

NAME: _____ DATE: _____



rSkills® Progress Monitoring Test 2a

DIRECTIONS: This is a reading test. Follow the directions for each part of the test, and choose the best answer to each question.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Sample A . Sheri went to the library. She got two books about Greece. Then she went home for lunch.

What did Sheri do first?

- Ⓐ ate lunch
- Ⓑ got two books
- Ⓒ went home
- Ⓓ went to the library

Sample B . Max will rewrite his story.

The word *rewrite* means—

- Ⓐ not write.
- Ⓑ write again.
- Ⓒ one who writes.
- Ⓓ write well.

See Answer Key
at end of test.

Go on to the next page to begin the test.



Comprehension

Read the following earth science text. Then answer questions 1–6.

The Great Galveston Storm

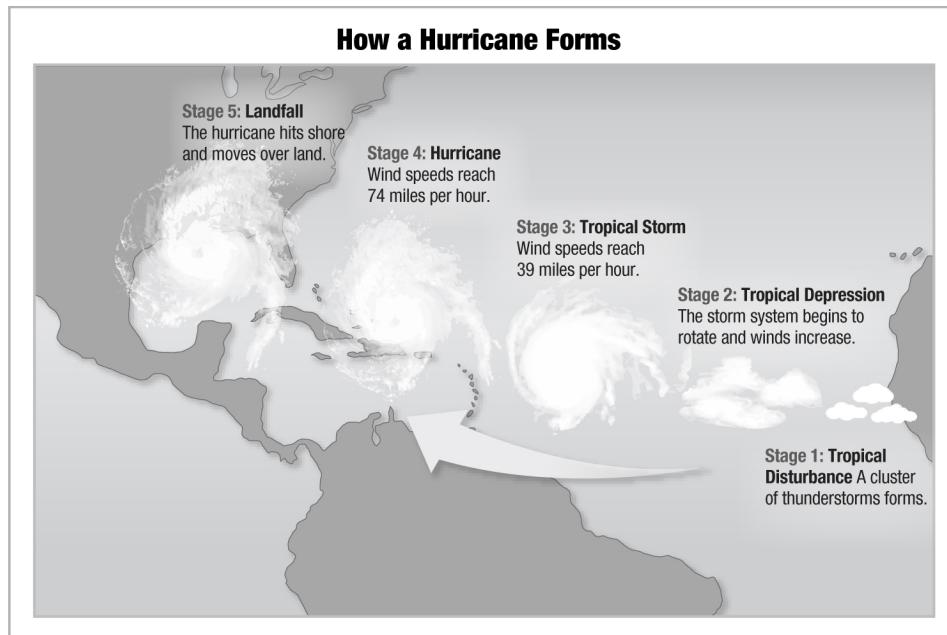
What is the worst natural disaster in U.S. history? Many people think it happened in 1900. That is when a big storm hit Galveston, Texas. At least 8,000 people died because of the storm.

In those days, it was hard to predict the weather accurately. The Galveston storm came in from the Gulf of Mexico. But it was not like other gulf storms.

On Saturday, September 8, the wind was very strong. Huge waves crashed onto the beach near the town of Galveston, which is on an island. Then a big ship broke free of its anchor. Wind and waves pushed the ship into some bridges. The bridges were crushed. Because of this, people could not escape.

Soon, the ocean began to rise. It covered much of the town. Buildings were destroyed and people were swept out to sea. The storm only lasted two days, but it changed the town of Galveston forever.





1. What happened just after the ocean began to rise?

- Ⓐ People were swept out to sea.
- Ⓑ The storm lasted two days.
- Ⓒ Water covered the town.
- Ⓓ Buildings were destroyed.

2. What happened first?

- Ⓐ A ship broke free.
- Ⓑ Huge waves crashed on the beach.
- Ⓒ A strong wind blew.
- Ⓓ The ocean rose.

3. Which sentence from the text has a sequence signal word?
- (A) Wind and waves pushed the ship into some bridges.
 - (B) It was not like other storms, however.
 - (C) Because of this, people could not escape.
 - (D) Then a big ship broke free of its anchor.
4. Look at the diagram. What happens just before a hurricane forms?
- (A) The storm hits shore and moves over land.
 - (B) The tropical depression becomes a tropical storm.
 - (C) A tropical disturbance forms.
 - (D) The tropical disturbance begins to rotate.
5. What is the main idea of this text?
- (A) The waves were strong enough to break a big ship free.
 - (B) People could not accurately predict weather in 1900.
 - (C) In 1900, a powerful storm destroyed Galveston, Texas.
 - (D) A ship crushed the bridges near Galveston.
6. Many people think the Great Galveston Storm was America's worst natural disaster because—
- (A) at least 8,000 people died.
 - (B) it came in from the Gulf of Mexico.
 - (C) a ship broke free of its anchor.
 - (D) the town was flooded.

Read the following earth science text. Then answer questions 7–10.

Flooding Changes Lives

It was May 2007 in China's Sichuan Province. The rains began on a Wednesday. The rains drenched the land for two days. Many towns here lie near the Yangtze River. Heavy rains mean big trouble. By Thursday, flash floods had killed 21 people. Almost 400 were injured. And 11 were missing. Mud slides closed part of a highway. This hurt rescue efforts.

Flooding in this area is not new. China has seen worse. In 1931, the Yangtze River flooded. More than three million people died. The river flooded again in 1998. It destroyed homes and factories. It killed farm animals. But now the rains seem to come earlier each year. They occur more often. This puts more people at risk.

In 2003, China's government began building a dam on the Yangtze River. The Three Gorges Dam is one of the largest dams in the world. It was finished in 2009. The dam will help control flooding on the river and keep people safe.

7. This passage is mainly about —

- Ⓐ animals.
- Ⓑ food.
- Ⓒ people.
- Ⓓ floods.



8. The Three Gorges Dam will—
- (A) help control flooding.
 - (B) close the highways.
 - (C) cause more floods.
 - (D) hurt rescue efforts.
9. What happened first in Sichuan Province in May 2007?
- (A) Mud slides closed part of a highway.
 - (B) Floods killed 21 people.
 - (C) Rains began on a Wednesday.
 - (D) Almost 400 people were injured.
10. Which of these events in China happened first?
- (A) Flash floods in Sichuan Province killed 21 people.
 - (B) A flood in 1998 destroyed homes and factories.
 - (C) Mud slides caused by heavy rain closed part of the highway.
 - (D) The Yangtze River flooded and killed more than three million people.

Vocabulary/Word Study

Read each question and decide which is the best answer. Fill in the circle next to the answer you have chosen.

11. I helped my dad repaint the basement after it flooded.

In this sentence, the word *repaint* means—

- (A) remove paint.
- (B) paint again.
- (C) paint red.
- (D) one who paints.

12. Which word has a suffix that makes it a noun?

- (A) ended
- (B) slowly
- (C) action
- (D) faster

13. The city will rebuild the dam that broke.

In this sentence, the word *rebuild* means—

- (A) build well.
- (B) build quickly.
- (C) build again.
- (D) not build.

14. To which word could you add the suffix *-ion* to form a noun?

- (A) create
- (B) green
- (C) noisy
- (D) write

15. Which word has a suffix that makes it a noun?

- (A) elect
- (B) elected
- (C) elects
- (D) election

16. Putting all of the best players on one team is unfair.

In this sentence, the word *unfair* means—

- (A) very fair.
- (B) not fair.
- (C) one who is fair.
- (D) the state of being fair.

17. To which word could you add the suffix *-ion* to form a noun?

- (A) brave
- (B) smart
- (C) instruct
- (D) speak



18. Driving through water on the road is unsafe.

What does the word *unsafe* mean?

- Ⓐ safe before
- Ⓑ not safe
- Ⓒ safe again
- Ⓓ very safe



Conventions

Read each question and decide which is the best answer. Fill in the circle next to the answer you have chosen.

19. What is the best way to correct the sentence fragment below?

The bear into the cave

- (A) The bear into the dark cave.
- (B) The big bear into the cave.
- (C) The running bear into the cave.
- (D) The bear ran into the cave.

20. Choose the sentence with correct capitalization.

- (A) Let's go swimming.
- (B) no one is at home.
- (C) Are you hungry Now?
- (D) don't forget your coat.

21. What is the best way to correct the sentence fragment below?

Crosses the Golden Gate Bridge

- (A) Crosses the Golden Gate Bridge every morning.
- (B) On his way to work, crosses the Golden Gate Bridge.
- (C) Mr. Poduje crosses the Golden Gate Bridge every morning.
- (D) Mr. Poduje, who crosses the Golden Gate Bridge every morning.



22. Choose the sentence that uses correct capitalization.

- (A) You can see the Colorado River.
- (B) It runs through the grand canyon.
- (C) The River flows into California.
- (D) some farms use water from the river.

23. Which sentence uses correct capitalization?

- (A) I have never been to china.
- (B) My Parents were born in Shanghai.
- (C) Jen spent a month in Beijing.
- (D) My Uncle also lives there.

24. What is the best way to correct the sentence fragment below?

Grandpa in the rowboat on Sunday.

- (A) I spent Sunday in the rowboat with Grandpa.
- (B) Grandpa in the rowboat on Sunday with me.
- (C) Grandpa in the rowboat I spent with on Sunday.
- (D) In the rowboat, I spent with Grandpa on Sunday.

25. What is the best way to correct the sentence fragment below?

Sleeping during the thunderstorm.

- (A) My sister sleeping during the thunderstorm.
- (B) During the thunderstorm my sister sleeping.
- (C) The thunderstorm my sister sleeping during.
- (D) My sister was sleeping during the thunderstorm.

Open Response

Write your answer in your own words on the lines below or on the answer document. Use complete sentences.

- 26.** Review the texts, “The Great Galveston Storm” and “Flooding Changes Lives.” How do floods affect people? Write one or two sentences to explain.



Open Response

Write your answer in your own words on the lines below or on the answer document. Use complete sentences.

- 27.** Review the texts, “The Galveston Storm” and “Flooding Changes Lives.” What are the advantages and disadvantages of living near water? Write two or three sentences to explain.



Writing Prompt



Test 2a Answer Key

Sample Questions

- A. (D)
- B. (B)

Comprehension

- 1. (C) *Sequence of Events*
- 2. (C) *Sequence of Events*
- 3. (D) *Sequence of Events*
- 4. (B) *Sequence of Events*
- 5. (C) *Main Idea and Details*
- 6. (A) *Main Idea and Details*
- 7. (D) *Main Idea and Details*
- 8. (A) *Main Idea and Details*
- 9. (C) *Sequence of Events*
- 10. (D) *Sequence of Events*

Vocabulary/Word Study

- 11. (B) *Prefixes*
- 12. (C) *Suffixes*
- 13. (C) *Prefixes*
- 14. (A) *Suffixes*
- 15. (D) *Suffixes*
- 16. (B) *Prefixes*
- 17. (C) *Suffixes*
- 18. (B) *Prefixes*

Conventions

- 19. (D) *Correcting Sentence Fragments*
- 20. (A) *Using Capitals*
- 21. (C) *Correcting Sentence Fragments*
- 22. (A) *Using Capitals*
- 23. (C) *Using Capitals*
- 24. (A) *Correcting Sentence Fragments*
- 25. (D) *Correcting Sentence Fragments*

Test 2a Answer Key

Open Response (sample answers):

26. Floods can result in many problems for people. Floods can cause deaths. Floods can also destroy roads, houses, and factories. **(2 points: Synthesize)**
27. It can be good to live near water for several reasons. Rivers provide people with fresh water and a way to transport things. Oceans provide food and recreation. However, living near water can be dangerous. Storms can cause flooding and major damage, and people near water can become trapped. **(4 points: Synthesize)**

Writing Prompt:

28. Answers will vary. Use the rubrics from the SAM Portfolio tab to assess student responses.

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Multiple Choice Questions

1. (A) (B) (C) (D)
2. (A) (B) (C) (D)
3. (A) (B) (C) (D)
4. (A) (B) (C) (D)
5. (A) (B) (C) (D)
6. (A) (B) (C) (D)
7. (A) (B) (C) (D)
8. (A) (B) (C) (D)
9. (A) (B) (C) (D)
10. (A) (B) (C) (D)
11. (A) (B) (C) (D)
12. (A) (B) (C) (D)
13. (A) (B) (C) (D)
14. (A) (B) (C) (D)
15. (A) (B) (C) (D)
16. (A) (B) (C) (D)
17. (A) (B) (C) (D)
18. (A) (B) (C) (D)
19. (A) (B) (C) (D)
20. (A) (B) (C) (D)
21. (A) (B) (C) (D)
22. (A) (B) (C) (D)
23. (A) (B) (C) (D)
24. (A) (B) (C) (D)
25. (A) (B) (C) (D)

Test 2a Answer Document

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Writing Prompt

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