

8th Grade English
Final Unit
Weeks 7-8

Day 1	Grammar: Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentences provided.
Day 2	Grammar: Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentences provided.
Day 3	Grammar: Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentences provided.
Day 4	Expository Passages: (Informational Text) Read each passage and answer the questions provided.
Day 5	Expository Passages: (Informational Text) Read each passage and answer the questions provided.
Day 6	Expository Passages: (Informational Text) Read each passage and answer the questions provided.
Day 7	Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions provided. Be sure to look carefully at sequence!
Day 8	Charts/Graphs: Use the chart provided to answer the questions below.
Day 9	Letters: Read the letter provided then answer the questions below.
Day 10	Poetry: Read the poem then answer the questions provided.

Name _____

Skill: Grammar

DIRECTIONS:

Read each sentence and the answer choices. Decide which word or group of words best completes the sentence. Mark the answer you have chosen.

1. Bill and Fred _____ going to build a club house in their back yard.

- a is
- b was
- c are
- d am

2. Polly is my partner on the project. _____ are researching life in China.

- f She and me
- g Her and I
- h She and I
- j Her and me

3. That is the _____ tree I have ever seen!

- a tallest
- b taller
- c more tall
- d most tallest

4. I should _____ that you would not keep up your end of the bargain.

- f of knew
- g of known
- h have knew
- j have known

5. We _____ many different magazines for you to choose from.

- a has
- b gots
- c have
- d having

6. She _____ gone to that school for several years.

- f haven't
- g ain't
- h weren't
- j hasn't

7. The temperature _____ rapidly as the clouds moved in.

- a was falling
- b were falling
- c falled
- d falling

8. Franklin will _____ the presentation at the meeting today.

- f giving
- g be giving
- h been giving
- j had been giving

9. Theodore _____ for student council president and won!

- a runned
- b had ran
- c run
- d ran

10. Maria and Angela _____ won a prize in the science fair.

- f they both
- g they each
- h each
- j they

Name _____

Skill: Grammar

DIRECTIONS:

Read each sentence and the answer choices. Decide which word or group of words best completes the sentence. Mark the answer you have chosen.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. The man _____ a fish near the pond, but decided to let it go.</p> <p>a caught
b caught
c catching
d have caught</p> | <p>6. Judy and Tom _____ to Orlando to visit with their grandparents next week.</p> <p>f going
g is going
h are going
j was going</p> |
| <p>2. Paul and Mary Lou _____ the station wagon to work, leaving the van for you.</p> <p>f had took
g have taken
h has taken
j has took</p> | <p>7. Today we will _____ reading about the African safari.</p> <p>a continuing
b was continuing
c continued
d continue</p> |
| <p>3. David _____ the mailman's truck because he had an important letter to send.</p> <p>a was chased
b were chasing
c have chased
d was chasing</p> | <p>8. Joseph and Diane _____ the first students to ace this test!</p> <p>f are
g is
h be
j are being</p> |
| <p>4. We _____ ten miles before realizing we were on the wrong road.</p> <p>f drived
g was driving
h drove
j driven</p> | <p>9. The rare flowers we found were _____ behind those tall ferns.</p> <p>a hided
b hide
c hidden
d hides</p> |
| <p>5. Peter _____ most of his papers because he doesn't know how to type yet.</p> <p>a have printed
b prints
c printing
d was printed</p> | <p>10. I _____ all of the candy, but some pie is left in the refrigerator.</p> <p>f has eaten
g have ate
h has ate
j have eaten</p> |

Name _____

Skill: Grammar

DIRECTIONS:

Read each sentence and the answer choices. Decide which word or group of words best completes the sentence. Mark the answer you have chosen.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. The boy would _____ even more to help clean up, but he had to go home.</p> <p>a of done
b of did
c have done
d have did</p> | <p>6. Ted and Ken _____ the bulls in many rodeos.</p> <p>f have ridden
g has ridden
h rided
j had rode</p> |
| <p>2. _____ any way you could finish this job by noon tomorrow?</p> <p>f Was there
g Has there been
h Is there
j Have there been</p> | <p>7. Angelo _____ leaving for the airport in ten minutes.</p> <p>a will
b am
c will be
d was</p> |
| <p>3. _____ are the only two people that finished our assignment on time.</p> <p>a Her and me
b She and I
c Her and I
d She and me</p> | <p>8. Please stack _____ newspapers near the fence behind the school.</p> <p>f those there
g these here
h them
j those</p> |
| <p>4. Jeremy _____ dinner at my house often.</p> <p>f have eaten
g has ate
h has eaten
j eated</p> | <p>9. We _____ past the park when I noticed a blue car was following us.</p> <p>a were walking
b will be walking
c was walking
d walks</p> |
| <p>5. Penny has the _____ hair I have ever seen!</p> <p>a more longer
b most long
c longest
d more longest</p> | <p>10. I _____ my food carefully so I wouldn't choke again.</p> <p>f were chewing
g was chewing
h had chew
j chew</p> |

Name _____

Skill: Expository Passages

DIRECTIONS:

Read each passage. Then, read each question and the answer choices. Mark the answer you have chosen. Mark NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information in the passage.

Water does not give our bodies the energy that keeps us moving. It does not supply needed oxygen. However, it is so vital in maintaining our lives that a person would die from lack of water before he would die from lack of food!

Your body is sixty to seventy percent water. This water is mixed into your body protoplasm (a liquid mixture of proteins and fat), and it fills the spaces between cells. The fluid part of blood, called plasma, is about 92 per cent water. Water in the plasma helps dissolve food and waste products that the blood transports around the body.

The water in the body helps our bodies in two ways. First, it helps us rid the body of waste. The kidneys will pass two to five pints of excess water daily. Second, water helps keep us the correct temperature. When the body begins to overheat, water is forced from between the cells and appears as sweat. As the sweat evaporates, the body is cooled.

As water is lost and not replaced, it disappears first from between the cells. As more water is lost the protoplasm within each cell becomes more and more solid until it finally dies. This water loss is part of the process called dehydration.

It is important to replace the water lost daily. Some water is taken in through the foods we eat, but the number one source is simply drinking it. The amount of water required varies with the temperature, humidity of the air, and the amount of activity we engage in. The warmer it gets or the more exercise we do, the more water we need to drink.

1. How much of your body contains water?

- a 20 - 30%
- b 60 - 70%
- c 80 - 90%
- d NH

2. What is "protoplasm"?

- f the space between cells
- g plasma
- h a mixture of proteins and fat
- j NH

3. What are the two ways in which water helps your body?

- a gets rid of thirst and keeps you clean
- b cools the body and helps rid waste
- c digests food and carries it in the blood
- d NH

4. What is the fastest way to lose body fluids?

- f run ten miles
- g stand in the hot sun for one hour
- h swim in cold water
- j NH

5. Where does your body keep most of the water it uses?

- a between cells and mixed with protoplasm
- b in the kidneys
- c in the sweat glands
- d NH

Name _____

Skill: Expository Passages

DIRECTIONS:

Read each passage. Then, read each question and the answer choices. Mark the answer you have chosen. Mark NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information in the passage.

The word "carnivorous" means flesh or meat eater. When we use this word we are usually talking about animals that eat other animals. There are a few carnivorous plants, however! These carnivorous plants are not dangerous to mammals. Insects, on the other hand, might think differently.

For thousands of years plants, like animals, have had to adapt to their surroundings in order to survive. In some places the soil became poor and the plants could not get the minerals they needed to survive. Over the years they developed ways to get the nutrients they needed by luring and trapping insects and other tiny creatures.

Carnivorous plants look very much like any ordinary plant. They have roots, stems, and chlorophyll. They reproduce through flowers and seeds. The main difference can be seen if you look closely at their leaves. Carnivorous plants tempt insects to land on their leaves which are designed to trap them. It is sometimes difficult to tell the difference between the leaves and the flowers on these plants. That is because the leaves must be colorful or beautiful in order to lure the insects.

The leaves of some carnivorous plants, such as the pitcher plant, look like a deep vase with a lid ready to close over the top. The "vase" is covered with a sticky sweet substance that attracts insects inside where they become stuck. Other carnivorous plants, such as the Venus flytrap, have leaves that look more like clam shells with colorful insides. The insects are tempted by the color, but once they land the leaves fold together and the plant has an insect meal. The closed leaf is able to digest insects, much like our stomachs digest food.

1. What is the main idea of this story?

- a insects are food for plants
- b some plants are carnivorous
- c animals are carnivores
- d NH

2. How large can carnivorous plants get?

- f two feet tall
- g seven feet tall
- h as much as ten feet tall
- j NH

3. Why are some plants carnivorous?

- a the soil didn't supply enough nutrients
- b plants developed a taste for meat
- c they lost their root system
- d NH

4. Which part of the plant traps and eats the insect?

- f flower
- g leaf
- h stem
- j NH

5. How can you sometimes spot a carnivorous plant?

- a it is more brown than green
- b they look like small animals
- c the leaves look like flowers
- d NH

Name _____

Skill: Expository Passages

DIRECTIONS:

Read each passage. Then, read each question and the answer choices. Mark the answer you have chosen. Mark NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information in the passage.

The abacus is an ancient calculator that was invented by people in almost every part of the world. It has been used for thousands of years by the Egyptians, Chinese, Romans, and many other civilizations in which numerals could not be represented by place value. When the Spaniards first came to America, they found the Mayan Indians using the abacus.

The first abacus was probably a tray covered with dust or sand. Counting marks could be made with a finger and erased with the sweep of the hand. After a while, people started making grooves in the sand and using pebbles for counters. Finally, they strung pebbles or beads on wires. They then had a counting machine that was easy to use and could be carried around with them.

The abacus is a series of wires strung with beads that can be moved up or down along the wires. There are usually ten beads on each wire and the wire is assigned a place value, just like Arabic numerals have. Take the number 453 for example: the 3 stands for three ones; the 5 equals five tens; the 4 means four hundreds. An abacus works in the same manner; each stack of beads has a value according to its place relative to the other stacks of beads.

An abacus can be used to solve all kinds of arithmetic problems. Once you have learned how to use it, you can solve problems very quickly. Some people are so good on the abacus, they can solve arithmetic faster than a person using a calculator! For this reason, it is still used in many parts of the world today.

1. What is the main topic of this story?

- a ancient civilizations
- b the history and use of the abacus
- c counting beads
- d NH

2. How long has the abacus been used?

- f about 100 years
- g about 500 years
- h thousands of years
- j NH

3. How many beads are strung on the Chinese abacus?

- a 5000
- b 100
- c 453
- d NH

4. What was the first abacus probably made of?

- f pebbles and twigs
- g beads and wire
- h a tray of sand
- j NH

5. Which group of people invented the abacus?

- a Mayan Indians
- b Chinese
- c many different groups around the world
- d NH

Name _____

Skill: Directions

DIRECTIONS:

Read each passage. Then, read the questions and answer choices. Mark the answer you have chosen. Mark the choice NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information given.

Rescue!

Several thousand people die each year in drowning accidents. You might be able to help a drowning victim if you stay calm and remember these key words: *reach*, *throw*, *row*, and *go*.

- REACH:** In an accident close to shore, look for a stick, board, rope, shirt, paddle, or oar to extend to the victim in the water.
- THROW:** If the victim is out of your reach, you might be able to throw him something that floats (a life vest, a beachball or volleyball, a styrofoam ice chest, etc).
- ROW:** Use any available boat. Approach the victim with the stern (back end) first. In a canoe, pull up so the victim can first grab an extended paddle and then the side of the boat.
- GO:** Swim to the victim's aid only when you have no choice. Remove your shirt, shoes and heavy trousers. Put your shirt between your teeth. Jump out as far as possible, feet first, to keep from hitting your head on any underwater objects. When you are near the victim, hold one end of your shirt in one hand and flip the other end into his hands. Use the shirt to tow him to shore.

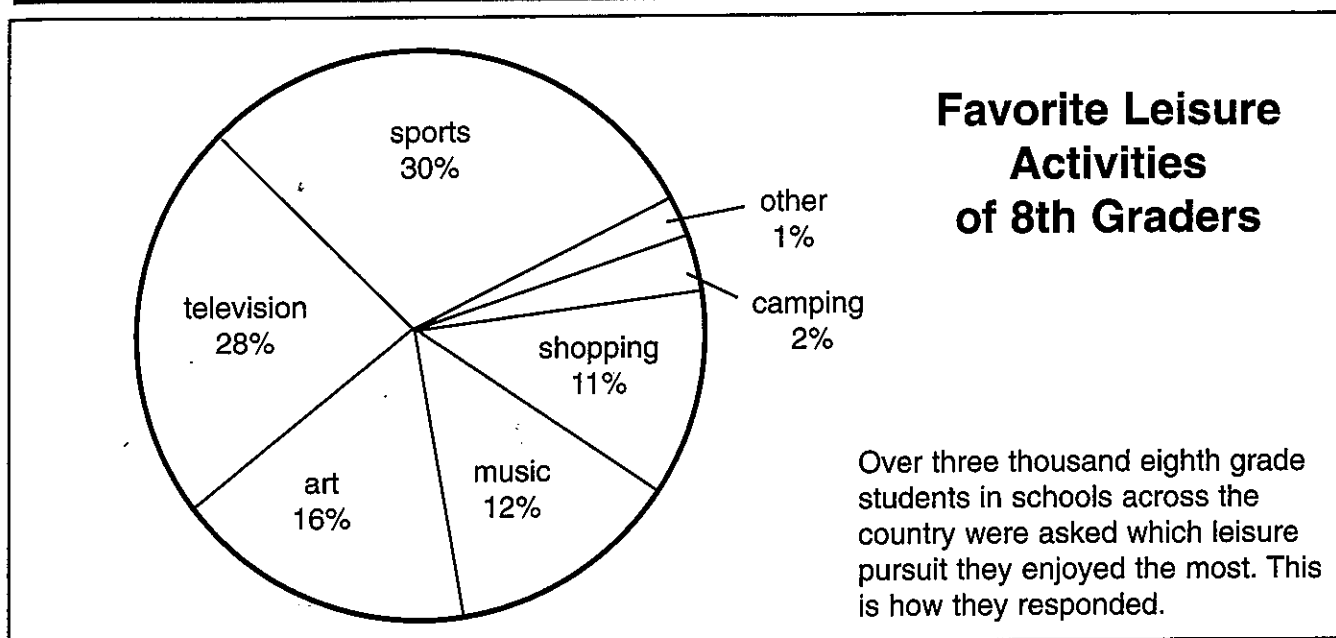
- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. What is the main idea of this story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a safe swimming b how to rescue drowning victims c using boats safely d NH | <p>4. Which of these is <u>not</u> one of the key words you need to remember?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f reach g swim h throw j NH |
| <p>2. What should you try first if the victim is not very far from shore?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f reach g row h go j NH | <p>5. What should be your last choice of these four rescue techniques?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a take a canoe out to him b swim out to save him c throw a rope d NH |
| <p>3. What type of item should you throw to the victim that is a little farther out?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a something that will help him float b anything you can find nearby c clothing items d NH | <p>6. What should you do before getting in the water to swim to the victim?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> f call 911 g make sure someone else is watching h take off heavy clothing and shoes j NH |

Name _____

Skill: Charts and Graphs

DIRECTIONS:

Use the chart or graph to answer the question. Mark the space for the answer you have chosen. Mark the choice NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information given.



1. What information does this pie graph give us?

- a what sports people like
- b what activities people like
- c what activities 8th graders like
- d NH

2. What kind of leisure activities make up the category named "other"?

- f computer games and swimming
- g board games and hiking
- h swimming and bicycling
- j NH

3. Which group has a larger percentage than camping, but is less than music?

- a other
- b shopping
- c art
- d NH

4. How many students were surveyed, or asked about their leisure activities?

- f eighth graders
- g about 30
- h over 3000
- j NH

5. Which two groups make up 58% of the favorite activities?

- a shopping and television
- b sports and television
- c sports and shopping
- d NH

6. How many groups have a smaller percentage than art?

- f 6
- g 4
- h 2
- j NH

Name _____

DIRECTIONS:

Read each letter. Then, read each question and the answer choices. Mark the space for the answer you have chosen. Mark the choice NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information given.

May 27, 1999

Mr. John Garrity,

I am one of the customers on your newspaper route. I send my payment directly to the newspaper office, so I have never had the pleasure of actually meeting you, but I would like to express my appreciation for your services.

First, I would like to thank you for making such prompt deliveries. Each morning, come rain or shine, I find my newspaper lying right on the front porch next to my door. I don't know what time you come by my house, but I do know the paper is here as early as five o'clock because that is what time I get up.

Also, I was particularly impressed with your performance yesterday morning. Last night's storm flooded so many of the streets in my neighborhood, and I thought no one could get through. However, as I opened my door there sat my paper right where it is every morning! I would like you to know that I appreciate the great job you do. Thank you so much!

With deep appreciation,
Bert Brown

1. What is the purpose of this letter?

- a to complain about the delivery person
- b to say "thank you" to the delivery person
- c to ask for a newspaper subscription
- d NH

2. What word would best describe the way John completes his job?

- f consistently
- g subconsciously
- h resignedly
- j NH

3. Where does John put Bert's newspaper?

- a on the porch under the window
- b on the porch by the door
- c on the top porch step
- d NH

4. At what time is the newspaper always at Bert's door?

- f 6 o'clock a.m.
- g 5 o'clock a.m.
- h 5 o'clock p.m.
- j NH

5. What happened to make Bert think the newspaper would not be delivered on time?

- a the streets were flooded
- b it was raining
- c there was a big snowstorm
- d NH

6. How long has John been delivering the newspaper to Bert?

- f three days
- g three months
- h three years
- j NH

Day 10

DIRECTIONS:

Read the poem. Then, read each question and the answer choices. Mark the answer you have chosen. Mark the choice NH (Not Here) if the question cannot be answered from the information given.

Name: _____

My Mom
P. Pedigo

As softly as the night she came,
On quiet slippers feet,
Sat down beside me on the bed
And smoothed the rumped sheet.
She gently fluffed the pillow
Where I lay my fevered head,
And spread an extra blanket
Across my shivering bed.
Her hand felt cool and soft
Against my head so hot,
The cold wet glass of water
That she offered helped a lot.
She kissed me on the cheek
And then turned off the light.
Stepped to the bedroom door
And whispered quietly, "Good night."
As I settled down to sleep
I thought about one thing and another.
I smiled and murmured, "Thank you.
I'm so glad that you're my mother!"

1. What is wrong with the person telling this poem?
- a she is tired
 - b she is not feeling well
 - c she is afraid of the dark
 - d NH

6. At what time does this poem take place?
- f 7:00 pm
 - g 8:30 pm
 - h 10:00 pm
 - j NH

5. What is the girl grateful for?
- a the kiss
 - b the blanket
 - c her Mom
 - d NH

4. What cold item did Mom give to the girl?
- f a fluffy pillow
 - g a blanket
 - h a glass of water
 - j NH

3. Who has a "fevered head"?
- a Mom
 - b the person telling the poem
 - c Dad
 - d NH

2. What does the line "On quiet slippers feet" mean?
- f Mom slipped and fell
 - g the girl has on slippers
 - h Mom has on slippers
 - j NH