

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

# OHIO GRADUATION TESTS



## **Writing**

### **Practice Test**

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September 2004

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**WRITING TEST**

**DIRECTIONS:** The writing test consists of one writing-prompt question, five multiple-choice questions, and one short-answer question. You may answer the questions in any order, but plan your time so that you have enough time to complete the writing-prompt question. You may refer to the questions as often as necessary.

For the writing-prompt question, space is provided for prewriting activities. This section is provided for planning your writing. Nothing written in this space will be scored.

Make sure the draft you want scored is written in the lined section of the Answer Document. Your draft needs to be legible to be scored. It may be in printed or cursive handwriting.

Revision and editing are encouraged, although for the purposes of this test, you will not be able to use reference materials. Erasing, crossing out, and other editing changes may be made right on your draft in the Answer Document. You do not have to use all of the space provided in your Answer Document, but be sure your answer is complete. You may refer to the question as often as necessary.

For multiple-choice questions, most questions are associated with a brief paragraph or a sentence. Some of the questions are clustered together; others stand alone. After reading the paragraph and question, choose the best answer and blacken the corresponding space in your Answer Document. If you want to change an answer, make sure that you erase the old answer completely.

For the short-answer question, write your answer in the Answer Document in the space provided. You do not have to use all of the space provided in your Answer Document, but be sure your answer is complete. You may refer to the question as often as necessary.



Use the draft paragraph to answer questions 2 - 4.

1. One of the best family activities is camping. 2. The key to a successful camping trip is being well-prepared. 3. One recommendation I would give is to keep a master list of all the items you might need for camping so they can be gathered easily before you leave for your trip. 4. It takes a lot of work to get ready for a camping trip, set up your campsite, break down your campsite, and unpack when you get home. 5. We are always glad that we decided to go camping.

2. Which sentence would be an appropriate replacement for sentence 1?
- A. Many families go camping for weeks at a time.
  - B. Some of my best childhood memories are of camping with my family.
  - C. Camping is a great family activity, but it is one that requires a lot of work.
  - D. When you go camping, you can enjoy a low-cost vacation with your family.
3. Which phrase is appropriate to add at the beginning of sentence 5?
- A. As a result,
  - B. Even when it rains,
  - C. Since we enjoy camping,
  - D. Despite all the effort it requires,

4. Which revision appropriately summarizes the ideas in sentence 4?
- A. Be prepared for camping to tire you out.
  - B. If you don't like to work, you won't enjoy camping.
  - C. Camping is a lot of work before, during and after the trip.
  - D. Setting up a campsite, camping, and unpacking can cause a lot of problems.

## Writing

Use the following information from a handbook on language to answer question 5.

- Use a semicolon between main clauses not joined by a coordinating conjunction.
- Main clauses contain a subject and a predicate and do not begin with a subordinating word.
- Subordinating words include *because, although, since, as if, so that, after*.
- Coordinating conjunctions are *and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet*.
- A semicolon may be used to join two independent main clauses which are connected by an adverb such as *however, therefore, otherwise* or *nevertheless*. The adverb must be followed by a comma.

5. Which sentence combines the sentences below into one sentence by correctly using a semicolon?

**The Southwest is known for vast open spaces and endless skies.**

**But the sunsets are especially beautiful.**

- A. The Southwest is known for vast open spaces and endless skies; the sunsets are especially beautiful.
- B. The Southwest is known for vast open spaces and endless skies; but the sunsets are especially beautiful.
- C. The sunsets are especially beautiful in the Southwest; which is known for vast open spaces and endless skies.
- D. The southwestern states are known for vast open spaces and endless skies; and the sunsets are especially beautiful.

Use the following outline to answer question 6.

Outline for essay about soccer

- I. Introduction
  - II. Equipment
  - III. Rules of the game
    - A. Structure of game
    - B. Violations
  - IV. Skills to practice
    - A. Kicking
    - B. Dribbling
    - C. Passing
    - D. Goalkeeping
  - V. Conclusion
6. Which sentence would be appropriate in Section I?
- A. The goalie is the only player who can use his or her hands.
  - B. Soccer is becoming increasingly popular in the United States.
  - C. One of the most important things you need to play soccer is a ball.
  - D. If you learn the rules and study the skills you have just read, you can play soccer.

7. Officials in your school district are concerned that high school students are not learning as much as they could be with the current high school schedule. The officials are considering extending the school day by an hour for high school.

You are planning a letter to your principal either supporting or opposing the extension of the school day. Identify two arguments you would use to support or oppose a longer school day. Write your response in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

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