

Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program

Released Item Booklet

GRADE 6

AUGMENTED BENCHMARK EXAMINATION

April 2012

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Arkansas Department of Education

WRITING PROMPT

Your teacher has asked you to write about what you like about summer.

Before you begin to write, think about what you do in the summer. Maybe you play sports or earn money by cutting the grass. Maybe you visit another city. **Why** do you like summer?

Now write an essay for your teacher explaining why you like summer. Give enough detail so that your teacher will understand.

WRITER'S CHECKLIST		
 Look at the ideas in your response. Have you focused on one main idea? Have you used enough detail to explain yourself? Have you put your thoughts in order? Can others understand what you are saying? Think about what you want others to know and feel after reading your paper. Will others understand how you think or feel about an idea? Will others feel angry, sad, happy, surprised, or some other way about your response? (Hint: Make your reader feel like you do about your paper's subject.) Do you have sentences of different lengths? (Hint: Be sure you have a variety of sentence lengths.) 	 Are your sentences alike? (Hint: Use different kinds of sentences.) 3. Look at the words you have used. Have you described things, places and people the way they are? (Hint: Use enough detail.) Are you the same person all the way through your paper? (Hint: Check your verbs and pronouns.) Have you used the right words in the right places? 4. Look at your handwriting. Can others read your handwriting with no trouble? 	

Domain Scoring Rubric

Content (C)

The Content domain includes the focusing, structuring, and elaborating that a writer does to construct an effective message for a reader. It is the creation of a product, the building of a composition intended to be read. The writer crafts his/her message for the reader by focusing on a central idea, providing elaboration of the central idea, and delivering the central idea and its elaboration in an organized text. Features are:

Central idea
 Elaboration
 Unity
 Organization

Style (S)

The Style domain comprises those features that show the writer purposefully shaping and controlling language to affect readers. This domain focuses on the vividness, specificity, and rhythm of the piece and the writer's attitude and presence. Features are:

- Selected vocabulary
 Sentence variety
 Tone
 Voice
- Selected information

Sentence Formation (F)

The Sentence Formation domain reflects the writer's ability to form competent, appropriately mature sentences to express his/her thoughts. Features are:

 Completeness 	 Absence of fused 	 Expansion 	 Embedding
Standard word order	sentences	through standard	through standard
		coordination and	subordination and
		modifiers	modifiers

Usage (U)

The Usage domain comprises the writer's use of word-level features that cause written language to be acceptable and effective for standard discourse. Features are:

Standard inflections
 Agreement
 Word meaning
 Conventions

Mechanics (M)

The Mechanics domain includes the system of symbols and cueing devices a writer uses to help readers make meaning. Features are:

Capitalization
 Punctuation
 Formatting
 Spelling

Scoring Scale

Each domain is scored independently using the following scale.

- 4 = The writer demonstrates **consistent**, though not necessarily perfect, control* of almost all of the domain's features.
- 3 =The writer demonstrates **reasonable**, but not consistent, control* of most of the domain's features, indicating some weakness in the domain.
- 2 =The writer demonstrates **inconsistent** control* of several of the domain's features, indicating significant weakness in the domain.
- 1 =The writer demonstrates **little** or **no** control* of most of the domain's features.

*Control: The ability to use a given feature of written language effectively at the appropriate grade level. A response receives a higher score to the extent that it demonstrates control of the features in each domain.

The application of the scale, using actual student writing, is done with the assistance of a committee of Arkansas teachers, language arts supervisors, and representatives of the Arkansas Department of Education.

Nonscoreable and Blank Papers

Nonscoreable papers include student responses that are off-topic, illegible, incoherent, written in a language other than English, or too brief to assess. Nonscoreable papers will receive a score of "0." Blank papers indicate no response was written and will be reported as NA (no attempt), which translates into a score of "0."

1 Read the letter.

Dear Mr. Timothy,

We have enough teachers signed up to participate in the softball tournament. What we still lack is community involvement. We are asking that your company make a donation for uniforms or food. As you know, the donations received for the tournament will go to help build a new ballpark for our community. We have volunteers to cover all of the food booths, and we have sold a lot of tickets. Any help from your company will be greatly appreciated.

The purpose of the letter above is to

- A describe a fundraising project for the community.
- **B** inform a company about a fundraising project.
- * **C** persuade a company to participate in a fundraising project.
 - **D** entertain the community with a fundraising project.

2 Chris is writing the following descriptive narrative.

¹Aaron and Lorie were anxious to help their grandmother, so they carried her heavy luggage from the bus to the car. ²_____, they managed to lift the suitcases into the trunk. ³They were proud to show how strong they were.

Which phrase added to the blank in sentence 2 uses onomatopoeia effectively?

- * **A** Huffing and puffing
 - **B** Hissing and snorting
 - **C** Trying their best
 - **D** Flexing their muscles

- **3** Which sentence contains an error in spelling?
 - A Del's family is going to attend his brother's graduation in June.
 - **B** The principal will talk about leadership and good citizenship.
 - **C** Someone must take pictures that capture the enthusiasm on the graduates' faces.
 - * **D** The school is fortunate that one of the teachers is a professionall photographer.

4 Read the paragraph.

¹Gordon began to take pictures of butterflies when he was a young child. ²His photos captured these beautiful insects resting on flowers and flying between bushes. ³______, when he heard there was a photography contest for nature photos, he entered.

Which transition **best** completes the third sentence?

- **A** However
- **B** Especially
- * **C** Therefore
 - **D** Additionally

CALCULATOR NOT PERMITTED—ITEMS 1–6

1 The line graph below shows the amount of weight gained by Mrs. Andrew's baby in the first weeks after birth.



During which week did the baby's weight increase the most?

- * A Week 1
 - **B** Week 2
 - **C** Week 3
 - **D** Week 4

2 Logan compared the batting averages of players on the baseball team. Four of the players' averages are shown below.

Kyle, 0.323

Ryan, 0.319

Carlos, 0.299

Jack, 0.324

Which of the following lists the players from the greatest average to the least?

- **A** Kyle, Jack, Ryan, Carlos
- * B Jack, Kyle, Ryan, Carlos
 - **C** Carlos, Ryan, Kyle, Jack
 - **D** Jack, Kyle, Carlos, Ryan

- **3** Jed wants to collect information to compare the average weight of horses to the average weight of cows. Which of the following is the **best** way for Jed to collect the information?
 - **A** Survey local farmers about the weights of their horses.
 - **B** Survey local farmers about the weights of their cows.
 - **C** Survey local farmers about the weights of all of their animals.
 - * **D** Survey local farmers about the weights of their cows and their horses.

4 Two similar figures are shown below.



In the smaller triangle, what is the length of side *x*?



- * **B** 3 inches
 - **C** 4 inches
 - **D** 6 inches

5 What should you do to find the missing value in the equation below?

$$\fbox{?}-128 = 1,782$$

- * A Add 128 to both sides of the equation.
 - **B** Divide both sides of the equation by 128.
 - **C** Multiply both sides of the equation by 128.
 - **D** Subtract 128 from both sides of the equation.

6 The line graph below shows the water depth of a swimming pool as it filled over 16 hours.



How deep was the water after 10 hours?

A 4 feet

B
$$4\frac{1}{2}$$
 feet

- * **C** 5 feet
- **D** 6 feet

CALCULATOR PERMITTED—ITEMS 7–20 and A–C

7 Kelly played a game 5 times and recorded her scores in the table below.

Kelly's Scores

Game	Score
1	32
2	33
3	34
4	28
5	28

What is the mean of her scores?

- **A** 28
- ***B** 31
 - **C** 32
 - **D** 34

8 Which figure has 180° rotational symmetry about its center point?



9 Four students raced remote-control cars. They each made a table of their car's motion. Which table shows the car that had a constant rate of speed?

	Time Elapsed (seconds)	Total Distance (inches)
	5	15
* A	10	30
	15	45
	20	60

	Time Elapsed (seconds)	Total Distance (inches)
	5	10
C	10	20
	15	40
	20	80

	Time Elapsed (seconds)	Total Distance (inches)
	5	15
B	10	20
	15	25
	20	30

	Time Elapsed (seconds)	Total Distance (inches)
	5	10
D	10	25
	15	45
	20	70

10 Don made \$108 for working a certain number of hours. If *h* represents the number of hours Don worked, which shows the amount of money Don made per hour?

A h = 108

B $108 \times h$

c
$$\frac{h}{108}$$



11 Montel left on a kayak trip at 10:30 A.M. He stopped kayaking at 2:00 P.M. How long was Montel kayaking?

A
$$2\frac{1}{2}$$
 hours

* **C**
$$3\frac{1}{2}$$
 hours