Student Name\_\_\_\_\_

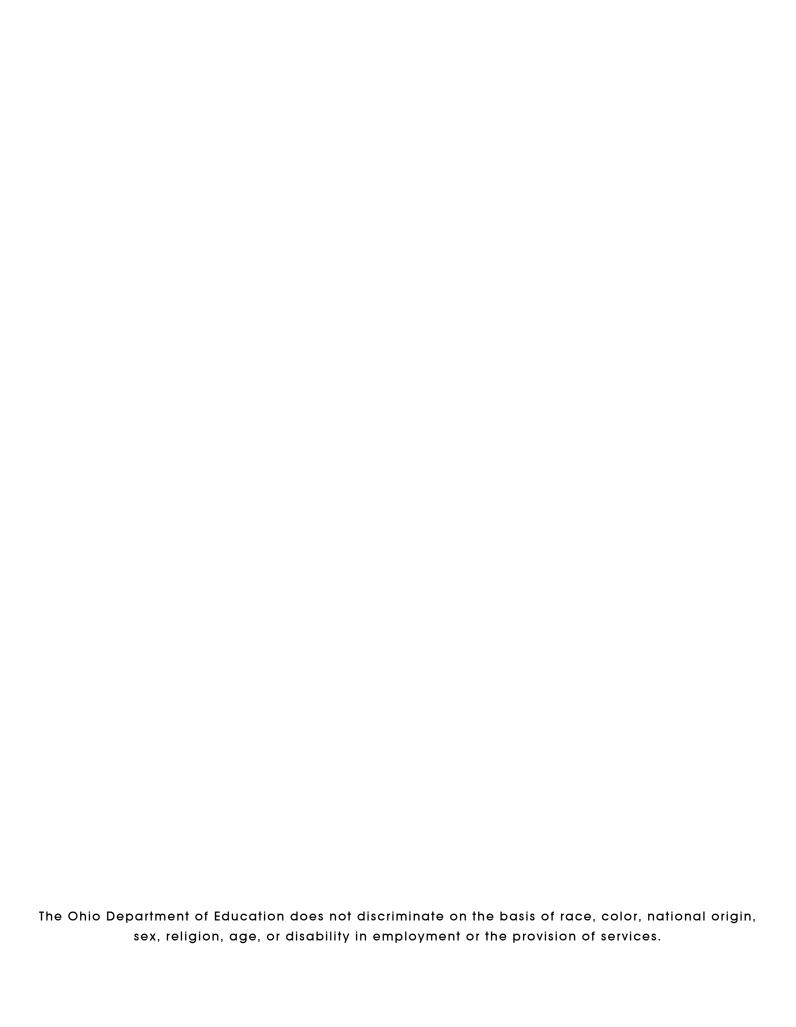
# OHIO GRADUATION TESTS



## Writing

March 2006

This test was originally administered to students in March 2006. This publicly released material is appropriate for use by Ohio teachers in instructional settings. This test is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards.



#### **WRITING TEST**

DIRECTIONS: The maximum time allowed for the test is 2 1/2 hours. Plan your time to completely respond to the two writing-prompt questions because 36 of the 48 total possible points on this test can be earned by responding to them. One writing-prompt question is at the beginning of the test; the other is at the end. You may refer to the questions as often as necessary.

For writing-prompt questions, space is provided for prewriting activities. This section is provided for planning your writing. Nothing written in this space will be scored.

Make sure the draft you want scored is written in the lined section of the Answer Document. Your draft needs to be legible to be scored. It may be in printed or cursive handwriting.

Revising and editing are encouraged, although, for the purposes of this test, you will not be able to use reference materials. Erasing, crossing out and other editing changes may be made right on your draft in the Answer Document. You may not need to use the entire space provided, but be sure your answer is complete.

For multiple-choice questions, most questions are associated with a brief paragraph or a sentence. Some of the questions are clustered together; others stand alone. After reading the paragraph or sentence and the question, choose the correct answer and mark the corresponding circle in your Answer Document. If you change an answer, be sure to erase the first mark completely.

For short-answer questions, answer completely in the Answer Document in the space provided. You may not have to use the entire space provided, but be sure your answer is complete.

1. State legislators believe that students' driving privileges should be directly linked to their performance and attendance in school. For example, students should be required to maintain a certain grade point average and attendance record in order to drive. Or, if students fail a class, they would not be allowed to drive until their grade was improved. State and defend your position on this issue to an audience of state legislators. Be sure to include specific reasons to support your position. Write your response in the **Answer Document**. (18 points)

## PREWRITING Important! Use the space below only to plan and practice your response

-	 	

Read the sentence. Choose the correct way to revise and/or edit the sentence without changing the meaning.

In the hallway the light will be left on so you can find your way around at night without hurting yourself.

- A. At night you can find your way around in the hallway without hurting yourself if the light is left on.
- B. At night, in the hallway, you can find your way around without hurting yourself, if the light is left on.
- C. At night, the hallway light will be left on so you can find your way around without hurting yourself.
- D. At night, if the light is left on in the hallway, you can find your way around, without hurting yourself.

3. Select the correct revision to the underlined portion of the sentence.

Toni Morrison, the author of song of solomon, is a widely respected african-american writer who received the Nobel Prize in literature in 1993.

- A. the Author of Song of Solomon, is a widely respected African-American writer
- B. the author of Song of Solomon, is a widely respected African-American writer
- C. the author of Song of Solomon, is a widely respected African-American Writer
- D. the author of Song Of Solomon, is a widely respected African-American Writer

#### Read the draft paragraph and answer questions 4 - 6.

<sup>1.</sup>Florida has several small attractions for those tourists who want to avoid the crowds of large theme parks. <sup>2.</sup>Cages filled with parrots, snakes and small mammals can be found in some. <sup>3.</sup>Others offer tourists boat rides. <sup>4.</sup>Swimming through the waters of lagoons, tourists can see alligators and manatees. <sup>5.</sup>These attractions are fun to visit.

- 4. In the context of the paragraph, what is the correct way to revise sentence 2?
  - A. In some can be found cages filled with parrots, snakes and small mammals.
  - B. Parrots, snakes and small mammals can be found in cages in some small parks.
  - C. In cages can be found parrots, snakes and small mammals in some parks.
  - D. Some small parks display parrots, snakes and small mammals in cages.

- 5. In the context of the paragraph, what is the correct way to revise sentence 4?
  - A. Tourists can see alligators and manatees swimming through the waters of lagoons.
  - B. Tourists, swimming through the waters of lagoons, can see alligators and manatees.
  - C. Alligators and manatees, swimming through the waters of lagoons, can be seen by tourists.
  - D. Alligators and manatees can be seen by tourists swimming through the waters of lagoons.

- 6. Which would **not** be appropriate to include when expanding on ideas in the paragraph?
  - A. details about the animals and birds in the cages
  - B. details about other wildlife tourists can see in Florida
  - C. a description of the boats tourists can ride in these attractions
  - information about the number of alligators that inhabit Florida
- 7. Your town is considering a curfew. According to the curfew, no person under age eighteen may be out after ten o'clock on weeknights and after midnight on weekends.

You are planning to address your town council to discuss the issue of the curfew. Write two arguments you would use to support or oppose the curfew. Write your response in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

8. You are planning to write a paper about how appealing school lunches are to students.

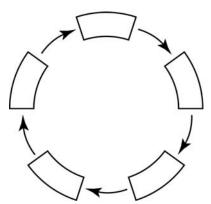
What should be your first step?

- A. begin to outline information about nutrition
- B. send out a survey to gather student opinions
- C. compare school lunches with fast food restaurants
- D. interview teachers to determine their food preferences
- 9. Which sentence would be an appropriate closing sentence for an essay?
  - A. His early years were spent on his uncle's ranch.
  - B. There are three techniques to master, and we will review each one in detail.
  - C. A variety of therapies may be considered under the category of "alternative medicine."
  - D. After considering the research, the most expensive paint may not be the best paint to use.

## Use the information below to find the correct answer for question 10.

- A <u>simple sentence</u> contains a subject and a predicate that make a complete thought. (Grace earned a high grade on her algebra test.)
- 2. A <u>compound sentence</u> contains two or more independent or main clauses joined by a comma preceding a conjunction or by a semicolon. (Grace earned a high grade on her algebra test, but she forgot to turn in her homework.)
- 3. A complex sentence contains one independent or main clause and one or more dependent or subordinate clauses. (Even though Grace earned a high grade on her algebra test, her mother scolded her because she forgot to turn in her homework.)
- 10. Which is a correct simple sentence?
  - A. The cafeteria food is not very tasty, so I take my lunch.
  - B. Because the student was late to class nearly every day.
  - C. The old hen and her chicks were kept in the chicken house at night.
  - D. Although the horse did not win the big race, his owner refused to sell him.

11. Which topic fits with this graphic organizer?



- A. explaining military ranks
- B. illustrating the water cycle
- C. comparing the Aztec, Inca and Mayan civilizations
- D. weighing the pros and cons of exploration and expansion

#### Use the following information from a handbook on language to answer question 12.

- Use a semicolon to join two or more independent or main clauses that are not connected by a coordinating conjunction. Coordinating conjunctions are *and*, *but*, *or*, *nor*, *for*, *so*, and *yet*.
- Use a semicolon before a conjunctive adverb when the word connects two independent or main clauses in a compound sentence. Conjunctive adverbs include however, in addition, instead, for example, and therefore.
- 12. Which of these sentences should be edited to correct an error?
  - A. Our neighbors in the next block had power, but we had none.
  - B. The storm knocked down electrical lines, and we lost our power.
  - C. The storm knocked down electrical lines; therefore, we lost our power.
  - D. We had no power, however our neighbors in the next block never lost theirs.

13.	Think about a time you or someone you know was given advice and then had to decide whether to follow it. Write a story of such a time. Make sure your story includes details about the situation, the decision, and the consequences that followed. Write your response in the <b>Answer Document</b> . (18 points)						
	PREWRITING						
	<b>Important!</b> Use the space below only to plan and practice your response. Nothing you write in the space below will be scored.						

#### **Back Cover**