

## Summer 2011

### English II Prerequisite Packets

Complete the assignments according to the timeline given below. These packets will be taken up and graded the first days of school, so keep up with them and complete them. If you lose a packet, they are posted on Forest Hill's website or email Mr. Harris ([foresthillenglish@yahoo.com](mailto:foresthillenglish@yahoo.com)) ; Ms. Patterson ([epatterson@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:epatterson@jackson.k12.ms.us)); Ms. Lock ([vllock@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:vllock@jackson.k12.ms.us)); Ms. Buck ([abuck@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:abuck@jackson.k12.ms.us)); or Ms. Clark ([englishwithmsclark@hotmail.com](mailto:englishwithmsclark@hotmail.com)) to get another one. Completing and understanding this material will ensure an easier, less stressful year.

#### June 5-18

Study/Refer to SATP Vocabulary-at-a-glance

Complete Packets 1-5

Read/take notes on The Secret Life of Bees

#### June 19-30

Complete Packets 6-8

Read/take notes on The Secret Life of Bees

#### July 3-16

Complete Packets 9-10

Read/take notes on Black Like Me

#### July 17-30

Complete Packets 11-12

Read/take notes on Black Like Me

#### SATP English Vocabulary-at-a-glance

- |                                                  |                                        |                                                    |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Ambiguous—unclear                             | 10. Inference—assumption               | 17. Excerpt—a piece of writing from a larger piece | 25. Elaborate—to express in further detail     |
| 2. Justify—defend                                | 11. Nostalgia—homesickness             | 18. Inclusion—the act of including                 | 26. Coherence—sticking together; flow          |
| 3. Thesis—statement that expresses the main idea | 12. Emphasize—to call attention to     | 19. Explication—explanation                        | 27. Transition—a shift or change               |
| 4. Analysis—evaluation                           | 13. Convey—carry; show                 | 20. Revision—correction                            | 28. Mood—reader's reaction to the text         |
| 5. Clarify—to make something clear               | 14. Tone—author's attitude             | 21. Utilizes—uses                                  | 29. Contradict—go against what you feel or say |
| 6. Consistent—steady                             | 15. Accuracy—truthfulness; correctness | 22. Optimistic—positive outlook                    | 30. Narrative—story; storytelling mode         |
| 7. Paraphrase—sum up in your own words           | 16. Evaluate—to look at closely        | 23. Pessimistic—negative outlook                   |                                                |
| 8. Conciseness—shortness                         |                                        | 24. Bias—preference (usually unfair)               |                                                |
| 9. Précis—short summary                          |                                        |                                                    |                                                |

Forest Hill High School  
English II SATP  
Summer Packet  
Lesson #1-fact/opinion

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Remember!! These packets must be completed **prior** to the beginning of school. If you have any questions, feel free to email the following teachers:

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Ms. [Patterson—epatterson@jackson.k12.ms.us](mailto:epatterson@jackson.k12.ms.us)  
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Remember: A fact is something that can be proven true or false. If a statement involves numbers and dates, it is usually a fact. An opinion is based on someone's thoughts or feelings.

1. Read these statements taken from a television advertisement.

(1) The Sooper Dooper Snow Scooper is all you need to make light work of clearing heavy snow from your steps and sidewalk. (2) Its extra light-weight and longer handle make it easier to work with and does not tire out its user too quickly. (3) The Sooper Dooper Snow Scooper comes in several different colors. (4) It is just what anyone with a sidewalk needs to keep it free of dangerous piles of heavy snow.

Which statement expresses a fact?

- F. Statement 1
  - G. Statement 2
  - H. Statement 3
  - J. Statement 4
- 

2. Read the following letter to the editor.

Everyone needs to know of an imminent danger to some of the pets in our communities. Dogs are being stolen at an alarming rate from several sections of the county. Fifteen dogs were taken from one neighborhood this week, and our local law enforcement does not have any leads as to who is taking them. One of the dogs managed to escape and was found about eighteen miles away by a passing motorist. She had recognized the dog's description in an ad placed in the local newspaper. It was found without its collar and with some deep wounds on one of its legs. I'm sure that it and the other dogs were destined to become fighting dogs. Stealing and fighting dogs is illegal, and anyone caught in such an act should be jailed immediately. Anyone having any information about the disappearance of these dogs is urged to contact the local sheriff's office immediately.

Which statement expresses an opinion?

- F. Fifteen dogs were taken from one neighborhood this week, and our local law enforcement does not have any leads as to who is taking them.
  - G. One of the dogs managed to escape and was found about eighteen miles away by a passing motorist.
  - H. It was found without its collar and with some deep wounds on one of its legs.
  - J. Stealing and fighting dogs are illegal, and anyone caught in such an act should be jailed immediately.
-

3. Read the following statements taken from an essay.

Students preparing to enter college are often required to take a test to predict how well they will perform in an institution of higher learning. Most colleges require either the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT). Students should talk with their guidance counselors about test requirements for the particular college or university they will be attending to be sure they take the right one for the school of their choice. However, they should also know that there is a significant difference in the tests. The ACT tests mainly the basic knowledge that students receive in high school while the SAT tests this same knowledge and more. Testing basic knowledge is all a college entrance test should do, so the ACT is a better test.

Now read this billboard.

A+ Exam Prep  
Going to college? Let A+ Exam Prep prepare  
You for taking the ACT, the test that better  
Measures what you've learned in high school.

A+ Exam Prep GUARANTEES you a BETTER score!

Which of the following statements accurately evaluates how facts and opinions are used in both the essay and the billboard?

- A. Both the essay and the billboard express the opinion that the SAT is the best test to take before going to college.
  - B. Both the essay and the billboard express the fact that the SAT measures more than just what you learn in your high school classes.
  - C. Both the essay and the billboard express the opinion that the ACT is the better test to measure what you have learned in high school.
  - D. Both the essay and the billboard express the fact that most colleges require SAT scores.
- 

4. Read the following statements taken from a newspaper editorial.

The actions of local high school students involved in gangs who disrupted our local high school last week are appalling. It is time to let gangs know that they have no place in our schools. Parents of students involved in gang activity should be forced to take responsibility for the actions of their children. Our school system must be kept safe from gang activity; allowing gang violence from any neighborhood to spill over into our schools is unacceptable. Gang paraphernalia, symbols, colors, and signs must be outlawed in our schools and our neighborhoods. Moreover, school officials, administrators, elected officials, law enforcement, and community members must join together to abolish neighborhood gangs.

Now read this political speech.

My most important objective is ousting gangs from our neighborhoods and ridding our schools from their poisonous effects. Our children must be protected from the dangers gangs inflict on innocent individuals. We must be able to live in neighborhoods that are free from gang violence; we must be able to send our children to

schools that are not riddled by gang influence and mayhem. The education of our children must be at the forefront of our thoughts and actions. We must educate our parents about the dangers of gang influence in our neighborhoods. We must ban together to do all we can to rid our state of the blight of gangs because our very future depends on it. I am Emily Watson, and I am your candidate for governor.

Which of the following statements accurately evaluates how facts and opinions are used in both the editorial and the political speech?

- A. Both the editorial and the political speech express the fact that gangs have disrupted the local high school.
  - B. Both the editorial and the political speech express that gang symbols have been found at local schools.
  - C. Both the editorial and the political speech express the opinion that gang activity should be outlawed from schools and neighborhoods.
  - D. Both the editorial and the political speech express the opinion that the governor is responsible for eliminating gangs from schools and neighborhoods.
- 

5. Read the following excerpt from a television advertisement.

New MagnaWater is ultra-purified, great-tasting, thirst-quenching water with added magnesium and other trace minerals. Recent scientific studies show that many Americans are magnesium deficient, and this deficiency can lead to multiple chronic health problems. Each bottle of MagnaWater boosts your supply of this crucial mineral. Choose MagnaWater and drink to your health!

Read the following excerpt from a political speech.

As mayor of this city, it has come to my attention that, although our municipal water supply is completely safe, it lacks many minerals that are needed for optimum health. One of these minerals is magnesium, which is important in hundreds of bodily functions including cardiovascular health and immunity. Historically, people have received adequate amounts of magnesium because it is dissolved in the drinking water. Therefore, if water treatment facilities are removing the primary source of supplementation, many people are now at risk of becoming deficient. Sub-optimum magnesium intake is linked to a myriad of diseases from allergic to cardiovascular disease. To promote the health and well-being of the citizens in this great city, I propose that this low-cost mineral be added back to tap water before it reaches our homes....

Which of the following statements accurately evaluates how facts and opinions are used in both the television advertisement and the political speech?

- A. Both the ad and the speech express the opinion that water tastes better when magnesium is added.
- B. Both the ad and the speech express the opinion that magnesium should be added to tap water.
- C. Both the ad and the speech express the fact that magnesium is being removed by water treatment facilities.
- D. Both the ad and the speech express the fact that consuming too little magnesium can lead to health problems.

## Lesson #2-analogies

1. Read the following sentences.

Sentence 1: The dance partners chose a sedate waltz rather than a frenzied jitterbug with movements like a child high on sugar.

Sentence 2: The principal kept his composure and handled the crisis in a sedate manner much the same as a judge rules his courtroom.

Which explanation below shows the relationship between sedate and frenzied as they are used in the contexts above?

- A. Sedate means simple, and frenzied means complex.
  - B. Sedate means serious, and frenzied means funny.
  - C. Sedate means dignified, and frenzied means agitated.
  - D. Sedate means harsh, and frenzied means calm.
- 

2. Read this statement.

Shelia's movements in the water were languid much like the sluggish movement of a manatee.

Which of the following can the reader infer from the analogy between Shelia's movements and the manatee?

- A. Both are associated with ill health.
  - B. Both can be found in the water.
  - C. Both are slow.
  - D. Both show an excess of energy.
- 

3. Read the following sentences.

Sentence 1: He devoured his portion while she merely nibbled on hers as if it were poisoned.

Sentence 2: The snake devoured its victim like an oyster on a half-shell.

Which explanation below shows the relationship between devoured and nibbled as they are used in the context above?

- A. Devour is to crunch as nibble is to taste.
- B. Devour is to consume greedily as nibble is to bite gently.
- C. Devour is to eat slowly as nibble is to eat quickly.
- D. Devour is to crush as nibble is to gobble.

4. Read the following sentences.

Sentence 1: Even though her father's war crimes were as despicable as a hired hit man's killings, her little-known accomplishments with underprivileged children were laudable.

Sentence 2: His giving his seat to the pregnant lady was as laudable as a boy scout's shoveling snow for an elderly neighbor.

Which explanation below shows the relationship between despicable and laudable as they are used in the contexts above?

- A. Laudable is to enthusiastic as despicable is to energetic.
  - B. Laudable is to laughable as despicable is to admirable.
  - C. Laudable is to evil as despicable is to good.
  - D. Laudable is to deserving praise as despicable is to deserving scorn.
-

5. Read this statement.

The gymnast was as persistent in her practicing as a beaver making its dam.

Which of the following can the reader infer (assume) from the analogy between the gymnast and the beaver?

- A. Both show unflagging determination and hard work.
- B. Both are associated with the ruggedness of nature.
- C. Both can be found in beautiful places.
- D. Both can be small but tough.

## Lesson #3-Word Choice

Tip: Read the paragraphs, paying attention to the difference in words in each paragraph.

1. Read these paragraphs.

### Paragraph 1

Getting a puppy can be a life-changing event. Bringing it home the first time is *exciting*. Then naming it is *the most* fun. Daily feeding and watering it are *pleasures to watch*. Potty training is a *rewarding* job. Feeling it lick one's face is utterly *charming*, and petting it is *relaxing*. All puppies are *adorable*.

### Paragraph 2

Getting a puppy can be a life-changing event. Bringing it home the first time is *nerve-wracking*. Then naming it is *challenging*. Daily feeding and watering it are *chores*. Potty training is a *revolting* job. Feeling it lick one's face is utterly *disgusting*, and petting it *becomes tiresome*. All puppies are *a bother*.

What impact did replacing the italicized words have on paragraph 2?

- A. The paragraph is less judgmental.
  - B. The paragraph is less emotional.
  - C. The paragraph is more pessimistic.
  - D. The paragraph is more informative.
- 

2. Read this excerpt from an essay.

One major part of a firefighter's job is fire prevention education, which is mainly accomplished through contacts with children in the community. On a visit to the firehouse, children learn about fires and fire prevention by going through a safe house. The safe house gives them a realistic view of a house fire. Complete with *smoke, flashing lights, and alarms*, the experience teaches children how to react and how to stay safe during a house fire.

What effect does replacing the italicized words with the words *all the parts of a real fire* have on this paragraph?

- A. The paragraph would become less formal.
  - B. The paragraph would become less realistic.
  - C. The paragraph would become less detailed.
  - D. The paragraph would become less general.
- 

3. Read these excerpts.

### Sample 1

The two girls entertained themselves by observing the fashion faux pas of the shoppers in the mall. They noticed pants too tight or the wrong length for the wearer, too much flashy jewelry, sandals with socks, and mismatched shoes and socks.

### Sample 2

The two girls had a blast busting on shoppers in the mall. They saw spandex on expanded bottoms, too much bling, nerd alerts of sandals with socks, pants too high or too low, and dark socks with white shoes.

What effect does the language in Sample 2 have on the author's intent?

- A. In Sample 2, the girls' fashion mistake observations seem more valid.
  - B. In Sample 2, the girls' fashion mistake observations seem less accurate.
  - C. In Sample 2, the girls' fashion mistake observations seem less exaggerated.
  - D. In Sample 2, the girls' fashion mistake observations seem less kind.
- 

4. Read these two statements.

Statement: If they can retain their copyright, they can continue to acquire royalties.

Revised statement: If they can keep their copyright, they can continue to receive royalties.

What effect does the word choice have on the revised statement?

- A. It is more realistic.
  - B. It is more descriptive.
  - C. It is less formal.
  - D. It is less general.
- 

5. Read each set of paragraphs and answer the questions.

Paragraph 1

America's Got Talent is a good show to watch. All people are allowed—from difficult or dangerous stuff to things that require real talent. The acts can be one person or twenty people. The people can be any age. Three people decide who goes to the next level. When the finalists are picked, the viewers vote on who stays. The winner gets a million dollars and a contract in a popular location.

Paragraph 2

America's Got Talent is an entertaining show to watch. All ages with all types of talents are allowed—from baton twirling or sword swallowing to singing and dancing. The acts can involve one person or twenty people. The contestants can be four years old or seventy-five. Three judges decide who goes to the next level. When the final forty are selected, the viewers vote on who remains. The winner gets a million dollars and a contract in Las Vegas.

What impact did replacing the italicized words have on paragraph 2?

- A. The paragraph is less optimistic.
- B. The paragraph is less informative.
- C. The paragraph is more specific.
- D. The paragraph is more emotional.

## Lesson #4-Sentence Emphasis

Tip: The sentence being emphasized is always an independent clause. When two clauses are joined by for, and, nor, but, or, yet, or so, the two clauses are equally emphasized.

1. Read these two statements.

Statement 1: Roberta's sandals were loose.

Statement 2: She slipped.

Which sentence correctly and appropriately combines both statements and emphasizes Statement 2?

- A. Roberta's sandals were loose, and she slipped.
  - B. Since she slipped, Robert's sandals were loose.
  - C. Since Roberta's sandals were loose, she slipped.
  - D. Either Roberta's sandals were loose, or she slipped.
- 

2. Read the following paragraph.

Statement 1: Acid rain causes aluminum to be dissolved and absorbed.

Statement 2: As a result, acid rain can harm or even kill plants and animals.

Which sentence correctly and appropriately combines both statements and emphasizes Statement 2?

- A. Acid rain, which can harm or even kill plants and animal, causes aluminum to be dissolved and absorbed.
  - B. Acid rain causes aluminum to be dissolved and absorbed, so it can harm or even kill plants and animals.
  - C. Acid rain causes aluminum to be dissolved and absorbed harm because it can harm or even kill plants and animals.
  - D. Since acid rain causes aluminum to be dissolved and absorbed, it can harm or even kill plants and animals.
- 

3. Read these two statements. (Practice Test #1-Form C)

**Statement 1**

**Students interested in joining the team can pick up application forms in the office.**

**Statement 2**

**Alternatively, they can download the forms from the school's website.**

**Which sentence combination equally emphasizes both statements?**

- A** Students interested in joining the team can pick up application forms either in the office or download them from the school's website.
  - B** Either students interested in joining the team can pick up application forms in the office or download them from the school's website.
  - C** Students interested in joining the team can either pick up application forms in the office or download them from the school's website.
  - D** Students interested in joining the team can either pick up or download application forms in the office or from the school's website.
- 

4. Read the two statements. (from CA#2-Form D)

**Statement 1**

The dog has never eaten from an automatic feeder and doesn't know how to use it.

**Statement 2**

I have to teach him how to use it.

Which sentence emphasizes the idea from Statement 2?

- A. The dog doesn't know how to eat from an automatic feeder, so I have to teach him how to use it.
  - B. Because I have to teach him how to use it, the dog doesn't know how to eat from an automatic feeder.
  - C. Since I don't know how to teach him to do it, the dog doesn't know how to eat from an automatic feeder.
  - D. Since the dog has never eaten from an automatic feeder, I have to teach him how to use it.
- 

5. Read the two statements.

Statement 1

Students wanting to join the reading club may see Mrs. Strickland in Room 13 on Monday.

Statement 2

Any student interested in joining the reading club may also see Mr. Johns in the library on Monday.

Which sentence combination equally emphasizes both statements?

- A. Students interested in joining the reading club may see either Mrs. Strickland in Room 13 or Mr. Johns in the library on Monday.
- B. Students wanting to join the reading club either may see Mrs. Strickland in Room 13 or Mr. Johns in the library on Monday.
- C. Either students interested in Mrs. Strickland's or Mr. John's reading clubs may come to Room 13 or the library on Monday.
- D. Students wanting to join the reading club may see Mrs. Strickland in Room 13 on Monday, although they may also see Mr. Johns in the library.

#### Lesson #5-Pronoun Ambiguity

Tip: Pronoun Ambiguity refers to a situation where the pronoun's reference is ambiguous or unclear.

Example: Susan saw Jennifer play basketball when she was a student at Stanford University.  
*Who is she? You don't know if she is Susan or Jennifer.*

Pronoun Ambiguity (avoided)—When Jennifer was a student at Stanford University, Susan saw her play basketball.

Correct each sentence that contains an ambiguous pronoun.

1. Brian started telling Dewayne all about the game as soon as he walked in the door.
2. Steven called Mr. Robinson when he got home.
3. Maria told Alexandria to ask her father if she could go to the movies.
4. The cat saw the mouse as it entered the kitchen.
5. Mrs. Brooks made an appointment for Savannah while she was at the dentist.

Tip: Remember to use commas to avoid misreading information. Without a comma, some information may be difficult to interpret or understand.

1. Read the following sentences and choose the only one that does not need a comma to avoid misreading.

- A. While I painted my grandfather watched television.
- B. Whoever chooses chooses quickly.
- C. In the bathroom cabinets were missing.
- D. Last year I had had headaches until I took the herbs.

2. Which statement requires a comma to avoid misreading?

- A. Before last Friday no one had spoken to him.
- B. After the game the concession stands remained busy.
- C. Before leaving his friends encouraged him one more time.
- D. During the crisis the management team posted its quickest response.

3. Read these statements.

Statement 1

After dark fireflies fill the night sky with their brilliant, twinkling lights.

Statement 2

Outside the yard was covered with new-fallen leaves, which signaled the beginning of autumn.

Statement 3

More and more advertising overseas is becoming an essential tool to marketing a product.

Statement 4

Mark waved to his friends and ran to join them on the field behind the school.

Which statement does NOT require a comma to avoid misreading?

- A. Statement 1
- B. Statement 2
- C. Statement 3
- D. Statement 4

4. Which statement requires a comma to improve clarity (clearness)?

- A. Around the spotlight the nocturnal moths circled endlessly.
- B. On the table were the cups and plates for the casual afternoon reception.
- C. He hoped that after eating the people at the table would move to the veranda.
- D. Students poured the chemical into the glass tube and held the tube over the blue flame.

5. Which statement requires a comma to improve clarity (clearness)?

- A. People who can preserve their family traditions.
- B. He had had the mumps before he had the measles.
- C. In July 2004 we had a race of sailboats.
- D. He was convinced once he saw the proof.

Tip: Coherence deals with sentences and paragraphs that flow or “stick” together. If a sentence or paragraph does not flow with the others, it lacks coherence. You want all of your sentences to be coherent.

Example:

**Read this paragraph.**

**(1) Many people consider gardening to be a rewarding experience, and my grandfather is one of them. (2) In fact, he says he feels most at home when he is working with the soil. (3) My grandfather grows many vegetables, but he specializes in heirloom tomatoes. (4) As recently as two hundred years ago, some people believed tomatoes were poisonous. (5) My grandfather actually cultivates his own plants from seedlings to make sure he always has tomato plants to set out in his garden.**

**Which sentence from the paragraph should be omitted (left out) to improve coherence?**

Sentence 1

Sentence 2

Sentence 3

Sentence 4

The paragraph mainly spoke of the narrator’s grandfather’s love for gardening. Sentence 4 negates that idea by saying, not only something negative, but something irrelevant and incoherent to the paragraph.

**1. Read this paragraph.**

(1) My first day was a real nightmare. (2) I started working at my uncle’s hardware store last summer immediately after the school year ended. (3) I had been in the store before, of course, but suddenly everything seemed different. (4) Customers asked me where they could find nails, hammers, and wrenches; but I had no idea of the location of these items. (5) I had thought the job would be easy and had ignored my uncle’s suggestion to spend some time getting to know the store and its merchandise. (6) I learned an important lesson that day: Pay attention to the boss.

**Which revision effectively creates a more coherent paragraph?**

A Switching sentence 1 with sentence 2

B Switching sentence 1 with sentence 6

C Switching sentence 2 with sentence 5

D Switching sentence 3 with sentence 6

2. Read the following paragraph.

(1) By an unlucky chance, a Fox fell into a deep well from which he could not get out. (2) A Goat passed by shortly afterwards and asked the Fox what he was doing down there. (3) “Oh, have you not heard?” said the Fox; “there is going to be a great drought, so I jumped down here in order to be sure to have water by me. (4) Why don’t you come down too?” (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (6) But the fox immediately jumped on her back, and by putting his foot to the edge of the well. (7) “Good-bye, friend,” said the Fox. (8) “Remember next time: Never trust the advice of a man in difficulties.”

Which of the following sentences provides an appropriate detail to be added as sentence 5 to fit the narrative (coherence) flow of the paragraph?

A. The Goat thought well of this advice and jumped down into the well.

B. The Fox snickered quietly at his own cunning and hoped the Goat would fall for his trick.

C. The Goat was not sure she should trust the Fox, but she was afraid of the drought.

J. The Fox was certain the Goat would help him escape from the deep well.

3. Read the following paragraphs.

(1) Lingua franca is a term used to refer to any language that is used by people other than its native speakers. (2) The most influential nations will have the status of lingua franca awarded to its native language. (3) The term was originally used by Arabs to refer to all Roman languages. (4) During the Roman Empire, Koine Greek was

given this place of language pride. (5) The Roman Catholic Church has considered Latin the lingua franca of the Christian world for centuries. (6) French was accepted as the lingua franca in diplomatic circles from the seventeenth century until its replacement by English in more recent times. (7) Now, of course, English considered the lingua franca of the modern world.

The author is considering adding this sentence to the paragraph:

Another signal of a certain language's efficiency and importance is the frequency that language is used in world business.

Where can this sentence be added to provide a relevant detail and improve the coherence of the paragraphs?

- A. After sentence 1
- B. After sentence 2
- C. After sentence 3
- D. After sentence 6

4. Read the following paragraph.

(1) One of the best sources of renewable energy is blowing all around us, and it's the wind. (2) What makes wind an attractive energy source is that it's clean; wind power plants do not increase smog or acid rain, or contribute to climate changes. (3) New technologies have made harnessing the wind a cost-effective source of energy. (4) With world oil and gas supplies rapidly decreasing, wind power has become one of the leading sources of renewable energy. (5) Wind is the fastest-growing energy source in today's market.

Which of the following sentences effectively revises sentence 1 to improve the coherence (flow) of the paragraph?

- A. Wind is one of the best sources of renewable energy that's blowing all around us.
- B. One of the best sources of renewable energy is the wind that blows all around us.
- C. Wind is one of the best sources of renewable energy, and it's blowing all around us.
- D. Wind is blowing all around us, and it's one of the best sources of energy that's renewable.

5. Read the following paragraph.

(11) Basilosaurus looked more like a sea serpent than a whale. (12) It had a long, slinky body and pointed snout full of large, sharp teeth. (13) It could grow up to 70 feet from nose to tail. (14) This is the approximate length of two school buses laid end to end. (15) Zygorhiza was much smaller than Basilosaurus at just 20 feet long. (16) Zygorhiza looked more like a modern whale. (17) Its body was more compact and stocky than that of the snakelike Basilosaurus.

Where does the sentence below belong in the paragraph?

The head of an adult Basilosaurus could be four to five feet long.

- A. After sentence 13
- B. After sentence 14
- C. After sentence 15
- D. After sentence 16

#### Lesson #8-Persuasive Texts

Persuasive texts are those texts that are designed to persuade or convince the reader or a particular audience. Thesis or topic sentence tells what the paragraph or essay will be about.

1. Which sentence is an appropriate and effective thesis for a persuasive essay on the topic of littering?

- A. Once a month I volunteer to clean up litter.
- B. People who litter should be required to pay a fine as well as to do community service.
- C. Littering makes our community look bad to visitors.
- D. Some trucks have litter blowing out of their beds.

2. Which sentence is an appropriate and effective thesis for a persuasive essay on the topic of recycling?

- A. Jane Hayes goes to the elementary schools three days a week to talk to the students about recycling.
- B. Not only does recycling save the landfill, it also saves resources and energy.
- C. They kept a tally of all the cans, bottles, and newspapers that they had recycled for a year.
- D. The incident about his going to the convenience center to take his recycling is a funny story.

3. Read this radio advertisement.

Introducing Critter Crackers! Shaped like little animals, these crackers are a delicious low fat, low sugar, low calorie snack. Flavored with real vanilla bean, Critter Crackers will have you craving more. They come in a convenient reusable plastic container. Try Critter Crackers today.

Which sentence is an effective persuasive conclusion for this advertisement?

- A. Critter Crackers are the best little snack around because the kids will love them as much as you do.
- B. It's the tasty snack that brings the zoo to you.
- C. Critter Crackers are really good.
- D. Critter Crackers are not like your regular snack crackers at all.

4. Read this television script.

Attention: High school seniors. Not sure what to do with your life after high school? Want to go to college but can't afford it? Your solution: Join the armed services!

Which sentence is an effective persuasive conclusion for this television script?

- A. Call today and be on your way to earning your college degree without paying a penny.
- B. What better way to get your education and see the world?
- C. We have information about the exciting programs in the military has to offer.
- D. You can get a good job after you serve your country.

5. Which of the following is the most appropriate and effective persuasive catalog description?

- A. Do you not have enough shelves? Want more? Just order Add-a-Shelf to have all the shelves you need. They may not be pretty, but they do the job. You won't be sorry you ordered them.
- B. I bought several of the Add-a-Shelf for my kitchen cabinets because I didn't have enough room to put all my dishes. Now I have a place to put all my dishes. Now I have a place to put everything. I love them.
- C. Most people don't have enough storage space. Now it can be had with Add-a-Shelf. It comes in any size and will help you with your clutter problem. Order now.
- D. Need more shelf space in your cabinets? Add-a-Shelf will solve your problems! It can be ordered to fit any size. Order today to convert that wasted space to usable storage.

Lesson #9-Narrative Mode

Tip: Narrative mode is always in storytelling mode, so there should be an order of events taking place.

Remember to identify actual events that occur: Event #1+Event #2+Event #3+Event #4

1. Which of the following paragraphs is written in narrative mode?

A. What could be better than a fresh July morning? I love July mornings filled with bird songs and infused with the scent of flowering morning glories. I am feeling lazy since school will not begin for five more weeks. I am thankful for every balmy July morning in the hours before serious summer heat sets in. My greatest delight in those mornings is to sip a raspberry smoothie and watch my cats playing at chasing bugs. On alternate mornings, I walk to the corner store early to meet with friends for a movie blowout day. I almost wish every day would be a July day.

B. My favorite kind of cat is a polydactyl feline. Sure, the name sounds as if I were speaking of a reptilian sort of animal, but the word polydactyl just means “having extra toes.” If you research the history of polydactyl cats, you will find that they were prized as super mouse catchers on British ships. With their extra claws, racing up and down the rigging, or ropes, was as easy for polydactyl cats as scooting across a kitchen floor is for the ordinary toed cat.

C. This year has brought a new challenge for my family: I got my driver’s license. On the day I was eligible, I woke my mother early by whistling on the stairs. She knew that because of my forty and more hours of driving her and other victims around for practice, I was more than ready. I offered to drive us to the State Department of Motor Vehicles, but she visibly winced and reminded me that since I did not have the license yet, she should take the wheel. All the way there I reminded myself of the parallel parking steps: B, F, L, meaning bumper, fender, left. Smiling as we walked in, I knew I was so ready.

D. There are so many great trivia facts about Mississippi, I hardly know where to start. I have many pen pals on the Internet, and we trade facts so we can show off our general knowledge to people who don’t have such a wide range of friends. I have told them things such as the great cleaner, Pine Sol, was invented here, we invented the marketing strategy of selling shoes in pairs (left and right foot), and we have the largest river in the United States: the mighty Mississippi, of course.

2. Your teacher has given you an assignment to write a narrative essay about a time you made a difference in another person’s life. Which of the following is the appropriate and effective introduction for a narrative essay on this topic?

- A. I love to dance, and my talent has a positive effect on the people around me. I see them smile as I take the dance floor and start to move in rhythm with the music. Every culture admires dancers, and I am happy to be part of that tradition. I think I will study dance, learn about all types of dancing, and become a dance instructor as a career. That way I can make other people’s lives as happy as mine.
- B. The new day my best friend got a good offer for a summer job was a sad day for me. As usual, we met during our final study hall. I was about to tell her my family wanted her to go with us to Disney World in Florida that summer, but she jumped into her news first. She was thrilled but worried that she might not be able to handle the job. I knew she could, and I also knew that by encouraging her, I could make a difference in her confidence. So, gritting my teeth, I leaned forward, pointed a finger at her, and began to tell her all the reasons she would make a great employee.
- C. Many people before me have made a difference through their lives and words. John F. Kennedy urged the country to “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.” This was a call for everyone to choose a way to make a difference for the country, maybe by starting at their communities. I heard this quotation from President Kennedy when I was in ninth grade. I started right there and then to do some community service things with friends. I had fun and actually helped others who needed the help and got school credit for it too!
- D. Making a difference means to change something, hopefully for the better. There are different ways to make a difference. My friend likes to do environmental service work in her neighborhood. Another friend likes to help get the “vote out” by distributing flyers for candidates. I prefer to do volunteer work at school, like helping set up for book fairs or cleaning after PTSA meeting. My teacher says I have

made a big difference in how he judges others. I heard him say that if all students were like me and my friends, then he'd feel better about our class.

3. Read each prompt and select the paragraph that clearly addresses the topic given.

Think of a time when something very special but unexpected happened to you. Write a narrative essay about what happened. Be sure to include precise details in your response.

- A. I love surprises; after all, who doesn't? I especially love to plan surprise birthday parties for my friends and family members. Last month, I helped my mother plan a surprise party for my father. He had no idea! The month before that, I tricked my friend into thinking I was planning a surprise party for someone else, but it was really for her instead. She was shocked! Next, I plan on surprising my brother for his birthday. We'll just have to see how well that one goes.
- B. My aunt is a very special person who loves to make other people happy. One of her greatest talents is her ability to cook for large groups. For my graduation party, she catered to fifty of my friends and family. Her mouth-watering coconut shrimp with sweet honey mustard sauce was the hit of the party. The strawberries dipped in white and milk chocolate were a close second. Aunt Paula loved preparing all the food, and she loved even more hearing how much we enjoyed eating it. I doubt anyone has an aunt who is as special as she is.
- C. Passing by the old, vacant white house down the road from mine, I never expected to see an elderly, distinguished gentleman sitting atop a fancy cart being drawn by two dappled ponies pranced down the road beside the antebellum white house, the whole scene changed into a kaleidoscope of colors so bright I gasped at their brilliance.

4. Which of the following is written in the narrative mode?

- A. I walked to the door and looked into the hall for the sound I had just heard. Since there was no one there, I closed the door and walked back to the desk. I sat back down in my chair and picked up the book I was reading when I heard the sound again. This time I got a glimpse of red hair as the culprit ran away. I knew immediately who my tormentor was and vowed she would pray for her pranks as soon as we got home from school that day.
- B. I can't wait to be on my own once I get to college. I will finally be in complete control of my own life. There will be no more early curfews and required chores. I will be able to do what I want when I want. Sure, I'll still have to be disciplined enough to get up to go to classes, but I'll be able to choose which classes I take and when. Since I don't like to wake up early, I'll make sure none of my classes begin before 10 o'clock in the morning.
- C. Cell phones are vital to everyone today but especially to a female who has to travel. They give a sense of security when one is alone in a car at night. In emergencies, people used to have to find a pay phone, which could be in an unsafe area, but now one has the cell phone to use to call for help.
- D. Watching movies is my favorite pastime, and I find myself enjoying all different types. Movies offer entertainment, action, mystery, suspense, romance, and horror. Going out to watch a movie at the theater is fun to do with friends, but I'm not limited to the theaters. I can order movies online, go to the local movie rental store, or order movies on demand from my cable company. With all these options, I'll never run out of things to watch.

5. Read this narrative paragraph.

(1) Munching his popcorn and sipping his soda, Joel relaxed in the stands calmly but intently watching the game. (2) He had his glove in his lap because he wanted to be ready if the ball came his way so he could catch it. (3) Suddenly, his mother sprang from her seat in excitement, and he spied the ball veering straight for him. (4) He calmly positioned the drink and popcorn in the holder in front of him, slipped on the glove, and miraculously snagged the ball from the air.

Which statement, if used to replace sentence 2, improves the narrative?

- A. His glove was in his lap, so he was ready.
- B. With his glove in his lap, he brought it to catch any ball that he could.
- C. His glove was in his lap, and he felt prepared to catch the ball if it came his way at any time.
- D. Prepared to catch a fly ball, he carefully balanced his glove on his lap.

### Lesson #10-Author's Purpose

Tip: An author has several purposes for writing text. They are as follows:

- To entertain
- To explain
- To show
- To convince
- To highlight
- To teach
- To persuade
- To discuss
- To inform

1. Read these lines from the poem.

When the wind stirs soft through the springing grass, And the river flows like a stream of glass; When the first bird sings and the first bud opens, And the faint perfume from its chalice steals—I know what the caged bird feels!

Why did the author use the words *soft* and *faint*?

- A. To demonstrate the narrator's sadness
  - B. To create a calm, peaceful image
  - C. To show pity toward the caged bird
  - D. To illustrate the bird's powerlessness
- 

2. Read the excerpt from an essay. Determine the most likely audience and purpose.

Each member of the student body is required to obey all rules listed within the student handbook. Any student who does not comply will receive severe and immediate punishment according to the offenses detailed in the handbook. Parents are required to read and sign the statement in the front of the handbook and return it to the school so that administrators can verify that parents and students are aware of all rules and the consequences of non-compliance.

- A. This excerpt is directed toward administrators to inform them of parental concerns about school rules.
  - B. This excerpt is written to persuade parents to punish their children for breaking any of the school rules.
  - C. This excerpt is written to persuade students to break the rules at their school.
  - D. This excerpt is to inform high school students and parents of school rules and consequences.
- 

3. Read the excerpt from an essay. Determine the most likely audience and purpose.

Absenteeism and tardiness are among the insurmountable problems facing corporate America today, and no one can offer any feasible explanation or solution for the foreseeable future. Employees often possess indifferent attitudes concerning both issues, and these attitudes are even more puzzling to upper management. Policies in place address the perplexing issue but extend no feasible solution. Perhaps the explanation for this intricate matter will forever remain an enigma; however, termination of repeat offenders continues as the optimum consequence, despite the loss of funds that results.

- A. This paragraph is meant to persuade the general public to be present and on time for work.
  - B. This paragraph is meant to inform corporate management of problems encountered with employees who are habitually late or absent.
  - C. This paragraph is meant to relate problems schools officials should address to help solve absenteeism and tardiness.
  - D. This paragraph is meant to explain to employees everywhere about the importance of being a dependable employee for his or her company.
- 

4. Read the following passage.

We put a bird feeder under a tree in our backyard. We hung it from a limb with clear fishing line and hoped that the squirrels wouldn't be able to get to it. Of course, they figured out how to jump to it from another limb and ate all the seeds. I bought a baffle, which is a device to keep squirrels off a bird feeder, and it was successful. Then the Muscovy ducks discovered the seeds that birds would knock out of the feeder, so at least

one duck sits under the feeder most of the day. *We get a kick out of* watching the duck look up and sometimes catch the seeds before they fall to the ground.

By including the phrase “get a kick out of,” what does the author want to express to the reader?

- A. The author wants to emphasize the pleasure gotten from watching the clever duck eat the bird seeds.
  - B. The author gets aggravated with other creatures interfering with the pleasure of watching birds come to the feeder.
  - C. The author would rather the ducks stay away.
  - D. The author is expressing anger at the squirrels.
- 

5. Read this paragraph.

I used to save old or rare coins. My father helped me in this hobby by looking at his change and bringing many to me. It was not an everyday or even every week occurrence to add to my collection, but I had saving coins for years. I had no fancy book to put them in; I kept them in some old socks in a drawer. One day I discovered that the socks with the larger coins were almost empty. After asking my three little sisters about the missing coins, little Gloria admitted to taking them. Of course, I *blew my top*. I could hardly believe she would have taken them. Evidently Gloria had been taking the coins to school and sharing them with her friends and classmates for snacks and treats. After the discovery, she seemed genuinely sorry for what she had done, but there is no replacing the coins.

Does the author’s use of the phrase *blew my top* support the purpose of the paragraph?

- A. Yes, because the phrase explains the sister’s motives for the theft.
- B. Yes, because the phrase emphasizes the narrator’s anger about the theft by a sister.
- C. Yes, because the phrase describes the father’s emotions.
- D. No, because the phrase contradicts the narrator’s purpose for saving the coins.

### Lesson #11-Summary/Precis

Tip #1: When dealing with questions that deal with summarizing, use the SOFA acronym.

## Summary/précis

**Order**—The information in the summary should be in order as in the original text.

**Few details**—The information in the summary should provide few details in a concise manner

**Accuracy**—The information in the summary should be accurate or truthful.

Tip #2: When dealing with questions that deal with summarizing, use the sandwich method.

### 1. Read the following two selections.

#### Selection 1:

Sara Josephine Baker was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1873, into a prominent family. As a young woman, she planned to go to the exclusive Vassar College. This was at a time when few women went to school beyond high school. Then suddenly, her father died and her family's fortunes took a turn for the worse. Ms. Baker decided to help her family by becoming a doctor. She enrolled in the only program she knew of that was available to women: Women's Medical College in New York. (At the time, women made up less than 1% of the doctors in the United States; today, close to 40% of those practicing medicine are women.)

#### Selection 2:

Dr. Sara Josephine Baker was a pioneer who challenged the established order of the day. Part of that order allowed poor people to go without proper medical attention. Dr. Baker worked with people living in the slums of Boston and New York City. When she was appointed medical inspector for the New York City Health Department, she decided to challenge the way the poor, especially poor children, received medical treatment.

Which of the following is the correct précis for the synthesis of the two selections?

A. In 1873, Sara Josephine Baker was born in Poughkeepsie, New York. She was an important medical pioneer. For one, she went to medical school at a time when less than 1% of the doctors in the United States were women. Not afraid to push boundaries, Sara enrolled at Women's Medical College in New York. She wanted to help poor people, including her family, who needed money after the death of her father.

B. There are some people in the world who work to make a difference. Dr. Sara Josephine Baker was one of them. Baker was devoted to helping improve the lives of poor people, particularly poor children. She worked to make sure that everyone who needed medical treatment had it available to them, whether or not they could pay for their care. Baker worked in the slums of both New York City and Boston, saving countless lives. She was also appointed medical inspector of the New York City Health Department, a position that allowed her to continue her mission to help the poor.

C. Sara Josephine Baker was a doctor who worked to improve healthcare for the poor and underprivileged. She was born in New York in 1873 to a well-off family, but after her father died, her family needed money. Baker decided to help her family by becoming a doctor at a time when very few women were part of the profession. After earning her degree, Baker helped poor people in New York City and Boston get proper medical treatment. Later she became medical inspector for the New York City Health Department, where she continued her work to improve medical services for the poor.

D. Dr. Sara Josephine Baker questioned the way things were and pushed for change. Although she was born to a rich family, she spent her life helping poor people. She developed a plan to help sick children. In New York City and Boston, she worked in the slums to help poor children get the medical treatment they needed. She did not believe that just because people were poor they should not be able to the same treatment offered to the wealthy.

### 2. Read these excerpts.

**Excerpt from *Engleton City Recreation City Newsletter***  
**Young Adult**

**Checkmate by Turner Paige:** This is a short novel for teenagers. The main character, Jared, has just moved to a new city; and he is having a difficult time making friends. When his mother suggests that he join the school chess club to get to know his classmates, Jared discovers that he has an inborn talent for the game.

**Excerpt from online book review**

Turner Paige's latest young adult novel, *Checkmate*, is his best yet. Paige has developed his protagonist into a believable teenager who faces a problem many children today can understand. Paige weaves together a story to which his young readers will readily relate. Adult readers may also find the plot satisfying, as *Checkmate* is filled with witty dialogue, memorable characters, and well-crafted prose.

Based upon the two excerpts, which paragraph accurately and appropriately presents a summary of findings for research purposes?

A The novel *Checkmate* is Turner Paige's best novel yet. It tells the story of Jared, a student who has moved to a new city. Since Jared has been having trouble making friends, his mother encourages him to join the chess club, where he quickly becomes the star of the team. The novel is a good read for teenagers and for adults.

B Both teenagers and adults will enjoy Turner Paige's new novel *Checkmate*, which is reviewed as the author's best book yet. The novel contains witty dialogue, an exciting plot, and well-written prose. The novel's protagonist, Jared, is very believable; and the conflict that he faces in the novel is one to which many teenagers can relate.

C The book *Checkmate* by Turner Paige is a young adult novel that focuses on a boy named Jared. While Jared struggles to make friends in a new city, he joins the chess club, becomes successful at the game, and meets new people. The dialogue, plot, and believable characters in the novel make this book accessible to teenagers and adults alike.

D Adults should consider reading the new novel by Turner Paige titled *Checkmate*. The book, intended for young adults, centers on a teenager named Jared who has just moved to a new city. Jared's mother suggests that he join the chess club in order to make new friends. When Jared does join, he discovers that he has a talent for chess. Jared is a believable character that adults and teenagers will enjoy.

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**3. Read these excerpts.**

**Excerpt from an electronic encyclopedia entry**

Scholars believe that playing cards originated in China in the 800s, possibly beginning as a form of currency. In the 1300s playing cards made their way to Europe via Egypt and began to resemble their modern form.

**Excerpt from an online article**

The history of playing cards is quite an interesting one. In the millennium since their first appearance, playing cards have contributed to some of the most popular games enjoyed by people of all ages.

**Which of the following accurately and appropriately summarizes the two excerpts?**

A Playing cards first appeared in China in the 800s and later in Europe during the 1300s. They have since become a popular source of entertainment.

B Playing cards first made their appearance over 800 years ago in Egypt. They were later brought to Europe where they became a popular source of entertainment.

C Playing cards have been around since the 800s when they were used as money in China. Since the 1300s they have become very popular and are often used in games.

D Playing cards might have begun in either China or Egypt in the 800s. They have existed for over 1,000 years and have become an important component of many popular games.

---

**4. Read this paragraph.**

Wildlife experts believe there may have been 25,000 to as many as 75,000 nesting bald eagles in the lower 48 states when the bird was adopted as our national symbol in 1782. By the early 1960s there were fewer than 450 bald eagle nesting pairs in the lower 48 states. The bald eagle is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 43 of the lower 48 states and listed as threatened in Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Which of the following is an accurate and appropriate summary of this paragraph?

- A. The bald eagle fared better in some sections of the country than in others. In these sections, the numbers have remained stable.

- B. The bald eagle was listed as threatened or endangered in the early 1960's. There had been many thousands of them in the late eighteenth century when it was adopted as our national symbol.
  - C. Thousands of bald eagles were living when the bird became our national symbol. Eighty years later, there were so few that they were listed as endangered or threatened.
  - D. Even though Americans now respect the bald eagle, they once shot them because they thought they were a danger to their property. The bald eagle had to be protected by the federal government to keep them alive.
- 

5. Read this paragraph.

Mrs. Jones opened the door to the classroom just as the bell sounded the change of classes. Time had slipped up on her in the last class, and she wasn't totally prepared for the next class to start. She still had a few papers scattered on top of her desk, but she decided to clear them as soon as her students settled down to work on the warm-up activity. She checked the roll and made her way to the computer to enter the absent students into the computer. Passing by her desk on the way to her computer, she thought the top of her desk was a bit more disheveled than she remembered, so she sat down to straighten the papers. Under several sheets, she uncovered a slightly addled preying mantis that someone had slipped beneath the papers on their way into the room. "Great!" she thought to herself. "Now I'll have to watch them every day to see what will turn up next!"

Which of the following is an accurate and appropriate summary?

- A. Mrs. Jones noticed that the papers on her desk seemed to be more scattered than she had left them. She soon discovered that a student had hidden a preying mantis underneath them.
- B. When Mrs. Jones found a preying mantis on her desk, she realized that a student had placed it there. She had not been ready for the next class, so the insect was easy to hide beneath disheveled papers on her desk.
- C. Mrs. Jones wasn't ready for her next class, so an incoming student was able to hide a preying mantis under the papers on her desk. She realized she would have to watch her students more carefully in the future.
- D. When the bell rang, Mrs. Jones opened the door for her next class of students. She had not been able to straighten her desk between classes and wasn't really ready for the next class. She planned on cleaning up the mess once students were busy working at their desks.

### Lesson #12-Inferences

Tip: Making inferences is simply making an assumption or guess based on certain words, details, experiences, and prior knowledge.

For example, If you see the police driving pass you at full speed, you could infer that there is an emergency that he or she is attempting to see about.

1. Read this statement.

His wife's progressive dementia was like an eraser continuing to clean the slate of a lifetime's memories.

Which of the following can the reader infer from the analogy between his wife's dementia and an eraser?

- A. Both involve taking away what was once there.
  - B. Both involve a loving family.
  - C. Both involve the absence of a love between a husband and a wife.
  - D. Both involve the sharing of memories.
- 

2. Read lines 40-41 from the passage.

Old age is miserable enough without that old snake doctor squeezing all the enjoyment out of it.

What can the reader infer about the author's purpose for using the underlined words?

- A. He's showing Will's displeasure in the doctor's wanting him to give up something he enjoys.
  - B. He's showing that old age is miserable.
  - C. He's emphasizing that doctors don't know what they're talking about.
  - D. He's emphasizing that Will doesn't like doctors.
- 

3. Read lines 1-6 from the passage.

Diving is a sport for which people fling themselves into the air only to splash down in shockingly cold water. Brrrr! But what is scuba? Countless people think it is just a funny word that rhymes with tuba. In reality, "scuba" is an acronym for self-contained underwater breathing apparatus. It refers to the equipment that divers use---specifically, divers who want to keep breathing after hitting the water and going under.

What can the reader infer about the author's purpose for including this introductory paragraph?

- A. The author wanted to show the importance of scuba diving.
  - B. The author wanted to give the background history of scuba diving.
  - C. The author wanted to clarify the purpose of scuba diving.
  - D. The author wanted to explain the meaning of the word "scuba."
- 

4. Read the passage.

Matt is playing video games in his bedroom, but he is getting tired of his limited selection. Matt and his older brother Josh have several of the same games, but with his own money Josh has bought a few new ones that Matt doesn't have. Josh even has a bigger and better TV for playing games. He hears his older brother talking to their dad downstairs. Josh has been working on his science fair project all day. Matt knows where Josh keeps his video games, but Josh has threatened bodily harm to anyone caught going into his room without permission. Matt knows from painful experiences in the past that his brother doesn't make idle threats. Matt slowly creeps to the top of the stairs to listen to what Josh is doing and goes quickly and quietly to Josh's closed bedroom door.

Based on details from the paragraph, what may the reader predict?

- A. Matt will knock loudly on Josh's door, and when Josh doesn't answer, he'll go back to his own room.
  - B. Matt will play one of Josh's new video games in Josh's room on his bigger and better TV.
  - C. Matt will go downstairs to ask if he can borrow a video game from Josh.
  - D. Matt will get one of Josh's new video games from Josh's room and return to his own room to play it.
- 

5. Read the following poem "Winter Bliss" by John Dorroh.

It's getting warmer.  
I will miss the click-clacks  
Of winter thermostats,  
The hum and rumblings  
Of tasty breaths of warmth  
That coats my soul like a quilt.  
I will yearn to roll in my cocoon  
On cold December mornings,  
Delaying the challenge  
Of peeling off my bedtime skin,  
To greet the winter morning  
Once again next year.

Based on the details and clues in the poem above, what can be inferred about the speaker?

- A. The speaker dislikes summertime weather.
- B. The speaker has a problem with insects in the house.
- C. The speaker enjoys sleeping in on winter mornings.
- D. The speaker has a big utility bill in the winter months.