

Making Judgments

PRACTICE 5: SAMPLE

Directions

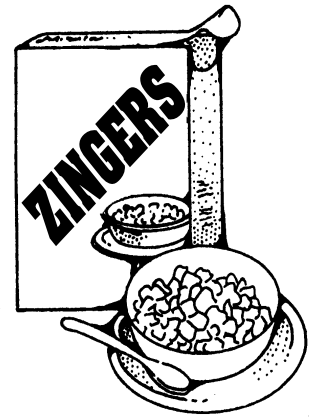
Read the passage. Choose the best answer to each question.

HINT: To make judgments about a passage, think about why the author wrote it.

A Winning Breakfast

When track star Nora James races, she usually finishes first. What makes Nora a winner? “Every morning I work out at the track for two hours,” says Nora. “But first I eat a bowl of Zingers with milk.”

Zingers are a delicious blend of oats, rice, corn, and just a touch of honey. These crunchy, golden squares stay crisp to the last spoonful. And just one bowl of Zingers gives you a whole day’s supply of ten important vitamins. So if you want to be a winner like Nora James, start your day with Zingers!



A What is the best reason to eat Zingers for breakfast?

- (A) Nora James eats Zingers every morning.
- (B) Zingers supply ten important vitamins.
- (C) You might win something.
- (D) Zingers are square and golden.

HINT: To find an opinion, look for a sentence that states a feeling or belief.

B Which idea from this passage is an opinion?

- (F) Nora usually wins her races.
- (G) Nora works out every morning.
- (H) Zingers taste delicious.
- (J) Zingers are made with honey.

C The author’s purpose in this passage is to

- (A) persuade you to buy Zingers.
- (B) explain how cereal is made.
- (C) tell a funny story.
- (D) give information about Nora James.

D Look at the underlined part of the sentence. Choose the answer that shows the correct capitalization and punctuation.

Nora says Always start the day with a good breakfast.”

- (F) says, Always
- (G) says, “Always
- (H) says, “always
- (J) Correct as it is

Finding the Answers to Practice 5: Sample

To make judgments, you must ask yourself what the author is trying to say. Think about what kind of information is included, and why.

For question **A**, the passage does not tell you the best reason for eating Zingers, but you can use information from the passage to make your own judgment. You know that the best foods are those that are good for you, so the correct answer is **B**, “Zingers supply ten important vitamins.” The other choices do not state good reasons for eating Zingers.

To answer question **B**, you must decide whether each idea from the passage is a fact or an opinion. A fact is an idea that can be proven true, but an opinion is a feeling or belief. Choices **F**, **G**, and **J** are facts that can be proven true. The correct answer, **H**, is the only opinion.

For question **C**, you must think about why the author wrote the passage. This passage is an advertisement written mainly to persuade you to buy Zingers, answer **A**. Passages may also be written mainly to give information, to describe something, or to entertain the reader.

Question **D** is a question about correct capitalization and punctuation of a speaker’s words. The correct answer, **G**, uses a comma and quotation marks to set the speaker’s words apart from the rest of the sentence, and it begins the quotation with a capital letter.

REMINDERS: As you take the Practice Test, remember these hints.

- ✓ To make a judgment or decision, think about all the details or reasons given. Choose the one that seems most important.
- ✓ A fact is a statement that can be verified or proven true. To find an opinion, look for a feeling or belief that cannot be proven.
- ✓ The author’s purpose in an advertisement or editorial is to persuade. For most stories, the purpose is to entertain or to teach a lesson. Most other texts are written to inform.

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HINT: To find an opinion, look for a sentence that states a feeling or belief.

A What is the best reason to eat Zingers for breakfast?

Ⓐ Nora James eats Zingers every morning.
 Ⓑ Zingers supply ten important vitamins.
 Ⓒ You might win something.
 Ⓓ Zingers are square and golden.

B Which idea from this passage is an opinion?

Ⓐ Nora usually wins her races.
 Ⓑ Nora works out every morning.
 Ⓒ Zingers taste delicious.
 Ⓓ Zingers are made with honey.

C The author’s purpose in this passage is to

Ⓐ persuade you to buy Zingers. Ⓒ tell a funny story.
 Ⓑ explain how cereal is made. Ⓓ give information about Nora James.

D Look at the underlined part of the sentence. Choose the answer that shows the correct capitalization and punctuation.
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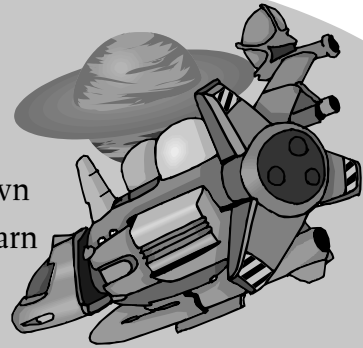
PRACTICE 5: TEST

Directions

Read the passage. Choose the best answer to each question.

Computer Games

Are you looking for an exciting computer game that is also educational? Malmo Software has four new games that will knock your socks off!



- **Space Pirate** lets you zoom through the galaxy on your own starship. You will search for treasure, capture aliens, and learn science along the way.
- In **Crazy Cooking**, you make up the recipes, prepare the food, and serve the meals from your own video kitchen. At the same time, you will learn math skills by working with whole numbers, fractions, and measurements.
- **Time Machine** lets you go back to any period in history to see what it was like and find the facts you need to know. You can meet George Washington, sail with Columbus, or even visit cave people!
- **Word Search** takes you on a voyage through the English language—where it began, who invented it, and how it has changed. On your voyage, you will learn new vocabulary and spelling skills.

Each of these new games comes on CD-ROM and costs only \$15.95 plus tax. Or, get all four games for only \$50! These are the best new games on the planet! They'll provide hours of fun for the whole family. And you'll be amazed at how much you can learn along the way. So don't wait! Order now!

1 This passage was written mainly to

- (A) give information about computer games.
- (B) persuade people to buy games.
- (C) explain how CD-ROM games work.
- (D) entertain readers.

2 Which idea from the passage is an opinion?

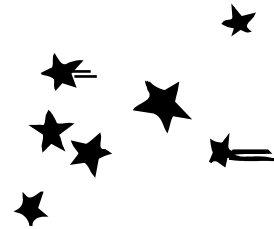
- (F) Malmo Software has four new games.
- (G) Each game comes on CD-ROM.
- (H) Games cost only \$15.95 each, plus tax.
- (J) These are the best new games on the planet.

- 3** If you wanted to know what life was like for the Pilgrims when they landed in America, which game would be the best choice?
- (A) "Space Pirate" (C) "Time Machine"
 (B) "Crazy Cooking" (D) "Word Search"
- 4** Which sentence from the passage supports your answer to number 3?
- (F) "In Crazy Cooking, you make up the recipes."
 (G) "Time Machine lets you go back to any period in history."
 (H) "Word Search takes you on a voyage through the English language."
 (J) "Space Pirate lets you zoom through the galaxy."
- 5** You can learn math skills by playing
- (A) "Space Pirate." (C) "Time Machine."
 (B) "Word Search." (D) "Crazy Cooking."
- 6** James went to the store and _____ the new games.
 Which word suggests that James took a close look at the games?
- (F) inspected (H) spotted
 (G) noticed (J) saw

Directions

Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Choose the answer that shows the correct capitalization and punctuation for the underlined part. If the underlined part is written correctly, mark "Correct as it is."

- 7** Yes these new games are great.
- (A) Yes! these (C) Yes: these
 (B) Yes, these (D) Correct as it is
- 8** At the store, Mr murdock waited on us.
- (F) Mr. Murdock (H) mr. Murdock
 (G) Mr Murdock (J) Correct as it is
- 9** These games help children learn science, math, and history.
- (A) science, math and, history (C) science math and history
 (B) science math, and history (D) Correct as it is
- 10** The Malmo Software company is located in ware massachusetts.
- (F) Ware Massachusetts (H) Ware, Massachusetts
 (G) ware, massachusetts (J) Correct as it is



SCORE	10
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Answer Key

Making Judgments

PRACTICE 5: TEST

1. B
2. J
3. C
4. G
5. D
6. F
7. B
8. F
9. D
10. H