

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.

Save the Wilbur

Mayor Nichols has talked about tearing down the Wilbur Hotel to make room for a parking garage. This is a terrible idea! The Wilbur is an important part of our town's history. We should preserve it instead of tearing it down.

Today the Wilbur is empty and boarded up, but it was once the loveliest building on Main Street. The hotel had comfortable rooms and a terrific restaurant. Famous people, including two presidential candidates, stayed there. Our town was proud of the Wilbur.

Is the Wilbur doomed for sure? Not if concerned citizens can find a way to restore and reopen it. If you think the Wilbur should be saved, make sure Mayor Nichols hears from you!



HINT: To find a fact, look for a statement that can be proven true.

A Which action taken by the mayor would please the author most?

- (A) building a new hotel beside the new parking garage
- (B) inviting famous people to visit the town
- (C) tearing down the Wilbur to build a gasoline station
- (D) finding a different location for the parking garage

B Which idea from the passage is a fact?

- (F) Tearing down the Wilbur Hotel is a terrible idea.
- (G) The Wilbur Hotel should be preserved.
- (H) The Wilbur Hotel is empty and boarded up.
- (J) The Wilbur Hotel was once the loveliest building in town.

C The author mentions that two presidential candidates stayed at the Wilbur as evidence to support the idea that

- (A) citizens should vote.
- (B) the Wilbur was a fine hotel.
- (C) the town is famous.
- (D) the Wilbur had lots of rooms.

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

The Wilbur Hotel was owned by Mr and mrs Bernard.

- (F) Mr and Mrs Bernard
- (G) Mr. and mrs. Bernard
- (H) Mr. and Mrs. Bernard
- (J) Correct as it is

Finding the Answers to Practice 5: Sample

To make judgments, you must consider the information included in a passage and decide what the author is trying to say. You must also distinguish between factual information and the author's opinions.

For question **A**, you must use clues from the passage to figure out which action the author would like the mayor to take. The passage states, "We should preserve the Wilbur instead of tearing it down," and the author urges citizens to "find a way to restore and reopen it." Since finding a different location for the parking garage will allow the Wilbur to remain standing, answer **D** is the best choice.

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, while an opinion is a belief or feeling. Of the choices given, the only statement of fact is answer **H**, "The Wilbur Hotel is empty and boarded up." The other statements are opinions.

For question **C**, you must think about the author's reasons for including certain information in the passage. By mentioning that famous people, including two presidential candidates, stayed at the Wilbur, the author suggests that it was once a fine hotel, answer **B**.

Question **D** is a question about correct capitalization and punctuation. Each of the abbreviations *Mr.* and *Mrs.* should begin with a capital letter and end with a period. The correct answer is **H**.

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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Scholastic Professional Books

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PRACTICE 5: TEST

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

Bicycle Safety

Dear Mr. Locke,

Last week I fell off my bike. I bruised my elbow and sprained my wrist, but my injuries would have been worse if I hadn't been wearing my bicycle helmet. "Tell your friends what happened to you," the doctor said, "so they'll be sure to wear their helmets, too."

I did what the doctor said and told my friends, but getting a few kids to wear helmets is not a big deal. A famous basketball player like you, however, could convince thousands of kids to wear helmets. How do I know? Sport-Ade is the best-selling soft drink because Sam Locke drinks it. Zoomers are the most popular basketball shoes because Sam Locke wears them. And, of course, the "Locke" is the coolest hairstyle for boys.

I think you should film a public-service announcement for television, telling kids to wear helmets. If the message came from you, kids would pay attention. I hope you'll think about it.

Sincerely,
Ray Brown



Dear Ray,

Your terrific letter has persuaded me to film a public-service announcement about the importance of wearing bicycle helmets. Now I have a request for you. Would you appear in the announcement with me? You could talk about your accident and how your helmet protected you. I'm sure we'll persuade more kids to wear helmets if we make the announcement together. Please call me at 555-3471 to say yes. Then we'll arrange to fly you to Chicago for the filming.

Sincerely,
Sam Locke

- 1 Ray's main purpose for writing his letter was to**
- (A) ask Sam Locke to make a public-service announcement.
 - (B) tell an interesting story about his bike accident.
 - (C) convince Sam Locke that he is a famous basketball player.
 - (D) describe some of his favorite products.

- 2 What can you tell about Ray from his letter?**
 (F) He has lots of friends. (H) He is a good basketball player.
 (G) He wants to help others. (J) He loves to watch television.
- 3 Which sentence in Ray’s letter supports the idea that kids would pay attention to a message from Sam Locke?**
 (A) “Last week I fell off my bike.”
 (B) “My injuries would have been worse if I hadn’t been wearing my bicycle helmet.”
 (C) “I did what the doctor said and told my friends.”
 (D) “Zoomers are the most popular basketball shoes because Sam Locke wears them.”
- 4 Which idea from the passage is an opinion?**
 (F) Ray bruised his shoulder. (H) The “Locke” is the coolest hairstyle.
 (G) Sam Locke is a basketball player. (J) Sam Locke drinks Sport-Ade.
- 5 The most important reason for Ray to be in the announcement is that he can**
 (A) get more kids to wear helmets. (C) fly to Chicago.
 (B) be on television. (D) meet Sam Locke.
- 6 Which word suggests that Ray and Sam will try to make a helpful suggestion?**

Ray and Sam will _____ kids to wear bike helmets.

- (F) order (H) lecture
 (G) advise (J) beg



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 The doctor said “you could have been badly hurt.”**
 (A) said, “you (C) said, “You
 (B) said “You (D) Correct as it is
- 8 Ray mailed the letter: and Sam Locke received it three days later.**
 (F) letter, and (H) letter; and
 (G) letter. And (J) Correct as it is
- 9 Sam Locke lives a few miles from Chicago in Park forest Illinois.**
 (A) Park forest, Illinois (C) park Forest, Illinois
 (B) Park Forest, Illinois (D) Correct as it is
- 10 Mrs. Brown, Ray’s mother, will fly to Chicago with him.**
 (F) Ray’s Mother (H) Rays’s mother
 (G) Rays’ mother (J) Correct as it is

SCORE	10
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Answer Key (continued)

Making Judgments

PRACTICE 5: TEST

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