

Language—Sample Content Levels 16 through 18



Choose the best way to combine the two sentences.

Our friends invited us to go swimming with them.

The water in the lake was very cold.

- As soon as our friends invited us to go swimming with them, the water in the lake was very cold.
- Our friends invited us to go swimming with them even though the water in the lake was very cold.
- Our friends invited us to go swimming with them so that the water in the lake was very cold.
- Because our friends invited us to go swimming with them, the water in the lake was very cold.

This item assesses:

L.7.5 – Demonstrate an understanding of complete, concise, and effective sentences in existing text—including recognition of subjects, predicates, run-ons, fragments, parallel structure, correct placement of modifiers, and correctly combined sentence elements: sentence combining.

Thinking Skill – Synthesize Elements—Integrate: connect and combine elements into a new whole

7.L.1b – Choose among simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences to signal differing relationships among ideas.

Read the paragraph. Then choose the underlined word that is used incorrectly.

A few weeks ago, I assured my dad that I would help him clean the attic on Saturday. I forgot that I had made plans to go to the movies with my friends that day. While I would rather go with my friends, I know I have to except responsibility and honor the commitment I made to my dad.

- assured
- rather
- except
- commitment

This item assesses:

L.9.3 – Identify the appropriate use of capitalization, punctuation, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in existing text: usage

Thinking Skill – Analyze Information—Determine Accuracy and Adequacy: examine to discover possible errors, biases, omissions, ambiguities, or unwarranted claims

6.L.6 – Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression

Choose the two sentences that are written correctly.

- My mom bought a new doormat—one that is good for cleaning paws—after our dog left muddy footprints all over the house.
- However, we discovered that our cat liked lying on the doormat because it was made of super—soft material.
- I suggested that we train the cat to sleep on a small bed—I made for her in my crafts class last week.
- Mom thought it was a good idea—so I ran upstairs quickly—to my room to get it.
- The dog decided he liked the new bed, giving us the biggest laugh of the day—watching him try to fit his large body on the small bed.

This item assesses:

L.9.2 – Identify the appropriate use of capitalization, punctuation, nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs in existing text: punctuation

Thinking Skill – Analyze Information—Determine Accuracy and Adequacy: examine to discover possible errors, biases, omissions, ambiguities, or unwarranted claims

8.L.2a – Use punctuation (comma, ellipsis, dash) to indicate a pause or break.

Read the paragraph. Which sentence is not relevant to the topic of the paragraph?

¹Much of what we know about the lives of dinosaurs comes from studying their bones. ²The sizes and shapes of dinosaur bones can give clues about how they moved. ³Dinosaur bones can be found in museums all over the world. ⁴Recently, scientists have used computer models of dinosaur skulls to better understand the sounds they might have made.

- Sentence 1
- Sentence 2
- Sentence 3
- Sentence 4

This item assesses:

L.8.2 – Demonstrate an understanding of the use of information sources and topic sentences, concluding sentences, connective and transitional words and phrases, supporting statements, sequences of ideas, and relevance of information: relevance

Thinking Skill – Synthesize Elements—Integrate: connect and combine elements into a new whole

7.W.4 – Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3.)