



**NEW ENGLAND  
COMMON ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

**Released Items  
2013**

**Grade 5  
Writing**

# Writing

- 1 Where should a comma be added to the sentence below?

An important date in American history is December 7 1941.

- A. after *important*
  - B. after *date*
  - C. after *American*
  - D. after 7
- 2 What is the **best** way to combine the sentences below?

I wanted to buy a book. I forgot to bring my money to the mall.

- A. I wanted to buy a book, I forgot to bring my money to the mall.
- B. I wanted to buy a book, but I forgot to bring my money to the mall.
- C. I wanted to buy a book, so I forgot to bring my money to the mall.
- D. I wanted to buy a book, or I forgot to bring my money to the mall.

- 3 How should the underlined words in the sentence below be written?

Her and I really admire our coach.

- A. She and I
  - B. Me and she
  - C. Her and us
  - D. Me and her
- 4 Which spelling change should be made in the sentence below?

I could not decide whether to buy a calender with pictures of cars or motorcycles.

- A. Change *decide* to **deside**.
- B. Change *calender* to **calendar**.
- C. Change *pictures* to **pitchers**.
- D. Change *motorcycles* to **motorcicles**.

- 5 Which word in the sentence below should be capitalized?

My mother and I plan to take a boat ride down Snake river next summer.

- A. mother
  - B. boat
  - C. river
  - D. summer
- 6 Which of the following is a complete sentence?
- A. A movie with a funny story.
  - B. Seven o'clock at the movies at the mall.
  - C. Thought about the movie tonight.
  - D. I liked the movie I saw yesterday.

- 7 Where should a comma be added to the sentence below?

We will be busy going to the grocery store cleaning the house, and washing the car on Saturday.

- A. after *We*
  - B. after *busy*
  - C. after *store*
  - D. after *washing*
- 8 What is the **best** way to combine the sentences below?

The tennis team worked hard. The tennis team won the championship.

- A. The tennis team worked hard, they won the championship.
- B. The tennis team worked hard but won the championship.
- C. The tennis team worked hard and won the championship.
- D. The tennis team worked hard, the team won the championship.

- 9 Which word in the sentence below should be capitalized?

My grandfather and I like visiting aunt Millie at the department store where she works.

- A. grandfather
- B. aunt
- C. department
- D. store

- 10 Which sentence has a punctuation error at the end?

- A. I have been looking everywhere for today's newspaper.
- B. Does anyone know where I might have put the newspaper?
- C. The newspaper is delivered every morning by six o'clock.
- D. Do I have to go to the store and buy another newspaper.

**When writing responses to prompts 11, 12, and 13, remember to**

- **read the prompt carefully,**
- **develop a complete response to the prompt,**
- **proofread and edit your writing, and**
- **write only in the space provided.**

## **Response to Literary Text**

*As you read this story about two friends who have an argument, think about whether they can still be friends. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.*

### **Agreeing to Disagree**

*by Anne D. Mather and Louise B. Weldon*

“George, I just can’t stand to watch that movie one more time,” Emma complained. “We’ve watched it about five Saturdays in a row.”

“Just three,” George said. “But I love the special effects. You’ll get into it once it starts.” He pushed in the tape.\*

That made Emma angrier. “I’m going home,” she said, getting up to go.

Later, lying on her bed, Emma felt unsettled. She tried to read a book, but kept reading the same line over and over. All she could think of was her fight with George. It was not a bad fight, as fights go. Neither one insulted the other or said anything mean. Still, Emma felt uncomfortable.

George called a little while later. “Let’s talk about this some more,” he said.

“I’m sorry I walked out on you,” Emma said.

“I’m sorry for trying to make you watch the movie again,” George said. “We don’t have to watch it anymore.”

“We can watch it *sometimes*,” Emma said. “Just not every weekend.”

“Even if it is the greatest movie ever?” George asked jokingly.

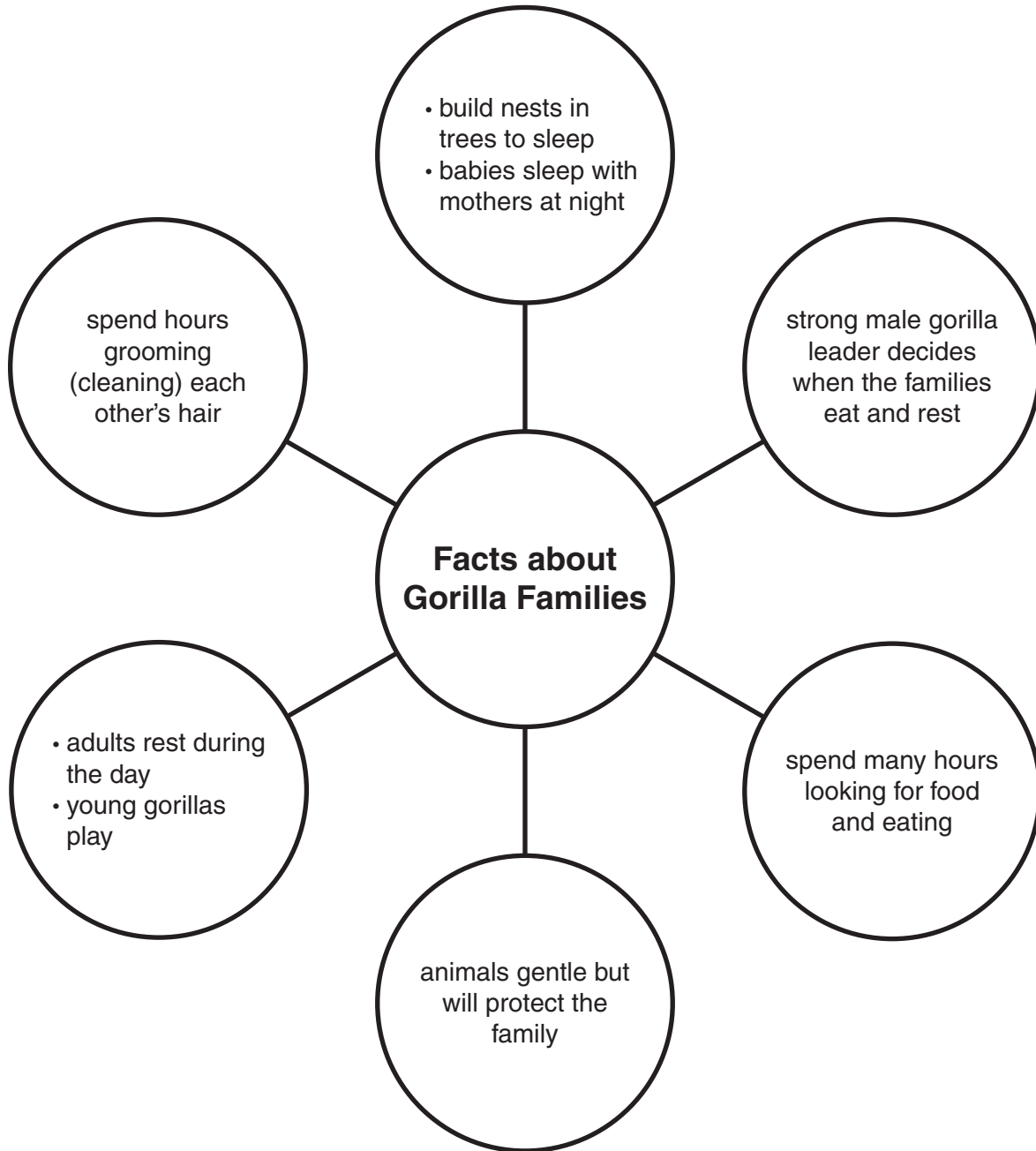
“It is *not* the greatest movie ever,” Emma said. “But even though we disagree, we can still be friends.”

\*tape: a copy of the movie

- 11 Emma says that even though she and George disagree, they can still be friends. Do you agree with her? Write a paragraph using details from the story to support your response.

# Report

*A student made this organizer about gorilla families. Read the information in the organizer and think about what gorilla families are like. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.*



- 12 Write a paragraph that explains what gorilla families are like. Choose information from the organizer to support the main idea of your paragraph.



## Response to Informational Text

*As you read this passage from a book about strange meals, think about whether you would want to read the entire book. Then write a response to the prompt that follows.*

### **Something's Moving in My Lunch Box**

*by James Solheim*

What would you rather eat for lunch—a steaming piece of pizza, a bowl of bugs, a live oyster, or a fish's head?

You might be surprised to learn that many people in the world would not answer “PIZZA!”

In Europe and Asia, many kids love to eat fish heads. Americans gulp down tons of live oysters a day. And many Africans know that a properly cooked grasshopper has a delightful crunch.

What's disgusting and what's delicious? It depends on where you live and what you're used to eating. It depends on whether the refrigerator has been invented yet and whether your mom once got sick eating tomatoes. It depends on many things—maybe on everything that ever happened up to the moment you lifted that fork.

So grab a cockroach cookie and turn the page for some of the sickest, silliest, and strangest meals the world has ever known. When you're done, maybe you'll have a hankering for something really horrid—like spinach!

- 13 Does this passage make you want to read the entire book? Write a paragraph that explains why or why not. Use details from the passage to support your response.

## Narrative

- 14 Write a story about a character who learns that it is always best to be honest.

**A complete narrative (story) includes**

- a beginning, middle, end
- a clear story line
- details that describe
- a problem and solution
- well-chosen words

**Be sure to proofread and edit your writing.**

# Acknowledgments

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