NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

My First Airplane Ride

Last week, Meg took her first airplane ride. She sat by a window. What a view!

First, the plane took off. Up, up, Meg went! Meg looked down. People got smaller. Cars got smaller. Everything was far away. Things looked like toys. Then Meg saw only grass and rivers.

Later, the airplane went down. Meg saw small cars and people again. Meg saw the airport. The plane got closer and closer to the ground. It landed with a little bump. The wind raced past. Then the airplane stopped. Meg's first airplane ride was over. She wanted to do it again.

1. What did Meg do?

2. What did things look like when the plane went up and down?

3. Why did everything look like toys?

4. When did Meg take her first airplane ride?

5. How did Meg feel about her first airplane ride?

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story below. Then answer each question about the story by circling the letter of the best answer.

Taking Care of Jed

My friend went on a trip. I took care of her collie named Jed for the weekend.

First, I put two bowls on the kitchen floor. One bowl had water, and the other bowl had dog food. The dog food came in a large bag. The food was dry and hard and brownish. I am glad I am a kid and I get to eat people food instead of dog food.

During the day, I took Jed on walks. My family came, too. Because taking care of Jed was so much fun, I was unhappy when the weekend was over.

6. What kind of dog was Jed?
   a. a pug
   b. a collie
   c. a mutt

7. What happened during the day?
   a. Jed went for walks.
   b. Jed slept on a rug.
   c. Jed went on a trip.

8. How is dog food unlike people food?
   a. Dog food is colorful.
   b. People food is brownish.
   c. Dog food is dry and hard.

9. Why was the speaker unhappy when the weekend was over?
   a. because she didn't want to go to school
   b. because taking care of Jed was so much fun
   c. because she was tired of caring for Jed

10. Why is the speaker glad to be a kid instead of a dog?
    a. The speaker likes sleeping in a soft bed.
    b. The speaker would not want to be left at a friend's house.
    c. The speaker does not think dog food looks good to eat.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the article below. Then answer each question about the article by circling the letter of the best answer.

My Mother the Scientist

My mother is a scientist. She works in a laboratory, or lab, with people and mice. The scientists study how the mice grow. This gives them ideas about how people might grow.

The mice live in a special room. The room is very clean. The scientists do not want anything to make the mice sick. The scientists wash before they enter the room.

The scientists count the mice in each cage because they do not want the mice to be crowded or unhappy. My mom takes good care of the mice in the lab so she can learn from them.

11. What does the speaker's mother do?
    a. She is a teacher.
    b. She cleans rooms.
    c. She is a scientist.
12. What do the scientists do before they enter the mouse room?
    a. They count.
    b. They wash.
    c. They study.
13. How are the mice in the lab different from wild mice?
    a. The mice in the lab live in a very clean room.
    b. The mice in the lab eat food and drink water.
    c. The mice in the lab do not like to be crowded.
14. Why do scientists count the mice in each cage?
    a. to see that none have run away
    b. to make sure the mice are not crowded
    c. to see if the mice have had babies
15. What might happen if the mice were not well taken care of?
    a. They might live a long and healthy life so the scientists could study them.
    b. They might eat more than they should and confuse the scientists about how mice grow.
    c. They might not grow right, and the scientists would not learn from them.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story below. Then answer each question about the article by circling the letter of the best answer.

The New Treehouse

We have a beech tree in our backyard. It is a gigantic tree with low branches. Because of the low branches, it is simple to climb. Last week, I said, "Dad, can we build a treehouse in the beech tree?"

My dad thought it was an excellent idea. So we found a wonderful plan in a book about building treehouses. Then we purchased wood and supplies.

My dad constructed the treehouse, but I helped. I made a rope ladder using instructions in the treehouse book. Using the ladder, I can scamper up into the treehouse as fast as a squirrel.

16. What kind of tree is in the backyard?
    a. an apple tree
    b. an oak tree
    c. a beech tree
    d. a cherry tree
17. What did the dad and child do first after they found a plan in a book?
    a. They built a rope ladder.
    b. They scampered up into the treehouse.
    c. They decided to build a treehouse.
    d. They purchased wood and supplies.
18. What animal is the child compared to when scampering up into the treehouse?
    a. a squirrel
    b. an eagle
    c. a deer
    d. a monkey
19. Why is the tree simple to climb?
    a. because it is not very big
    b. because it has low branches
    c. because it has steps
    d. because it has a long rope ladder
20. Which word describes how the child feels about the treehouse?
    a. happy
    b. greedy
    c. sorry
    d. relaxed

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story below. Then answer each question about the story by circling the letter of the best answer.

A Viking Adventure

My name is Toki. I am sixteen years old, and today I head out with the men on my first Viking expedition. I am one of many sailors who rows our dragon-headed longboat.

Our boat is light and fast and made of sturdy oak planks. It has a sail that we use at sea, but when we near land, we switch to oars alone for lightning-fast responses.

I have prepared for this expedition by participating in hunting trips and sporting games. I am young, strong, and enthusiastic, and skilled in using spear and shield. I am ready for this trip.

21. Where is Toki going?
    a. on a hunting trip
    b. on his first Viking expedition
    c. to participate in a sporting game
    d. to man the sails of a Viking ship
22. What do the sailors do when they near land?
    a. They switch to oars alone.
    b. They switch to sails alone.
    c. They use both oars and sails.
    d. They use neither oars or sails.
23. What are the Vikings' fast responses with oars compared to?
    a. sunset
    b. hunting trips
    c. sporting games
    d. lightning
24. Why is Toki ready for this trip?
    a. because he knows how to row a Viking ship
    b. because he knows how to work a Viking ship's sails
    c. because he has prepared by hunting and playing sports
    d. because he is sixteen years old today
25. Why are sails probably not used near land?
    a. The sails are faster to get into position than oars.
    b. It takes more people to work the sails than the oars.
    c. It is slower to change the ship's direction when using sails.
    d. It is faster to change the ship's direction when using sails.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the essay below. Then answer each question about the essay by circling the letter of the best answer.

Longer School Days

School days should be longer. I know this is an unpopular idea, but if school days were longer, there would be more time for art and sports and music and classes we choose. Now we spend most of our day studying English and mathematics, science and social studies. If the day were longer, we could also have time to finish our homework at school, where we could question a teacher if we had a problem.

Many kids watch TV after school. If the day were longer, we would be more productive with our lives—and we'd be with our friends.

26. What is the writer trying to convince the reader of?
    a. that fewer kids should watch TV
    b. that there should be more time to do homework
    c. that schools should offer more art and music classes
    d. that school days should be longer
27. According to the writer, what often happens after school?
    a. Many kids have jobs.
    b. Many kids watch TV.
    c. Many kids do homework.
    d. Many kids hang out with their friends.
28. According to the writer, how would a longer day be better?
    a. Students could ask their parents for help with homework.
    b. There would be less time to do homework at home.
    c. There would be more time for art, music, and sports.
    d. Students would spend less time watching TV with friends.
29. Which is an opinion from the essay?
    a. School days should be longer.
    b. Students spend most of their day studying English and mathematics, science and social studies.
    c. Many kids watch TV after school.
    d. If the school day were longer, kids would spend more time in school.
30. Which of the following activities does the writer probably like best?
    a. doing homework
    b. studying English
    c. watching TV
    d. spending time with friends

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the article below. Then answer each question about the article by circling the letter of the best answer.

Swimmers at Ocean City Beach were startled yesterday when a deer ran through the crowded beach. The doe emerged from a wooded area behind the beach. Picking out a path among large boulders, it bounded toward the beach. Several sun-bathers reported that the deer was moving very fast, leading to the conclusion that fear had driven it from the woods.

Passing within a few feet of sun-bathers, the deer dashed into the water and began to swim straight ahead. Observers worried that the doe would soon become exhausted and drown. A quick-thinking beach-goer used her cell phone to contact police. Within minutes, the harbor patrol had arrived in two motorboats. Maneuvering the boats close to the deer, the officers blocked its path and forced it to turn back toward shore. Immediately, the two boats took positions alongside the deer to keep it headed toward shore.

Meanwhile, police officers on foot were clearing a wide path from the water's edge to the woods, so that the deer would not be spooked by spectators when it splashed ashore. The doe made it back to shore and quickly disappeared into the woods. For swimmers, yesterday was not your average day at the beach!

31. The harbor patrol forced the deer to turn back to shore by
    a. clearing a path from the water to the woods.
    b. blocking the deer's path.
    c. riding behind the deer.
    d. asking swimmers to move out of the way.
32. What caused observers to conclude that the deer was afraid?
    a. It began swimming out to sea.
    b. It emerged from a wooded area.
    c. It was a doe.
    d. It was running very fast.
33. What happened first?
    a. A doe emerged from a wooded area behind a beach.
    b. Someone called police on a cell phone.
    c. Swimmers were startled.
    d. A deer ran through a crowded beach.
34. How was the deer's trip back to the woods different from its trip away from the woods?
    a. The deer was no longer frightened.
    b. Police led the deer to the woods.
    c. The deer had a wide path to run on.
    d. Swimmers didn't notice the deer.
35. From information in the passage, you can conclude that
    a. the harbor patrol is part of the police department.
    b. deer like to swim in the ocean.
    c. Ocean City has more than one beach.
    d. deer are not afraid of people.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the article below. Then answer each question about the article by circling the letter of the best answer.

On Saturday, September 8, Franklin Avenue between First and Second Streets will come alive with its tenth annual block party. The festivities will start at 10 A.M. with a costumed parade. The theme is Franklin Avenue through the centuries, and prizes will be awarded for the best costumes reflecting fashions at different periods in history.

The celebration will continue all day and into the night. Several families will share food from their heritage. The Costas are already working on platters of stuffed grape leaves. The Jones family is busy baking sweet-potato pie. The Changs will be serving a hot-and-sour soup made from a centuries-old family recipe.

In addition to food, there will be games and crafts for all ages, live music throughout the day, and—new this year—a swap table. Bring your gently used books, toys, and sporting equipment and trade them for someone else's.

Party organizers are looking for help from residents. First, don't park your car on the block after Friday at midnight. Second, volunteer to run a food table, organize games for youngsters, or provide music. Third, come to the party and meet your neighbors. Franklin Avenue is the only fun place to be on Saturday, September 8.

36. What is one activity that will be available at the block party?
    a. face painting
    b. sports
    c line dancing
    d. crafts

37. What will happen first?
    a. a ballgame
    b. breakfast
    c. a parade
    d. music

38. How will this year's block party be different from past block parties?
    a. There will be a parade.
    b. Families will share food from their heritage.
    c. There will be a swap table.
    d. There will be live music.

39. Which statement from the article is an opinion?
    a. Party organizers are looking for help from residents.
    b. Franklin Avenue is the only fun place to be on Saturday, September 8.
    c. The Changs will be serving a hot-and-sour soup made from a centuries-old family recipe.
    d. The celebration will continue all day and into the night.

40. From information in the passage, it seems likely that
    a. Franklin Avenue is home to many different heritages.
    b. not many residents of Franklin Avenue own cars.
    c. the block party is a good way for teens to earn money.
    d. this will be the last block party on Franklin Avenue.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ EXAMINER: _____

DIRECTIONS: Read the story below. Then answer each question about the story by circling the letter of the best answer.

If you are looking for a way to make money while enjoying time in the outdoors, the city may have a job for you. The Recreation Department is looking for camp counselors for its Summer Fun Camp in Covelli Park. Camp will be in session for eight weeks from July 2 through August 24, with the exception of July 4. Camp hours are from 8:30 to 4:00.

Campers are grouped into three age brackets: five and six year olds, seven and eight, and nine and ten. The Recreation Department will hire counselors and counselors-in-training for each age bracket as well as lifeguards to staff the park's pool during camp hours. Applicants who have worked for the camp in previous years will be given priority because of their experience.

The city is looking for counselors who are patient, responsible, interested in working with children, and fun-loving. The Recreation Department will give all counselors classes in first aid before the opening of camp. Applicants for lifeguard positions, however, must already possess lifeguarding certification.

A job with the Recreation Department's summer camp has many benefits. You won't find a better way to earn money this summer. So get your application in soon.

41. Camp will be in session for
    a. the entire months of July and August.
    b. seven and a half hours each day.
    c. four days a week.
    d. every day in the summer.

42. Why will applicants who have worked at the camp before be given priority?
    a. because they know the campers
    b. because they have had lifeguard training
    c. because they have already applied for the job
    d. because they have had experience doing the job

43. What is one difference between counselors and lifeguards?
    a. Counselors will work with campers.
    b. Lifeguards will be given first-aid training.
    c. Lifeguards must already have had training.
    d. Counselors must have first-aid certification.

44. Which statement from the article is an opinion?
    a. The city is looking for counselors who are patient, responsible, interested in working with children, and fun-loving.
    b. If you are looking for a way to make money while enjoying time in the outdoors, the city may have a job for you.
    c. Campers are grouped into three age brackets: five and six year olds, seven and eight, and nine and ten.
    d. You won't find a better way to earn money this summer.

45. Counselors-in-training probably
    a. learn by working with an experienced counselor.
    b. don't get paid for their work.
    c. work only with campers in the five to six age bracket.
    d. find a job at another camp the next year.