

Student Name _____

OHIO GRADUATION TESTS



Writing

Spring 2009

This test was originally administered to students in March 2009. This publicly released material is appropriate for use by Ohio teachers in instructional settings. This test is aligned with Ohio's Academic Content Standards.

The Ohio Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

Go to next page

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 is on page 3 of the test; the other is on page 10. 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 grouped 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 the short-answer question, 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.

Writing

Use the following information from a handbook on language to answer questions 2-4.

Use a comma:

- to set off nonrestrictive adjective clauses and phrases: My brother, *who lives in New York*, is an accountant.
- to set off an appositive: Mr. Furst, *my science teacher*, was the club's advisor.
- to set off nouns of direct address: *Heather*, we are all proud of you.

2. Select the correct way to edit the sentence.

The new student, the one with bright red hair made the highest grade on the test.

- A. The new student the one with bright red hair, made the highest grade on the test.
- B. The new student, the one with bright red hair, made the highest grade on the test.
- C. The new student, the one with bright, red hair, made the highest grade on the test.
- D. The new student, the one with bright, red, hair, made the highest grade on the test.

3. Select the correct way to edit the sentence.

I am surprised Andrew that you are not a baseball fan.

- A. I am surprised, Andrew that you are not a baseball fan.
- B. I am surprised Andrew, that you are not a baseball fan.
- C. I am surprised, Andrew, that you are not a baseball fan.
- D. I am, surprised, Andrew, that you are not a baseball fan.

4. Select the correct way to edit the sentence.

Shelia a basketball player and friend of mine, plans to attend college on an athletic scholarship.

- A. Shelia, a basketball player, and friend of mine, plans to attend college on an athletic scholarship.
- B. Shelia, a basketball player and friend of mine plans to attend college on an athletic scholarship.
- C. Shelia a basketball player and friend of mine plans to attend college on an athletic scholarship.
- D. Shelia, a basketball player and friend of mine, plans to attend college on an athletic scholarship.

5. The owners of a local mall are concerned that so many teenagers hang out at the mall. They are considering a rule that all teens under sixteen years of age must be accompanied by an adult when they come to the mall.

You are planning a letter to the owners of the mall either supporting or opposing the proposal. Identify two arguments you would use either to support OR oppose the rule.

Write your response in the **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Writing

Read the draft paragraph and answer questions 6–8.

¹Walking down unfamiliar halls and being jostled by strangers, my pulse was racing. ²I just knew I would get lost and wouldn't never be arriving at the room on time. ³I wanted to ask strangers was I close to room 209, but I was afraid to let the person know I was new to the school. ⁴A girl with a friendly face was approaching me and asked if herself could help me find a classroom. ⁵I felt myself beginning to calm down.

6. In the context of the paragraph, what is the correct way to revise sentence 3?

I wanted to ask strangers was I close to room 209, but I was afraid to let the person know I was new to the school.

- A. I wanted to ask strangers if I was close to room 209, but I was afraid to let people know I was new to the school.
- B. I wanted to ask strangers was I close to room 209, but I was afraid to let the person know I was new to the school.
- C. Because I was afraid to let people know I was new to the school, I wanted to ask strangers if I was close to room 209.
- D. Even though I wanted to ask strangers was I close to room 209, I was afraid to let people know I was new to the school.

7. In the context of the paragraph, what is the correct way to revise sentence 4?

A girl with a friendly face was approaching me and asked if herself could help me find a classroom.

- A. A girl with a friendly face approached me and asked could she help me find a classroom.
- B. A girl with a friendly face approached me and asked if she could help me find a classroom.
- C. Asking if herself could help me find a classroom, a girl with a friendly face approached me.
- D. A girl with a friendly face was approaching me and asking whether or not she could help me find a classroom.

8. In the context of the paragraph, what is the correct transitional word or phrase to use at the beginning of sentence 5?

I felt myself beginning to calm down.

- A. Besides, I felt myself beginning to calm down.
- B. Therefore, I felt myself beginning to calm down.
- C. Immediately, I felt myself beginning to calm down.
- D. In other words, I felt myself beginning to calm down.

Writing

9. Which background reading would be most appropriate for someone preparing to write an informational essay titled "Changes in Weather in the American Midwest"?
- A. "Blue Skies: Poetry for Ohioans"
 - B. "13 Steps to Prepare for a Tornado"
 - C. "Precipitation Patterns in the United States"
 - D. "The Middle States: Friends, Food and Folly"

10. Choose the sentence that appropriately combines the three sentences without changing the original meaning.

Jen was ready for her first solo.

This was after she had been taking flute lessons for a few years.

But she was still a little nervous.

- A. It was after she had been taking flute lessons for a few years, and Jen was ready to perform her first solo, that she was still a little nervous.
- B. Jen was still a little nervous after she had been taking flute lessons for a few years, and she was ready for her first solo.
- C. After taking flute lessons for a few years, Jen was ready for her first solo, so she was still a little nervous.
- D. After taking flute lessons for a few years, Jen was ready for her first solo, but she was still a little nervous.

11. Joe is working on a research paper for one of his classes. He has read the following articles: "Adolescent Issues with Anger" and "Art Therapy: A Way to Reach the Hard-to-Reach."

What is an appropriate topic for his paper?

- A. teenagers triumph through talent
- B. visual arts and the challenges of teaching
- C. helping teenagers through artistic expression
- D. absence of art in the everyday lives of teenagers

12. Sandra has selected a topic and completed research for her persuasive essay and now needs to organize her ideas.

Which prewriting task is most appropriate?

- A. creating an outline
- B. brainstorming ideas
- C. creating a Venn diagram
- D. making notes on a time line

W W

