

Lift FUNDAMENTALS Final Assessment



READING

DIRECTIONS: Read the play and answer the questions.

From Page to Stage

Cast of Characters

Jana, a 12-year-old girl

Sara Star, a fictional pop singer

1 **Scene 1: Jana's Bedroom**

2 (Jana, carrying a book, enters her bedroom and jumps into bed.)

3 **Jana:** Finally! The new Sara Star book. I wonder what mystery the pop singer will solve this time.

4 (Jana opens the book and starts to read. Suddenly, there's a flash of light. Sara Star stands next to the bed.)

5 **Sara:** What's happening? Where am I?

6 **Jana:** (jumps out of bed) You're Sara Star!

7 **Sara:** That's me! Who are you? Is this your room?

8 **Jana:** Yes . . . this is a Jana room. I mean, hi, I'm bedroom. (takes a deep breath) Hi, I'm Jana, and this is my bedroom. How did you get here?

9 **Sara:** I have no idea, but I get pulled out of the pages of my book all the time. So many kids need my help.

10 **Jana:** But I don't need any help.

11 **Sara:** You must, or Sara Star wouldn't be here. (takes a small bow)

12 **Jana:** (nervously) Well . . . maybe you can help me with my dream. I want to be a singer, but . . . I'm scared. What if I mess up? What if my voice is terrible?

13 **Sara:** Yes, but what if you don't mess up? What if your voice is amazing? And what if a pop superstar jumped out of a book to teach you? "What if" questions can be good, too.



- 14 **Jana:** I guess you're right.
- 15 **Sara:** I usually am. Now sing me something.
- 16 **Jana:** (opens her mouth, closes it, and shakes her head) I can't.
- 17 **Sara:** Come here. (leads Jana to center stage to face the audience) Imagine your bedroom wall isn't here. Instead, there is a room full of people waiting to hear you.
- 18 **Jana:** Oh, no. I don't like that.
- 19 **Sara:** Don't think about what is scaring you. Think about making these people happy.
- 20 **Jana:** How can I make them happy? Tell some good jokes about a bad singer?
- 21 **Sara:** Some people may not like your singing. That's true for every singer. Why worry about those people? They're not your people.
- 22 **Jana:** My people?
- 23 **Sara:** The people who will support and love you and your singing, and the people you will inspire by being you. Imagine the audience is full of your people.
- 24 **Jana:** But I'm not very good.
- 25 **Sara:** Next lesson: be kind to yourself. Instead of "I'm not very good," try "I'm brave for doing this."
- 26 **Jana:** Maybe you're right. (to herself as Sara exits) I'm making myself feel bad and scared. My people are out there, and they want to hear me. (turns to look for Sara) Sara? Where did she go? (pauses, thinking) I think . . . she was part of me all along. (to audience) I'm brave, I'm excited, and I'm ready to sing.
- 27 (Jana takes center stage. After a few moments and deep breaths, she begins to sing as the curtain falls.)



DIRECTIONS: Read the poem and answer the questions.

I Wasn't Thinking

I wasn't thinking when I said,
"People who watch anime
need better hobbies."

I was just saying things
5 I thought the others agreed with.

I wasn't thinking when I saw
Tabitha gather her things
and leave without a word.
I was just hearing the laughter
10 I thought I wanted.

I wasn't thinking about Tabitha,
my friend long ago and ahead,
and her love of those shows.
I was only thinking of how
15 I looked to the others.

I wasn't thinking past the moment
to hear how my words would be heard,
to feel how they would hurt her heart.
She deserves to hear me apologize because
20 she deserves a better friend.

I wasn't thinking, but now I am.
This is the time to reflect and grow,
to listen and learn, to fix a friendship.
Tabitha, already a good friend, will forgive.
25 I, still becoming, will think before I speak.



6 How does the poet use repetition in the poem?

- (A) Every stanza uses the words *better hobbies* to show the fun of anime.
- (B) Every stanza repeats the word *hurt* to show the pain in the poem.
- (C) Every stanza repeats the word *me* to show what the speaker is feeling.
- (D) Every stanza begins with *I wasn't thinking* to show the speaker's regret.

7 Read the first two stanzas (lines 1–10) of the poem "I Wasn't Thinking."

Why does the poet separate these lines into two stanzas?

- (A) to separate two events
- (B) to separate two statements
- (C) to separate two settings
- (D) to separate two themes

8 What conflict does the speaker face in the poem?

- (A) The speaker is angry with a friend's actions.
- (B) The speaker is struggling with a decision.
- (C) The speaker is sorry for what she has done.
- (D) The speaker doesn't like what others have done.

9 Which statement shows a theme of the poem "I Wasn't Thinking"?

- (A) Help others even when it is difficult.
- (B) Don't forgive those who harm others.
- (C) People often think about their actions.
- (D) People should think before they speak.

10 Read stanza 5 (lines 21–25) of the poem "I Wasn't Thinking."

In 3–5 sentences, describe the point of view in the stanza. Be sure to state whether the stanza is in first-person or third-person point of view. Use evidence from the poem to support your answer.

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Greatest Invention of All Time

- 1 What is the greatest invention of all time? Perhaps it is electric light, the printing press, or the automobile. The steam engine or computer chip could be good answers, too. However, the greatest invention is actually thousands of years old. This invention made these other inventions possible. The greatest invention of all time is the forge.
- 2 A forge is a special kind of oven. It can produce high temperatures. It heats metal so that the metal can be shaped and made into objects. The forge greatly helped early civilizations to grow and succeed. And it continues to improve our lives today.
- 3 Let's go back thousands of years to Mesopotamia. This area in the Middle East is called the birthplace of civilization. Around 4000 B.C.E., people in this area began the first farming communities. They forged copper and bronze to create tools and art. Forged tools like plows made farming easier by preparing the ground for planting. Forged metal scrapers and knives helped people prepare food. Without the forge, civilization would not have done so well.
- 4 Over the years, better forges were developed. They could burn hotter. This allowed harder metals to be used, which, in turn, led to new inventions. Many of the greatest inventions have been built with forged parts. Without forging, printing presses could not have been created. The steam engine was built out of metal shaped within a forge. Without the forge, we would not have cars or airplanes. In fact, we would be missing many modern conveniences.
- 5 Every day, people around the world use forged objects. They are used for healthcare, sanitation, and communication. When did you last wash your hands? The pipes that carry the water in and out of the building contain forged metal. Did you message your friends today? The chips in cell phones and computers use copper that has been forged. The list goes on and on. It continues all the way into outer space, where robots and satellites made of forged metal explore the universe.
- 6 Look around. You likely see things made of metal. Imagine life without any of these things. The forge enabled civilization to thrive and grow, and it helped make our lives what they are today. Human life would look very different without the mighty forge, the greatest invention of all time.



- 11** Read paragraph 4 of “The Greatest Invention of All Time.”

According to the paragraph, what might have happened if the forge were not developed?

- (A) There would be no metals.
- (B) There would be no books.
- (C) There would be no cars.
- (D) There would be no new inventions.

- 12** Read paragraph 5 of “The Greatest Invention of All Time.”

Which sentence **best** describes the central idea of the paragraph?

- (A) People use forged objects in many different ways.
- (B) People use forged objects on Earth and in outer space.
- (C) Computers use many different forged objects to run.
- (D) Robots use forged objects to explore the universe.

- 13** Which sentence **best** states the main claim of the passage “The Greatest Invention of All Time”?

- (A) People made better forges over the years.
- (B) People needed better forges for harder metals.
- (C) The forge is an important invention that helps people in many ways.
- (D) The forge is an important invention that improved transportation.

- 14** Read paragraph 3 of “The Greatest Invention of All Time.”

Which event occurred because people in Mesopotamia forged metals?

- (A) Building became easier.
- (B) Farming became easier.
- (C) People began to prepare food.
- (D) People began living in groups.

- 15** Read paragraph 3 of “The Greatest Invention of All Time.”

In 3–5 sentences, state the claim in the paragraph and give evidence from the text that supports the claim.

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions.

The Children Who Saved a Rainforest

- 1 Imagine that a forest far away from you is in trouble. You want to save it. Do you think you could do it? That's exactly what a group of students in Sweden did. They saved part of the largest rainforest preserve in Costa Rica.
- 2 It started in 1987. Students in Sweden were learning about a rainforest in Costa Rica. Many people wanted to use the rainforest's land. The people were cutting down trees so they could build houses and farm the land. But these actions created a huge problem—the rainforest in Costa Rica was getting smaller.
- 3 Why is a disappearing rainforest such a big problem? Rainforests are home to many animals. Other animals stop to rest in rainforests as they migrate. Plants live in the rainforest, too. For example, more than 1,000 kinds of orchids grow in Costa Rica's rainforests.
- 4 Rainforests help in other ways, too. Trees make oxygen that people and animals breathe. People make medicines from plants in the rainforest. Rainforests take carbon dioxide out of the air, which helps slow climate change. The forests also make a huge difference in the earth's water cycle. Rainforests create moisture, which enters Earth's atmosphere. The moisture travels all over the world and becomes clouds and rain.
- 5 When the Swedish students heard about the shrinking rainforest, they wanted to help. So, they started raising money. Students sold baked goods, such as cookies and cakes. Their families and friends donated money. The Swedish government donated funds, too. But the project didn't stop there! Students all over the world heard about what the Swedish students were doing. Kids from more than 40 countries held fundraisers of their own. They all wanted to save the rainforests, too. In the end, more than \$2 million was raised.
- 6 A conservation group in Costa Rica used the money to purchase thousands of acres of farmland. The group planted trees and other plants on the farmland to turn it back into a rainforest. They named the forest "Bosque Eterno de los Ninos," which means "Children's Eternal Rainforest." *Eternal* means "forever" or "without end."
- 7 Today, the Children's Eternal Rainforest is home to many tall trees. Large ferns grow on the forest floor. Insects buzz, and monkeys and other animals play in the treetops. Green-eyed frogs search for insects. You would never know this area used to be a farm.



- 16** Read paragraph 1 of “The Children Who Saved a Rainforest.”

According to the paragraph, what were a group of students able to do?

- (A) imagine a rainforest in trouble
- (B) imagine living in Sweden
- (C) save a rainforest in Costa Rica
- (D) save a rainforest in Sweden

- 17** Read paragraph 4 of “The Children Who Saved a Rainforest.”

What inference can be made about rainforests from the information in the paragraph?

- (A) Rainforests exist all over the world.
- (B) Rainforests are the home of many plants.
- (C) Rainforests provide homes for many people.
- (D) Rainforests are important to human survival.

- 18** Read paragraph 3 of “The Children Who Saved a Rainforest.”

What is the central idea of the paragraph?

- (A) Rainforests are disappearing.
- (B) Rainforests provide a home for animals.
- (C) Many plants and animals depend on rainforests.
- (D) Many types of plants and animals are disappearing from rainforests.

- 19** Read paragraph 5 of “The Children Who Saved a Rainforest.”

According to the paragraph, what event occurred after the Swedish government donated money to save the rainforest?

- (A) Students from Sweden traveled to Costa Rica.
- (B) Swedish students started raising money.
- (C) Students from many countries started raising money.
- (D) Families and friends of Swedish students donated money.

- 20** Read paragraph 6 of “The Children Who Saved a Rainforest.”

In 3–5 sentences, make an inference about why the conservation group in Costa Rica named the forest “Children’s Eternal Rainforest.” State the inference, and then give text evidence that supports the inference.



FOCUS ON LANGUAGE

DIRECTIONS: A student is writing an essay. This essay includes several errors. Read the essay and think about possible revisions. Then answer the questions that follow.

A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms

- 1 It's springtime in Japan—my favorite time of year. Each spring, thousands of cherry trees burst into bloom. My family celebrates by having a picnic in a nearby park. We enjoy sitting together under clouds of pink and white cherry blossoms. Their beauty make us feel peaceful.
- 2 My relatives am visiting from California to see the cherry blossoms. Last Saturday, we spent all day at the park. We knew the park would be packed with people, so my cousin Riku and I got there early with Dad to find a good place for everyone to sit. We found an empty area and spread picnic blankets on the ground.
- 3 While we waited for the rest of our family to arrive, Riku and I had fun watching all the people at the park. Lots of people were eating. Some were sleeping. Several young children was playing soccer.
- 4 At lunchtime, our other family members arrived. My grandmother brought her dog, a playful little poodle named Jazu. At our blanket, Mom gave us lunch boxes. Mine was filled with fried chicken, octopus, pickles, and rice balls. Jazu watched us and cried softly while we ate our delicious food.
- 5 Everyone was having a good time until Jazu grabbed a piece of Grandmother chicken and ran away through the crowd. People cried out as Jazu jumped over their plates and knocked over their cups. Riku and I chased Jazu, but he was more faster than we were.
- 6 "He getting away!" Riku shouted.
- 7 "He thinks we're playing," I explained, as Jazu zigzagged around the park.
- 8 Finally, a nice man caught Jazu and brought him back. Jazu didn't seem sorry at all. He looked like he'd had the better time running and playing. Grandmother let Jazu sit in their lap, but she didn't let go of his leash for the rest of the day.
- 9 In the evening, Jazu was tired, and so was everyone else. Riku and I agreed that our families should enjoy the cherry blossoms every spring.



- 21** Read the sentence with a verb error from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms."

My relatives am visiting from California to see the cherry blossoms.

Which verb correctly replaces *am visiting*?

- (A) am visit
- (B) visiting
- (C) is visiting
- (D) are visiting

- 22** Read the sentence with a verb error from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms."

"He getting away!" Riku shouted.

Which sentence corrects the verb error?

- (A) "He gets away!" Riku shouted.
- (B) "He getting away!" Riku shouting.
- (C) "He is getting away!" Riku shouted.
- (D) "He getting away!" Riku is shouting.

- 23** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms." Find the error. Complete the sentence that follows.

Their beauty make us feel peaceful.

The verb _____ should be _____.

- 24** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms." Find the error. Complete the sentence that follows.

Several young children was playing soccer.

The verb _____ should be _____.

- 25** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms." Notice the error. Complete the sentence that follows.

Everyone was having a good time until Jazu grabbed a piece of Grandmother chicken and ran away through the crowd.

In this sentence, *Grandmother* should be _____.

- 26** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms." Notice the error. Complete the sentence that follows.

Grandmother let Jazu sit in their lap, but she didn't let go of his leash for the rest of the day.

In this sentence, *their* should be _____.

- 27** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms."

At our blanket, Mom gave us lunch boxes.

Which is the independent clause in the sentence?

- (A) At our blanket
- (B) our blanket
- (C) Mom gave
- (D) Mom gave us lunch boxes

- 28** Read the sentence from "A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms."

Jazu watched us and cried softly while we ate our delicious food.

Which is the subordinating conjunction in the sentence?

- (A) us
- (B) and
- (C) while
- (D) our



- 29** Read the sentence with an error from “A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms.” Then complete the sentence that follows.

Riku and I chased Jazu, but he was more faster than we were.

In the sentence, *more faster* should be

_____.

- 30** Read the sentence with an error from “A Picnic Under the Cherry Blossoms.” Then complete the sentence that follows.

He looked like he’d had the better time running and playing.

In the sentence, *better* should be

_____.

- 31** Read the sentence.

The park had a boisterous atmosphere, with excited teens shouting at a basketball game and young children laughing happily on the swings.

Which details help you to understand what the word *boisterous* means? Choose two answers.

- ☐ (A) excited teens shouting
- ☐ (B) at a basketball game
- ☐ (C) young children
- ☐ (D) laughing happily
- ☐ (E) on the swings

- 32** Read the sentence.

The clear blue sky makes me feel as peaceful and tranquil as a quiet pool of still water.

Which words help you to understand the meaning of the word *tranquil*? Choose three answers.

- ☐ (A) blue
- ☐ (B) peaceful
- ☐ (C) quiet
- ☐ (D) still
- ☐ (E) water

- 33** Read the sentence.

The students were _____ when they forgot to thank the guest speaker for sharing her ideas.

Which word correctly completes the sentence?

- ☐ (A) impolite
- ☐ (B) impossible
- ☐ (C) unusual
- ☐ (D) unforgettable

- 34** Read the sentence.

Maria’s shoelaces were _____, and this caused her to stumble.

Which word correctly completes the sentence?

- ☐ (A) undone
- ☐ (B) untrue
- ☐ (C) invisible
- ☐ (D) inactive

35 Read the sentence.

When I saw the adorable puppies, my heart fluttered like a hummingbird's wings.

Which is the simile in the sentence?

- (A) When I saw
- (B) I saw the adorable puppies
- (C) my heart fluttered
- (D) like a hummingbird's wings

36 Read the sentence.

The playful little dog yelped whenever anyone tried to pet him.

How does onomatopoeia affect the meaning in the sentence?

- (A) *Playful* shows the dog's personality.
- (B) *Little* shows the dog's size.
- (C) *Yelped* shows how the dog sounds.
- (D) *Pet* shows the dog's reaction to others.

37 Read this dictionary entry and sentence.

racket *n.*

1. a piece of equipment used in a game
2. a game for 2 to 4 players
3. a very loud noise
4. an easy way to make money

I couldn't sleep with the racket coming from the party next door.

Which definition fits the word *racket* as it is used in the sentence?

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

38 Read this thesaurus entry.

novel (adj.) new and not known or used before
fresh, original, strange, unfamiliar, unknown

What is the part of speech of this thesaurus entry?

- (A) novel
- (B) adjective
- (C) new
- (D) fresh

39 Read the sentence.

Many plants, such as lavender, have calming smells that can help people relax.

What feeling does the use of the word *calming* create in the sentence?

- (A) fun
- (B) hot
- (C) peaceful
- (D) interesting

40 Read lines 6–8 from the poem "I Wasn't Thinking."

I wasn't thinking when I saw
Tabitha gather her things
and leave without a word.

What does the phrase *without a word* show about Tabitha?

- (A) Tabitha doesn't hear the speaker.
- (B) Tabitha feels upset.
- (C) Tabitha is a busy person.
- (D) Tabitha is a very quiet person.

WRITING

41 Write a personal narrative about a time that something surprising and fun happened to you. Describe the setting and situation. Then explain what occurred and why it was surprising. You can also share what the surprise taught you about yourself. Examples of surprising events might include an unexpected experience with your family, a special event at school or in your community, or a time something surprising happened during an activity like a sporting event or club meeting. You can write about one of these events, or one of your own.

Your personal narrative should include:

- a title that shows the topic
- an introduction that tells the setting (where and when the event happened)
- a description of the event, showing a clear sequence
- sentences that share your feelings during the event
- a sentence that concludes the story and explains the importance of the event.

Write your narrative in the space below.

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