



# **Grade 8 Revising and Editing**

## **2020 Sample Selections and Test Questions**

# Set 1

# EDITING

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*Jazlynn wrote the following paragraphs for a story about a family reunion. Read the paragraphs and look for corrections Jazlynn needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

(1) Parking the car near a pavilion at Metropolitan Centennial Park, Marta's father announced, "Welcome to the Esquivel family reunion!"

(2) Marta grumbled, "Dad, its been a decade since we've seen these people."

(3) "You are going to have a magnificent time," replied her father. (4) "Your cousin Juan will be there, and you used to play basketball for hours with them."

(5) "He probably won't remember me; even if he does, we won't have anything to say to each other," Marta fretted. (6) She sighed as her father, who was walking toward some older relatives was greeted warmly with big hugs.

(7) At last Marta captured a glimpse of Juan, who was wearing his Terra Vista Middle School basketball jersey. (8) He saw Marta and hesitantly tossed his basketball to her. (9) Reflecting, Marta thought, "It looks like we still have something in common."

1 What change should be made in sentence 2?

- A Delete the comma after **Dad**
- B Change **its** to **it's**
- C Change **since** to **between**
- D Change **these** to **them**

2 What change should be made in sentence 4?

- F Delete the quotation marks before **Your**
- G Change **used to play** to **are playing**
- H Insert a comma after **basketball**
- J Change **them** to **him**

3 What change should be made in sentence 6?

- A Change **toward** to **at**
- B Insert a comma after **relatives**
- C Change **greeted** to **greated**
- D Change **warmly** to **warm**

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*This paragraph is from Gena's paper on the importance of voting. Read the paragraph and look for corrections Gena needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

(1) Voting is the basis of American democracy. (2) After becoming registered voters, many people have exercised their right to vote, voted in every election. (3) In contrast, 18-year-olds are eligible to vote, but many choose not to do so. (4) In 2018, the website *Duke Today* published an article with low turnout among youth voters. (5) According to the article, just 16 percent of young adults cast a ballot in 2014. (6) This number must increase, it is shockingly low. (7) Young voters bear responsibility to help select their government officials. (8) These officials' decisions on the economy, education, and health care are going to shape our lives.

4 What is the correct way to write sentence 2?

- F After becoming registered voters, many people have exercised their right to vote in every election.
- G Many people have exercised their right to vote. Voted in every election after becoming registered voters.
- H After becoming registered voters. Many people have exercised their right to vote in every election.
- J Many people have exercised their right to vote, voted in every election, becoming registered voters.

5 What change should be made in sentence 4?

- A Insert a comma after **Today**
- B Change **published** to **had published**
- C Change **with** to **about**
- D Change **low** to **lower**

6 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?

- F Change **This** to **These**
- G Change the comma to a semicolon
- H Change **shockingly** to **shocking**
- J No change is needed.

# REVISING

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*Greg wrote the following paper about the science involved in designing roller-coaster rides. Read Greg's paper and look for any revisions he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.*

## **It Takes Science**

(1) Imagine being on a roller-coaster track. (2) You feel the cars slowly climbing to the top of a large hill. (3) Suddenly the roller coaster plunges steeply. (4) It bends and turns as it swiftly follows the curves of the track. (5) Happy screams fill the air as the brief but thrilling ride comes to an end. (6) Riding on a roller coaster may last only a few minutes. (7) Planning a new roller-coaster ride, however, takes several years. (8) Science and a lot of other things are needed to design a fun and working roller coaster.

(9) Ride design begins with a computer program. (10) The program calculates the forces that will affect the roller-coaster cars as they move along the track. (11) Designers must understand the limits these forces create when building and improving roller coasters. (12) Designers use their knowledge of friction, gravity, and the laws of motion to make the ride act in a way they plan. (13) This is the reason there are often large hills on roller coasters. (14) Designers take advantage of gravity to generate speed on their ride as cars lower these slopes. (15) Gravity causes the cars to increase their speed as they go down the hill.

(16) Speed alone is not enough for a fantastic roller coaster, though. (17) Designers often add loops and twists to rides. (18) However, roller coasters must be safe as well as exciting. (19) My favorite roller coaster in Texas has a drop that is over 200 feet long. (20) Friction and gravity are key factors in determining how far designers can push the limits of a ride. (21) Will the cars have enough speed to complete the loop? (22) Will the cars move too fast to stay on the track during an abrupt turn? (23) These are questions designers must use science to answer.

(24) Another aspect designers need to consider is which material to use to build the roller coaster. (25) Steel roller coasters can be built with steeper hills than wooden roller coasters can handle. (26) Steel roller coasters are generally faster

than wooden ones. (27) Steel also allows wheels to ride more smoothly over a track than wood does. (28) Additionally, steel is stronger than wood. (29) Steel can withstand the forces of a car pressing against the track in tight turns and loops better than wood can. (30) There seem to be a lot of advantages with steel.

(31) Even the smallest detail must be considered when building new roller coasters. (32) For example, too much paint on a track can cause friction. (33) This is a problem because it affects the roller coaster's speed. (34) Jeff Pike, president of Skyline Attractions, states, "The one thing that will slow down a steel coaster is a buildup on the track rails." (35) A good track will have worn paint. (36) This makes the coaster move more quickly.

(37) As science and technology advance, designers are constantly searching for ways to build faster and more complex roller coasters. (38) Designers are excited and hopeful about the possibilities of roller-coaster designs. (39) "Everybody is going higher and taller," says Kent Seko, a roller-coaster designer with Arrow Dynamics. (40) Designers aim to set new records with each new roller coaster they design because that is their objective.

(41) The sky is the limit when it comes to roller-coaster design. (42) Yet, one thing remains constant. (43) A well-designed roller coaster relies on knowledge of the laws of force and motion to ensure the ride is an amazing experience for everyone on board.

- 7** Greg would like to provide a more effective controlling idea for his paper. Which sentence should replace sentence 8 to effectively state the controlling idea of this paper?
- A** Quite a bit of knowledge is needed to figure out how the best roller coasters work.
  - B** Hard work, science, and having lots of other skills are needed to design popular roller coasters.
  - C** Roller coasters have to be fun, so the scientists who design and build them must know something about amusement parks.
  - D** Designing an exciting roller-coaster ride involves imagination and creativity, but it also requires using science.
- 8** Greg would like to use a more appropriate word in sentence 14. Which word should replace **lower** in this sentence?
- F** depart
  - G** extend
  - H** descend
  - J** increase
- 9** Which sentence in the third paragraph (sentences 16–23) is extraneous and should be deleted?
- A** Sentence 16
  - B** Sentence 18
  - C** Sentence 19
  - D** Sentence 20
- 10** Greg would like to provide a more effective closing in the fourth paragraph (sentences 24–30). Which sentence should replace sentence 30 to accomplish this goal?
- F** Visitors to amusement parks should ride only steel roller coasters.
  - G** Wooden roller coasters are fun to ride, but they need to have better features.
  - H** Designers should stop making wooden roller coasters since riders dislike them.
  - J** By using steel, designers can create rides full of drops, twists, and loops.

- 11 Greg would like to add the following detail to the fifth paragraph (sentences 31–36).

*Paint buildup causes resistance on the wheels of a roller coaster as they roll over the track.*

Where is the **MOST** effective place to add this sentence?

- A After sentence 31
  - B After sentence 34
  - C After sentence 35
  - D After sentence 36
- 12 Sentence 40 includes repeated information. Which revision **MOST** improves sentence 40?
- F Designers aim to set new records with each new roller coaster they design.
  - G Designers have an objective to set new records that they aim for when designing each new roller coaster.
  - H Designers set new records to aim for them with each new roller-coaster design.
  - J Designers aim to set new records because that is their objective with each new roller-coaster design.

# Set 2

# EDITING

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*Jazlynn wrote the following paragraphs for a story about a family reunion. Read the paragraphs and look for corrections Jazlynn needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

(1) Parking the car near a pavilion at Metropolitan Centennial Park, Marta's father announced, "Welcome to the Esquivel family reunion!"

(2) Marta grumbled, "Dad, it's been a decade since we've seen these people."

(3) "You are going to have a magnificent time," replies her father. (4) "Your cousin Juan will be there, and you used to play basketball for hours with him."

(5) "He probably won't remember me; even if he does, we won't have anything to say to each other," Marta fretted. (6) She sighed as her father, who was walking toward some older relatives, was greeted warmly with big hugs.

(7) At last Marta captured a glimpse of Juan, who was wearing his Terra Vista Middle School basketball jersey. (8) He saw Marta, and hesitantly tossed his basketball to her. (9) Reflecting, Marta thought, "It looks like we still have something in common."

- 1 What change should be made in sentence 3?
- A Change ***magnificent*** to **magnificant**
  - B Change the comma to a semicolon
  - C Change ***replies*** to **replied**
  - D Change ***her*** to **their**
- 2 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?
- F Change the semicolon to a colon
  - G Change ***anything*** to **nothing**
  - H Change ***fretted*** to **freted**
  - J No change is needed.
- 3 What is the correct way to write sentence 8?
- A He saw Marta and hesitantly tossed his basketball to her.
  - B He saw Marta. And hesitantly tossed his basketball to her.
  - C He saw Marta, hesitantly tossed his basketball to her.
  - D He saw Marta but he hesitantly tossed his basketball to her.

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*This paragraph is from Gena's paper on the importance of voting. Read the paragraph and look for corrections Gena needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.*

(1) Voting is the basis of American democracy. (2) After becoming registered voters, many people have exercised their right to vote in every election. (3) In contrast, 18-year-olds are eligible to vote, but many choose not to do so. (4) In 2018, the website *Duke Today* published an article about low turnout among youth voters. (5) According to the article, just 16 percent of young adults cast a ballot in 2014. (6) This number must increase; it is shockingly low. (7) Young voters bear responsibility to help select their government officials. (8) These officials' decisions on the economy, education, and health care is going to shape our lives.

- 4 What change should be made in sentence 3?
- F Change ***In contrast*** to **Likewise**
  - G Change ***eligable*** to **eligible**
  - H Change ***to vote*** to **voting**
  - J Change ***but*** to **so**
- 5 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?
- A Change the comma to a semicolon
  - B Change ***percent*** to **percint**
  - C Insert a comma after ***ballot***
  - D No change is needed.
- 6 What change should be made in sentence 8?
- F Change ***officials'*** to **officials**
  - G Change ***decisions*** to **desisions**
  - H Change ***economy*** to **Economy**
  - J Change ***is*** to **are**

# REVISING

**Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.**

*Greg wrote the following paper about the science involved in designing roller-coaster rides. Read Greg's paper and look for any revisions he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.*

## **It Takes Science**

(1) Imagine being on a roller-coaster track. (2) You feel the cars slowly climbing to the top of a large hill. (3) Suddenly the roller coaster plunges steeply. (4) It bends and turns as it swiftly follows the curves of the track. (5) Happy screams fill the air as the brief but good ride comes to an end. (6) Riding on a roller coaster may last only a few minutes. (7) Planning a new roller-coaster ride, however, takes several years. (8) Designing an exciting roller-coaster ride involves imagination and creativity, but it also requires using science.

(9) Ride design begins with a computer program. (10) The program calculates the forces that will affect the roller-coaster cars as they move along the track. (11) Designers must understand the limits these forces create. (12) Understanding these limits helps designers when they are building and improving roller coasters. (13) Designers use their knowledge of friction, gravity, and the laws of motion to make the ride act in a way they plan. (14) This is the reason there are often large hills on roller coasters. (15) Designers take advantage of gravity to generate speed on their ride as cars descend these slopes. (16) Gravity causes the cars to increase their speed as they go down the hill.

(17) Speed alone is not enough for a fantastic roller coaster, though. (18) Designers often add loops and twists to rides. (19) However, roller coasters must be safe as well as exciting. (20) Friction and gravity are key factors in determining how far designers can push the limits of a ride. (21) Will the cars have enough speed to complete the loop? (22) On the track will the cars during an abrupt turn move too fast to stay? (23) These are questions designers must use science to answer.

(24) Another aspect designers need to consider is which material to use to build the roller coaster. (25) Steel roller coasters can be built with steeper hills than wooden roller coasters can handle. (26) Steel roller coasters are generally faster

than wooden ones. (27) Steel also allows wheels to ride more smoothly over a track than wood does. (28) Additionally, steel is stronger than wood. (29) Steel can withstand the forces of a car pressing against the track in tight turns and loops better than wood can. (30) By using steel, designers can create rides full of drops, twists, and loops.

(31) Even the smallest detail must be considered when building new roller coasters. (32) Meanwhile, too much paint on a track can cause friction. (33) This is a problem because it affects the roller coaster's speed. (34) Jeff Pike, president of Skyline Attractions, states, "The one thing that will slow down a steel coaster is a buildup on the track rails." (35) Paint buildup causes resistance on the wheels of a roller coaster as they roll over the track. (36) A good track will have worn paint. (37) This makes the coaster move more quickly.

(38) As science and technology advance, designers are constantly searching for ways to build faster and more complex roller coasters. (39) "Everybody is going higher and taller," says Kent Seko, a roller-coaster designer with Arrow Dynamics. (40) Designers aim to set new records with each new roller coaster they design.

(41) The sky is the limit when it comes to roller-coaster design. (42) Yet, one thing remains constant. (43) Science should be used to build a roller coaster.

- 7 Which word would be a more precise word to use than **good** in sentence 5?
- A thrilling
  - B beneficial
  - C friendly
  - D favorable
- 8 What is the **BEST** way to combine sentences 11 and 12?
- F Understanding the limits these forces create when building roller coasters helps designers when improving roller coasters.
  - G Designers must understand the limits these forces create when building and improving roller coasters.
  - H The limits these forces create help designers who must understand these limits when they are building and improving roller coasters.
  - J Designers must understand the limits these forces create when building roller coasters and when improving roller coasters.
- 9 What is the **MOST** effective way to revise sentence 22?
- A Will the cars move too fast to stay on the track during an abrupt turn?
  - B During an abrupt turn will the cars on the track stay to move too fast?
  - C To stay on the track will the cars move too fast during an abrupt turn?
  - D Will the cars to stay on the track move too fast during an abrupt turn?
- 10 Greg has used an inappropriate transition at the beginning of sentence 32. Which transition should replace **Meanwhile** in this sentence?
- F Therefore
  - G For example
  - H At least
  - J Similarly

- 11** Greg would like to provide additional support for the idea he has presented in sentence 38. Which sentence **BEST** follows and supports sentence 38?
- A** Most roller coasters have several hills and twists, although some hills are steeper than others.
  - B** Building elaborate roller coasters costs amusement parks a lot of money.
  - C** Other types of rides are being built at amusement parks because of limited space for traditional roller coasters.
  - D** Designers are excited and hopeful about the possibilities of roller-coaster designs.
- 12** Greg wants to improve the conclusion of his paper. Which sentence should replace sentence 43 to bring his paper to a more effective conclusion?
- F** Science is particularly useful when a new roller coaster is being designed.
  - G** Students who want to become roller-coaster designers should know many science concepts.
  - H** A well-designed roller coaster relies on knowledge of the laws of force and motion to ensure the ride is an amazing experience for everyone on board.
  - J** For people to enjoy roller-coaster rides, designers need to refer to the laws of force and motion during early stages of design.

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**Answer Key**

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**Item Number    Correct Answer**  
**Set 1**

1	B
2	J
3	B
4	F
5	C
6	G
7	D
8	H
9	C
10	J
11	B
12	F

**Set 2**

1	C
2	J
3	A
4	G
5	D
6	J
7	A
8	G
9	A
10	G
11	D
12	H