

_____ Name _____ Date _____ Score _____

1 Use the rubric to answer the following question(s).

Score

- 4- All of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 3- Most of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 2- Only some of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
- 1- None of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.

Samantha is giving an oral presentation describing a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., the week before. Based on the rubric, which score BEST describes the presentation?

There was a snowstorm in Washington, D.C., last week. I was at home and had a dance recital to attend that evening. My friend and I had practiced for several weeks for that performance. I was very cold outside. I looked out the window, and all the houses and cars on my block were covered in snow. I hope we can reschedule our dance performance for another day.

A Score 1 **B** Score 2 **C** Score 3 **D** Score 4

2 Use the rubric to answer the following question(s).

Score

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- 1- None of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.

Martha is giving an oral presentation to persuade her class to vote for her for class president. Based on the rubric, which score BEST describes the presentation?

I would like to represent the class of 2006 by being the new class president. I have been going to this school for three years, and I have been involved in the after-school tutoring program. Please vote for me. I like sports and would like to have a soccer and softball team at this school. Some day, I will go to college and become a teacher. I hope you will vote for me this Tuesday.

A Score 4 **B** Score 3 **C** Score 2 **D** Score 1

3 Use the rubric to answer the following question(s).

Score

- 4- All of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
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Jimmy is giving an oral presentation on how to warm up before a baseball game. Based on the rubric, which score BEST describes the presentation?

Before you start playing baseball, you need to warm up. Start out by running a lap and stretching. Then ask your teammate to throw you the ball a few times so the both of you practice and warm up and are both ready for the game. Take the bat, and practice swinging a few balls so that you will be ready to swing during the game. Finally, always remember to drink plenty of water and make sure you eat right so you will have the strength and energy for the game. Good luck, and see you at the park.

A Score 4

C Score 1

B Score 2

D None of the above

4 Use the rubric to answer the following question(s).

Score

- 4- All of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.
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- 1- None of the sentences are about the main idea of the presentation.

Ivan is giving a presentation on how to prepare a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Based on the rubric, which score BEST describes the presentation?

There are only three ingredients to prepare a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. I like to eat sandwiches, but peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are my favorite. Some people like to eat them without the jelly, and other people, like my grandma, likes to eat her toast with only jelly. You could use white or wheat bread. I prefer to eat my peanut butter and jelly sandwich on white toast. I probably eat a peanut butter and jelly sandwich every other day for lunch.

A Score 4

B Score 3

C Score 2

D Score 1

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- 5 Cynthia's teacher asked students to write a report about the rattles used by Native Americans.** Here is the first draft of Cynthia's report. It may contain errors.

Native American Rattles

1 When you think of the music of Native Americans, do drums come to your mind? Although many tribes used drums, the California Luiseño Indians used only rattles with their music. Their rattles told dancers when to dance or singers when to change the words to a song.

2 The Luiseño made many different kinds of rattles. Each had its own special meaning. One kind was the deer hoof rattle. This rattle stood for the sacrifice of the deer. This animal was the first to be eaten by man. Another kind of rattle made by the Luiseño was the turtle shell rattle. This kind of rattle was a symbol of this animal's unusual ability to travel between the two worlds of air and water. The cocoon rattle, made from the cocoon of a silk moth, was also made by these Indians.

3 Each rattle the Luiseño made had its own special purpose. They used one kind of rattle during a funeral. To send the dead into the next world. Other rattles celebrated a new life coming into the world. Often, families kept rattles and handed them down for generations. They even used some rattles to bring healing to a sick person.

4 They filled some of the rattles with coyote seeds. Coyote seeds were actually a type of seed called manzanita that was eaten by coyotes. Indians collected them from the coyote's scat, or its droppings. They also used small rocks that they found around an anthill. The Luiseño thought the rocks would make the sound of the earth when they played the rattle.

5 Using rattles was an important part of this Native American tribe's past, and continues to be a part of their culture even today.

Which of these would be the BEST way for Cynthia to begin paragraph 5?
A Clearly, B Instead, C Next, D Then,

6 Which sentence would be BEST to add to the beginning of paragraph 4 to improve the focus?

- A The rattles can make many different sounds.
 - B The rattles could be either large or small in size.
 - C Seeds were very important to the Luiseño's culture.
 - D The Luiseño chose different types of items to fill the rattles.
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7 To improve the flow of ideas within the passage, which sentence should be removed from paragraph 3?

- A Each rattle the Luiseño made had it's own special purpose.
 - B Often, families kept rattles and handed them down for generations.
 - C They used one kind of rattle during a funeral.
 - D They even used some rattles to bring healing to a sick person.
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This is the first draft of Joshua's report on porcupine fish. It may contain errors.

Porcupine Fish

(1) I visited the aquarium. (2) I wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish. (3) There were also many other unusual fish there. (4) First, I learned that the porcupine fish gets it's name from the spines all over its body and head. (5) These spines are very important to this fish. (6) If it is in danger, it can puff up its body by taking in water. (7) When its body puffs up, the spines sticks up and scare other animals away. (8) I also discovered that these fish are found mostly in coral reef areas near the seashore. (9) They are nocturnal fish. (10) They only come out of their shelters at night. (11) I learned these fish have strong, beak-like mouths for eating animals such as snails hermit crabs and sea urchins. (12) Their powerful jaws can crack open the shells of these animals before eating them. (13) These incredible porcupine fish have become my favorite ocean creature!

8 What is the BEST way Joshua could combine sentences 1 and 2 to improve the focus of his paragraph?

- A Although I visited the aquarium, I wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish.
- B After I visited the aquarium, I wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish.
- C I visited the aquarium, but instead I wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish.
- D First, I visited the aquarium, and also wanted to learn more about the unusual porcupine fish.

9 This was the first draft of Joshua's report on porcupine fish.

Which sentence should Joshua remove to improve the ideas in his paragraph?

- A (3) There were also many other unusual fish there.
- B (5) These spines are very important to this fish.
- C (7) When its body puffs up, the spines stick up and scare other animals away.
- D (12) Their powerful jaws can crack open the shells of these animals before eating them.

10 How could sentences 9 and 10 BEST be combined to make Joshua's ideas clearer?

- A They are nocturnal fish, but they only come out of their shelters at night.
- B For example, they are nocturnal fish, and they only come out of their shelters at night.
- C They are nocturnal fish, until they only come out of their shelters at night.
- D Since they are nocturnal fish, they only come out of their shelters at night.

11 Which of the following is the BEST way for Joshua to begin sentence 11?
A Clearly, B Next, C Finally, D For example,

The following is the first draft of Nicky's paragraph on Jelly Fish. It may contain errors.

Jelly Fish

(1) Have you ever been close to a Jelly? (2) If not, then you are in for a treat. (3) They are called jelly fish because they don't have any bones. (4) Looking kind of like blobs when jellies get washed up on the shore. (5) These blobs, or jelly fish, aren't actually fish. (6) Fish have back bones, but jellies don't. (7) These interesting animals don't have a lot of things. (8) They don't have a brain, a heart, eyes, or ears. (9) So what do they do? (10) Jellies sting. (11) Jelly fish have a bunch of tentacles with stinging cells. (12) When jelly fish think they are in trouble, their stinging cells explode and shoot out poison. (13) Ouch! (14) When puffer fish get scared, they puff up. (15) Even though these interesting blobs may look harmless, they can be rather dangerous. (16) Be very careful when you are around these jellies.

12 Which of these would be the BEST way for Nicky to begin sentence 15?

- A By the way, C For instance,
B Then, D Therefore,

Read the paragraph below.

Rainy days can be more fun than people tend to think. While you may not be able to go swimming or play at the park, there are still many activities that are actually better in the rain! Rain in some states can be up to a couple hundred inches a year! You can observe all the insects that come out to get refreshment or even stomp around in the puddles.

13 Which of the following sentences should be removed to improve the flow of ideas?

- A Rainy days can be more fun than people tend to think.
B While you may not be able to go swimming or play at the park, there are still many activities that are actually better in the rain!
C Rain in some states can be up to a couple hundred inches a year!
D You can observe all the insects that come out to get refreshment or even stomp around in the puddles.