

PLACEMENT

Grade 5 Language Arts is appropriate for students who have completed Grade 4 Language Arts. A placement test evaluates students' performance to determine whether they have the preskills needed for Grade 5 Language Arts. A reproducible copy of the test appears on page 10. The test is group administered and requires about 10 minutes for students to complete. Directions for presenting the test appear below.

ADMINISTERING THE TEST

Reproduce copies of the test. Pass out a test and a piece of lined paper to each student. Direct students to write their name on the lined paper. Present the directions below:

1. Find part 1.
 - Some of these items are sentences. Some are not. All the items begin with a capital and end with a period, but don't be fooled. Not all of them are sentences.
 - Write the number of each item that is a sentence. Don't write the numbers for the items that are not sentences. Raise your hand when you're finished.
(Observe students but do not give feedback.)

2. Part 2 shows a passage that is not written well. At the end of each line is a number that tells how many mistakes are on the line.
 - You're going to rewrite the passage so it has no mistakes. Write clear sentences. Don't change anything in the original passage unless it is a mistake. Raise your hand when you've written the passage so it has no mistakes.
(Observe students but do not give feedback.)
3. Part 3 has two underlined sentences at the beginning of the passage. These sentences say: **He finally decided to get it fixed. He took it there.** We don't know what **it** is, and we don't know where **there** is.
 - Read the passage carefully. Find out what **it** refers to and what **there** refers to. Then rewrite the underlined sentences with words that tell what **it** is and the **place** he took it to. Raise your hand when you're finished.
(Observe students but do not give feedback.)
 - (Collect papers.)

PLACEMENT TEST

READING MASTERY SIGNATURE EDITION, GRADE 5 LANGUAGE ARTS

Name: _____ Date: _____

PART 1

Each item begins with a capital and ends with a period, but some of the items are not sentences and should not be punctuated the way they are shown. Write the number of each item that is a sentence.

1. They talked.
2. Before school opened the other morning.
3. Under the stairs and running around the basement.
4. Timmy hit the baseball.
5. In the evening, the bugs came out.
6. Why Fred could not have gone to the meeting.
7. How I met my best friend.
8. Make a circle that is one inch across.
9. Sit down.
10. His statement indicated that he didn't see the accident.

PART 2

Rewrite the passage. The number after each period tells the number of changes you must make.

Jan collected butterflies some was small and some was large. (5) She told her friends that she were going to catch a rare pink butterfly and she went out with a net and she came back with four butterflies. (5)

PART 3

Rewrite the underlined sentences so they are clear.

He finally decided to get it fixed. He took it there. Bill asked the mechanic, "How much will it cost to get it fixed?"

The mechanic at Al's Garage looked at it for a long time. Finally, the mechanic said, "I'll have to charge over \$500 to fix up this old car. I'm not sure it's worth fixing."

Bill loved his old car, but getting it fixed would cost too much money. Bill drove his old car away from Al's Garage.

SCORING THE TEST

Key:

Part 1: 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10.

Part 2: Jan collected butterflies. **Some were** small, and some **were** large. She told her friends that she **was** going to catch a rare pink butterfly. **She** went out with a net. **She** came back with four butterflies.

Part 3: He finally decided to get **an/his** (require either **an** or **his**) **old** (use of **old** is optional) **car** fixed. He took it to **a mechanic** or **Al's garage** or **a garage** (require use of one location).

PART 1

Total possible points: 12

Passing criterion: 8

Score two points for every correct item; deduct two points for every non-sentence listed.

PART 2

Total possible points: 10

Passing criterion: 7

Deduct one point for every punctuation mark or capital that does not correspond to the key.

PART 3

Total possible points: 10

Passing criterion: 9

Deduct two points for each sentence that does not convey an adequate meaning.

PLACEMENT CRITERIA

Students who fail more than one part of the test should not be placed in Grade 5 Language Arts. If more than one-third of the class fails more than one part of the test, the class should not be placed in Grade 5 Language Arts.

To determine appropriate placement for students who do not meet the placement criteria for Grade 5 Language Arts, administer the placement test for Grade 4 Language Arts.