WRITING
(DAY 1)
WRITTEN COMPOSITION
READ the following quotation.

True humor is fun—it does not put down, kid, or mock. It makes people feel wonderful, not separate, different, and cut off.

—Hugh Prather

THINK carefully about the following question.

Does humor make life better?

WRITE an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.

Be sure to —

• clearly state your controlling idea
• organize and develop your explanation effectively
• choose your words carefully
• use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences
REVISING AND EDITING
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Joe came across an interesting article on the Internet. He was curious about the subject, so he did some additional research. He wrote this paper to tell about what he learned. Read Joe’s paper and look for any revisions he should make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Mama Dog

(1) One day in 2003, police in Warwickshire, England, found a bedraggled, hungry dog abandoned in an old shed.  (2) The officers took the dog to the Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary.  (3) This is a shelter for homeless animals.  (4) Workers there could tell that the female greyhound had been abused and neglected.  (5) The day she arrived at the sanctuary, caked in mud and terrified of you, no one could have guessed what she would become.

(6) The workers at the sanctuary named the dog Jasmine and nursed her back to health.  (7) Eventually she grew strong and learned to trust people again.  (8) Soon the staff noticed that she had a real knack for mothering.  (9) When a pair of tiny puppies showed up at the shelter, Jasmine took an immediate interest in them.  (10) She trotted up to the pups, carried them both to a comfortable spot, and began caring for them as if they were her own.

(11) Over time, the staff realized that Jasmine’s mothering skills weren’t limited to animals of her own species.  (12) She cuddled baby bunnies that were brought into the shelter, taking care of them until they were old enough to be
released. (13) She also cared for badger cubs, fox cubs, baby guinea pigs, and even baby birds. (14) One of her most unusual adoptees was an 11-week-old fawn that had been found alone in a field.

(15) The animals at the sanctuary were comforted by Jasmine’s loving presence and by Jasmine’s gentle care. (16) As pictures of Jasmine began to show up on the Internet, people all over the world were inspired by her acts of kindness. (17) Who would have thought that a mistreated animal could grow into such a nurturing mother?
1. What is the BEST way to combine sentences 2 and 3?

A. The officers took the dog to the Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary, this is a shelter for homeless animals.

B. The officers took the dog to the Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary and a shelter for homeless animals.

C. The officers, who took the dog to the Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary, had a shelter for homeless animals.

D. The officers took the dog to the Nuneaton Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary, a shelter for homeless animals.

2. Joe did not maintain a consistent point of view in the first paragraph of this paper. What revision should he make in sentence 5 to correct this problem?

F. Change *she arrived* to *the dog arrived*

G. Change *you* to *humans*

H. Change *no one* to *they*

J. Change *she would become* to *it would become*
3 Joe wants to provide a better closing for the second paragraph (sentences 6–10). Which of these could be added after sentence 10 to more effectively close this paragraph?

A People thought Jasmine was a very strange and unique dog.
B The staff was afraid that Jasmine might accidentally harm the puppies.
C She took care of them as if she had given birth to them herself.
D At that moment the workers at the shelter knew that Jasmine was special.

4 Joe would like to add a sentence to support the idea he has presented in sentence 14. Which of these could BEST follow and support sentence 14?

F According to the staff, once Jasmine and the fawn met, they were inseparable.
G Clearly, the fawn was just a little baby at 11 weeks old.
H Jasmine preferred to take care of animals that were similar to her.
J Bunnies, badgers, guinea pigs, birds, and fawns—Jasmine cared for a strange mix of animals.
What is the BEST way to revise sentence 15?

A  The animals at the sanctuary were comforted when Jasmine’s loving presence and gentle care comforted them.

B  The animals at the sanctuary were comforted by Jasmine’s loving presence and gentle care.

C  The animals at the sanctuary were comforted by Jasmine, who had her loving presence and her gentle care.

D  The animals at the sanctuary were comforted by Jasmine, her loving presence, and her gentle care.
Kayla has written the following paper to persuade her peers to take an occasional break from technology. Read Kayla’s paper and think about the revisions she should make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Take Time to Disconnect

(1) Today we have a multitude of electronic devices to help us stay connected with one another. (2) We talk to our friends using cell phones, social media, e-mail, and even video games. (3) We text at the dinner table, in bed, and even while doing homework. (4) If our phones aren’t in our pocket or purse, we panic. (5) But is all this instant communication really good for us?

(6) Certainly, most people would agree that electronic communication has its profits. (7) It enhances safety and helps people convey messages quickly. (8) But despite what the common saying claims, you can have too much of a good thing. (9) Some researchers have suggested that relationships formed online are weaker than those formed in real-life situations. (10) If people develop all their relationships electronically, they may boast about having a large number of “friends,” but those friendships aren’t likely to provide the support and satisfaction that come from face-to-face interactions. (11) Spending time together in real life allows people to share experiences, which can create deeper relationships.
Furthermore, one study has shown that too much texting and phone time can cause restlessness and difficulty sleeping. How many of us have our phones with us at night and text with friends until we finally fall asleep? And what is the first thing many of us do when we wake up in the morning? Before we’re even fully awake, we rush to check our text messages and e-mail! Lack of sleep is no good.

And finally, what about good manners? Have you ever been out with a friend or a family member who responded to a text in the middle of a conversation the two of you were having? Some consider this behavior just plain rude.

Clearly, there are some downsides to all this electronic communication. But I think I have a solution. We should all choose one day a week to take a break and disconnect from technology. Spending a day focusing on the people around you will help you build stronger relationships. This hiatus will also serve as a reminder that you can survive without it. You might get a good night’s sleep and be reminded of the value of good manners. I believe that a day without technology will help make you a healthier person and be a better friend. So will you agree to participate? Which day will you choose to take the time to disconnect?
6. Sentence 6 is unclear because Kayla has chosen an inappropriate word. What change should Kayla make to improve this sentence?

   F. Change **Certainly** to **Surely**
   G. Change **most** to **many**
   H. Change **agree** to **think**
   J. Change **profits** to **benefits**

7. What transition can BEST be added to the beginning of sentence 9?

   A. Obviously
   B. For example
   C. However
   D. In the end
8 Kayla wants to provide a better closing sentence for the third paragraph (sentences 12–16). Which of these could replace sentence 16 and improve the closing of this paragraph?

F This obsession can lead to sleep deprivation, which isn’t healthy.

G Doesn’t all this texting during sleep time seem ridiculous to you now?

H Sometimes I check my text messages when I’m in the bathroom.

J Lack of adequate sleep is certainly not a very good thing.

9 Kayla needs more support for the idea she is presenting in the fourth paragraph (sentences 17–19). Which two sentences could BEST follow sentence 18 and help develop the main idea of this paragraph?

A Professionals sometimes have to respond to a text immediately. They might lose money if they don’t respond right away.

B There you are talking, and the person next to you is texting. You didn’t expect your day to turn out this way.

C It makes you feel as though you aren’t as important as the person who sent the text. That person gets immediate attention while you sit and wait.

D Sometimes I do this, and my mom reminds me that it’s rude. Occasionally I have to remind her.
10 Kayla needs to clarify the meaning of sentence 24. What is the most effective way to do this?

F Change *that you* to *that people*

G Change *that you* to *that those you truly care about*

H Change *it* to *all that stuff*

J Change *it* to *the constant interruption of a phone or a computer*

11 What is the BEST way to revise sentence 26?

A I believe that a day without technology is a day that will be helping make you a healthier and better person and friend.

B I believe that a day without technology will help make you a healthier person and a better friend.

C I believe that a day without technology, it will help make you a healthier person, and it will help make you a better friend.

D I believe that a day without technology is good, it will help make you a healthier person, who will be a better friend.
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

When Grace was asked to write about a person she admired, she chose Bindi Irwin. Read Grace’s paper and think about ways she should revise it. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

### Bindi Irwin, Wildlife Warrior

(1) When it comes to animals and wildlife conservation, Bindi Irwin may be one of the most passionate teens you’ll ever hear about. (2) But then how could she not be? (3) She was practically raised in a zoo. (4) Bindi is the daughter of legendary wildlife expert Steve Irwin, more usually known as the Crocodile Hunter.

(5) Bindi Sue Irwin was born in Queensland, Australia, in 1998 to Steve and Terri Irwin. (6) Her name was first given to her father’s favorite crocodile, which means “little girl” in a native Australian language. (7) Yes, Bindi was named after a crocodile!

(8) When Bindi was young, she spent most of her time with her parents at the family zoo. (9) By her first birthday the toddler could mimic the sounds of all the animals at the zoo. (10) Soon she was traveling the world with her parents as they filmed their documentary television series, *The Crocodile Hunter*. (11) When she wasn’t traveling, Bindi was back at the zoo. (12) There she helped care for several animals. (13) One was Harriet, a giant Galápagos land tortoise.
On her ninth birthday Bindi became an official staff member of the Australia Zoo and was presented with her own walkie-talkie. By the age of 11, she had starred in her own kid fitness video; her own television show, *Bindi, the Jungle Girl*; and a movie, *Free Willy: Escape from Pirate’s Cove*. She continues her work at the Australia Zoo, but she’s also busy co-authoring a book series with her mother. Called *Bindi Wildlife Adventures*, the series is based on events from Bindi’s life.

A few years ago Bindi’s father Steve died while filming a documentary on Australia’s Great Barrier Reef. Although she misses him terribly, Bindi is committed to carrying on his work through an organization he founded called Wildlife Warriors. The organization works to protect injured, threatened, or endangered wildlife. Her passion for her work is evident.
12 One of the words Grace used in sentence 4 is inappropriate. What is the BEST change for her to make in this sentence?

F Change *legendary* to *famous*

G Change *expert* to *authority*

H Change *usually* to *commonly*

J Change *known* to *thought of*

13 What is the most effective revision to make in sentence 6?

A Her name, which means “little girl” in a native Australian language, was first given to her father’s favorite crocodile.

B Since her name was first given to her father’s favorite crocodile, it means “little girl” in a native Australian language.

C Her name was first given to her father’s favorite crocodile, it means “little girl” in a native Australian language.

D First given to her father’s favorite crocodile, in a native Australian language, her name means “little girl.”
14  What is the BEST way to combine sentences 12 and 13?

F  There she helped care for several animals and a giant Galápagos land tortoise.

G  There she helped care for several animals, Harriet, a giant Galápagos land tortoise.

H  There she helped care for several animals, including Harriet, a giant Galápagos land tortoise.

J  There she helped care for several animals, although one was Harriet, a giant Galápagos land tortoise.

15  Grace would like to add a transition word or phrase to help readers move from sentence 15 to sentence 16. Which of these is the most effective transition to add to the beginning of sentence 16?

A  Evidently

B  Today

C  As a result

D  For example
16 Grace wants to end her paper with a quotation from Bindi Irwin. Which of these quotations could follow sentence 21 and most effectively close this paper?

F “It’s interesting,” notes Bindi. “I really don’t look at myself as famous.”

G “I don’t want to grow up in a world without wildlife,” insists Bindi. “My daddy was a wildlife warrior, and I’m going to continue his work.”

H “It’s nice to be able to talk to people and share your ways of dealing with things,” says Bindi.

J “We’re always working with the government and different organizations and just working at it slowly,” explains Bindi.
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Blake wrote a story to tell about how he learned to appreciate his mother. Read Blake’s story and look for the corrections he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

What’s for Dinner?

(1) It’s a question asked almost daily at my house. (2) One by one, my brothers and I drag into the house after a day of school, sports, and study groups, hungry and ready to be fed. (3) And more often than not, my mothers’ answer brings a groan from at least one of us.

(4) “Meatloaf, ugh!” my younger brother moans.

(5) “Spaghetti! (6) Not again!” my older brother grumbles.

(7) I’m also guilty of being critical of what Mom puts on the table. (8) One Friday evening, she finally snapped. (9) As she began serving one of her famous casseroles, I made the mistake of asking, “didn’t we have this last week?” (10) Mom set the dish down and starred right into my eyes.

(11) “I’m tired of the daily disapproval,” she said calmly. (12) “It’s your turn to be the family cook. (13) I’ll provide you with a budget and drive you to the grocery store, but next week your in charge.”

(14) At first the idea of being the family cook sounded like fun. (15) I immediately began brainstorming meals—including all my favorites, of course—and making a list of what I would need from the store.

(16) Early Saturday morning Mom woke me up. (17) “It’s time to go shopping,” she said. (18) Sleepy but determined, I crawled out of bed, got dressed, and headed to the store for the weekly shopping venture.

(19) “Here is the grocery money,” Mom said, handing me an envelope of cash. (20) “Make sure you stay within the budget.”

(21) “No problem,” I replied, confident that I had everything under control.

(22) I whizzed through the store, dropping one item after another into the shopping cart. (23) At the checkout the clerk began scanning my selections.
(24) I watched as the total on the register climbed. (25) Glancing into my envelope, I began to worry. (26) The blood drained from my face when I realized that I wasn’t going to be able to pay for everything. (27) Enormously embarrassed, I started selecting items to return. (28) There would be no brownies for dessert on Monday, no steak on Tuesday, no ready-to-bake lasagna on Wednesday, and no after-school sodas on any day that week.

(29) When I got home from school on Monday, I was already worn out. (30) But as soon as I plopped myself down on the couch, Mom asked, “What’s for dinner?” (31) I dragged myself into the kitchen and began cooking. (32) By the time dinner was over, it was 8:30, and I still had homework to do. (33) To make matters worse. (34) My brothers had complained during the entire meal. (35) The rest of the week wasn’t much different, and by Friday I was also running out of groceries! (36) Fortunately, Mom gave me a few tips on how to stretch the leftovers into another meal.

(37) As the week came to a close, I realized that I had learned a lot. (38) Budgeting, shopping, and cooking for a family of four isn’t as easy as it looks. (39) I had a new appreciation for all the hard work my mom does. (40) The next Monday when she announced “Tacos for dinner,” I was ready. (41) “Sounds great!” I enthusiastically responded. (42) And when my brothers started to complain, they got nasty looks from both my mother and I. (43) Next week one of them may be taking over the cooking duties.
17  What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

A  Change than to then
B  Change mothers’ to mother’s
C  Change groan to grown
D  No change should be made in this sentence.

18  What change needs to be made in sentence 9?

F  Change began to begins
G  Change the comma after casseroles to a period
H  Delete the comma after asking
J  Change didn’t to Didn’t

19  What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 10?

A  Insert a comma after down
B  Change and to she
C  Change starred to stared
D  No change needs to be made.
20  What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 13?

F  Insert quotation marks at the beginning of the sentence
G  Change *grocery store* to *Grocery Store*
H  Change *your* to *you’re*
J  Sentence 13 does not need to be changed.

21  What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 18?

A  Change *Sleepy* to *I was sleepy*
B  Change *determinned* to *determined*
C  Insert a comma after *store*
D  No change needs to be made in this sentence.

22  How should sentence 27 be changed?

F  Change *embarrassed* to *embarrassed*
G  Delete the comma
H  Change *started* to *start*
J  Sentence 27 should not be changed.
23 What is the correct way to write sentences 33 and 34?

A  To make matters worse, my brothers had complained during the entire meal.
B  It got even worse, my brothers had complained during the entire meal.
C  Even worse, my brothers had complained. During the entire meal.
D  Sentences 33 and 34 are written correctly in the story.

24 How should sentence 42 be changed?

F  Change they to he
G  Change nasty to nastier
H  Insert a comma after looks
J  Change I to me
On a recent trip to North Carolina, Monica visited a historic lighthouse. She wrote the following paper to share what she learned. Read Monica’s paper and look for the corrections she should make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Moving Day

(1) For more than 120 years, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse has been warning ship Captains of shallow sandbars off the coast of North Carolina. (2) At about 208 feet tall, it’s the tallest brick lighthouse in the United States. (3) But much has changed in the years since it was built. (4) For one thing, lighthouse keeper’s don’t fuel and maintain the lamp anymore. (5) Like most lighthouses today, Cape Hatteras is powered by electricity.

(6) Something else has changed, too. (7) When the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was first built, it stood 1,500 feet inland from the shore. (8) Storms and erosion slowly altered the shoreline, and by 1999 the lighthouse was just a few feet from the beach. (9) Clearly, it was only a matter of time before the lighthouse would fall into the sea.

(10) After much research and debate, experts decided that the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse must be moved farther inland. (11) They wanted it to be at least
1,500 feet from the shore, just as it had been in the beginning. (12) Moving the lighthouse would be no small feat, however, because it weighs 4,400 tons!

(13) That’s about 110 times the weight of a fully loaded 18-wheeler.

(14) First the foundation of the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse had to be excavatted. (15) Steel rails were placed under the structure so that it could be inched along them with the help of hydraulic jacks. (16) Large crowds gathered to watch nervously as the lighthouse began to move inland. (17) Each steel rail that the structure rolled over were transferred from behind it to in front of it. (18) The first move measured a mere 2 inches, but it was enough to convince the movers that their plan was going to work. (19) The next effort shifted the lighthouse 5 more feet. (20) By the end of the first day, the lighthouse was more than 10 feet away from it’s original location.

(21) On the second day the lighthouse traveled another 71 feet. (22) Then all the beams and rails had to be repositioned for the next portion of the journey. (23) Moving the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was like playing a giant game of leapfrog. (24) By the end of the project, the lighthouse was traveling as much as 350 feet per day.

(25) Finally, after 23 days, the work was finished, and the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse was in a much safer place, 2,870 feet inland. (26) Today its beacon continues to shine, it warns ships of danger as it has done for more than a century.
25  What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

A  Change *has been warning* to *have been warning*
B  Change *Captains* to *captains*
C  Change *off the coast* to *of the coast*
D  No change should be made in this sentence.

26  How should sentence 4 be changed?

F  Change *keeper’s* to *keepers*
G  Change *maintain* to *maintane*
H  Change *anymore* to *no more*
J  Sentence 4 should not be changed.

27  What change, if any, should be made in sentence 14?

A  Change *foundation* to *foundaton*
B  Insert a comma after *Lighthouse*
C  Change *excavatted* to *excavated*
D  Make no change
28 What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 17?

F Change rolled over to rolling over
G Change were transferred to was transferred
H Change the period to an exclamation point
J No change needs to be made in this sentence.

29 How should sentence 20 be changed?

A Change was to is
B Change it’s to its
C Change original to origanal
D Sentence 20 should not be changed.
30 What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 22?

F Insert a comma after beams

G Change had to be repositioned to have to be repositioned

H Change portion to potion

J No change needs to be made in sentence 22.

31 What is the correct way to write sentence 26?

A Today its beacon continues to shine. Warning ships of danger as it has done for more than a century.

B Today its beacon continues to shine and warn ships of danger. As it has done for more than a century.

C Today its beacon continues to shine and warn ships of danger, it has done this for more than a century.

D Today its beacon continues to shine, warning ships of danger as it has done for more than a century.
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

In response to a class assignment, Julio has written about a personal learning experience. Before he submits his paper to his teacher, he would like you to proofread it and look for any corrections he should make. Then answer the questions that follow.

**Not So Bad**

(1) Sometimes for me the anticipation of an event is much worse than the actual thing. (2) A trip to the dentist, a major test, a visit with Aunt Mildred—these all turned out to be not so bad. (3) But there are times when the actual thing is much worse than anything I could have anticipated. (4) That’s what I thought getting glasses would be like, I was certain it would be the end of life as I knew it.

(5) To be honest, I had always assumed that I would eventually need glasses. (6) My older brother wears them, as do both of my parents. (7) But when I realized I was having trouble seeing the board at school, my heart sank. (8) My genetic makeup was showing itself. (9) I had hoped that maybe, just maybe, I could avoid the inevitable.

(10) Instead of telling my Mom, I asked the teacher to move me to the front of the room. (11) Sitting closer to the board helped for a while, but I knew it wasn’t a permanent solution. (12) A sense of dread started to build in me. (13) I was sure that I would look terrible in glasses. (14) And that all the kids would tease me. (15) I could not even bring myself to tell my parents. (16) But then I started missing shots at basketball practice. (17) That was totally unacceptable. (18) I knew that no matter how ridiculous I looked I needed to see the basketball hoop!

(19) I finally told Mom, and she took me to the eye doctor. (20) After the exam we headed straight to the store to pick out frames. (21) A high school kid was trying on a pair with thin black frames. (22) He looked good in the glasses, so I thought I might, too. (23) I pointed to them and said, “Those are the ones I want.” (24) A few days later we returned to the store to pick up my glasses. (25) As soon as I put them on, a new world opened up in front of me. (26) First I noticed that I could read the print on a poster across the room.
(27) Then when I walked outside, I realized that I could see individual leaves on a tree across the street. (28) Later, as we pulled into the driveway at home, I was amazed to discover that I could distinguish the outline of the bricks on my house. (29) Everything looked so crisp and clear.

(30) I knew then that my glasses were actually a good thing, no matter what other kids might say. (31) However, when I got to school the next day, I was in for a surprise. (32) Very few people commented on my appearance. (33) The ones who did said things like "Cool glasses" and "Wow, you look good in those!" (34) Not one person made fun of me. (35) I couldn’t hardly believe it! (36) The anticipation of this event really had been much worse than the actual thing. (37) In fact, the actual thing turned out to be pretty good.
32 What is the correct way to write sentence 4?

F That’s what I thought getting glasses would be like. And was certain it would be the end of life as I knew it.

G That’s what I thought getting glasses would be like. I was certain it would be the end of life as I knew it.

H That’s what I thought getting glasses would be like. Because I was certain it would be the end of life as I knew it.

J The sentence is written correctly in the paper.

33 How should sentence 7 be changed?

A Change board to bored

B Change the comma to a semicolon

C Change sank to sank

D Sentence 7 should not be changed.
34 What change needs to be made in sentence 10?

F Change *Mom* to *mom*
G Change the comma to a period
H Change *asked* to *ask*
J No change needs to be made.

35 What change should be made in sentence 11?

A Change *helped* to *helps*
B Insert *something* after *knew*
C Change *wasn’t a* to *wasn’t no*
D Change *permanant* to *permanent*

36 What is the correct way to write sentences 13 and 14?

F I was sure that I would look terrible in glasses and that all the kids would tease me.
G I was sure that I would look terrible in glasses all the kids would tease me.
H I was sure of one thing, I would look terrible in glasses, and all the kids would tease me.
J The sentences are written correctly in the paper.
37  What change, if any, needs to be made in sentence 18?

A  Change *that* to *it*
B  Change *ridiculous* to *ridiculus*
C  Insert a comma after *looked*
D  No change needs to be made.

38  How should sentence 31 be changed?

F  Delete *when*
G  Delete the comma after *day*
H  Change *surprise* to *suprise*
J  No change should be made.
39 What change needs to be made in sentence 33?

A Change *said* to *say*
B Insert a period after *glasses*
C Change *Wow* to *wow*
D Insert quotation marks after the exclamation point

40 What change should be made in sentence 35?

F Change *couldn’t* to *could’nt*
G Delete *hardly*
H Change *believe* to *beleive*
J No change should be made in sentence 35.
WRITING
(DAY 2)
WRITTEN COMPOSITION
WRITTEN COMPOSITION #2: Personal Narrative

Look at the picture below.

Sometimes we have to rely on ourselves to solve problems.

Write a personal narrative about a time when you worked out a problem on your own. Be sure to write about your experience in detail and relate how this experience made you feel.
USE THIS PREWRITING PAGE TO PLAN YOUR COMPOSITION.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU WRITE YOUR COMPOSITION ON THE LINED PAGE LABELED “COMPOSITION #2” IN THE ANSWER DOCUMENT.