5 Pennsylvania PSSA

English Language Arts

Grade 7

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1) As it is used in paragraph 4, what does the word *coordinate* most nearly mean?

(A) to block a route completely
(B) to make something more colorful
(C) to copy a plan without changes
(D) to organize different parts so they work together

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

2) Which statement best expresses the central idea of the article?

(A) Careful research and revision helped a student bike bus route become a useful community project.
(B) The article mostly explains the team's daily routines and gives only brief attention to how the project adjusted over time.
(C) The article describes a community effort whose success depended more on a single decisive moment than on the broader pattern of testing and revision.
(D) The article focuses on the project's final outcome and suggests that earlier setbacks had little effect on what the team eventually achieved.

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

3) Which detail best supports the idea that the team improved the project by studying a problem carefully?

(A) The team studied the weakness and then redesigned the route and shifted one pickup point to a quieter block.
(B) The finished project later provided a useful result for the community.
(C) Students and volunteers worked together throughout the project.
(D) The project began after students identified a local need in the community.

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Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

4) How does paragraph 3 contribute to the structure of the article?

(A) It compares two unrelated projects in different locations.
(B) It introduces the setting of the project for the first time.
(C) It summarizes the article's conclusion before any evidence is given.
(D) It presents the setback that leads to the revision described later.

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

5) Why does the author include details about the team's routines in paragraph 2?

(A) To show that the project depends on repeated steps and collected evidence
(B) To emphasize how much time and effort the project required
(C) To show that the team worked in an orderly way from the beginning
(D) To foreshadow that the project will face a challenge later

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

6) Which sentence best explains how the article develops the topic?

(A) It compares two competing approaches to solving the problem and argues that one is clearly better.
(B) It presents the final result first and then goes back to explain how the project originally started.
(C) It describes two different community problems and explains how each was solved by a different team.
(D) It introduces a project, explains its process, describes a problem, and shows a revised solution.

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

7) What can the reader most reasonably infer about the team members?

(A) They set strict deadlines and follow them even when observations suggest a different path.
(B) They are willing to revise their work when the evidence shows a problem.
(C) They respect careful work but usually wait for an outside expert before changing their plan.
(D) They treat each setback as proof that the original idea was wrong and start over from the beginning.

Use the article "How a Bike Bus Works" to answer this question.

8) Which option is the best summary of the article?

(A) A community project faced a challenge, improved through research and revision, and eventually produced a useful result.
(B) A community project started strongly, met no serious difficulty, and ended with a steady result.
(C) A community project ran into trouble, moved on without changing its plan, and still produced a useful outcome.
(D) A community project spent most of its time planning, finished one stage, and left the main problem for another group.

Read the story and the poem. Then answer questions 9–16.

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Use the article "Finding the Real Night Sky" to answer this question.

23) Which sentence would **best** summarize the article?

(A) Dark-sky parks can help communities recover views of the night sky while protecting wildlife and using light more wisely.
(B) Dark-sky parks allow visitors to see the Milky Way.
(C) Scientists study light in the night sky.
(D) Streetlights are bad for people and animals.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Amara wrote an informational essay about the benefits of school libraries. Read Amara's essay and look for revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Why Every School Needs a Strong Library

(1) School libraries give students access to thousands of books, databases, and research tools. (2) A strong library program helps students develop critical-thinking and information-literacy skills. (3) Studies show that schools with full-time librarians have higher reading scores on standardized tests. (4) Our family just bought new shelves for the living room.

(5) Libraries also provide a quiet space where students can study, collaborate on projects, or simply read for pleasure. (6) Many school librarians help teachers design research assignments that connect to curriculum standards. (7) When students learn to evaluate sources and cite evidence, they build skills that transfer to every subject area.

(8) Unfortunately, some school districts have reduced library funding in recent years. (9) Fewer librarians means fewer opportunities for students to receive individualized research support. (10) Communities that invest in school libraries invest in student success.

24) Which sentence should Amara remove from the **first** paragraph because it does not support the main idea?

(A) Sentence 1
(B) Sentence 2
(C) Sentence 3
(D) Sentence 4

Use the essay "Why Every School Needs a Strong Library" to answer this question.

25) What is the **best** way to combine sentences 5 and 6?

(A) Libraries also provide a quiet space where students can study, collaborate on projects, or simply read for pleasure; in addition, many school librarians help teachers design research assignments that connect to curriculum standards.
(B) Libraries give students a place to study, and librarians support classroom research.
(C) Libraries also provide a quiet space, and many librarians help teachers plan research assignments.
(D) Libraries offer students room to read and work, while librarians assist with some class projects.

Use the essay "Why Every School Needs a Strong Library" to answer this question.

26) Amara wants to add a transition between paragraph 2 and paragraph 3. Which sentence would **best** serve this purpose?

(A) Therefore, many schools have added pools and gyms.
(B) However, these benefits are at risk in many schools today.
(C) In conclusion, school libraries are great places to visit.
(D) Meanwhile, sports programs are also important.

Use the essay "Why Every School Needs a Strong Library" to answer this question.

27) Which sentence would be the **best** closing sentence for Amara's essay?

(A) There are many other topics that students could research.
(B) By supporting strong school libraries, communities give every student the tools to learn, question, and grow.
(C) My school library has mostly novels and a few magazines.
(D) Libraries are buildings with books and desks inside.

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Mateo wrote a short narrative about baking with his grandmother. Read Mateo's paragraph and look for revisions he should make.

Baking with Grandma

(1) Every Sunday morning, Grandma and I bake bread together. (2) She lets me knead the dough, which feels warm and soft under my hands. (3) The kitchen smells nice. (4) By ten o'clock, the oven clicks on. (5) A golden crust rises above the rim of the pan in slow, patient waves.

28) Which revision makes sentence 3 **most** specific and vivid?

(A) The kitchen smelled warm and busy all at once.
(B) The kitchen fills with the deep, yeasty smell of rising dough, warm butter, and toasted sesame seeds.
(C) The kitchen smelled like bread was in the oven.
(D) The kitchen seemed full of the kind of smell that makes people hungry.

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