

Lift

LEVEL 2 UNIT 4 Assessment

VOCABULARY

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answer.

- 1** The word *genetic* means
- (A) relating to the part of a cell that produces energy and waste.
 - (B) relating to parts of the body that regulate blood flow and heart rate.
 - (C) relating to the part of a cell that controls appearance and growth.
 - (D) relating to parts of the body that contribute to balance and movement.
- 2** What does it mean to *affect* something?
- (A) to respond to something
 - (B) to change something
 - (C) to be angry about something
 - (D) to create something new
- 3** If a person develops a *concept*, they have created a new
- (A) idea.
 - (B) building.
 - (C) experiment.
 - (D) science.
- 4** An *advisor* is someone who
- (A) models expected behavior.
 - (B) gives advice on what to do.
 - (C) makes sure people follow rules.
 - (D) makes sure people have supplies.
- 5** An animal's *environment* refers to its
- (A) senses.
 - (B) size and shape.
 - (C) ability to adapt.
 - (D) surroundings.
- 6** When a person conducts a *survey*, they create
- (A) a plan for investigating a scientific question.
 - (B) a plan for building roads and bridges in a specific area.
 - (C) a set of questions designed to measure opinions.
 - (D) a set of questions to determine a person's characteristics.
- 7** An event that is *fleeting* will
- (A) last a long time.
 - (B) last a short time.
 - (C) result in harm.
 - (D) result in benefits.
- 8** Energy sources that are *sustainable* are
- (A) difficult to use.
 - (B) difficult to locate.
 - (C) capable of being renewed.
 - (D) capable of being used up.

- 9 The genome / nucleus / gene is the part of a cell that controls appearance and growth.
- 10 A factor / concoction / possession influences an outcome.
- 11 The cell / genome / gene contains all of an organism's genetic material.
- 12 If you analyze a meaning / sample / concoction, you're looking at a small bit of material.
- 13 Genes are found in DNA/ genomes / organs, which are the building blocks of life.
- 14 If you are nourished / possessed / summoned to the school principal's office, you must go.
- 15 A concoction / factor / survey contains a variety of ingredients.
- 16 The hikers noticed that the path would affect / survey / vary from a gentle slope to a very steep incline.
- 17 *Well-being* is the state of being
- (A) happy and healthy.
 - (B) unique and special.
 - (C) creative and inspired.
 - (D) upset and angry.
- 18 A *standard of living* of a group describes
- (A) the way they spend their money.
 - (B) the rules they follow at work.
 - (C) the activities they do every day.
 - (D) the necessities and luxuries they enjoy.
- 19 When a person *possesses* an item, they
- (A) change it.
 - (B) analyze it.
 - (C) own it.
 - (D) steal it.
- 20 If someone is paid *handsomely*, they are given
- (A) very little money.
 - (B) a lot of money.
 - (C) things instead of money.
 - (D) the same amount as others.
- 21 The word *nourish* means
- (A) to work or use.
 - (B) to damage or defeat.
 - (C) to provide with data or information.
 - (D) to cause something or someone to grow.
- 22 An activity that has *meaning* is
- (A) handsome.
 - (B) sustainable.
 - (C) worrying.
 - (D) purposeful.

READING

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

A Place of Their Own

- 1 Once upon a time, in a land not so far away, there lived three very good friends: Fernando, Diego, and Andres. These boys spent almost all of primary school searching for a perfect swath of forest they had heard about from their older siblings. Not too close to the path yet not too far, it promised trees close enough for privacy, tall enough for shade, and notched in all the right places for climbing.
- 2 After years of searching, the trio finally found the perfect spot. Towering trees stretched into the sky, cloaking the soft dirt below in cool shadows. A circular space the size of a house had been cleared of brush and weeds. The open area was handsomely appointed with tree stumps that served as chairs and tables, as well as the warped trunk of a tree—alive but growing parallel to the ground—that served as a sofa.
- 3 For the first year of secondary school, Fernando and his friends spent every spare moment in their sustainable hideaway—doing homework, climbing the trees, passing a football, or embarking on day-long expeditions into the surrounding forest.
- 4 Then Fernando got the video game.
- 5 It was a new game, something everyone had read about online and couldn't wait to see in person. Its concept was different from the other popular games of the day. Instead of a quest, players interacted within virtual environments they built themselves.
- 6 Fernando couldn't wait to show his friends how to play. By the end of the week, the three boys had recreated their secret hideout with pixels and keystrokes. Diego and Andres each got their own copy of the game. And because there wasn't much time between school and dinner, the boys decided to spend weekday afternoons online together instead of journeying back and forth to the forest. On the weekends, well, it was just so easy to wake up, log on, and spend the day chatting from the comfort of their own homes. Before long, the trio abandoned the three-dimensional forest in favor of their two-dimensional video game.
- 7 They weren't the only ones. Kids around the globe were building and living in their own virtual realities, forsaking the outside for the inside. But as more and more people logged on, the connections to the games' servers got worse and worse. Within a few months, it had become nearly impossible to log on. The trio talked less and less, and after several months, they stopped attempting to play the game online at all.

- 8 One overcast summer afternoon, having nothing better to do and feeling rather lonely, Fernando stuffed his feet into his sneakers and trotted to the edge of the forest. The shadows within the canopy looked more like strangers than friends, but Fernando steeled himself and stepped between the trees, where he was hit with the earthy smell of dirt and water. His heart lifted, and he forged ahead with joyous abandon, taking several wrong turns down overgrown paths before stumbling into the clearing. To his delight, Andres and Diego were already there in their fabled oasis, all ready to seek new adventures.

23 Read the sentences from “A Place of Their Own.”

Once upon a time, in a land not so far away, there lived three very good friends: Fernando, Diego, and Andres. These boys spent almost all of primary school searching for a perfect swath of forest they had heard about from their older siblings.

Which is likely the subject of the allegory in the passage?

- (A) nature
- (B) land
- (C) competition
- (D) friendship

24 Read the sentences from “A Place of Their Own.”

His heart lifted, and he forged ahead with joyous abandon, taking several wrong turns down overgrown paths before stumbling into the clearing. To his delight, Andres and Diego were already there in their fabled oasis, all ready to seek new adventures.

The *overgrown paths* in the passage likely symbolize

- (A) the difficulty of growing up.
- (B) the difficulty of making decisions.
- (C) the neglect of friendship.
- (D) the joy of having friends.

25 Read the sentences from “A Place of Their Own.”

Then Fernando got the video game. . . . Before long, the trio abandoned the three-dimensional forest in favor of their two-dimensional video game.

The *video game* in the passage likely symbolizes

- (A) a way friends grow closer.
- (B) a conflict between friends.
- (C) things that interfere with friendship.
- (D) things that can benefit friendships.

- 26** In 3–5 sentences, describe how “A Place of Their Own” is an allegory in which the events and characters stand for something besides themselves. Use evidence from the text that shows how the story represents additional ideas about human experiences.

- 27** In 3–5 sentences, explain the theme or message of the allegory in the story “A Place of Their Own.” Use two events from the story that support this theme.

READING

DIRECTIONS: Answer the questions.

28 Read the title of the article.

Which prediction about the article can be made based on the title?

- (A) The article will likely argue that people should act specific ways to be happy.
- (B) The article will likely be an entertaining story about people who are happy.
- (C) The article will likely explain factors that impact people's temperament.
- (D) The article will likely offer ways to improve one's temperament.

29 Read paragraph 1 of "The Science of Temperament."

Based on previewing paragraph 1, which topics will likely be discussed in "The Science of Temperament"? Choose three answers.

- (A) influences on temperament
- (B) how genetics plays a role in personality
- (C) situations where people are easily distracted
- (D) effects of the environment on temperament
- (E) effects of physical training on personality

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Science of Temperament

- 1 Are you shy, or outgoing? Are you highly focused, or easily distracted? Are you constantly moving? Or do you like to sit quietly for long periods of time? These qualities and others are examples of traits that make up your temperament. For ages, philosophers have debated whether a person's temperament results from nature—the genes you were born with—or nurture—training and environment. It is likely not a surprise to learn that both nature and nurture affect temperament, along with a variety of other physical, mental, and outside influences.
- 2 When we are born, we come programmed to approach the world in a certain way. Some babies cry at the slightest noise, while others laugh and engage eagerly with the world. Scientists have figured out that genes are responsible by studying identical twins, fraternal twins, and other siblings. (Identical twins share exactly the same genes, whereas fraternal twins share 50 percent of the same genes.) Evaluating twins as babies for various elements of temperament led to an expected conclusion. Identical twins more often have similar temperaments than fraternal twins and siblings of different ages.
- 3 As children age and develop physically, they also develop distinct personalities based on temperament. Changes in temperament naturally occur as a child develops and experiences more of life. Some of these changes happen as a response to environment, or the conditions that surround a person. Two major environmental influences are culture and school. A culture that values children contributes to raising confident adults. Attending a school in which



violence is common makes teens more likely to act violently. A child's experiences affect how they will act and react throughout life. Again, scientists have turned to twins to consider how environment affects temperament and the resulting personality. By studying twins that grew up in the same house and those that were separated, researchers discovered that environment does play a role in shaping personality. For example, having a nurturing parent makes it more likely that the child will have a nurturing personality and grow up to be a nurturing adult.

- 4 How much of a factor do genetics and environment play? The findings are widely varied. Some studies set genetics as about 1 percent responsible, while others suggest 80 percent, leaving 99 to 20 percent for environmental influence, such as upbringing and social class. The huge difference in findings can be explained by the challenges of studying temperament and personality. Because temperament and personality are concepts, they can be difficult to measure. The standards for measuring parts of temperament varied from study to study, as did the studies' structures. Also, the people responsible for the information sometimes showed bias. Parents, like all humans, have opinions and look for (and report) evidence that supports their opinions about their children.
- 5 Most likely, the true contribution of genetics and environment lies somewhere in the middle, with the two factors working together. Also, influences likely vary from person to person. Researchers have determined that a complex combination of genes is responsible for the genetic influence on temperament. Unlike certain diseases that can be linked to a particular gene or genes, personality traits are spread throughout our genes. It is a complex combination of those specific markers that work together to influence certain traits.
- 6 What conclusions can be drawn about the role of genetics and environment in forming personality? It is certain that the way we behave is not definitely due to one or the other. We are born with a given set of genes, which form a pool of potential. This potential sets us up to be outgoing or shy, easygoing or difficult, and many other things. Then we live and grow and learn in an environment, which either builds on that genetic potential or squashes it. As technology advances and studies continue to evolve, scientists will no doubt uncover more about what makes us who we are.

30 Read the title and paragraph 1 of "The Science of Temperament."

Choose the answer that **best** describes the topic of the passage.

- (A) science experiments
- (B) effects of the environment
- (C) types of temperament
- (D) influences on temperament

31 Read paragraph 2 of "The Science of Temperament."

Choose the detail that supports the idea that genes play a role in temperament.

- (A) Identical twins share exactly the same genes.
- (B) Fraternal twins share 50 percent of the same genes.
- (C) Some babies cry at the slightest noise, while others laugh eagerly.
- (D) Identical twins more often have similar temperaments than fraternal twins.

GO ON 

- 32** Read paragraph 3 of “The Science of Temperament.”

What point is the author making in this paragraph?

- (A) Children develop distinct personalities based on temperament.
- (B) Children age and develop physically, and also develop distinct personalities.
- (C) A child’s environment plays an important role in shaping personality.
- (D) A child’s genetic makeup is an important influence on their personality.

- 33** Read paragraph 4 of “The Science of Temperament.”

In 3–5 sentences, identify the main idea and two details that support the main idea of paragraph 4. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

- 34** Read paragraph 6 of “The Science of Temperament.”

In 3–5 sentences, describe the point the author makes in the conclusion of the passage. Use text evidence to support your answer.

- 35** Read paragraph 6 of “The Science of Temperament.”

In 2–3 sentences, predict one topic that would likely be discussed following paragraph 6. Include evidence from the text that supports your prediction.



FOCUS ON LANGUAGE

DIRECTIONS: Choose the correct answer.

- 36** What is one difference between an independent and dependent clause?
- (A) An independent clause is a complete sentence, and a dependent clause is not.
 - (B) A dependent clause is a complete sentence, and an independent clause is not.
 - (C) An independent clause is always longer than a dependent clause.
 - (D) A dependent clause is always longer than an independent clause.
- 37** Read the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."
- Underline the part of the sentence that is an independent clause.
- When we are born, we come programmed to approach the world in a certain way.
- 38** Read the sentence from "A Place of Their Own."
- Underline the part of the sentence that is a dependent clause.
- But as more and more people logged on, the connections to the games' servers got worse and worse.

- 39** Read the sentence.

Underline the part of the sentence that is an independent clause.

As scientists continue to research temperament, they will discover more about this fascinating topic.

- 40** Read the sentence.

Because temperament and personality are concepts, they are difficult to study, and they are difficult to measure, even though scientists have worked hard to design reliable experiments.

Which are dependent clauses used in the sentence? Choose two answers.

- (A) Because temperament and personality are concepts
- (B) they are difficult to study
- (C) they are difficult to measure
- (D) even though scientists have worked hard to design reliable experiments

41 Read the sentence from "A Place of Their Own."

Not too close to the path yet not too far, it promised trees close enough for privacy, tall enough for shade, and notched in all the right places for climbing.

Which meaning of the word *close* is used in the sentence?

- (A) a short distance away
- (B) done in a careful way
- (C) uncomfortable or humid
- (D) describing a family member

42 Read the sentence from "A Place of Their Own."

On the weekends, well, it was just so easy to wake up, log on, and spend the day chatting from the comfort of their own homes.

Which meaning of the word *log* is used in the sentence?

- (A) to cut wood to make lumber
- (B) to establish communication
- (C) to make a record of something
- (D) to move or attain something

43 Read the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."

As children age and develop physically, they also develop distinct personalities based on temperament.

Which part of speech is the word *age* in the sentence?

- (A) noun
- (B) verb
- (C) adjective
- (D) adverb

44 Read the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."

As children age and develop physically, they also develop distinct personalities based on temperament.

Which meaning of the word *age* is used in the sentence?

- (A) a period in history
- (B) a certain time in life
- (C) to grow older
- (D) to bring to completion

45 Read the dictionary definition and the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."

play v.

1. to do an enjoyable activity
2. to participate in a sport
3. to perform music or a role in drama
4. to take part or be involved in something

How much of a factor do genetics and environment play?

Which definition of the word *play* is used in the sentence?

- (A) definition 1
- (B) definition 2
- (C) definition 3
- (D) definition 4

46 Which phrase best defines *shades of meaning*?

- (A) large differences in the meanings of words
- (B) small differences in the definitions of words
- (C) large differences in the parts of speech of words
- (D) small differences in roots and affixes of words

47 Read the sentence from "A Place of Their Own."

Towering trees stretched into the sky, cloaking the soft dirt below in cool shadows.

Why might the author have chosen the word *towering* instead of *tall* to describe the trees?

- (A) to show that the trees were not as tall as towers
- (B) to emphasize that the trees were tall like towers
- (C) to reveal that the trees were near a tower
- (D) to suggest that the trees looked like towers

48 Read the sentence from "A Place of Their Own."

For the first year of secondary school, Fernando and his friends spent every spare moment in their sustainable hideaway—doing homework, climbing the trees, passing a football, or embarking on day-long expeditions into the surrounding forest.

Why might the author have chosen the word *expeditions* to describe the friends' activities?

- (A) to suggest that the friends traveled to unknown lands
- (B) to describe how the friends were playing a game
- (C) to emphasize that the friends had outdoor adventures
- (D) to show that being together was enjoyable for the friends

49 Read the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."

As children age and develop physically, they also develop distinct personalities based on temperament.

Which word has a similar meaning to the word *distinct* as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) rare
- (B) plain
- (C) noticeable
- (D) unique

50 Read the sentence from "The Science of Temperament."

These qualities and others are examples of traits that make up your temperament.

Which word in the sentence has a similar meaning to the word *qualities*?

- (A) others
- (B) examples
- (C) traits
- (D) temperament

WRITING

51 Write an informational report that summarizes the central idea and key details from an informational text, such as an interview, a survey, or a scientific study. Your report should include an introduction that states the central idea of the text. The body paragraphs should summarize the key ideas and details from the interview, study, or survey, supported by quotations. The conclusion should explain what you learned from the informational text. Write your report in the space below.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.