up from the table and said, "So it's settled. I'll get you some company T-shirts so that you'll have a clean one every day. Your job will start the day after school is out."
- 10 Joey stared at his dad in disbelief and mumbled, "Yes, sir." His dad left the room without saying another word. When he was out of earshot of his dad, Joey muttered, "But if you think I'm wearing those ridiculous shirts, you're delusional."

- 3** Which sentence best explains why Joey’s dad believes Joey should work for him?
- A** *"You’re going to have to change them," his dad said bluntly.*
 - B** *"This is a great way to help you prepare for the future and help the family at the same time."*
 - C** *"I’ll get you some company T-shirts so that you’ll have a clean one every day."*

Objective 3

- 4** Which word best describes Joey’s attitude in paragraphs 6 through 10?
- A** Thoughtful
 - B** Courageous
 - C** Selfish

Objective 3

- 11 On a Saturday morning two weeks later, Joey climbed into the passenger seat of the ugly yellow truck. He wore his darkest sunglasses and a plain white T-shirt. His dad just grinned and said, "We've got a full day, so let's get going."
- 12 Joey slumped down in his seat, hoping no one could see him. Then he and his dad drove to their first job of the day. The truck was full of equipment. His dad had everything he would need to make any kind or size of screen a homeowner wanted. He also carried a ladder that could reach all the way to second-story windows.
- 13 Throughout the morning, Joey's dad patiently showed his son how to build custom screens. Around noon he tossed the truck keys to Joey. He said, "Take us somewhere to eat while I study our schedule for the rest of the day."
- 14 Joey tried to think of a drive-through restaurant where nobody he knew would see him. He slowly pulled into Taco Town and placed an order. When he pulled up to the take-out window, his heart sank. The cashier was Christy Leonard, the class president.
- 15 "Hey, Good Joey," she teased brightly. "Looks like you got yourself a good job. That'll be \$12.41, please."
- 16 "Yeah," Joey mumbled. "My dad's making me work for him this summer." He looked down and noticed that his shirt was covered with grime. He felt a hot flush creep up his neck as he attempted to wipe the dirt off, but his hands were even dirtier. He quickly paid, grabbed the food from Christy, said, "Thanks," and drove off.
- 17 Joey was silent. He was furious with his dad for ruining his summer. He couldn't believe that he had been seen in that horrible truck by someone from school! He ate his lunch quickly and didn't talk much all afternoon. On the way home Joey's dad drove by the park where the baseball team was practicing. "Hey, there are your friends," said Joey's dad. He honked and waved wildly at the group.
- 18 Joey was even more depressed then. All his worst nightmares were coming true. He was sure that everybody was laughing at him behind his back. He didn't know how much more of this he could take.

- 5** In paragraph 15, the author uses the word “brightly” to show that Christy —
- A** is happy to see Joey
 - B** doesn’t know Joey very well
 - C** is a good employee

Objective 1

- 6** Which sentence best supports the idea that Joey is embarrassed to be working with his dad?
- A** *Joey slumped down in his seat, hoping no one could see him.*
 - B** *Throughout the morning, Joey’s dad patiently showed his son how to build custom screens.*
 - C** *On the way home Joey’s dad drove by the park where the baseball team was practicing.*

Objective 2

- 19 The next morning Joey told his dad that he didn't feel well and needed the day off. His dad looked at Joey suspiciously but didn't say anything and went to work by himself. Joey stayed inside the house moping about his horrible life until after lunch. Then, bored, he grabbed his glove and headed for the park to meet the baseball team. Joey expected a lot of teasing about having to work, but nobody even mentioned seeing him in his dad's truck. He spent the afternoon playing baseball and was only slightly worried when he saw his dad drive by after work. This time, however, his dad didn't honk.
- 20 Joey knew his dad would question him, so Joey wasn't surprised when his dad called him into the den after dinner. "Do you have an explanation for your behavior?" he asked.
- 21 Joey said, "Yeah, Dad. I don't want to work with you and drive around in that beat-up old truck. It's embarrassing, and I'd rather be having fun with my friends. College is over a year away; I'll get a job then, when I really need it."
- 22 "I'm disappointed in you, Joey," his dad said. "I thought you were better than that. I'm docking one day's pay from your check this week. Tomorrow, be ready to work and change that attitude of yours."
- 23 Joey stomped off to his room and threw himself on his bed. He knew his dad was right, and he was ashamed of the way he had been acting. "Well," he thought, "since I don't have a life anymore, I might as well make some money."

- 7** Why does Joey tell his dad that he is sick?
- A** He does not want to go to work.
 - B** He wants to meet Christy at Taco Town.
 - C** He has a big baseball game to play.

Objective 3

- 8** Which of these makes Joey feel ashamed?
- A** His own immature behavior
 - B** The fact that his dad takes pride in his work
 - C** The thought of going to college without money

Objective 3

- 24 The next morning Joey came downstairs in a black company T-shirt. His dad smiled and said cheerily, "Good morning, Joey. We're going to the Leonards' house today. They have added a room that needs window screens."
- 25 Joey sighed and said in a sarcastic voice, "Great, Dad. I can't wait."
- 26 When they arrived at the Leonards' house, Christy opened the door for them. "Hello, sir," she said. "My father's in the next room, and he wants to talk to you about the project." Joey's dad walked away, but Christy stopped Joey. "Hey, Joey," she said. "I didn't know you were your dad's assistant. I wish I could work with my dad instead of at Taco Town. What could be worse than working at Taco Town? Sometimes I'm so embarrassed. Turn around and let me see what your shirt says."
- 27 Joey couldn't believe his ears. He turned around and showed Christy the back of his black T-shirt. "I love it!" she said. "You really are Good Joes. Hey, listen, Saturday is my day off. Do you want to go to a movie with me?"
- 28 "That sounds great," said Joey. "Thanks."
- 29 "I've got to go," Christy said. "Maybe we can talk after work and make a plan. Thanks for working on our new room. I know you'll do a good job for us, Good Joey!" She waved as she walked away.
- 30 Joey's dad had a smile on his face as Joey entered the room, but Joey didn't even notice. He threw an arm around his dad's shoulders. "Let's get to work, Boss," he said, grinning. "It's going to be a good day for the Good Joes."

- 9 What does Christy ask Joey to do?
- A Get her a T-shirt
 - B Go to a movie
 - C Eat at Taco Town

Objective 1

**Use the whole story "A Couple of Good Joes"
on pages 3–11 to answer question 10.**

- 10 Which of these is the best summary of the story?
- A Joey's dad drives a yellow truck for work. One day he tells Joey that they will be working together for the summer. Joey complains because he is expecting to play baseball. He tells his dad that it's his last chance to play before he graduates. Joey's dad explains that he needs Joey's help anyway.
 - B Joey's dad tells Joey that they will be working together for the summer. Joey is angry because he wants to play baseball instead. When Joey and his dad first start working together, Joey is embarrassed. But when they go to a job at Christy's house, Joey realizes that working with his dad is not as bad as he thought.
 - C Joey and his dad are working together over the summer. Joey is furious that his dad is making him work instead of letting him play baseball as he had planned. On Joey's second day on the job, he lies to his dad and says he is sick. Later that day Joey goes to the park to play baseball. His dad sees him there and is extremely disappointed in him.

Objective 1



Gemini

Tyler wrote this report about a unique form of transportation. An inventor named Robert Leeds built a submarine named *Gemini*. This small submarine can carry two people underwater for several days. Read Tyler's report and look for ways he can correct and improve it. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

Gemini

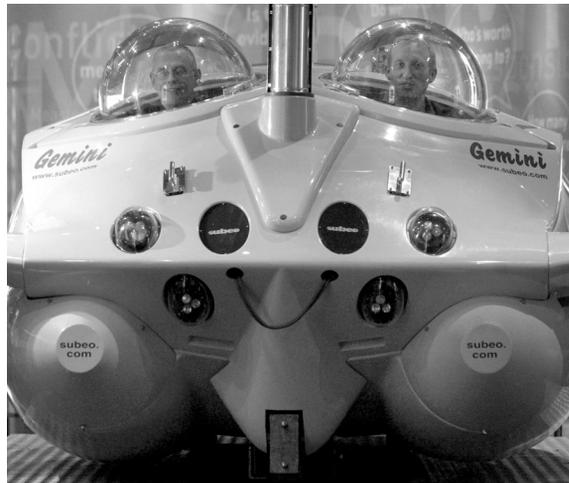


Photo courtesy of © Toby Melville/Reuters/CORBIS.

(1) A submarine is a fascinating form of transportation. (2) It travels underwater. (3) This huge piece of metal moves quietly through the water. (4) Most of the submarines in the water today are commanded by the military. (5) One small submarine is owned by an English inventor named Robert Leeds. (6) His submarine is considered the worlds' first used just for entertainment.

- 1 What is the BEST way to combine sentences 1 and 2?
- A A submarine, a fascinating form of underwater transportation.
 - B A submarine is a fascinating form of transportation, it travels underwater.
 - C A submarine is a fascinating form of underwater transportation.
- 2 What transition word could be added to the beginning of sentence 5 to improve the meaning of the paragraph?
- A Therefore
 - B However
 - C Furthermore
- 3 What change should be made in sentence 6?
- A Change ***considered*** to **considering**
 - B Change ***worlds'*** to **world's**
 - C Insert a comma after ***first***

(7) Leeds's submarine can carry two people. (8) It is able to dive down to 150 feet and stay underwater for up to four days. (9) This unique submarine can remain still in the water or move up and down like a helicopter, which is named *Gemini*. (10) Because of its small size, Leeds compares his invention to an underwater sports car.

(11) The oceans are the last place on Earth where there are no personal vehicles," says Leeds. (12) "Ever since I was 14, I have wanted to build one."

- 4 What is the most effective way to rewrite sentence 9?
- A This unique submarine can remain still in the water or can move up and down like a helicopter. Which is named *Gemini*.
 - B Remaining still in the water or moving up and down like a helicopter in the water, this unique submarine is named *Gemini*.
 - C This unique submarine named *Gemini* can remain still in the water or move up and down like a helicopter.
- 5 What change should be made in sentence 11?
- A Insert quotation marks at the beginning of the sentence
 - B Delete the comma
 - C Change **says** to **say**

(13) Leeds revealed his invention at London's Science Museum in the fall of 2003. (14) *Gemini* was displayed in one of the museum's galleries. (15) This location is often used for showing futuristic inventions.

(16) The cost of building it was \$850,000. (17) Therefore, it is not likely to be produced in mass numbers. (18) But some people believe that it could be used for more than just underwater entertainment. (19) A small personal submarine may be helpful in filming science shows, searching underwater areas, or people will inspect pipelines. (20) Leeds's company are offering to build submarines for individual buyers.

- 6 The meaning of sentence 16 can be clarified by changing *it* to —
- A the gallery
 - B *Gemini*
 - C Leeds
- 7 What is the most effective way to rewrite sentence 19?
- A A small personal submarine may be helpful in filming science shows, it may also be used for searching underwater areas or inspecting pipelines.
 - B A small personal submarine may be helpful in filming science shows, searching underwater areas, or inspecting pipelines.
 - C A small personal submarine, it may be helpful in filming science shows, or for searching underwater areas, or people will inspect pipelines.
- 8 What change should be made in sentence 20?
- A Change *company* to **Company**
 - B Change *are offering* to **is offering**
 - C Change *buyers* to **buyer's**

(21) No matter how the submarines are used, Leeds may be on the way to making history. (22) "The oceans are still the great unknown on our doorstep," insists the inventor. (23) "Twelve men have walked on the moon, but only two have been to the bottom of the sea!"

- 9 Tyler wants to add this sentence to the last paragraph (sentences 21–23).

Perhaps the invention of Gemini will change this statistic.

Where should Tyler insert this sentence?

- A At the beginning of the paragraph
- B After sentence 22
- C At the end of the paragraph

WRITTEN COMPOSITION

Write an essay about a place that is special to you.

The information in the box below will help you remember what you should think about when you write your composition.

REMEMBER—YOU SHOULD

- write about a place that is special to you
- make your writing thoughtful and interesting
- make sure that each sentence you write contributes to your composition as a whole
- make sure that your ideas are clear and easy for the reader to follow
- write about your ideas in depth so that the reader is able to develop a good understanding of what you are saying
- proofread your writing to correct errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure

Item Number	Objective	Student Expectation	Correct Answer
LITERARY SELECTION			
1	1	5	C
2	2	Fig. 19B	A
3	3	5B	B
4	3	5B	C
5	1	1B	A
6	2	5B	A
7	3	5B	A
8	3	5B	A
9	1	Fig. 19B	B
10	1	Fig. 19B	B

Item Number	Student Expectation	Correct Answer
REVISING AND EDITING PASSAGE		
OBJECTIVE 6		
1	13C	C
2	15A	B
3	18A	B
4	13C	C
5	18A	A
6	13C	B
7	13C	B
8	13D	B
9	15A	C
WRITING PROMPT		
	13B	