



Beginning-of-Year Assessment (BOY)

Grade 7 Writing Standards

This BOY assessment is intended to assess current grade 8 students who completed grade 7 writing in the 2019-2020 school year.

Congratulations! You worked very hard in school to learn many new things. Taking this Grade 7 Writing Standards test is a great way to show your family and school what you learned. It is okay if you do not know all the answers. Just try your best. You are amazing! You are taking this test so adults can learn more about how to help you this year.

You can ask an adult for help if you do not understand the directions. You can use a dictionary and scratch paper for this test.

If you do not know the answer to a question, choose the answer you think might be correct. You must answer the questions on your own.

You are now ready to start. Take your time and remember that trying your best is what is important. You're awesome, and you'll do great!



BOY Assessment Grade 7 Writing Standards

Student _____
Class _____
Date _____

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

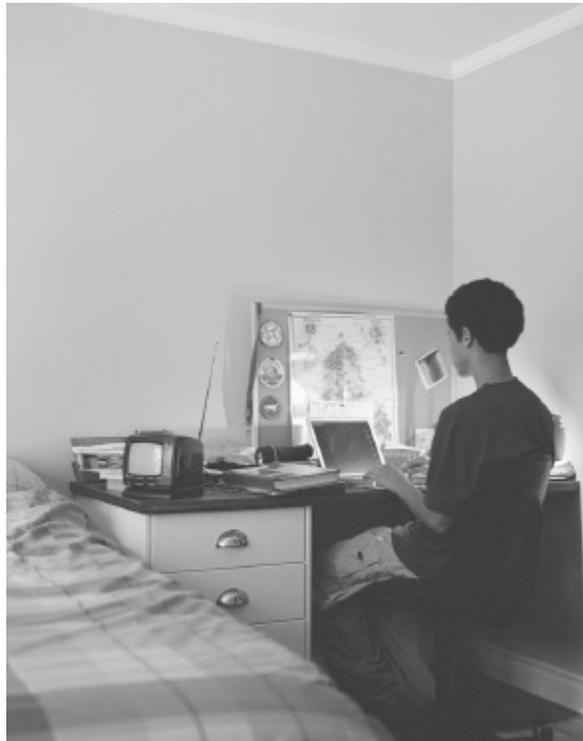
DeShawn has written the following paper in hopes of persuading his parents to give him his own room. Read DeShawn’s paper and look for any corrections he needs to make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

A Space of My Own

(1) I would like to begin by telling you that I think you manage our house very well. (2) I know how hard you both work to provide for our family and to take care of us kids. (3) We’re happy and well-adjusted, and home is a good place to be. (4) But there’s one improvement I think we need to make. (5) I truly believe that it’s time for me to have my own room.

(6) I admit that I had enjoyed sharing a room with my little brother for the last six years. (7) We have the bond that I’m sure you hoped for when you bought the bunk beds and moved us in together. (8) But now that Jamal and I are both getting older, I fell that I’m ready for more privacy and a space of my own.

(9) Having my own room would give me the opportunity to become a better student. (10) My classes have become more demanding and will probably require even more concentration when I start high school in a couple of years. (11) My own room would provide a quieter place to do my homework. (12) I would also have a place to spread out materials and work on projects without getting in anyone elses way. (13) This would help me to be more focused, and as a result, my grades would improve.



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(14) My own room would also give me a place to work on my music.

(15) Mr. Owens, my Band Director, insists that I practice every night.

(16) Sometimes I don't have time for practice until later in the evening when Jamal is already in bed. (17) In a room of my own, I could play my trumpet without disturbing the rest of the family, and in time I would be a much better musician.

(18) Finally, I would like to have my own room so that my friends and I could have a place to hang out. (19) We like to listen to music, talk about sports, and sometimes even study together. (20) It's hard to do these things in a room filled with Jamal's toy cars, models, and action figures. (21) In fact, it's hard to do these things with Jamal in the room. (22) But it's not really fair to make him leave all the time, it's his room too. (23) Giving me a room of my own would benefit both Jamal and me.

(24) I know that we don't have a lot of extra space in our house, so I suggest that you allow me to move into the little guest room off the kitchen. (25) Because of its location, I would be able to study and play my trumpet at night without bothering Jamal. (26) When we need the room for guests, I'll happily return to the bunk bed in my old room. (27) So in the best interest of my studies, my music, and my social life. (28) I respectfully request that you let me have my own room.

1. How does sentence 6 need to be changed?

- A. Change ***admit*** to **admitt**
- B. Change ***that*** to **it**
- C. Change ***had enjoyed*** to **have enjoyed**
- D. Insert a comma after **brother**

2. What change should be made in sentence 8?

- A. Change ***Jamal and I*** to **Jamal and me**
- B. Delete the comma
- C. Change ***fell*** to **feel**
- D. Change ***privacy*** to **privity**

3. What change needs to be made in sentence 12?

- A. Change ***I*** to **And**
- B. Change ***spread*** to **spred**
- C. Change ***anyone*** to **no one**
- D. Change ***elses*** to **else's**

4. How does sentence 15 need to be changed?

- A. Change ***Band Director's*** to **band director**
- B. Delete the second comma
- C. Change ***insists*** to **insisting**
- D. Sentence 15 does not need to be changed.

5. What change should be made in sentence 17?

- A. Change the comma after **own** to a period
- B. Change **disturbing** to **disterbing**
- C. Delete **and**
- D. Change **musican** to **musician**

6. What change should be made in sentence 22?

- A. Change **fair** to **fare**
- B. Change **him** to **them**
- C. Change the comma to a semicolon
- D. Change **too** to **to**

7. What change should be made in sentence 25?

- A. Change ***its*** to ***it's***
- B. Change the comma to a period
- C. Change ***without bothering*** to ***without never bothering***
- D. No change should be made in sentence 25.

8. What is the correct way to rewrite sentences 27 and 28?

- A. So in the best interest of my studies, my music, and my social life, I respectfully request that you let me have my own room.
- B. It's in the best interest of my studies, my music, and my social life, therefore, I respectfully request that you let me have my own room.
- C. It's in the best interest of my studies, my music, and my social life, so I respectfully request. That you let me have my own room.
- D. The sentences are written correctly in the passage.

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

Akina wrote a paper about how sounds in movies are made. Read Akina's paper and look for the revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.



A Foley Artist Making Sounds with a Shoe

The Art of Making Noise

(1) A gust of wind whooshes through the trees, and footsteps crunch across leaves on the ground. (2) These are just a few of the sounds filmgoers hear when watching a movie. (3) Most people assume all of the sounds they hear during movies were recorded during filming, but that isn't always the case. (4) They are usually made after filming by special artists.

(5) The microphones used during the filming of a movie focus primarily on the actor's voices. (6) Background noises and sound effects cannot be adequately recorded during filming. (7) These include such things as roaring cars, galloping horses, or the gentle tapping of pencils on desks. (8) A Foley artist must recreate those sounds and then add them to the film at the appropriate moments. (9) Without these talented professionals, movie action would be noticeably quiet and bland.

(10) The pioneer in adding realistic sounds to film was a man named Jack Foley. (11) Foley was working in California when filmmakers introduced sound into movies in the late 1920s. (12) At that time sounds in movies consisted primarily of the music and the voices of the actors. (13) Foley believed that if viewers could hear other sounds, the on-screen story would feel more genuine. (14) He met with some film producers and proposed his ideas to them. (15) Soon Foley was working to make films more realistic and by improving the background sounds with moviemakers.

(16) Today Foley artists use simple materials and methods to produce realistic sounds. (17) Most Foley artists work in large movie studios filled with all sorts of props, including glass and metal objects, a variety of shoes, and piles of sand, gravel, or dirt. (18) A Foley artist might have a person walk over cornstarch covered in cornflakes to create the sound of a person walking on crunchy snow. (19) Foley artists might smack empty coconut shells against a dirt pile to create the sound of a galloping horse. (20) Foley artists continually have to find creative ways to make sounds that match actions in a film.

(21) Although Foley artists have been around for decades, few people have ever heard of them. (22) But many of these artists say that is just fine with them. (23) If Foley artists can create sounds that nobody can tell are fake, then they know they are successful.

(24) Only a few hundred people have ever become Foley artists. (25) Foley artists must always be thinking of new ways to make noises that sound real on film. (26) They must carefully listen to the sounds around them and try to think about the materials that can best repeat those sounds. (27) They have to ask themselves questions like, "What will sound most like the rustle of that breeze? (28) What could I do to recreate the screech of a braking train? (29) How can I make a sound that is like the pitter patter of rain?" (30) The work is hard, but most Foley artists say it is quite enjoyable. (31) When watching movies, think about the sounds, and remember that a Foley artist most likely created them.

Third party trademark Universal Studios® was used in these testing materials.

9. Which of the following should replace sentence 4 to effectively state the controlling idea of this paper?
- A. There are professionals known as Foley artists, and they got their name from Jack Foley, who was the first Foley artist.
 - B. Many of the sound effects that movie audiences hear are made by Foley artists, film industry professionals whose work is done after the filming of a movie is complete.
 - C. The sounds that you and I hear when we go to see a movie were not always made when the movie was being recorded.
 - D. Professionals create the things that are in the background in movies, including galloping horses, pelting rain, and chirping crickets.

10. What is the most effective way to combine sentences 6 and 7?

- A. Background noises and sound effects cannot be adequately recorded during filming these, including such things as roaring cars, galloping horses, or the gentle tapping of pencils on desks.
- B. Background noises and sound effects cannot be adequately recorded during filming when they include such things as roaring cars, galloping horses, or the gentle tapping of pencils on desks.
- C. Background noises and sound effects, such as roaring cars, galloping horses, or the gentle tapping of pencils on desks, cannot be adequately recorded during filming.
- D. Background noises and sound effects cannot be adequately recorded because such things as these roaring cars, galloping horses, or the gentle tapping of pencils on desks are included during filming.

11. Akina wants to add support for the idea she has presented in sentence 13. Which sentence should replace sentence 13 to help accomplish this goal?
- A. Foley believed that if viewers, people who were watching the movie, could hear other sounds, the on-screen story, or the movie itself, the movie would feel more genuine and real.
 - B. Foley believed that if viewers could hear other sounds, the on-screen story of the movie would feel more genuine and more real to them.
 - C. Foley believed something and that is if viewers could hear other sounds, the story being told by the movie would feel more genuine.
 - D. Foley believed that if viewers could hear other sounds, such as heels clicking, dresses rustling, or water sloshing, the story of the movie would feel more genuine.

12. What is the most effective revision to make in sentence 15?

- A. Soon Foley was working to make films more realistic as he was improving the background sound with moviemakers.
- B. Soon Foley was working with moviemakers to make more realistic films by improving the background sounds.
- C. Soon Foley was working to improve the background sound with moviemakers and to make films more realistic.
- D. Soon Foley was working to make more realistic films by improving the moviemakers and background sounds.

13. What is the most effective transition to add to the beginning of sentence 19?

- A. Fortunately
- B. Finally
- C. As a result
- D. In addition

14. Akina has not used the most effective word in sentence 26. Which change should she make to improve this sentence?

- A. Change ***carefully*** to ***slowly***
- B. Change ***listen to*** to ***understand***
- C. Change ***think about*** to ***study***
- D. Change ***repeat*** to ***imitate***

15. Akina would like to add the following sentence to the last paragraph (sentences 24–31).

Perhaps that is because of the creativity and attention to detail that the job requires.

Where should this sentence be inserted?

- A. After sentence 24
- B. After sentence 25
- C. After sentence 28
- D. After sentence 29

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

Sierra wrote this fictional story about a horse named Dudley. Read Sierra's story and think about any revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Dudley

(1) He was the son of Zeus, a black stallion that served on the Jackson City Mounted Police Patrol. (2) His mother was Diamond, a white mare. (3) The colt had been bred for glory, and everyone expected him to become the finest horse the police force had ever seen.

(4) The birth had been eagerly anticipated for months, but observers in the barn that day were in for a big surprise. (5) The undersized colt that wobbled to his feet was nothing special to look at. (6) Everyone in attendance sighed. (7) The highly anticipated colt, dusty brown with an off-center white diamond on his forehead, was obviously a dud. (8) That's how he got the name Dudley. (9) Since the patrol trained only the most promising horses, Dudley was sold to rancher Paul McGee.

(10) Life on the ranch was good, and Dudley turned out to be a sweet-natured and loyal horse. (11) He learned quickly and was great with kids. (12) Everyone loved him, but unfortunately, the good times didn't last. (13) When the McGee family suffered financial losses, the ranch horses suffered, too. (14) Dudley got fat and lazy, but he never lost his lovable personality.

(15) Around this time the Jackson City Mounted Police Patrol announced its need for a new horse. (16) The patrol's head trainer, Kate, began looking for candidates. (17) Searching the Internet, Dudley was found listed for sale. (18) In his photograph he appeared plain and overweight, but after reading about his fine breeding, Kate put him on the list for consideration.

(19) The next week Kate visited the McGee ranch. (20) Like everyone who met Dudley, she fell in love. (21) Although he was out of shape and had some bad habits, she brought him to Jackson City for the tryouts. (22) Dudley stood out among the candidates—and not in a good way. (23) He was the flabbiest horse there, and his mane was shaggy and coarse. (24) Yet visitors to the horse barn were drawn to him, and he loved the attention. (25) With regular exercise and the diet was strict, Dudley grew trim and sleek, and he was able to make the first cut.

(26) As the days passed, Dudley's performance improved, too. (27) The biggest challenge for patrol horses is staying sane when faced with distractions and disturbances. (28) The horses must follow orders regardless of the conditions around them. (29) Dudley did well and made it to the final test, where he would have to prove that he had the necessary concentration. (30) The McGee family came to watch the event. (31) First Dudley trotted through a screaming crowd. (32) Then he walked over crinkling plastic, swam in a pool filled with water bottles, and crossed a platform that tipped like a teeter-totter. (33) Dudley completed each obstacle in the course perfectly! (34) When he walked by Kate without turning his head to look at her, she knew that he had passed the test. (35) She started to cry with relief and joy. (36) The McGee family was crying, too. (37) It seemed that no horse had ever had so many fans!

(38) The next day, Kate led Dudley into a grooming stall. (39) A group had gathered for the special ceremony. (40) Every horse that joins the Jackson City Patrol has its mane clipped into a crisp, neat line. (41) Dudley seemed to understand. (42) He pawed one hoof, bobbed his head, and stood tall, fit, and proud.



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16. What is the most effective transition word or phrase to add to the beginning of sentence 8?

- A. However
- B. Additionally
- C. After that
- D. In fact

17. Sierra would like to add the following detail to the third paragraph (sentences 10–14).

There were no funds for quality food and no trainers to exercise the animals.

Where is the BEST place to insert this sentence?

- A. After sentence 11
- B. After sentence 12
- C. After sentence 13
- D. After sentence 14

18. What is the most effective revision to make in sentence 17?

- A. Searching the Internet, she found Dudley listed for sale.
- B. She searched the Internet, she found Dudley listed for sale.
- C. Searching the Internet was where she found Dudley listed for sale.
- D. No revision is needed in sentence 17.

19. What is the most effective way to revise sentence 25?

- A. The exercise was regular and the diet was strict, Dudley grew trim and sleek, and he was able to make the first cut.
- B. With regular exercise and a strict diet, Dudley grew trim and sleek; he was able to make the first cut.
- C. The regular exercise and strict diet that caused Dudley to grow trim and sleek was able to make the first cut.
- D. With regular exercise the diet was strict, so Dudley grew trim and sleek; he was able to make the first cut.

20. In sentence 27, Sierra does not think that **sane** is the best word to use. Which of the following would be a more effective word to use in this sentence?

- A. calm
- B. friendly
- C. reasonable
- D. open

21. Sierra would like to add a sentence to bring her story to a more effective close. Which sentence could she add after sentence 42 to help achieve this goal?

- A. As the son of Zeus and Diamond, Dudley was proud of his heritage.
- B. The plain little colt had finally become the horse he had been bred to be.
- C. He was ready to move back to the McGee ranch and be with his family again.
- D. Dudley would never be the horse that people had hoped for, but he was still special.

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

In the following paper Gabe hopes to persuade readers to have a more upbeat outlook on Mondays. Read Gabe's paper and look for any corrections he should make. When you finish, answer the questions that follow.



Happy Monday!

(1) When it comes to days of the week, Monday has a bad reputation. (2) I surveyed friends, and the results were overwhelming. (3) When asked which day of the week they like the least, 90 percent of my respondents chose Monday. (4) Not one person selected Monday as his or her favorite day. (5) Songwriters has even written lyrics about dreading Mondays. (6) In the 1960s a musical group had a hit titled "Monday, Monday." (7) They sang, "Every other day of the week is fine, yeah. (8) But whenever Monday comes, you can find me crying all of the time." (9) I don't agree with all these sentiments. (10) In fact, I think that Monday is actually the best day of the week.

(11) First of all, consider all the good things that happen on Mondays. (12) If you are a sports fan, you may get to watch *Monday Night Football* in the Fall. (13) Furthermore, quite a few legal holidays, including Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Columbus Day, they are celebrated on Mondays. (14) That means that several times a year, a Monday provides a three-day weekend. (15) And according to consumer websites Monday is the best day to get a good deal on a car because there aren't as many people shopping on the first day of

the workweek. (16) Experts say that you can also get the best online deals on Mondays. (17) This is especially true for electronics, such as computers, TVs, and video games.

(18) To me, however, there's something even more important about Mondays. (19) Each Monday symbolizes a new beginning. (20) For example, last week I got behind on my homework, and had to spend the weekend catching up. (21) But as soon as Monday arrived, I had a clean slate. (22) Another week I forgot to do some of my chores, so I had to forfeit going to a movie with my friends. (23) Once Monday came, my parents gave me a fresh start. (24) I also love Mondays because we frequently start new lessons at school at the beginning of the week. (25) While last weeks topics may have been boring, Monday can bring a new book to read, experiment to conduct, or math concept to tackle.

(26) I realize that I was probably not going to convince everyone that Monday is the best day of the week, but hopefully I can encourage a few people to change their attitude. (27) The next time a Monday rolls around, think about all the good things that could happen and look forward to the day instead of dreading it. (28) There's no way to avoid Mondays, so join me in making the best of it. (29) Who knows? (30) You might even start liking the first day of the workweek.

Third party trademark *Monday Night Football*® was used in these testing materials.

22. What change needs to be made in sentence 5?

- A. Change ***has even written*** to **has even wrote**
- B. Change ***has even written*** to **have even written**
- C. Change ***has even written*** to **even writing**
- D. No change needs to be made.

23. What change should be made in sentence 9?

- A. Change ***I*** to **And**
- B. Insert a comma after ***agree***
- C. Change ***sentaments*** to **sentiments**
- D. Make no change

24. How does sentence 12 need to be changed?

- A. Change **are** to **were**
- B. Delete the comma
- C. Insert a comma after **Football**
- D. Change **Fall** to **fall**

25. What is the correct way to write sentence 13?

- A. Furthermore, quite a few legal holidays are celebrated on Mondays. Including Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Columbus Day.
- B. Furthermore, quite a few legal holidays, including Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Columbus Day, are celebrated on Mondays.
- C. Furthermore, quite a few legal holidays, including Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Columbus Day. They are celebrated on Mondays.
- D. Sentence 13 is written correctly in the paper.

26. What change should be made in sentence 15?

- A. Change **consumer** to **consummer**
- B. Insert a comma after **websites**
- C. Change **as many** to **hardly as many**
- D. Change **shopping** to **shoping**

27. What change should be made in sentence 20?

- A. Change **example** to **exampel**
- B. Change **got** to **gotten**
- C. Delete the comma after **homework**
- D. Change **had** to **have**

28. What change needs to be made in sentence 25?

- A. Change **weeks** to **week's**
- B. Change **boring** to **borring**
- C. Change the first comma to a period
- D. Change **experiment** to **experament**

29. What change should be made in sentence 26?

- A. Change **was** to **am**
- B. Delete the comma after **week**
- C. Change **their** to **there**
- D. Change **attitude** to **atitude**

30. What change should be made in sentence 28?

A. Change ***There's*** to **There isn't**

B. Change ***me*** to **myself**

C. Insert a comma after ***me***

D. Change ***it*** to **them**

