

# Mississippi MCT2 Student Review Guide

## 8th Grade Language Arts: Writing

# Practice Test

# 1

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1. Read the following draft of a student's essay.

(1) David Maxwell, an only child, was a sweet little boy adored by his parents. (2) He had just begun to walk and was constantly in motion. (3) One day his mother could find only one of his shoes. (4) She looked everywhere, even the trash can, but could not find it, so she had to put his sneakers on him. (5) The next day when she was ready to leave the house with him, she could not find one of his sneakers. (6) She was extremely frustrated and called her husband to complain and fuss to him. (7) Then when she looked at David's expression, she became suspicious. (8) She went to his room and found the missing shoes in the toy chest.

Which of the following choices correctly revises sentence 7 to provide more descriptive detail?

- A Then when she saw the twinkle in David's eyes and his sheepish grin, she became suspicious.
- B Looking at David then, she noticed that something was definitely not right.
- C Then when she looked at David, she realized he looked guilty, so she thought he might know something.
- D Glancing at David's face, she saw that he was smiling, so she was suspicious.

(A) (B) (C) (D)

2. Read the following draft of a newspaper advertisement. Then answer question 2 based on the draft.

To say hello to our new neighbors, we at Edisto Animal Hospital will be hosting a small bark bash in our parking lot. Come this Saturday 10 a.m. until noon to 148 Turtle Pond Way.

Those who bring their pet (safely contained) with a copy of their pet's records will receive a free rabies vaccine. If your pet is already current on its vaccine, you will be given a voucher so it may receive its free shot at our hospital when it's due. And because we know how bothersome fleas are, all who fill out a survey about their pets will receive a two-month supply of flea control FREE!

Which of the following sentences will the author of the advertisement add in order to clarify the problem to which the advertisement is offering a solution?

- F We hope to meet many new customers during this bark bash.
- G We want to encourage all pet owners to keep their pets safe and healthy.
- H We know that many people have pets they really care about.
- J We are holding this bark bash so that pet owners can meet each other.

(F) (G) (H) (J)



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Read the following draft of a paragraph Mickey has written for a research report. Use this paragraph to answer questions 36 and 37.

(1) Alaskan king crab makes quite a tasty meal, but catching those delicious creatures can be a dangerous pursuit. (2) It is risky enough to catch the attention of the media in a documentary called “The Deadliest Catch.” (3) King crab fishing is done in the frigid waters around Alaska and the Bering Sea. (4) It takes a wise skipper, a well-equipped boat, and a fearless crew. (5) The public can book a tour on some of these ships to share an adventure. (6) It has been estimated that one fisherman per week dies in pursuit of king crab. (7) The king crab fishing season is short, and the weather is cold and hazardous. (8) Therefore, king crab fishing has been declared one of the most dangerous jobs in America.

36. Which of the following will Mickey add after sentence 7 to provide an effective transition to sentence 8?

- F As if long, tiring hours and freezing temperatures weren't enough, the fishermen have to wrestle heavy equipment on a wet and constantly moving deck.
- G King crab are caught in huge steel cages covered in nylon mesh which are baited with fish scraps and lowered to the ocean floor.
- H The fishing season has been shortened to allow the declining population of crab to have an opportunity to rebound.
- J The number of boats and crews have been drastically reduced by the restrictions on king crab fishing and the competition from imported king crab caught by other countries.

(F) (G) (H) (J)

37. Mickey's teacher has suggested that Mickey revise her paragraph.

Which sentence will Mickey delete to improve the organization of the paragraph?

- A Sentence 3
- B Sentence 4
- C Sentence 5
- D Sentence 6

(A) (B) (C) (D)

