

Item Position	Rationale	
1	Option A is correct	In the context of line 8, <u>oblige</u> means “agree to do as a favor.” The playwright’s use of the phrase “I can ask my neighbor” makes it clear that Maria is going to ask the neighbor for a favor. The playwright contrasts Maria’s neighbor with Richard, who does not plan to help Maria.
	Option B is incorrect	Although in line 8 Maria mentions the idea of the neighbor helping her, the neighbor would not be helping make the request better but rather would be agreeing to help make the soup better.
	Option C is incorrect	Although in line 8 Maria mentions that she is planning to have a conversation with the neighbor to ask for the favor, the playwright uses the word <u>oblige</u> to support the request, not the conversation, so “have a conversation with” does not make sense in the context of Maria’s request.
	Option D is incorrect	In the context of line 8, Maria believes that the request will be accepted voluntarily, not that the neighbor will “feel forced to accept” the request.

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Item Position	Rationale	
2	Option C is correct	The playwright includes this line to introduce the resolution to the conflict by providing an opportunity for Richard to change his behavior and share his squash with the townspeople. The playwright uses Maria’s line “there’s still time” to demonstrate this opportunity.
	Option A is incorrect	Although Maria does explain what everyone has contributed to the feast, the playwright provides that explanation in previous lines of the play, such as when Maria says “Everyone lent a hand” in line 17. In line 20, the playwright focuses specifically on Richard and his contribution.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Maria does speak to Richard directly in line 20, she has already spoken to him in previous lines. Therefore, there is no indication that Maria lacks the courage to speak to Richard.
	Option D is incorrect	The playwright makes it clear that beginning from line 8 when Maria says “Suit yourself,” she has understood that the squash would make the soup better. Therefore, this is not a new realization for Maria in line 20.

Item Position	Rationale	
3	Option D is correct	The farm village setting is important to the plot because the farmers want to celebrate their good harvest by making a special soup for their neighbors. The making of the soup leads to the conflict of the play. This is supported by the playwright's decision in line 1 to emphasize that this is the "best harvest" in years.
	Option A is incorrect	Although it may be true that the families of the farmers help complete important daily tasks, the playwright does not focus primarily on daily actions. Rather, the playwright uses the plot of the play to focus on the celebration of the harvest.
	Option B is incorrect	Although it is true that the feast takes place outside, the weather is unimportant to the events of the play.
	Option C is incorrect	Readers may infer that the farmers have daily experience with cooking fresh vegetables. However, there is no mention of it in the play.

Item Position	Rationale	
4	Option D is correct	The playwright’s use of the word “we” and the phrase “talk of the town” indicate that the farmers wish to work together to create a soup for their neighbors that will reflect well on them.
	Option A is incorrect	In this sentence from line 1, Maria expresses her satisfaction with the quality of this year’s harvest. However, the playwright does not mention the idea of sharing the harvest until line 2.
	Option B is incorrect	In the first sentence from line 2, Jolene agrees with Maria’s idea of a feast, but the playwright does not indicate the idea of sharing.
	Option C is incorrect	The playwright uses the second sentence from line 2 to indicate that Jolene agrees that they should celebrate having a good harvest. However, the playwright does not mention the idea of sharing.

Item Position	Rationale	
5	Option B is correct	In line 18, Jolene mentions festivities after the meal, and since Richard makes amends and joins the group in contributing to the event, it is reasonable for the reader to conclude that he will continue to participate in the celebration.
	Option A is incorrect	Richard has boasted at other points in the play, such as in line 10 when the playwright emphasizes Richard's confidence in his own produce. However, by the end of the play, Richard learns the lessons of humility and sharing, so it is unlikely that he would continue to boast about his squash.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the playwright focuses on Richard's initial unwillingness to share his squash, his decision to finally share leads to a successful feast. Therefore, it is unlikely that Richard would choose to plant a different kind of crop.
	Option D is incorrect	Although Richard displays selfishness in the play, the playwright chooses to end the play with Richard's line about the soup needing more squash and his adding of the rest of his squash to the pot. Therefore, it is not likely that Richard would change his mind, nor does he have the chance to.

Item Position	Rationale	
6	Option B is correct	The playwright emphasizes the idea that contributing to success makes people feel part of a community by showing how different neighbors helped with the feast. After Richard learns about the others' contributions, he is compelled to share his squash and join in the festivities.
	Option A is incorrect	At the end of the play, the reader can infer that the food is good. However, the playwright does not mention that this is the result of people passing down their traditions.
	Option C is incorrect	Richard and the other members of the community do have different goals at the beginning of the play. The playwright shows this contrast through Richard's line "my squash is worth more" in line 5 and Maria's line "we will cook a fine soup together this evening" in line 3. However, after Richard learns a valuable lesson about sharing, he contributes to his neighbors' goal.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the farmers produce different kinds of foods in the play, the playwright highlights this to show that they can each contribute something unique to the soup. The playwright does not mention that people regularly change the foods they grow.

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Item Position	Rationale
7	For SCR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

Item Position	Rationale	
8	Option B is correct	A simile is a figure of speech in which two things are compared using the word “like” or “as.” The author uses the simile of a comforting blanket in paragraph 5 of the article to illustrate that screensavers cause people to feel “happy” because screensavers are nostalgic and “familiar.”
	Option A is incorrect	Although screensavers may be difficult to design, the author uses the simile of a comforting blanket in the article to demonstrate how they make people feel, rather than how they are designed.
	Option C is incorrect	The author of the article uses the simile of a comforting blanket to describe the feeling that people get from seeing screensavers, not what those screensavers actually look like.
	Option D is incorrect	Although in the sentence in paragraph 5 of the article the author does refer to people who still use screensavers, the author uses the simile to show the joy some people get from screensavers, not to identify who the people are.

Item Position	Rationale	
9	Option C is correct	In paragraph 2 of the article, the author uses the phrases “bright substance” and “created light” and the word “illuminate” to help the reader determine the meaning of the word <u>beams</u> . As used in this context, the word <u>beams</u> means “glowing streaks or lines” of electrons that were used on computer monitors.
	Option A is incorrect	The author does not provide context in paragraph 2 of the article to support “heavy pieces of metal used in buildings” (Definition 1) as the meaning of <u>beams</u> . The word <u>beams</u> means “glowing streaks or lines” in this context.
	Option B is incorrect	Paragraph 2 of the article is about how Cathode Ray Tubes used <u>beams</u> of light to illuminate computer monitors. The author does not provide evidence to support the idea that <u>beams</u> in this context means “widths of ships at their widest parts” (Definition 2).
	Option D is incorrect	Although it seems that the author uses the word <u>beams</u> in paragraph 2 of the article to indicate a kind of signal, the signal the author describes is a glowing line rather than a radio signal sent to pilots, who are not mentioned in the paragraph.

Item Position	Rationale	
10	Option A is correct	The diagram in the article shows before and after images of how CRTs damaged monitors by burning the image onto the screen. The author's use of a caption helps the reader further interpret what is depicted in the diagram.
	Option B is incorrect	The diagram in the article shows before and after images of a computer monitor. The before image is brighter than the after image. Therefore, the author does not use the images in the diagram to support the idea that CRTs made monitor screens look brighter.
	Option C is incorrect	Although the caption below the diagram in the article states that the "image is burned into a computer monitor," which the reader could infer results in a warm screen, both the caption and the image in the diagram show how the burned image damages the screen of a computer monitor.
	Option D is incorrect	The screens of computer monitors are shown in the diagram in the article. However, their sizes do not change, and the focus is on the damage that the CRTs caused, rather than any change in the sizes of the screen.

Item Position	Rationale	
11	Option C is correct	The author of the selection includes the anecdote to share an example of a person who benefited from using a paper planner and even prefers it despite the possibly superior technology now available.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author of the selection does include an anecdote that discusses a planner being used for schoolwork, the author does not use the anecdote to focus on how the planner was helpful for schoolwork. Instead, the author uses the anecdote to focus on the fact that a physical planner was being used.
	Option B is incorrect	The anecdote in the selection is about a woman who kept track of her schoolwork and personal life using a physical planner. However, the author does not mention how often people should check their paper planners.
	Option D is incorrect	To encourage people to try keeping a paper planner, the author of the selection uses the anecdote to highlight a person who benefited from having one. The author makes no mention of companies producing more paper planners.

Item Position	Rationale	
12	Part A	
	Option A is correct	Throughout the selection, the author discusses how paper planners help people remember their tasks and events because the people are physically writing the tasks or events down. The author encourages people to consider the use of this type of planner.
	Option B is incorrect	Although people can use art to decorate their paper planners, the author of the selection focuses largely on the way that planners are used for organization and reminders. The author does not discuss planners being used for large art projects.
	Option C is incorrect	The author explains in the selection that people use a paper planner for the purpose of writing down important reminders and dates, rather than for the purpose of writing stories.
	Option D is incorrect	People can use paper planners to keep track of their classwork in new classes, but this is a specific group of people and not the overall intended audience of the selection.
	Part B	
	Option D is correct	In the sentence from paragraph 6, the author appeals to people who want to be “more organized and less forgetful” as the intended audience of the selection to show them that using a paper planner can be beneficial.
	Option A is incorrect	In the sentence from paragraph 3, the author states a benefit of using paper planners. However, the author does not specify the intended audience of the selection in the sentence.
	Option B is incorrect	The author uses the sentence from paragraph 4 to support the idea that people can choose paper planners that fit their design style. However, the author does not specify the intended audience of the selection in the sentence.
	Option C is incorrect	In the sentence from paragraph 5, the author explains that there are limitations to using a paper planner, but the author does not specify the intended audience of the selection in the sentence.

Item Position	Rationale	
13	Option B is correct	In the paraphrase, different words are used to express the same intended meaning as the original sentences from the selection. For example, “bright bursts” replaces “colorful splashes.”
	Option A is incorrect	The paraphrase attempt is incorrect, because the details from the first sentence from the selection are stated incorrectly, and the information from the second sentence from the selection is omitted entirely.
	Option C is incorrect	Although this paraphrase attempt of the sentences from the selection is written to include the detail about using stickers, it omits the information about using colorful ink. Also, this attempt at a paraphrase presents a misunderstanding about the pages in the planner. They are not already gleaming and colorful.
	Option D is incorrect	This paraphrase attempt of the sentences in the selection is written to include the information about using stickers, but it incorrectly indicates that the stickers should have colorful, cheerful faces on them. Also, this paraphrase attempt omits the detail about the use of colorful ink.

Item Position	Rationale	
14	Option D is correct	The author of the selection uses the fact that physically writing something down helps people remember it better. The author provides evidence about this fact in paragraph 2. The author uses this fact in support of the claim that paper planners can make life easier.
	Option A is incorrect	In paragraph 4 of the selection, the author discusses options for customizing paper planners. However, the author does not suggest that “people spend a lot of time decorating their favorite objects.” Additionally, the author does not use this statement in support of the claim that paper planners make life easier.
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraph 5 of the selection, the author discusses people using digital apps to keep track of planning. However, the author does not use this fact in support of the claim that paper planners make life easier.
	Option C is incorrect	The author of the selection does mention both writing things down in paper planners and using apps, but the author does not include a comparison between writing and typing, so the author does not use this statement in support of the idea that paper planners make life easier.

Item Position	Rationale	
15	Option A is correct	The author of the article explains that screensavers were needed in the past to protect computer monitors from being damaged, whereas the author’s purpose in the selection is to persuade people to try using a paper planner to stay organized.
	Option B is incorrect	The author of the article discusses a type of technology from the past—screensavers. However, the author does not discuss the expense involved with that technology.
	Option C is incorrect	The authors discuss technology in both the article (screensavers) and the selection (digital calendars). However, the author does not mention in either the article or the selection a scientist who invented these types of technology.
	Option D is incorrect	In paragraph 5, the author does discuss a type of technology where people can learn new things—apps for digital calendars. However, the discussion is in the selection, not the article. Instead, the author’s purpose in the article is to explain how screensavers were used to prevent damage to computer monitors.

Item Position	Rationale	
16	Option B is correct	The author of the article explains that screensavers were developed to prevent damage to computer monitors, benefiting people's lives. In the selection, the author states that apps such as digital calendars can benefit people by helping them better organize their life.
	Option A is incorrect	In the article, the author develops the idea that people had to put in effort to create screensavers as a solution to CRTs' damaging computer monitors. However, the author of the selection does not develop this idea in the selection.
	Option C is incorrect	Although it may be true that technology has made it easier for people to communicate with others around the world, neither author develops this idea.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the author of the article does mention how technology can solve a problem, the author does not focus on how this helps people complete hard tasks. The author of the selection suggests that apps can help people become more organized. However, the author does not mention that apps help people complete hard tasks.

Item Position	Rationale	
17	Option D is correct	Although the author of the selection "Write It Down" explains that paper planners can be used to write down information, the author makes no mention that paper planners can keep information safe the way that the author of the article "Save the Screens" explains that screensavers can.
	Option A is incorrect	According to the author of the article "Save the Screens," many people still use screensavers today, and according to the author of the selection "Write It Down," many people still use paper planners today. This is a similarity, not a difference.
	Option B is incorrect	The author of the selection "Write It Down" explains that people can become excited about creating a custom paper calendar that expresses their style. The author of the article "Save the Screens" explains that people find happiness in seeing "a fun image bouncing around the screen" (paragraph 5). Therefore, this is a similarity and not a difference.
	Option C is incorrect	Both screensavers and paper planners have many uses, so this is not a difference between the two.

Item Position	Rationale	
18	Option A is correct	In the article "Save the Screens," the author explains that people get joy from seeing fun images on their screensavers. Meanwhile, the author of the selection "Write It Down" provides details about how people can get joy from decorating their paper planners.
	Option B is incorrect	Although this is true, the authors do not discuss this idea in the selections. The author of the article "Save the Screens" explains how computers have changed, but the author of the selection "Write It Down" does not write about computers or how they have changed.
	Option C is incorrect	Although this may be true, the authors do not discuss this idea in the selections. The author of the selection "Write It Down" explains that it can be easy to miss app notifications, but the author of the article "Save the Screens" does not discuss apps, focusing mainly on computer technology.
	Option D is incorrect	People may share their thoughts in their paper planners. However, neither the author of the article "Save the Screens" nor the author of the selection "Write It Down" develops an idea about the comfort people get from sharing their thoughts.

Item Position	Rationale	
19	Option B is correct	The term <i>point of view</i> refers to the perspective from which the events in a story are told. The story is told in a third-person point of view by an outside observer. In the story, the author uses the pronouns “she” and “her” to describe the main character’s actions, thoughts, and feelings and calls Catalina by name in multiple places in the story. Therefore, the reader can conclude that the story is told by an outside observer, which indicates a third-person point of view.
	Option A is incorrect	Although Catalina is a main character in the story, the author does not use the pronouns “I” or “me” when referring to Catalina’s actions, thoughts, and feelings. Therefore, the reader can conclude that the story is not told using a first-person point of view.
	Option C is incorrect	<i>Abuelo</i> is a main character in the story, and the story is told in a third-person point of view, as indicated by the use of the pronouns “he” and “she” when referring to <i>Abuelo</i> and Catalina. However, <i>Abuelo</i> does not narrate the story from his perspective. Rather, an outside observer is the narrator.
	Option D is incorrect	Although a part of the story takes place at the town store, the story is not told using the pronouns “I” or “me,” as it would be if it were told from the shopkeeper’s first-person point of view.

Item Position	Rationale	
20	Option C is correct	The author uses a chronological structure most likely to demonstrate the way that Catalina's feelings change throughout the story. In paragraphs 5 through 8, the reader can infer that Catalina would like to have the crystal dove. However, she knows <i>Abuelo</i> cannot afford to buy it for her, so she sadly leaves the dove behind. Once Catalina and <i>Abuelo</i> return home, she is curious about what <i>Abuelo</i> is doing with an icicle. Finally, Catalina is happy when she sees that <i>Abuelo</i> has turned the icicle into a dove, like the one she saw in the store.
	Option A is incorrect	In paragraph 1, the author reveals what <i>Abuelo's</i> farm was like in the past. However, the author does not mention that Catalina helped <i>Abuelo</i> in the past.
	Option B is incorrect	In paragraph 2, the reader learns that <i>Abuelo</i> carved animals out of wood for Catalina, and in paragraphs 11 and 12, <i>Abuelo</i> carves a dove out of an icicle. Although the author does mention in the story how <i>Abuelo</i> carves them, this is a minor detail and not the most likely reason the author presents the story chronologically.
	Option D is incorrect	The author indicates that Catalina likes the crystal animals at the store, but her interest in any of the stores in town is not the most likely reason for the chronological structure.

Item Position	Rationale	
21	Option A is correct	In paragraphs 11 and 12, the author explains how <i>Abuelo</i> uses his carving skills to create a dove for Catalina that is like the one she admired in the store, making her wish for the dove come true. This action provides a resolution to the story.
	Option B is incorrect	Although <i>Abuelo</i> carves Catalina an animal in paragraphs 11 and 12, the author previously revealed <i>Abuelo</i> 's wood-carving hobby in paragraph 2. Therefore, the reader can conclude that wood carving is not <i>Abuelo</i> 's new hobby.
	Option C is incorrect	In paragraphs 11 and 12, Catalina does get a new animal. However, she does not find the animals for her window sill; <i>Abuelo</i> gives them to her.
	Option D is incorrect	Although the author does present a positive end to the day in these final paragraphs, the day had not been established as a bad one before this.

Item Position	Rationale	
22	Option D is correct	In paragraph 5, the author shows that Catalina and <i>Abuelo</i> understand each other's feelings. <i>Abuelo</i> feels sadness at not being able to buy the dove for Catalina, and Catalina does not ask for the dove, because she understands that <i>Abuelo</i> cannot afford to buy it for her.
	Option A is incorrect	The author does not develop the idea of gratitude in paragraph 5.
	Option B is incorrect	Although Catalina and <i>Abuelo</i> travel to town together, the author does not develop the idea that they enjoy going together in paragraph 5 or anywhere else in the story.
	Option C is incorrect	Although <i>Abuelo</i> is shown to be a talented sculptor, the author does not mention his talents in paragraph 5. Additionally, the author does not indicate whether Catalina possesses any talents in the story.

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Item Position	Rationale	
23	Option B is correct	A summary should include the important events or details in the story. The author uses the moment when <i>Abuelo</i> carves a dove out of an icicle for Catalina to provide a resolution to the conflict of the story, making it an important event.
	Option A is incorrect	Although it is true that Catalina and <i>Abuelo</i> live together in the farmhouse, this is only a minor detail that should not be included in the summary.
	Option C is incorrect	The number of crystal animals hanging from the ceiling of the store is a minor detail that should not be included in the summary.
	Option D is incorrect	The types of animals that live on the farm do not play a central role in the story. It is only a minor detail that should not be included in the summary.

Item Position	Rationale	
24	Option B is correct	In paragraph 2, the author references a list of several types of animals on Catalina’s window sill: “cherry-colored squirrels, birch-gray deer, bears with stripes of wood grain.” From this list, the reader can surmise that the author uses the word <u>collection</u> to refer to a group of animals on Catalina’s window sill.
	Option A is incorrect	Although the author references the area where Catalina is keeping her animals, the author uses the word <u>collection</u> to refer to the number of animals Catalina has, rather than where the animals are placed.
	Option C is incorrect	Although Catalina and <i>Abuelo</i> visit a market in paragraph 4, the author does not provide context in paragraph 2 to support the idea that <i>market</i> is a synonym for the word <u>collection</u> .
	Option D is incorrect	Although real animals can be found in nature, the author uses the word <u>collection</u> to refer to the number of wooden animals on Catalina’s window sill, rather than animals that live in nature.

Item Position	Rationale
25	The student response below has been identified by Texas educators as meeting the requirements for a 10-point (maximum score) response based on the rubric criteria. For additional information, refer to the Grade 4 scoring guide available on the STAAR Reading Language Arts Resources webpage. Next, the carvings contribute to the story because they show that she collects carvings her Abuelo makes. What I mean is that she likes collecting carvings. The crystal carvings were something that she could have put in her collection but they couldn't afford them. Paragraph 8 says "Catalina put the dove down carefully on the table. She put her hands in a pockets and backed out the front door, watching the dove as she left." Because they couldn't afford the crystal dove, she couldn't add to her collection. But when Catalina and her grandpa got home, her and her grandpa saw some icecles hanging from the porch. Catalina's grandpa broke off an icecle, took out his widdling knife, and started doing something. Paragraph 11 says "Abuelo tugged on his gloves then reached up and snapped off an icicle. Catalina Blinked, startled by the sharp pop it made. Abuelo took out his widdling knife and began to scrape the icicle. Puzzled, Catalina edged in closer to her grandfather and watched the curved figure of a dove appear through the ice crystal." Now Catalina can add another carving to her collection (or put it in the freezer). Inconclusion, the carvings contribute to the story to show that Catalina likes collectings. Inconclusion, the carvings at the beggining of the story contribute to the story because they show that Catalina likes carvings and that she has a collection of carvings.

Item Position	Rationale	
26	Option D is correct	With this sentence, the writer provides information about other interesting rock formations in the park. As a result, this sentence strengthens the paper’s introduction. It gives the reader a sense of the variety of unusual rocks that make the park famous.
	Option A is incorrect	The sentence about high temperatures in the park is not relevant to the special rock formations found there. Using this sentence in place of sentence 3 would not improve the introductory paragraph.
	Option B is incorrect	Information about when the national park was established does not add to the reader’s understanding of Balanced Rock and its surroundings. Inserting this sentence would not strengthen the introduction to the paper.
	Option C is incorrect	This detail about the park’s location near Moab has nothing to do with the writer’s subject in the paper—balanced rocks. Substituting this sentence would not improve the introduction.

Item Position	Rationale	
27	Option A is correct	By adding this sentence, the writer gives the reader a helpful comparison that shows just how heavy “3,600 tons” is. The comparison makes the information in sentence 11 easier to imagine and comprehend.
	Option B is incorrect	With this remark about the earlier use of “potato,” the writer may distract the reader from the topic of how extraordinary and massive Balanced Rock is. This sentence does not effectively follow and support sentence 11.
	Option C is incorrect	This information about the word “ton” does not tell anything about how large or small a ton is, so it does not help the reader or support sentence 11 in a useful way.
	Option D is incorrect	Here the writer states an observation about other large rocks in the park. Adding this sentence does not contribute to the reader’s understanding of Balanced Rock, so it is not an effective supporting sentence for sentence 11.

Item Position	Rationale	
28	Option C is correct	In the fourth paragraph, the writer informs the reader that balanced rocks exist in other states and around the world. The claim that there are national parks in some of those states is not directly related to the writer's purpose, so sentence 14 should be removed from this paragraph.
	Option A is incorrect	The writer uses sentence 12 as the topic sentence of this paragraph. It captures the paragraph's subject matter by making it clear that Balanced Rock in Utah is not the only rock formation of its type. Sentence 12 is essential here and should not be removed.
	Option B is incorrect	Sentence 13 is used to directly support sentence 12. In it, the writer indicates that balanced rocks can be found in other western U.S. states. Therefore, sentence 13 should not be removed from the paragraph.
	Option D is incorrect	In sentence 15, the writer lists other countries in which balanced rocks have been discovered. This information adds further support for the main point of the fourth paragraph, so it should not be removed.

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Item Position	Rationale	
29	Option A is correct	In this revision, the writer corrects the awkward construction in sentence 18 by placing the subject ("Scientists") before the verb and its object ("have some answers to these questions"). The result is a sentence that is effective and clear in meaning.
	Option B is incorrect	Here the writer creates another awkward sentence by making "Some answers" the subject of the revised sentence. The result is a clumsy and confusing sentence.
	Option C is incorrect	With this revision, the writer changes the meaning of sentence 18 and expresses the confusing claim that the questions and the scientists both have answers.
	Option D is incorrect	This option is incorrect because sentence 18 has an awkward and misleading structure that needs to be revised.

Item Position	Rationale	
30	Option B is correct	In this sentence, the writer removes the second use of the phrase “baby deer,” which was repeated unnecessarily in sentence 2. The result is a clear and effective sentence.
	Option A is incorrect	Here the writer needlessly repeats the word “and” to create a sentence that is still repetitive. This is not an effective revision of sentence 2.
	Option C is incorrect	By repeating the phrase “under a bush,” the writer introduces a new repetition into the revised sentence.
	Option D is incorrect	In this revision, the writer repeats the phrase “curled up” and thus fails to produce an effective replacement for sentence 2.

Item Position	Rationale	
31	Option A is correct	The writer uses the second paragraph to describe the uncertainty that leads Mikayla to seek advice from her father. This replacement is the best closing sentence, since it indicates how Dad responds by coming outside to look at the fawn. The sentence captures and completes the overall ideas of the paragraph.
	Option B is incorrect	Replacing sentence 8 with this detail about the breakfast dishes would introduce an unrelated idea into the paragraph. This would not be an appropriate closing sentence.
	Option C is incorrect	The size of Mikayla's yard is not related to her interest in getting advice from her dad about the baby deer, so this sentence cannot be used to close the second paragraph.
	Option D is incorrect	There is no evidence that the speed at which Mikayla and her dad can run is relevant to the story. Therefore, this would not be an effective closing sentence for the paragraph.

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Item Position	Rationale	
32	Option D is correct	By inserting this sentence after sentence 12, the writer makes it clear why Dad asks Mikayla to wait. This supporting sentence also helps to explain Dad's actions, as described in the next paragraph, and the reference there to "the agency's website."
	Option A is incorrect	It does not make sense in this context to insert a sentence expressing Dad's concern for his daughter's soccer schedule. As the next paragraph makes clear, he wants to make sure they are doing the right things for the fawn.
	Option B is incorrect	This sentence also fails to convey Dad's reason for asking Mikayla to wait before she decides what to do next. It becomes evident through his actions that he is not currently concerned about mowing the yard.
	Option C is incorrect	Since Dad immediately proceeds (in sentence 13) to look on the computer for the wildlife agency's recommendations, this remark about the weather does not help the reader understand why Dad asks Mikayla to wait.

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Item Position	Rationale
33	For SCR items, please refer to the scoring guide.

Item Position	Rationale	
34	Option C is correct	Proper nouns are nouns that refer to a specific person, place, idea, or event and begin with a capital letter. In sentence 2, the phrase "Texas State Capitol" is used as a proper noun, so it needs to be capitalized.
	Option A is incorrect	The apostrophe in "You've" is the correct way of indicating that this word is the contraction of "You" and "have." Therefore, the apostrophe should not be removed.
	Option B is incorrect	In this sentence, the comma after the word "Alamo" is needed because the writer is providing a list of familiar Texas landmarks. Words in a series should be separated by commas, so it would be incorrect to remove this comma.
	Option D is incorrect	The word "River" is spelled correctly in sentence 2, so it should not be replaced by the misspelling "Rivver."

Item Position	Rationale	
35	Option A is correct	Here the writer correctly rewrites sentence 4 as two independent clauses, which are clauses that can stand alone as complete sentences.
	Option B is incorrect	In this revision, the second punctuated phrase ("Being the Port Isabel Lighthouse") is a sentence fragment, or an incomplete sentence. This is not the correct way to rewrite sentence 4.
	Option C is incorrect	This is an incorrect way to rewrite sentence 4 since the second punctuated phrase ("The Port Isabel Lighthouse") lacks a verb and is therefore a sentence fragment.
	Option D is incorrect	Here again, the second punctuated phrase cannot stand alone as a complete sentence, so this is not an acceptable way to rewrite sentence 4.

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Item Position	Rationale	
36	Option D is correct	Sentence 5 is written correctly and effectively. No change needs to be made to it.
	Option A is incorrect	"Built" is the correct past-tense form of the verb "build." Replacing it with "Builded" would introduce an incorrect version of this verb form.
	Option B is incorrect	The preposition "in" is used properly in sentence 5 to indicate when the lighthouse was built. The preposition "along" would not make sense in this context.
	Option C is incorrect	The singular verb form "was designed" matches the singular subject of this sentence, the "brick tower." By contrast, "were designed" is a plural verb form that would not agree in number with the subject.

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Item Position	Rationale	
37	Option B is correct	In this sentence, the writer is describing something that visitors to the lighthouse “still” do in the present day. Changing the verb (“climbed”) to its present-tense form (“climb”) corrects the error in sentence 8.
	Option A is incorrect	“Visitors” is not the correct spelling of the word “visitors,” which is what the writer intends. This change should not be made.
	Option C is incorrect	The plural noun “steps” is correct in this sentence. Its singular possessive form (“step’s”) would not make sense here.
	Option D is incorrect	In the context of sentence 8, “observation deck” is not being used as a proper noun, a noun that refers to a specific person, place, idea, or event. Therefore, it should not be capitalized.

Item Position	Rationale	
38	Option C is correct	In this context, it is Uncle Charlie’s response that Jelani and her cousins are waiting for. Therefore, the singular possessive pronoun “his” is the correct replacement for the plural possessive pronoun “their” in sentence 2.
	Option A is incorrect	Substituting the pronoun “your” for “their” would not match the context of sentence 2. What follows in the next sentences is not the reader’s own response, but Uncle Charlie’s.
	Option B is incorrect	The writer is commenting on how Uncle Charlie’s response to the cousins’ request is familiar and predictable. The pronoun “our” would not make good sense here, since it would refer to the cousins’ own response.
	Option D is incorrect	Using the pronoun “my” in place of “their” would result in the sentence referring to Jelani’s own response, which is not what the writer intends.

Item Position	Rationale	
39	Option D is correct	The words “your” and “you’re” are homophones, or words that sound the same but do not have the same meaning. In sentence 4, Uncle Charlie tells the cousins how to pick kindling sticks by comparing the sticks to their own forearms. This context calls for the possessive pronoun “your,” not the contraction “you’re,” which is short for the phrase “you are.”
	Option A is incorrect	The quotation marks at the beginning of sentence 4 should not be removed, since the quotation marks signal that the sentence represents Uncle Charlie’s spoken words to the cousins.
	Option B is incorrect	The phrase “Each one” and the word “a” both indicate that Uncle Charlie is comparing just one stick to one pencil. Replacing “pencil” with “pencils” would produce the phrase “a pencils,” which does not make good sense.
	Option C is incorrect	In sentence 4, the uncle compares the length of a stick with a child’s forearm. The correct comparative form of the adjective “long” is “longer,” not “more long.”

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Item Position	Rationale	
40	Option A is correct	Since sentence 9 opens with words spoken by Uncle Charlie, the writer would be correct to insert quotation marks at the beginning of the sentence.
	Option B is incorrect	The context surrounding sentence 9 makes it clear that Uncle Charlie is commenting on what the children have already done. Changing the verb "was" (past tense) to "is" (present tense) would be incorrect here.
	Option C is incorrect	Here Uncle Charlie's remark describes the length of time it took the cousins to gather kindling for the fire. In this setting, the adjective "quick" is correct, rather than the adverb "quickly."
	Option D is incorrect	Changing "said" to "saying" would create a sentence fragment, or an incomplete sentence. This cannot be the correct answer.

Item Position	Rationale	
41	Option B is correct	In sentence 10, the writer intends Uncle Charlie’s remark to be about the storm that happened the night before. Inserting an apostrophe to create the singular possessive noun “night’s” is the correct way to express this idea.
	Option A is incorrect	Here Uncle Charlie is expressing his current belief about the storm and its effect. Changing the verb “guess” to its past-tense form “guessed” would not be correct.
	Option C is incorrect	The past-tense verb “set” is the correct word to use in this sentence. Replacing it with the word “setting” would create a sentence fragment, or an incomplete sentence.
	Option D is incorrect	The possessive pronoun “our” would not be correct in sentence 10. Uncle Charlie is speaking about himself and the cousins, not about something they have or own. The plural pronoun “us” is used effectively here and should not be replaced.