

Grade 6

Reading & Writing Moments

A Day By Day Approach to Language Arts



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The Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) primary purpose is to provide Texas schools with an accurate measure of student achievement. The scope of content eligible for testing is broadened to include more of the instructional targets delineated in the essential elements. Broadening the scope of the testing program should encourage greater emphasis on a larger set of essential elements rather than on the relatively limited set of objectives. Every section of the TAAS test contains a certain number of broad objectives. These objectives will remain consistent from grade to grade, for they represent the core concepts which form the basis for a sound instructional progression from Grade 1 through Grade 12. What differs from grade to grade are the instructional targets — or essential elements which comprise each objective. A portion of this expanded set of instructional targets is selected for assessment annually, but not every instructional target is tested every year. Thus, instruction should focus on the essential elements, which reflect these targets, instead of on a narrow body of objectives.

The broadened scope of this assessment program also allows for a different focus, one which better addresses the academic requirements of the 1990's. Those skill areas which demand little more than rote memorization are de-emphasized, while those areas which improve a student's ability to think independently, read critically, write clearly, and solve problems logically receive increased emphasis. This new emphasis in Texas is in keeping with the current national trend in education, which stresses the importance, and even necessity, of teaching students higher-order thinking skills.

This calendar is designed to help students develop confidence and create an interest in reading and writing. Also, regular use of this calendar will help students with reading comprehension and written communication.



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The Day I Met Caruso

When I was ten years old, I took my first trip alone from Boston to New York. That was in 1915. I'd been visiting Cousin Hannah, one of my father's family.

As Cousin Hannah put me on the noon train, she said, "Thy father will meet thee. Since thee's in the parlor car, thee'll be perfectly safe. Just read thy book, and do not speak to strangers."

My seat was right across from the drawing room. The door was open. And I peeked in.

(1)

"Look, Cousin Hannah!" I exclaimed. "A little room! I wish I had this!"

"Lower thy voice," she scolded. "Drawing rooms are for large families. People do not travel alone in drawing rooms unless they are extravagant."

I had been taught that Quakers were never extravagant. As the train pulled out I turned away from the sight of Cousin Hannah, in her mole-gray hat, waving good-by. I rolled the lovely, forbidden word extravagant around in my mouth. I yearned for extravagance. To waste a whole day, to buy something useless, to be kissed for no reason! There were people who lived like that, but not in our family.

When the train stopped at Boston's Back Bay station, I looked out the window. On the platform I saw a circle of men and women clustered around a fat man. The women were pretty, with bright hats and white gloves, and flowers pinned to (2) muffs. Most of the men had glossy mustaches. The fat man wore an overcoat that was plainly extravagant — it had a fur collar. Not one of my father's coats ever had a fur collar.

The fat man was kissed and slapped on the back and hugged. Everyone was laughing and gay. As I watched, many bags were carried into the drawing room. For a large family, I thought. Then the fat man sprang nimbly onto the train. A woman unpinned the violets from her muff and tossed them to him as the train began to move. I looked at the drawing room to see the large family, but only the fat man went into it. Then the porter came along. Cousin Hannah had asked him to take good care of me, so he stopped at my seat.

"You know who's in there, little girl?" he asked, nodding at the closed door.

"No," I said. "Who?"

"Mr. Enrico Caruso, the opera singer. You ever heard of him?"

"Oh yes!" I said, looking spellbound at the closed door.

We had a Victrola at home, and I was allowed to play my father's records on rainy afternoons. When the voice called Caruso sang to me, I shivered all over.

The porter had gone away and the passengers weren't watching me. Quickly, I slipped out of my chair and tapped at the closed door.

MONDAY

1. Which is the best way to write the underlined part?
- A Before the door was open and I peeked in.
 - B The door was open, and I peeked in.
 - C The door was open and I peeked. In.
 - D The door was open after I peeked in.

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A his
 - B hers
 - C mine
 - D their

WEDNESDAY

3. The word extravagant in this passage means —
- A wasteful
 - B stingy
 - C cheap
 - D expensive

THURSDAY

4. What's the setting of this story?
- A New York
 - B An opera house
 - C A train station at Boston's Back Bay
 - D Cousin Hannah's house

FRIDAY

5. Which of the following could have happened next?
- A Caruso answered the door and was angry.
 - B The train arrived in Toledo.
 - C The girl was taken to jail.
 - D The train backed into New York.

The End of Blackbeard the Pirate

"A gigantic man whose thick black beard grows up to his eyes, who can fell a man with one blow of his cutlass, then toss the body overboard with one hand." So his victims described Blackbeard the Pirate.

Blackbeard was a true pirate all right. His real name was Edward Teach, and he (1) from the English port of Bristol, where his parents kept a grogshop. He first went to sea in the early years of the eighteenth century, when England was at war with France and Spain.

Those were the days of the "privateers" — private ships that were licensed to attack enemy merchant vessels and seize their cargoes. Even after the war ended, many privateer captains continued to hunt down and plunder merchant ships. The Bahamas, in the West Indies, with hundrids

(2)

of uninhabited islands, provided wonderful hidden anchorages from which they could sally forth to raid the great trade routes of the North Atlantic.

Teach served in a privateer under one of the toughest scoundrels in England, Captain Hornigold. One day Hornigold captured a big French merchant ship. He put Teach on board with a crew so that the two ships might work together. Teach, who was far bigger than most men and proud of his strength, had other ideas. He renamed the ship *Queen Anne's Revenge* and told the crew that from now on she was his.

In a very short time he had made her a real pirate ship. He armed her with forty-nine guns, mostly carronades—short cannons that fired large cannon balls. Their range was only a few hundred yards, but within that distance they could smash anything in front of them.

Blackbeard's first act of piracy made him famous. He was lying out to sea a few miles from the British naval station at St. Vincent in the Windward Islands, his plan being to attack the first merchantman he saw. Suddenly the *Great Allen*, a British ship, came in sight. Teach fired a shot across her bows, then came in close and disabled her with a broadside.

Soon a boatload of his fellow cutthroats was swarming aboard. First, they took off the crew and turned them adrift in one of the ship's boats. Then they burst open the hold and seized the valuable cargo. Lastly, they set fire to the ship and watched it burn to the water line.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A come
 - B comes
 - C came
 - D coming

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake occurs in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. The author of this story wants you to believe that—
- A Blackbeard was a kind man
 - B Blackbeard was very frightened
 - C Blackbeard was a cruel and evil man
 - D Blackbeard was a poor navigator

THURSDAY

4. The *Queen Anne's Revenge* was armed with—
- A twenty-nine guns
 - B forty-nine guns
 - C sixty guns
 - D fifty-seven guns

FRIDAY

5. What did Teach do to the *Great Allen* right after his crew broke open the hold?
- A Took off the crew
 - B Set fire to the ship
 - C Sank the ship
 - D Seized the cargo

Experiments with Air

How Heavy Air Is!

Did you know that a weight of 400 pounds presses on your hand, and on your whole body, many thousands of pounds? At sea level, the air presses on each square inch of us with a force of 14 1/2 pounds, that is, on a area a little bigger than a stamp. Your whole hand has an area of several square inches; thus, on top of it there rests a weight of many pounds. The air presses from all sides, and also the hand presses back, so we do not notice the air pressure. You can show the tremendous weight of air in the following way: On a strong table, lay a thin wooden board (about 4 inches wide by 20 inches long) so that one end of the board projects a few inches over the edge of the table. Spread a newspaper over the remaining part of the board. The paper must not be damaged, nor have a hole in it.

Smooth the paper flat; then hit the projecting end of the board with your fist. You (1) that the paper stays where it is.

How does the board remain there, as though it were nailed? You will
(2)
probably find that the paper is about 34 inches long and 25 inches wide, so its area is about 850 square inches. This means that the air presses on it with a force of something like 12,325 pounds, or more than 6 tons!

Make your own Barometer

You can make a very simple barometer with a bottle and shallow basin of water. Fill three quarters of the bottle with water and stand it upside down with its mouth in the basin. (Keep your thumb over the mouth of the bottle until it is under the water.) On the outside of the bottle, crossing its water level, stick a strip of paper with numbered marks on it. There you have your barometer.

The water is kept in the bottle by the pressure of air on the surface of the water in the basin. When the air pressure is high, which usually means good weather, the water in the bottle stands high. With low pressure, usually a warning of bad weather, the level of the water will fall.

MONDAY

1. Which words belong in the blank?
- A has found
 - B did find
 - C will find
 - D find

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. What would happen if the newspaper had a large hole in it?
- A The experiment would not work.
 - B The stick would rip the paper when it was hit.
 - C The air pressure on the stick would increase.
 - D The stick would move the paper off the table.

THURSDAY

4. If your barometer showed low air pressure, you could expect—
- A no change in the weather
 - B bad weather
 - C sunny skies and warm temperatures
 - D a heat wave

FRIDAY

5. What must you do after you fill the bottle with water?
- A Hit it with your fist.
 - B Stick a piece of paper marked with numbers on it.
 - C Stand it upside down.
 - D Put a hole in the newspaper.

Susan B. Anthony

When Susan B. Anthony began her career of reform, crowds hissed her for saying women are entitled to the same political rights as men. Drunks threatened her with guns. She was strung up and burned in disgrace. Clergymen called her a dangerous crank. Newspapers made fun of her in cartoons that showed a half-dressed, masculine-looking hag smoking a thick black cigar.

For more than sixty years, against all odds, Miss Anthony fought tooth and nail for her ideas. By the time she died—on March 13, 1906, at the age of 86—she had earned a place as one of America's leaders.

Susan Brownell Anthony was born on February 15, 1820, in an era when girls were raised like hothouse flowers. They were supposed to be
(1)

shy, and retiring. Outdoor exercise such as running, jumping, or bicycle riding was unheard of. Indeed it was ____ (2) ____ . A girl was a prisoner in her clothes. A young lady of thirteen wore a stiff corset which squeezed her body into whatever shape was the fashion that year. Then there was a corset cover and long drawers. Next came five or six heavy, quilted, stiffly starched petticoats. Finally there was a dress with high neck, long sleeves, tight bodice, and a full skirt which swept the ground.

In this age a woman's aim in life was to marry, and her occupation was housekeeping and child-rearing. No high degree of education was needed, and none was offered. Girls learned to cook and sew, make butter and cheese, spin and weave.

Women who did not marry were pitied or joked about. Few people really believed anyone who said she preferred to remain single. For how could anybody "prefer" not to have a husband to support her and give her a position in the community? Women were not citizens, but subjects. They did not appear in public places without an escort. Because they had no rights before the law, they could not buy a business, or sign a contract, or inherit money, or own land, or even be legal guardians of their own children.

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake appears in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A impossible
 - B impossibly
 - C impossibility
 - D impossibilizing

WEDNESDAY

3. The word corset means—
- A hat
 - B coat
 - C girdle
 - D umbrella

THURSDAY

4. The author states "a girl was a prisoner in her clothes." He means—
- A women had a great deal of fashion freedom
 - B women could wear whatever they wanted
 - C women could only wear one kind of dress
 - D women wore many layers of restrictive clothing

FRIDAY

5. Based on the information in the passage, you can conclude—
- A women were thought of as equals
 - B most women preferred to be single
 - C women did not have many rights during Anthony's time
 - D all women were weak, docile and obeyed their husbands

Redistricting Plan by Dave McNeely *American-Statesman Staff*

A new Texas house district, with a large number of Republicans, would be created in western Travis County under a redistricting plan drawn by the county's legislative delegation.

The new seat almost certainly would be won by a Republican, according to the four Democratic lawmakers who prepared the map: state Reps. Sherri Greenberg, District 48; Elliott Naishtat, District 49; Wilhelmina Delco, District 50; and Glen Maxey, District 51.

Rep. Libby Linebarger, D-Manchaca, who represents a slice of southern Travis County and Blanco, Hays and Llano counties, did not participate in drawing the lines.

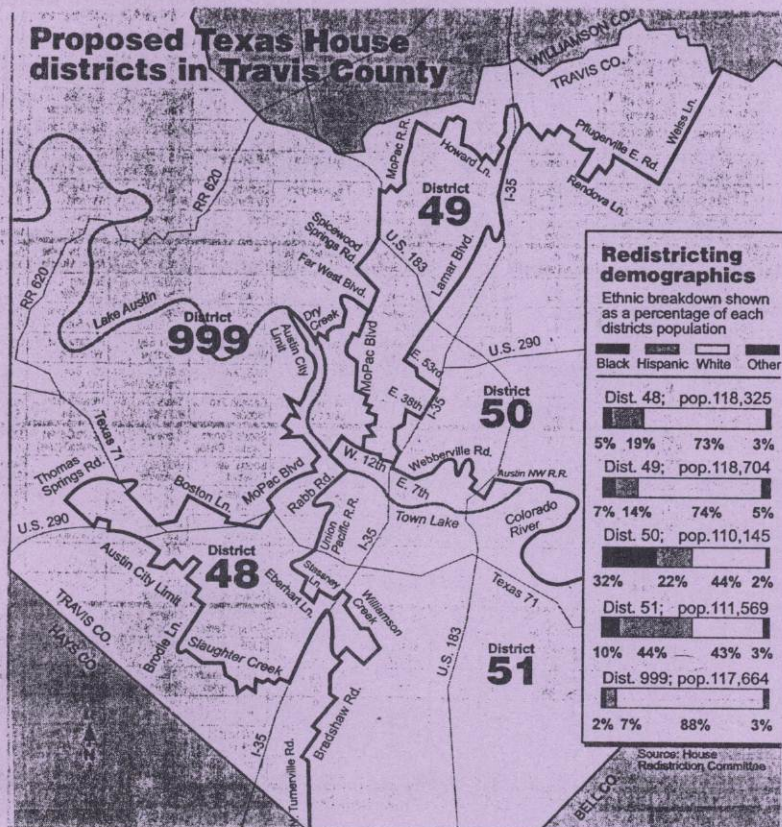
Since Travis County now has enough population for five complete districts, her District 47 will no longer stretch into Travis County, Linebarger said. She said her district might be extended to include Caldwell County on the east or areas further west.

The legislature approves new districts after each census to adjust for population changes. By tradition, in a populous County like Travis, the

legislative delegation does the job of redrawing districts that do not cross county lines.

Travis County's population has risen from 419,573 in 1980 to 576,407 in 1990, according to the latest census. That is why (2) number of House seats will go from 4 1/2 to 5.

Perhaps the biggest controversy over the new configuration is District 51. Since it was created in 1976, when Travis County went from at-large to single-member districts, it had been represented by a Hispanic — until Maxey won the seat in a special election this year.



MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A his
 - B her
 - C its
 - D their

WEDNESDAY

3. From the chart, what's the population of District 50?
- A 118,325
 - B 118,704
 - C 110,145
 - D 111,569

THURSDAY

4. From the chart, what percentage of District 999 is Hispanic?
- A 2%
 - B 7%
 - C 88%
 - D 3%

FRIDAY

5. Which of the following is a FACT as presented in the chart?
- A District 48 has a population of 117,664.
 - B 14% of the people in District 49 are Black.
 - C 44% of the people in District 51 are Hispanic.
 - D 3% of the people in District 999 are Hispanic.

Amy Towson

It was a winter's evening in New York. In the red-plush entrance hall of the old Waldorf-Astoria, then one of the city's most (1) hotels, stood a tall elegant man. He was the famous hotel detective, "Scotland Yard" Joe Smith. Cigar in mouth, hands behind his back, he was staring down at a tiny Sunday-school teacher with shining blue eyes.

"Mr. Smith," she was saying, "I think you are the greatest detective in the world."

"Indeed, miss?" Joe bowed politely. He was pleased.

"And I want to be a detective, too. I've read lots of mystery stories."

Joe's smile disappeared. "You might as well try to be a prize fighter, miss. Don't you know that criminals are dangerous people? Man hunting is a man's job."

"Yes, but oughtn't we to try to do more than that?" Joe clearly did not understand, but she went on: "Women are often able to cure criminals. If you would only try me out as your assistant!"

Joe's face was now going red.

"Anyway," she added hastily, "write down my name, Amy Towson, and my address. You never can tell."

"It's a Start!"

Joe might not have thought of her again, but a few months later he was called to the hotel manager's office. The manager had a problem.

"Mrs. Oliphant has been robbed. Mrs. Oliphant is one of our best
(2)

patrons. Jewelry worth ten thousand dollars was stolen from a safe in her private house. She says it can't be one of her servants. They have been with her for years, and she trusts them all. The police have been searching for a month now, but they (3) no success."

Those cops couldn't catch measles," said Joe in a gloomy voice. "I'll get the old lady's sparklers for her. I'll take charge of the case myself."

The manager shook his head sadly.

"That won't do, Joe. You see, Mrs. Oliphant refuses to have any more men working on the case. She says she must have a woman detective. Don't you know of any girl who could act as your assistant? The reward is one thousand dollars."

Next day Joe talked to Amy Towson. He made it clear that she was not being paid to do any real work. Her job was to keep Mrs. Oliphant happy while Joe solved the mystery. She was to listen to Mrs. Oliphant's story and come back and tell him what she said.

"It's a start, anyway!" said Amy, happily.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A luxury
 - B luxuried
 - C luxuriously
 - D luxurious

TUESDAY

2. Which is the best way to write the underlined part?
- A "Mrs. Oliphant is one of our robbed patrons."
 - B "One of our best patrons, Mrs. Oliphant, has been robbed."
 - C "One of our best patrons has been robbed, it was Mrs. Oliphant."
 - D "Mrs. Oliphant is one of our best patrons: she has been robbed

WEDNESDAY

3. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A have not had
 - B has not had
 - C have had
 - D has had

THURSDAY

4. What's the best summary of this passage?
- A Amy Towson got her first job as a detective.
 - B Amy Towson was a famous Scotland Yard detective.
 - C Mrs. Oliphant hired Amy Towson to recover her jewelry.
 - D Joe Smith and Amy Towson were married.

FRIDAY

5. Why did Joe hire Amy?
- A He thought she could do the job.
 - B He wanted more women to become detectives.
 - C He wanted to help a struggling young detective.
 - D Mrs. Oliphant didn't want any more men working on the case.

The City That Died

The morning of August 24 dawned hot, bright and still, like any summer day in southern Italy. The city of Pompeii basked among its silvery olive groves and dark umbrella pines. No one looked anxiously at Mount Versuvius, five miles away, for peaceful vineyards clothed the old volcano's sides; and its silent crater was plugged with rock.

Twenty thousand people lived in Pompeii. Its quaint walled part was already 600 years old, and lately many wealthy Romans had been coming to spend the summer there beside the Bay of Naples. Now the city spread beyond its walls, like flowers escaping a fence.

As the sun rose higher in the sky, the white marble on temples and villas glittered richly amid the buff, gray and black stone of the shops and ordinary houses. All the while, that morning in A.D. 79, the shadow on the sundial crept toward the fated figure I.

The shopkeepers were closing (1) wooden shutters for the long Italian lunch hour. The girls who had gone to the fountain at the corner to gossip and get water called good-by to one another and went their ways with the tall slim jars upon their shoulders. A baker shoved eighty-one loaves into his oven and closed the iron door. In a wineshop a customer laid his money on the counter.

Suddenly an earthquake shook the city.

The barmaid in the wineshop never picked up the money. The baker's loaves were burned to a crisp. (You can see these loaves today in (2)

the museum at Naples.) With the first shock of the earthquake, the everyday life of Pompeii was at an end forever.

Yet the earthquake was only the beginning — Vesuvius shaking itself before action. Roaring, and flashing hellish light, the volcano poured forth a weird cloud whose top spread out and out. Birds dropped dead from the sky. Sheets of water from breaking pipes and upheaved springs rushed down the city streets.

Thousands fled at once. They were wise to flee — and the wisest kept on traveling all that afternoon and night. Nothing else could have put them outside the circle of death that Vesuvius was drawing around itself.

Others lingered, for reasons their corpses were to show.

One group of mourners was found sitting around a funeral feast. A man found lying in the street still clutched a handful of gold coins — a looter perhaps, robbing the houses of those who had gone. Some people stayed to bury valuables and were buried themselves. Others spent precious time loading carts with their possessions. Others hid in their houses, shutting their doors against the mounting drift of ash from the volcano, only to find they could never open them again.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A they
 - B them
 - C these
 - D their

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake appears in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the implied main idea of paragraph six?
- A All the people of Pompeii were killed.
 - B Pompeii survived the earthquake.
 - C Many people remained in Pompeii after the earthquake.
 - D Pompeii became a great tourist town.

THURSDAY

4. When the volcano erupted, the people of Pompeii probably felt—
- A happy
 - B sleepy
 - C frightened
 - D lonely

FRIDAY

5. The word lingered in this passage means—
- A escaped
 - B fled
 - C stayed
 - D ran away

Rolf, the Dog Who Finds Things

Laying in a haystack one day, Yutta Pedersen, an eleven-year-old Danish girl, lost a valuable watch which her father had loaned her. Her father was upset, for the watch had belonged to his mother. He collected the neighborhood children and turned them loose to look for it, but no luck. The next day the police came with a dog and later with another dog. Neither could find it.

Nine days after this, Mr. Pedersen had an idea. He telephoned a secondhand dealer called Svend Andersen and asked him to bring his German Shepherd, Rolf.

When Rolf arrived, he wouldn't look at the haystack but began nosing about in a compost pit some distance away. There, in a matter of minutes, he found the watch. It had been hidden in a forkful of hay which someone had taken from the stack and dumped in the pit.

If you lived on the Danish island of Funen, you would find nothing unusual in that story. Any day, on the road, you could see a small blue truck with the words *Sporhunden Rolf* (Rolf, the Tracking Dog) painted on the back. You would see Rolf sitting beside the driver, looking at him as if listening to orders.

Since Rolf and Svend (1) into partnership a few years ago, they have traced thousands of dollars' worth of missing property. Their finds include watches, jewelry, money, cows, geese, pigs, and other dogs. Rolf's keen nose has found these things in busy streets, floating on water, trapped in ice, or buried under manure.

Every year, between 600 and 700 people ask for Rolf's help in finding something they have lost. Four times out of five. Rolf gets it back for them. (2)

Whenever the telephone rings in the Andersens' house, Rolf is alert at once. If he hears Svend mention one of the things they are most often asked to find, he dashes to the truck, eager to be off to work.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A gone
 - B goes
 - C going
 - D went

TUESDAY

2. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A Four times out of five Rolf gets it back for them?
 - B Four times out of five, Rolf gets it back for them.
 - C Rolf, four times out of five, gets it back — for them.
 - D Rolf gets it back four times out of five for them.

WEDNESDAY

3. Where did Rolf find the watch?
- A In the hay stack
 - B In the yard
 - C In a compost pit
 - D Under the truck

THURSDAY

4. What's the best main idea of the last paragraph?
- A When the phone rings, Rolf is alert at once.
 - B Rolf sleeps until his master calls him.
 - C Rolf stays in the truck ready to go to work.
 - D Rolf is successful because he can not hear.

FRIDAY

5. Where does this story take place?
- A On the island of Funen
 - B In England
 - C In America
 - D In Sporhunden

Make Yourself A Boomerang

From ordinary 1/4-inch plywood you can make a boomerang that really comes back to you when you throw it. Select a flat piece of plywood, 17 by 6 inches, with the grain running lengthwise. With a sharp pencil, draw the outline of a boomerang. Notice that the boomerang measures 2 inches at the center but tapers to 1 1/8 inches at the ends. Mark off the ends with a pencil compass set to 9/16 inch.

By means of a C clamp, secure the upper left corner of the plywood to the edge of a table, so that the outlined portion is overhanging. Starting at the lower left corner, cut out the boomerang with a coping saw. Cut on the downstroke, and pull the blade back slightly when pushing it up, to clear out chips. When you come to the upper left-hand side, you may have to change the position of the plywood in the C clamp to allow you to make the final cut. Round off the ends with sandpaper.

Now, without turning the boomerang over, sandpaper along all the edges on one side, holding the sandpaper till the edges are fairly sharp along the bottom and slightly rounded at the top. To protect the wood against moisture, give it a thin coat of shellac or varnish.

The boomerang is now ready to throw. You will need plenty of space, so do not experiment indoors. Wait for a calm day, and if there is a slight breeze throw *into* it. Never throw a boomerang on a very windy day if you want it to behave itself.

This boomerang should be thrown (1). Grip the end between your right thumb and forefinger (if you are normally right-handed) so the rounded side is uppermost and the V is pointing in the direction of the throw. Do not throw too violently, but try to give a sharp jerk just before you let go. This gives the boomerang the rapid spinning motion essential to its flight.

The boomerang (2) in the air, spinning merrily, and at the top of its loop will begin to return. With a little practice it can be made to return right to the thrower's feet. Don't try to catch it as it comes back to you — it might give you a painful crack on the hand.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A horizontal
 - B horizontally
 - C horizon
 - D horizontalistic

TUESDAY

2. Which words belong in the blank?
- A be rising
 - B rose
 - C has risen
 - D will rise

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the very first thing you should do to make a boomerang?
- A Sandpaper the edges
 - B Cut the wood
 - C Select the plywood
 - D Varnish the wood

THURSDAY

4. What would probably happen if you threw a boomerang on a very windy day?
- A The boomerang will come back to you.
 - B The boomerang will not fly at all.
 - C The wind will cause the boomerang not to return.
 - D The wind will cause the boomerang to break.

FRIDAY

5. If you wanted to make a boomerang, it would be a good idea to—
- A have the help of an adult
 - B do it by yourself in the garage
 - C cut the wood in your living room
 - D keep it a secret

Jane Addams

Like many another young couple in 1844, Sarah and John Addams spent their honeymoon traveling westward in search of a new place to settle. When at last they saw the countryside of northern Illinois, with its beautiful sweep of open prairies and rolling hills, they knew they were home.

John Addams bought a gristmill on the edge of the Cedar River,
(1)

in the village of Cedarville? Soon local farmers were coming to him with grain to be made into flour. As the years passed, the Addams family grew and prospered. Mr. Addams organized the building of a railroad into Cedarville. He became a banker and a state senator. He was so highly respected that neighbors called him "the king gentleman of the district."

The Addams' eighth child, Laura Jane, (2) born on September 6, 1860. She was a frail baby, but she survived. Two years later Mrs. Addams was again brought to bed with child. This time both mother and infant died.

Perhaps because the sickly little Jane had no mother, she grew up loving her father double. She followed him about like a small dog and tried to imitate his ways and habits.

Mr. Addams was such a handsome, dignified man that Jane imagined all the strangers they ever met on the street or in the church were filled with admiration for him. Later she wrote, "... I prayed with all my heart that the ugly, pigeon-toed little girl, whose crooked back obliged her to walk with her head held very much upon one side, would never be pointed out to these visitors as the daughter of this fine man."

Now and then over the years, guests from outside Cedarville came to visit the Sunday School where Mr. Addams taught a Bible class. On such occasions, Jane tried to walk to church behind her father. In this way, she hoped nobody would realize whose homely child she really was. She attached herself to her uncle, James Addams. Uncle James would look down kindly and say, "So you are going to walk with me today?"

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake occurs in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A is
 - B are
 - C were
 - D was

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best summary of this passage?
- A Jane Addams was an ugly child.
 - B Jane Addams did not love her father.
 - C Jane Addams was proud of her father.
 - D Jane Addams was adopted by James Addams.

THURSDAY

4. Jane Addams thought her father was embarrassed by her because —
- A she thought of herself as ugly and deformed
 - B she was poor
 - C she had no mother
 - D he was famous man

FRIDAY

5. Which of the following is a FACT as presented in the passage?
- A James Addams was Jane Addam's father.
 - B James Addams and Jane Addams were married.
 - C John Addams was ashamed of his daughter.
 - D John Addams and James Addams were brothers.

Richards Names Diverse Group

By Laylan Copelin

American-Statesman Capitol Staff

Nearly 100 days into the New Texas, its architect, Gov. Ann Richards, is still basking in the glow of a political honeymoon but already talking about reelection in 1994.

"I think the economy will tell the tale," Richards said last week as she reviewed her first three months in office. "I think that by 1993, this state has to be really moving economically."

To continue as governor, she said, she must ensure that the economy

(1)

keeps rolling: "If I don't do that, I don't deserve to be here."

Forward-looking and hard-working, Richards has overcome (2) greatest fear — living up to the high expectations of supporters. She worries about maintaining the momentum, however.

"I really think we've given people a sense that there is change in state government, and for the better," said Richards, who will mark her 100th day in office Thursday. "The tough part will be sustaining that."

(3)

Ann Richards has named to state boards and commissions a more diverse group of Texans than any other governor.

• • •

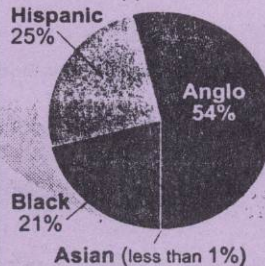
When Bob Geyer attended the University of Houston two decades ago, the only place a quadriplegic could live was a nursing home. In that structured institution, Geyer had no privacy and little freedom.

As the first disabled person appointed to the board of the Texas Department of Human Services, Geyer will help oversee the state's primary agency serving the disabled. "By living the problems every day, I'm bringing a different insight to the board," Geyer said.

Gubernatorial appointees

Ann Richards

First 381 appointments



Male 50% Female 50%

Bill Clements

3,821 appointments from second term



Male 82% Fem 18%

(percentages are rounded to nearest whole number)

Source: Gov. Richards' office

Staff graphics

The Case of the Shaking Hand

One day years ago, I had a telephone call from a police officer at the criminal court in Budapest, where I lived. "Would you examine some specimens of handwriting in the Alexander Morvay case?" the officer asked.

I had been following the Morvay case closely in the newspapers. I said that I would be glad to do what I could.

The facts of the case were simple. The facts of the case seemed to

(1)

show that only one man could be guilty. Alexander Morvay, a cashier, had been the only employee in the firm who knew the combination that opened his employer's safe. Five hundred thousand Hungarian pengos (about \$25,000) had disappeared from the safe during a weekend shortly before Christmas. Morvay had been the last employee to leave the office on the Friday before. His fingerprints were the only ones found on the safe.

No action was taken against Morvay until the third week of the investigation, when the detectives made a startling discovery. They found that on the day after the robbery someone had deposited 480,000 pengos (about \$24,000) in a Budapest bank under the name of Anna Nagy. Anna Nagy is as common a name in Hungary as Mary Smith is in the United States, but it was also the name of Alexander Morvay's wife before her marriage. Further, it was found that Morvay and (2) wife had spent about 20,000 pengos just before Christmas. On this evidence, Morvay was arrested and thrown into jail.

Naturally the police sought out the bank teller to ask him if Mrs. Morvay was the woman who had deposited the 480,000 pengos. By a twist of fate, however, the teller, who was an elderly man, had died of a heart attack just after New Year's Day.

MONDAY

1. The word ensure means —
- A stop
 - B make sure
 - C prohibit
 - D keep from

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A they
 - B those
 - C her
 - D us

WEDNESDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

THURSDAY

4. From the graphs what percentage of Ann Richard's appointments were Hispanic?
- A 54%
 - B 21%
 - C 25%
 - D 1%

FRIDAY

5. From the graphs which governor has the best balance of ethnic representation?
- A Ann Richards
 - B Bill Clements
 - C Bob Geyer
 - D No governor

MONDAY

1. Which is the best way to write the underlined part?
- A The facts of the case were: simple, and showed that only one man could be guilty.
 - B The facts of the case were simple and seemed to show that only one man could be guilty.
 - C The facts were simple; only one man could be guilty.
 - D The facts were simple and showed one man guilty.

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A his
 - B he
 - C him
 - D her

WEDNESDAY

3. The word specimens means—
- A groups
 - B samples
 - C dead bugs
 - D cells

THURSDAY

4. Based on the evidence from this passage, it seems Alexander Movay is probably—
- A safe
 - B innocent
 - C guilty
 - D dead

FRIDAY

5. Why could the bank teller not testify?
- A He couldn't remember Anna Nagy.
 - B He couldn't remember Alexander Morvay.
 - C He had died.
 - D He had been transferred to another bank.

Many Moons

Once upon a time, in a kingdom by the sea, there lived a little princess named Lenore. She was ten years old, going on eleven. One day Lenore became ill of a surfeit of raspberry tarts and took to her bed.

The Royal Physician came to see her and took her temperature and felt her pulse and made her stick out her tongue. The Royal Physician was worried. He (1) for the King, Lenore's father, and the King came to see her.

"I will get you anything your heart desires," the King said. "Is there anything your heart desires?"

"Yes," said the Princess. "I want the moon. If I can have the moon, I will be well again."

Now the King had a great many wise men who always got for him anything he wanted, so he told his daughter that she could have the moon. Then he went to the throne room and pulled a bell cord, three long pulls and a short pull; and presently the Lord High Chamberlain came into the room.

The Lord High Chamberlain was a large, fat man who wore thick glasses which made his eyes seem twice as big as they really were. This made the Lord High Chamberlain seem twice as wise as he really was.

"I want you to get the moon," said the King. "The Princess Lenore wants the moon. If she can have the moon, she will get well again."

"The moon?" exclaimed the Lord High Chamberlain, his eyes widening. This made him look four times as wise as he really was.

"Yes, the moon," said the King. "M-o-o-n, moon. Get it tonight, tomorrow at the latest."

The Lord High Chamberlain wiped his forehead with a handkerchief and then blew his nose loudly. "I have got a great many things for you in my time, your Majesty," he said. "It just happens that I have with me a list of the things I have got for you in my time." He pulled a long scroll of parchment out of his pocket. "Let me see, now." He glanced at the list, frowning. "I have got ivory, apes, and peacocks, rubies, opals, and emeralds, black orchids, pink elephants, and blue poodles, gold bugs, scarabs, and flies in amber, hummingbirds' tongues, angels' feathers, and unicorns' horns, giants, midgets, and mermaids, frankincense, ambergris, and myrrh, troubadors, minstrels, and dancing women, a pound of butter, two dozen eggs, and a sack of sugar — sorry, my wife wrote that in there."

"I don't remember (2) blue poodles," said the King.

"It says blue poodles right here on the list, and they are checked off with a little check mark," said the Lord High Chamberlain. "So there must have been blue poodles. You just forget."

"Never mind the blue poodles," said the King. "What I want now is the moon."

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?

- A send
- B sends
- C sending
- D sent

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?

- A any
- B no
- C none
- D got

WEDNESDAY

3. The word surfeit means—

- A too few
- B small amount
- C great amount
- D none

THURSDAY

4. The author refers to the Lord High Chamberlain as looking wiser than he really was. The author does this to—

- A persuade the reader to like the Lord High Chamberlain
- B convince the reader that the Lord High Chamberlain is wise
- C convince the reader that the King is stupid
- D call attention to the fact that the Lord High Chamberlain is just an ordinary person

FRIDAY

5. You can determine that the Princess was—

- A well-educated
- B very spoiled
- C seventeen years old
- D wanting to become an astronaut

The Company We Keep

Early one morning we were called to a police station near our home in Poughkeepsie, New York, to claim our Canada goose and mallard duck. The desk sergeant (1) us a report: "Picked up at three A.M. walking down the middle of College Avenue making loud squawks and quacks." Then he added, seriously, "Looks like a clear-cut case of disturbing the peace."

"They're not guilty," said John, just as seriously. "They were only calling their mother."

"And where was their mother?" asked the officer.

"He was home in bed."

"HE! What do you mean he?"

"I mean that I am a mother goose," said John with some pride. "You see, I helped that gosling out of her eggshell. I was the first moving thing she saw, and to a hatching bird that always means mother. Somewhere in that gosling's little mind is a picture of me, and she thinks she looks like that picture. She doesn't know she's a goose, and she wouldn't know a goose if she saw one. Her idea of goose is me. The duck, on the other hand, thinks he's a goose, because the gosling was the first thing he saw on hatching."

"Last night," John went on to say, "something awakened the gosling, and she was frightened. So she went out to look for me, calling as she went. The duck went with her because he thinks that she is his mother. And since she was calling he thought he ought to call, too."

"Well now," said the officer, "I don't know of any law that says a gosling can't look for its mother. Case dismissed."

John and the officer (2) out to get the accused. John called to her. The gosling cocked her head and then came running. John got into the car, and the gosling followed and sat down on the seat beside him. The duck sat down beside the gosling.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A reads
 - B reading
 - C read
 - D readed

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A go
 - B went
 - C going
 - D gone

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best main idea of paragraph one?
- A The police in Poughkeepsie are strange.
 - B A goose and a duck get into trouble.
 - C Some birds never learn.
 - D We were called to the police station to pick up our goose and duck.

THURSDAY

4. John called the gosling. What's the first thing she did?
- A Came running
 - B Got in the car
 - C Cocked her head
 - D Sat down on the seat

FRIDAY

5. How does the author feel about his birds?
- A The author believes the goose thinks he is its mother.
 - B The author hates all animals.
 - C The author likes the goose, but hates the duck.
 - D The author doesn't have any feelings for the birds.

Jewelry to Make

Jewelry is almost as old as civilization itself. The jewelry we see today had its beginnings in simple pins to hold garments together, pendants to ward off evil spirits, symbols of prestige, or just aids to beauty. Many were works of art.

Creating a beautiful but inexpensive piece of jewelry is a useful and very satisfying accomplishment. The following pieces need little equipment and use a minimum of material. Most of them cost between 14¢ and \$1.00 to make.

You will need a ball-peen hammer, a needle file, round-nose pliers and a cutting implement — tin snips or a wire cutter. All can be found in hobby shops or hardware stores. You will also need some 3-gauge (fine)

(1)

steel wool. You will also need some silver-polishing cloth.

Most of the projects use wire. Copper wire can be bought in hardware stores, silver wire in hobby shops. The thickness of wire is measured by gauge numbers — 12, 14, 16, 18, etc. The higher the number, the finer the wire. Wire bought for jewelry has usually been annealed so that it is easily bent. It hardens as it is bent and pounded, so plan (2) pieces carefully and avoid bending it more than necessary.

Drop Earrings

These earrings are inexpensive, and quick and easy to make; yet they look very professional. You will need about six inches of copper or silver wire (18- or 20-gauge), and two matching earring backs with rings for the dangles.

Cut two pieces of wire, about 2 1/2 inches long, and round off the ends with the needle file. Place the nose of the pliers in the center of one piece of wire and bend it down, crossing the ends. Slip the wire through the ring on one of the earring backs. Do the same with the other piece of wire.

A pearl or wooden bead (about half an inch in diameter) may be slipped onto each loop and looks very effective. Or, if you plan to leave the earrings plain, continue to the last step, which is flattening the ends of the wires. On an anvil or other flat metal surface, tap the ends carefully with the flat part of your ball-peen hammer. Light rubbing with a silver cloth gives a brighter luster to your earrings.

MONDAY

1. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A You will also need some 3-gauge (fine) steel wool and some silver-polishing cloth.
 - B You will need: 3-gauge (fine) steel wool and silver-polishing cloth.
 - C Some 3-gauge steel wool and silver-polishing cloth are needed.
 - D You need steel wool and cloth.

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A his
 - B her
 - C mine
 - D your

WEDNESDAY

3. The word annealed means—
- A strengthened
 - B hardened
 - C softened
 - D polished

THURSDAY

4. What's the best main idea of paragraph two?
- A Cheap jewelry is easy to make.
 - B Making jewelry will give you a feeling of accomplishment.
 - C Cheap jewelry can also be pretty.
 - D Anybody can make cheap jewelry.

FRIDAY

5. The word luster means—
- A dull
 - B finish
 - C shine
 - D polish

Mary McLeod Bethune

Six-year-old Mary Jane McLeod and her mother Patsy (1) along the dusty road carrying a basket of freshly ironed clothes between them. A september sun shone on the child's tight black braids and on her broad,
(2)

almost purple-black little face. The country air near Mayesville, South Carolina, rocked to the lusty tones of the spiritual Mary was singing:

When Israel was in Egypt land,
Let my people go.
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,
Let my people go. . .

As they came near the big white mansion belonging to Mr. Ben Wilson, Mary fell silent. Her mother had once been a Wilson slave. Mary felt cautious about white people. One had to be very careful, and the best thing was to keep out of their way whenever possible.

While her mother carried the laundry in at the back entrance, Mary waited outdoors. Off to one side of the lawn was a playhouse, in perfect imitation of a mansion. Around the playhouse, various toys lay scattered about.

Mary's eyes took in a striped ball, a rocking horse, and some dolls sitting at a tiny tea table. They came to rest on a book tossed near the base of a live-oak tree.

Mary was fascinated by books. In her family's cabin there was one book. It was a Bible, which her mother respectfully kept on a special shelf. Neither her grandmother, her father, her mother, her sixteen brothers and sisters nor Mary herself could understand the mystery of the black marks that neatly lined every page.

Mary squatted under the live-oak tree and picked up the book. She opened it to a page with a picture of an apple.

One of the Wilson granddaughters popped out of the playhouse. Mary, carried away with desire, did a rash thing. She pointed to the letter "A" printed under the apple and asked, "Please, what does it spell?"

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A walk
 - B walked
 - C walks
 - D walking

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake appears in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. The word squatted means—
- A ran
 - B walked
 - C sat
 - D stooped

THURSDAY

4. How did Mary feel about books?
- A She hated books.
 - B She was afraid of books.
 - C She was fascinated by books.
 - D She was ashamed.

FRIDAY

5. What did Mary do right after she squatted under the oak tree?
- A She took a nap.
 - B She picked up a book.
 - C She opened the book.
 - D She read from the book.

Texas Tax Burden Hits Poor Worst

from (Austin American Statesman)

Texas soaks the poor. Texas spares the rich. Texas forces middle-

(1)

income families to pay the lion's share of taxes.

The analysis by Citizens for Tax Justice said the poorest families in Texas spend 17.1 percent of their incomes on state taxes, while the richest spend 3.1 percent. Middle-income Texans pay 8.4 percent of their earnings on sales, excise and property taxes.

Only Washington state has a higher tax rate (17.4 percent) on the poor, and only four other states have lower taxes on the rich than Texas has, the report said.

Because of an over-reliance on regressive sales and excise taxes and the lack of a progressive income tax, the organization listed Texas among

(2)

its "terrible 10" states for taxation.

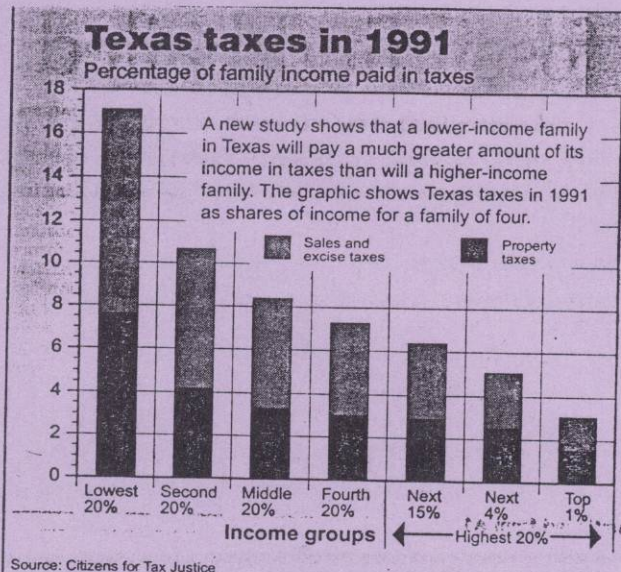
"It's soak the poor, soak the middle class, and a great big wide umbrella for the rich," said Bruce Fisher, research director for the organization in Washington, D.C.

"If Texas is ever going to have enough money to fix its schools or build more prisons . . . or handle basic services, it's going to have to look beyond the people with the least money. Because you can't squeeze money out of a stone when there's a whole orchard that hasn't been picked."

The report may give impetus to Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock's call for state income tax combined with property tax relief. A statewide poll released Sunday showed that a slight majority of Texans support an income tax if the money goes to public education and if property taxes are reduced significantly.

As a source of revenue for a state, Fisher said, an income tax is more reliable than the sales tax, which plummets when a recession hits and spending falls.

Rafe Greenlee, a spokesman for Bullock, said the study shows Texas' tax structure is unfair. "An income tax would provide enough revenue and a steady source of revenue for state government to operate," Greenlee said.



MONDAY

1. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A Texas soaks the poor and spares the rich and forces middle-income families to pay the lion's share of taxes.
 - B Texas: soaks poor spares rich, hurts middle-income families the most.
 - C Texas soaks the poor, spares the rich, and forces middle income families to pay the lion's share of taxes.
 - D No mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. Based on the information from the graph, which income group pays the highest percentage of property taxes?
- A Lowest 20%
 - B Second 20%
 - C Top 1%
 - D Highest 20%

THURSDAY

4. What two types of taxes are graphed?
- A Sales and property
 - B Sales/excise and property
 - C Property and income
 - D Income and sales

FRIDAY

5. The author is trying to convince the reader that—
- A all taxes are fair
 - B a state income tax would be more fair
 - C sales taxes are unfair to the rich
 - D all people pay equal taxes

COCHISE

Greatest of the Apaches

From his mountain stronghold in Arizona. Chief Cochise gazed

(1)

down on the valley below him. What he saw there set his mind working hard. Across the fertile plains — ancient hunting grounds of Cochise's tribe — moved a train of covered wagons. The white settlers had come to Arizona.

Stony-faced and over six feet tall, Cochise was the greatest — and (2) — of the Apache chieftains. He was famous also for his wisdom and justice, even for his kindness. When only eighteen, he had been offered the leadership of all the Apache tribes, but he had chosen to stay with his own tribe — the fiery Chiricahuas.

Now, as he watched the white intruders taking over his land, Cochise knew that the roving life of his tribesmen was over. Calling them together, he explained that their only chance lay in copying the ways of the white men. Cattle breeding, he told them, must take the place of the hunting and raiding they had lived by in the past.

So, with Cochise and his tribe as friendly neighbors, the white people settled peacefully in Arizona in the 1850's. Gold and silver were discovered, and mining became an important business. When a stagecoach depot was built near his precious water springs in Apache Pass, Cochise even agreed to supply it with wood.

MONDAY

1. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A From his mountain stronghold in Arizona, Chief Cochise gazed down on the valley below him.
 - B Chief Cochise gazed down on the valley below him in the Arizona mountain stronghold.
 - C From his mountain stronghold. In Arizona, Chief Cochise gazed down on the valley below him.
 - D No mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word goes in the blank?
- A fierce
 - B fiercely
 - C fiercest
 - D most fierce

WEDNESDAY

3. Which of the following is a FACT as presented in the passage?
- A Cochise was five foot-9 inches tall.
 - B Cochise was made of stone.
 - C Cochise was a member of the Chiricahuas tribe.
 - D Cochise was the leader of the all the Apache tribes.

THURSDAY

4. Where does this story take place?
- A California
 - B New Mexico
 - C Arizona
 - D At a stagecoach depot

FRIDAY

5. From the passage, you can conclude that—
- A Cochise was admired by his tribesmen
 - B Cochise was a warlike Indian
 - C Cochise wanted Indians to continue their way of life
 - D Cochise was afraid of the white settlers

Australia's Marvelous Throwing Stick

When Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Australia a few years ago, (1) watched a performance which was so skillful that it seemed like magic. The performer was Joe Timbery, a stocky, dark-skinned man whose forefathers were Aborigines, Australia's first natives. The instrument with which he delighted his audience was a two-and-a-half-foot wooden boomerang.

Timbery threw so that the boomerang skimmed away at the height of his chest for 40 yards, suddenly climbed 100 feet in the air, swung around in a wide loop and spun back toward its thrower in a steep dive. As the spinning boomerang came near him, it slowed down suddenly, then hovered over him, its blades turning slowly. Timbery, who had dropped to the ground, reached up and neatly caught it with his bare feet.

In the remote northern parts of Australia, the Aborigines still use the boomerang, both as a hunting weapon and as a plaything. I (2) watched thrilling contests there between these primitive tribesmen. They can make the boomerang climb to 150 feet at the top of its loop, and, on the return, swoop back and forth in front of the thrower like a giant butterfly dipping from flower to flower; or they'll make it hover like a hawk. Halfway back, the boomerang steadies itself in the air and, still spinning rapidly, drops slowly down until it nearly reaches the ground. Then it turns and comes at full speed back to the thrower. I have seen ricochet throws where the boomerang strikes the ground after 50 yards, bounces into the air, then circles and returns. For dive throws — the boomerang leaps high into the air, sideslips like a gull to within a few inches of the ground, then comes up into the thrower's hand.

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A he
 - B she
 - C we
 - D they

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A having
 - B had
 - C has
 - D have

WEDNESDAY

3. The word ricochet means—
- A bounce back
 - B fall down
 - C hits
 - D stops

THURSDAY

4. What's the main idea of the first paragraph?
- A Queen Elizabeth visited Australia.
 - B Joe Timbery was a magician.
 - C Australia's first natives were Aborigines.
 - D Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh watched a performance of boomerang throws.

FRIDAY

5. Why do you suppose the Aborigines are so skillful with the boomerang?
- A They wanted to make money doing shows.
 - B They wanted to impress the Queen.
 - C They used the boomerang to hunt food — if they weren't good, they didn't eat.
 - D They just like to have fun.

Ordeal in the Desert

We'll be back for lunch, Barbara," Mrs. Scott called to her sister, Mrs.
(1)

William Prescott. The six Scott children waved gaily from the Ford sedan as it pulled out of the Prescotts' driveway in Moab, Utah.

The children, ranging in age from four to twelve, had come with their parents — Viri and Laura Scott, from Salt Lake City to spend the week-end with their aunt and uncle. Now, right after breakfast, the family was setting out for Dead Horse Point, a high bluff which provides a breathtaking view of the gorges and canyons of the Colorado River.

By 11 A.M. they (2) reached the Point, spent an hour admiring the view and taking snapshots, and started back toward Moab. All about were scores of little roads made years before by uranium and oil prospectors. Spotting one marked "To the Neck," the Scotts, eager for still finer scenery, followed it down into the canyon.

Unknowingly, they were on a road to nowhere, a trail that led into a region as wild, desolate and treacherous as any in the United States. Here, for thousands of square miles, is nothing but deep canyons, lonely rock towers, dry basins and naked, burning desert. The blazing sun, which sends temperatures to nearly 125°, can dry up and shrivel human flesh in a matter of hours.

Following the rough, rocky trail, the Scotts had dropped more than 2000 feet to the bottom of the canyon, far west of Dead Horse Point. Suddenly they heard a sharp, metallic clash coming from beneath the car. Leaping out, Mr. Scott saw that they had hit a rock. The car's radiator, bent backward and gashed by the blades of its fan, was spurting antifreeze from a dozen small holes. Before he could rip off a hubcap to catch it, the liquid had vanished into the hot sand.

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A has
 - B have
 - C having
 - D had

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best summary of the last paragraph?
- A The Scott's were having a great vacation.
 - B The Scott's were in serious trouble.
 - C The Scott's knew how to protect themselves.
 - D Other motorists would help the Scotts.

THURSDAY

4. When the radiator water was lost, Mr. Scott probably felt —
- A relieved
 - B cool
 - C frightened
 - D nothing

FRIDAY

5. Without help, the Scotts will probably—
- A survive the sun
 - B die from the heat
 - C dig until they find water
 - D push the car out of the canyon

Amelia Earhart

Late in 1961 a professor of anthropology at the University of California received a package from the island of Saipan in the Pacific.

In the package were seven pounds of human teeth and bones.

(1)

The professor was being asked for his expert opinion on a very important question: Are these the remains of the missing flier, Amelia Earhart?

Amelia Earhart (2) one of those rare creatures in the early days of airplanes—a woman pilot. She was tall, skinny, and charming. She had gray eyes, tousled hair, a breezy manner, and a wide smile. Between 1928 and 1937 she captured the imagination of millions of armchair adventurers.

In those days airplanes were still so rare that people rushed outdoors to crane their necks when one swooped by overhead. Yet there was A.E. (as she called herself) cruising about the sky in a frail aircraft, making and breaking world records. Rapid, nonstop, luxurious flights in multi-passenger jets were twenty-five years away. In the world of air travel, these were the pioneer times.

By 1937 Amelia Earhart's name was a household word. When she and her navigator, Fred Noonan, disappeared one July day during a flight around the world, many people refused to believe that A.E.'s flashing grace was gone forever. They hoped she had brought her plane down safely. A legend grew that she had been on a secret mission for the government and that her plane was shot down by the Japanese. She had been captured, said the story. Either she and Noonan had been shot as spies, or they were living as prisoners somewhere on a Pacific island.

Late in the 1950's a San Francisco newsman began to look for answers to the Earhart mystery. Many residents of Saipan, he found, insisted that a white woman had once lived there. They could point to her grave. Soldiers stationed on the island during World War II reported seeing snapshots of her. One soldier claimed he had seen a photograph of Miss Earhart standing near Japanese aircraft on an airfield.

MONDAY

1. Which is the best way to write the underlined part?
- A In the package. Were seven pounds of human teeth and bones.
 - B In the package were seven pounds. Of human teeth and bones.
 - C In the package were. Seven pounds of human teeth and bones.
 - D No mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which words belong in the blank?
- A were
 - B has been
 - C had been
 - D should have been

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best main idea of this passage?
- A Amelia Earhart was a daring pilot who was lost during a flight around the world.
 - B Amelia Earhart was a government spy.
 - C Amelia Earhart was a Japanese spy.
 - D Amelia Earhart drowned at sea.

THURSDAY

4. Which of the following is not a FACT as presented?
- A Amelia's navigator was Fred Noonan.
 - B Amelia disappeared in July.
 - C Amelia and Fred Noonan ran off to be married.
 - D A legend grew that Amelia's plane was shot down by the Japanese.

FRIDAY

5. Most likely, Amelia's plane went down while flying over —
- A land
 - B the ocean
 - C Japan
 - D Russia

A Link Bracelet

For this ornament you will need 17 inches of flat sterling-silver wire. Cut ten pieces 1 1/2 inches long for the links, and one piece 2 inches long for an end clasp. File and polish the rough edges. Make a jig by tapping four nails into a piece of wood, and clipping off the heads with wire cutters. Bend the end of one 1 1/2-inch piece of wire around the nose of the pliers, and place it on the first nail on the jig. Then bring the wire around
(1)

the second and third nails and back above the fourth. You have now made one end of a link; do the same for the other end, bending the loop in the opposite direction. When all the links are complete, form the end clasp with pliers. Hook the links into each other and the clasp onto the final link. To give your bracelet luster, polish it with steel wool and a silver cloth.

Caged Stone for Bracelet or Pendant

A smooth white stone found at the beach, or a quartzlike stone from the woods or hills, can make a most attractive pendant with a little wrap of silver or copper wire. You can also buy polished stones in various colors for as little as 35¢. You will need 6 to 8 inches of round wire, 16-, 18- or 20-gauge. The size depends on the size of the stone?
(2)

First, make a loop at the top of the wire; then let your imagination guide you in caging the stone. Before bending the wire, try a few variations in string, so that you can see where the wire must go in order to hold the stone in place. Hold the stone and wire loop in one hand and the long end of the wire in the other, using the pliers to guide the bending. Leave enough wire over to bring it up and wrap it several times around the loop.

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. To test the stone for where the wire will hold it, you should—
- A try to imagine what it will look like
 - B try a few variations with string
 - C draw pictures to see what it will look like
 - D wrap the stone with many layers of wire

THURSDAY

4. Why should you wrap wire around the loop several times?
- A So the loop will look balanced
 - B So the loop will keep the wire tight
 - C So the loop will hold and you can hang the stone from a chain
 - D So the loop will look good

FRIDAY

5. Which of the following is a FACT as presented?
- A Stones are expensive to buy.
 - B You need special kinds of stones to make this pendant.
 - C You need 17 inches of flat wire to make the bracelet.
 - D You should never try making this jewelry by yourself.

Balance of power

by Kirk Bohls

American-Statesman Staff

In what has shaped up as the most competitive Southwest Conference baseball race in 25 years, seven of the eight teams (1) in the hunt with only two weeks left.

That's the hunt for the outright championship as well as the four SWC Tournament berths.

Texas and Texas A&M are tied for first with 9-6 records. Baylor, Houston and Texas Christian are deadlocked for third at 8-7. Only three games in the lost column separate the first-place teams and the teams tied for next to last.

"I'd say the chances are pretty good there's going to be some kind of tie for first — a two- or three-way tie," said Texas Coach Cliff Gustafson, whose Longhorns play host to Houston in a three-game series starting Friday night.

The SWC obviously has saved the best for last, since the 1991 tournament will be the final edition. Starting next year, the seven teams — Arkansas leaves for the Southeastern Conference — begin a double round-robin schedule with 36 league games.

Only Rice (6-15) has been eliminated from this year's tournament. Incidentally, Rice and preseason favorit Arkansas are the only teams that

(2)

have not swept at least one three-game series this spring, as strong an indication of the league's balance as there is. Arkansas (9-9) is the only team to have played in every SWC Tournament.

"There are 72 possibilities still left," said Bo Carter, SWC information director. "Then you've got the possibility of rain every game. We haven't had a rainout yet. This is the best race we've ever had."

SWC pennant race

TEAM	W-L	GB	REMAINING SERIES
Texas	9-6	—	Houston, at Arkansas
Texas A&M	9-6	—	at TCU, at Houston
Baylor	8-7	1	Texas Tech, at TCU
Houston	8-7	1	at Texas, Texas A&M
TCU	8-7	1	Texas A&M, at Baylor
Arkansas	9-9	1½	Texas
Texas Tech	9-9	1½	at Baylor
Rice	6-15	6	finished

SWC baseball roundup

D8

MONDAY

1. What word goes in the blank?
- A remains
 - B remained
 - C remain
 - D remaining

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. From the chart, which team has no remaining series?
- A Houston
 - B TCU
 - C Texas Tech
 - D Rice

THURSDAY

4. How many games has the top ranking team lost?
- A 9
 - B 8
 - C 7
 - D 6

FRIDAY

5. How many teams are deadlocked for third place?
- A 2
 - B 3
 - C 4
 - D 5

My Private Sea

How would you like to spend part of every day under water, making friends with porpoises, turtles, even sharks? That is all in the day's work for me, at the big aquarium where I work as a diver. All the same, it's a strange job for someone who was once afraid of the water!

One day when I was six years old, I waded out too far into the
(1)

Atlantic surf. A great breaker swept me under, and I was lucky to be rescued from drowning. After that, I had a terrible fear of the sea and all the (2) things that swim in it.

When I grew up, I married a man called John who was studying to be a dentist. This was a safe, landlubberish sort of a job, I thought. One day he said to me, "Marge, I've decided to be a marine biologist. I've always wanted to get under the ocean and see how the fish live. Haven't you?"

He was so full of the idea that I didn't dare tell him how I hated the sea and every fish in it. Off he went to a university to study the ways of the fishy world.

On my birthday John handed me a present — a glass tank of tropical fish. "It's not much," he apologized, when he saw the tears in my eyes. "One day we'll have a real aquarium, one of those big 500,000-gallon jobs. And we'll fill it with every strange thing that lives in the sea. You can help me catch them!"

My heart sank into my shoes.

"We'll have our own private sea," he promised.

Your private sea, I thought, shuddering.

Soon John's dream came true. He was given a piece of land in Florida, on the shore of the gulf of Mexico, and there he began to build an aquarium where biologists could study fish at close quarters, and where visitors would pay to go in. When it was finished, the aquarium looked like a battleship, with its huge tanks and observation decks and round glass portholes. Crowds came to peer at the 10,000 sea creatures inside.

At that time I was trying to learn to swim, but my terror was still so great that it had taken me twenty-two weeks to put my face under water — and then it was only for a second in a shallow swimming pool. All I could do at the aquarium was sit at a little window and sell tickets.

MONDAY

1. Which is the correct way to write the underlined part?
- A One day when I was six years old. I waded out, too far into the Atlantic surf.
 - B One day when I was six years old I waded out too far. Into the Atlantic surf.
 - C One day, when I was six. Years old, I waded out, too far, into the Atlantic surf.
 - D No mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A shadow
 - B shadows
 - C shadowy
 - D shadower

WEDNESDAY

3. The word breaker means—
- A glass
 - B jar
 - C wave
 - D fish

THURSDAY

4. An observation deck means a —
- A place to view the fish
 - B lookout tower
 - C hideout
 - D way to look under a microscope

FRIDAY

5. The author cried when John gave her an aquarium because she was—
- A so happy
 - B afraid of the water
 - C lonely
 - D angry with him

America's Greatest Exploration

From St. Louis, then the edge of American civilization, a United States Army sergeant wrote to his parents in New Hampshire: "Honored parents: I am now on an expedition to the westward with Captain Lewis and Lieutenant Clark, who are appointed by President Jefferson to go through the interior of North America. We are to ascend the Missouri River and then go by land to the great Western Ocean."

A messenger went through the camp collecting such letters from men who were not sure they would ever be heard from again. Then, late on the afternoon of May 14, 1804, the 29 members of the party set off in two long, trim rowboats and a 55-foot bargelike "bateau." They were voyaging into the unknown. At St. Louis, Geography ended and myth began. The Indians

(1)

whispered of the Shining or Rocky Mountains that scraped the sky. Was this merely one of their legends? President Jefferson had listened to men who sailed with Captain Cook on his Pacific voyages. They (2) boundless evergreen forests and towering peaks on America's Western shore. Were their tales true? Jefferson dreamed of finding out by sending brave men to "explore the wilderness beyond the Mississippi and form a line of communication from sea to sea."

When, in 1803, his envoys succeeded in buying from France a million square miles of land west of the Mississippi, Jefferson asked Congress for money to pay for its exploration. "And let us search out even that which lies beyond," he urged.

MONDAY

1. Which type error is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A describe
 - B describes
 - C described
 - D describing

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best main idea of the last paragraph?
- A Jefferson asked Congress for money to pay for the expedition.
 - B Expeditions were expensive.
 - C Congress had to approve all expeditions.
 - D Land was bought from France.

THURSDAY

4. The author uses the voice of an army sergeant at the beginning of this passage to make the reader—
- A feel frightened for the safety of the president
 - B understand the dangers of early exploration
 - C feel sorry for the sergeant's family
 - D emphasize how important the mail was to family members

FRIDAY

5. How many people set off on May 14, 1804?
- A 12
 - B 15
 - C 25
 - D 29

The Small Woman

Gladys Aylward was twenty-six when (1) made up her mind that more than anything in the world she wanted to be a missionary in China. Fortunately she was a very determined person; otherwise, she could never have overcome all the difficulties that stood in her way.

She was working as a parlormaid in London at the time. How, out of her very small wages, was she going to earn enough money to pay for the frighteningly long journey to China? As she lacked the education to pass the examinations to become a missionary, she could expect no help in getting the money for her fare.

She had to do it entirely on her own, but at last Gladys had saved up
(2)

three pounds. With that in her pocket, she went to a travel agency. The clerk there was amazed when Gladys told him what she wanted to do. He patiently explained to her that the cheapest route to China was overland through Russia to Tientsin via the Trans-Siberian Railway. It cost forty-seven pounds, ten shillings; but it was quite impossible to go that way because of the undeclared war between Russia and China.

"I couldn't really care about a silly old war," Gladys said. "It's the cheapest way, isn't it? Now, if you'll book me a passage, you can have these three pounds on account, and I'll pay you as much as I can every week."

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A he
 - B her
 - C she
 - D him

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best summary of this passage?
- A Gladys Aylward was a determined woman.
 - B Gladys Aylward was a poor parlormaid.
 - C Gladys Aylward had a dream.
 - D Gladys Aylward wanted to become a missionary in China and set out to accomplish that goal.

THURSDAY

4. How did the clerk react when Gladys told him what she wanted to do?
- A He was laughing at her.
 - B He was amazed by her request.
 - C He was sorry to see her leave.
 - D He wanted to protect her.

FRIDAY

5. Gladys paid three pounds on account. How long do you think it would take her to pay for the whole ticket?
- A Three days
 - B Three weeks
 - C Three months
 - D Many months

Margaret Mead

On an early October morning in 1925. The steamship *Sonoma*

(1)

dropped anchor in Pago-Pago. Only one passenger left ship at this port—a slim, brown-haired girl named Margaret Mead.

Margaret was just a fraction over five feet tall. With her bobbed hair and wide-spaced eyes, she looked entirely too young to be left alone on this tropical Samoan island in the South Seas, 13 degrees below the equator and 7,500 miles from her Pennsylvania home.

Actually, Margaret was a twenty-three-year-old graduate student from Columbia University in New York City. She had earned a doctor's degree in anthropology and was now beginning her first field trip, an on-the-spot study of a people and their ways of living.

Margaret's exact assignment in Samoa was to study the lives of adolescent girls in this simple society. She was here to find out "whether they, like American girls, had years of tears and troubles before they were quite grown up."

Miss Mead had never stayed in a hotel before in her life. She checked into the only hotel in Pago-Pago and soon found out she was its only guest. The hotel was a ramshackle place, run by a shy native and his sad-eyed cook named Misfortune.

A little fearfully, Margaret unpacked her belongings: camera and typewriter, notebooks, a metal strongbox, a few clothes, and a blue silk baby pillow. She did not expect to be lonesome because she would be hard at work. First, she would finish learning the beautiful, liquid-sounding Samoan language. Next she would get (2) adopted into the household of a Samoan chief. Then, by actually living as a Samoan girl, she would learn with her heart as well as her mind how the girls grew into women.

MONDAY

1. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A On an early October morning in 1925, the steamship *Sonoma* dropped anchor in Pago-Pago.
 - B On an early October morning in 1925 the steamship *Sonoma*. Dropped anchor in Pago-Pago.
 - C On an early October morning in 1925 the steamship. *Sonoma* dropped anchor in Pago-Pago.
 - D On an early October morning in 1925 the steamship *Sonoma* dropped anchor. In Pago-Pago.

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A her
 - B herself
 - C she
 - D hers

WEDNESDAY

3. The word anthropology means—
- A study of oceans
 - B study of Samoans
 - C study of people
 - D study for college

THURSDAY

4. What was the fourth item Margaret unpacked?
- A Camera
 - B Metal strongbox
 - C Typewriter
 - D Notebooks

FRIDAY

5. This story takes place in—
- A Pennsylvania
 - B 1956
 - C 7500
 - D 1925

Coin Through The Hat

Place an empty glass on a table and on top of it place a hat with open side up. You will toss a coin into the hat. The coin will appear to penetrate the hat and can be heard falling into the glass.

You will need two duplicate coins (the audience must see only one), a glass tumbler and a hat. (A derby is best, but any man's hat can be used.) Conceal one coin in your loosely clenched right hand. Pick up the hat in

(1)
your left hand and place it crown down on your right palm on top of the coin. Now allow the coin to slip down to the tips of your right fingers under cover of the hat. Using both hands, place the hat on top of the glass, so that the coin is balanced on the edge of the glass by the weight of the hat.

Pick up the other coin, the duplicate, in your left hand, pretend to transfer it to your right hand (practice this) but keep it in your left. Make a throwing motion toward the hat with the right hand, gently touching the rim of the hat, and the balanced coin will fall into the glass. Pick up the glass. Let the coin in the glass fall into the hands of a spectator. It will look as though you had caused the coin to travel through the hat.

The Rope Release

For this Houdini-type trick you will need a handkerchief and a piece of clothesline about six feet long.

Have a spectator bind your wrists together by tying each wrist with an end of the handkerchief.

Now have him pass the rope between your wrists, over the handkerchief. Tell him to hold the two ends of the rope.

Turn away from the audience, and, as you do so, get a hold on the rope and pass a loop of it through the circle of the handkerchief around your right wrist. Push this Loop through from the inside, out toward your

(2)
hands. Pull the loop up to the front, pass it over your hand and down the back of your hand. A slight tug will pull it out of the handkerchief at the back of your hands, and you will be free.

Hold the rope for a moment as you turn back to the audience. The audience sees the spectator still holding the ends of the rope, and your wrists still securely tied. Then drop the rope on the floor.

This trick may sound quite simple, but you will find that it is really very baffling to your audience.



MONDAY

1. What type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. What type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. What should you do right after a spectator binds your wrists together?
- A Pass the rope between your wrists.
 - B Turn away from the audience.
 - C Push the loop under the handkerchief.
 - D Pull the loop to the front of your hand.

THURSDAY

4. If you balance the coin between the hat and glass incorrectly, what will happen?
- A The coin will fall in the glass.
 - B The coin will fall in the hat.
 - C The coin will fall but outside the glass.
 - D The coin will not fall.

FRIDAY

5. The author has written this passage to—
- A persuade you to become a magician
 - B convince you to do tricks
 - C teach you how to do simple tricks
 - D promote magic

The Black Invasion

Expertly the robbers shouldered their way into a mob of bewildered young bees. They swiftly filled their honey bags; then, fully laden with stolen sweets, they darted down the comb toward the gates. One bee spotted them and turned to pursue the intruders, and in a flash several hundred others had joined the hue and cry. It was too late; one robber got away. Escaping from a score of flying attackers, he whined off through the wood and out of sight.

The hole city was in an uproar. All work stopped, and fighting
(1)

regiments swiftly began to mass inside the gates. For the bees knew that, once a scout from another bee colony had entered and escaped, invasion was bound to follow.

The successful robber flew half a mile down the valley to a hive built of straw, which was the city of the black bees. These bees are the old English breed and are known to be hardy and terrible fighters. When they
(2) the stolen honey brought by the robber, they all crowded around him, swinging their bodies and twanging their wings in a savage war dance.

Within five minutes 30,000 robbers, like an air fleet going to war, were flying together in close formation. Before visiting the golden city in the oak tree, they made a practice raid, suddenly swooping down on a small beehive in a garden nearby. Overpowering the sentries by sheer numbers, they fought their way inside. It was an easy victory for the black bees. Taken by surprise, and outnumbered by five to one, the defenders gave up the fight almost as soon as it began.

MONDAY

1. What's the best way to write the underlined part?
- A A black bee glittered. In the sunshine outside the oak tree.
 - B A black bee glittered in the sunshine outside the oak tree.
 - C A black bee. Glittered in the sunshine, outside the oak tree.
 - D A black bee glittered, in the sunshine, outside. The oak tree.

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. The word sentries means—
- A gates
 - B human soldiers
 - C guards
 - D doors

THURSDAY

4. What probably happened to the three black bees that flew into the oak tree?
- A They killed all the honey bees.
 - B They were killed by the honey bees.
 - C They ate honey and left.
 - D They got lost in the tree.

FRIDAY

5. How many black bees were killed during the second incident?
- A One
 - B Two
 - C Three
 - D Four

The Battle of the Bees

A black bee glittered in the sunshine. Outside the oak tree. From the
(1)

city entrance, watchful golden sentries spotted the stranger and flew to attack it. It turned to escape, but an instant later it was met in mid-air and its wings and head were torn from its body. Proudly the sentries carried the remains of the black bee to the small landing platform outside the city gates. There the body was placed in full view as a warning to other would-be robbers.

Later a second Black Scout was caught high up on the oak trunk
(2)

by a lone sentry making the final rounds for the night.

Then, the following day, there appeared a black patrol of three fierce, shining old bees, evidently picked warriors. Flying wing tip to wing tip, they easily beat off the single sentry who darted to attack them. Presently they dived into the gateway and vanished inside the hollow oak tree.

The city inside the oak was the home of about 60,000 bees. In the daytime it shone with a pale light, a kind of golden warmth that filtered through the hole that was the city's main gate.

The streets of the city were bordered with hanging combs of lustrous yellow wax. These combs were spade-shaped and hung at an exact distance from one another — allowing the bees to work on opposite sides of a comb without getting in each other's way. The distance between them did not vary so much as one eighth of an inch.

On each side of the combs were thousands of six-sided cells, whose walls, when newly built, were only a thousandth of an inch thick. Yet in a single comb there hung more than ten pounds of shining honey, and over it crawled thousands and thousands of bees.

Now that city was threatened!

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A write
 - B written
 - C wrote
 - D writing

WEDNESDAY

3. What do you write on the second card?
- A The name of the second person called
 - B The name of the first person called
 - C Your own name
 - D The name of the third person called

THURSDAY

4. If the audience knew you were writing the same name over and over, they would feel—
- A happy
 - B delighted
 - C cheated
 - D sleepy

FRIDAY

5. What must you do before you try the toothpick trick with an audience?
- A Practice with your friends
 - B Hide a toothpick in the hem of the handkerchief
 - C Place two toothpicks in the handkerchief
 - D Try this trick on a relative

Famous Names

Have members of the audience call out the names of about ten famous people, living or dead. You write down each name on a separate card. The cards are then well mixed and you make a prediction on a slate. A spectator selects one of the cards and reads his selection aloud. The name you wrote on the slate is the same as the name read.

You will need ten small cards or pieces of paper, a slate and a hat.

With everything at hand, ask someone to call out the name of a famous person. Write this down on one of the cards and drop it face down into the hat. Ask for another name. This time do not write the name that is

(1)

called, but write the first name that was called. As different names are called you continue (2) the original name on each card until you have about ten cards in the hat, all with the same name on them. Now write this name on the slate so that the audience does not see it.

Place the slate where it can be seen, but with the writing away from the audience. Invite a spectator to assist you. Shake the hat to mix the cards. Ask the spectator to reach into the hat and select one of the slips, and read aloud the name written on it. After he has done so, turn the slate around to show that the name selected was the same as the one that you predicted on the slate. Be sure to destroy the slips after your performance, so that no one will see them.

The Broken Toothpick

You wrap a toothpick in a handkerchief and get one of the spectators to break it. When you unwrap the handkerchief, the toothpick will fall out in one piece.

Beforehand, take a handkerchief with a fairly wide hem and force a wooden toothpick into the hem where it won't show. Show another toothpick to the audience and place it in the center of the handkerchief. Wrap it up very carefully, and ask a spectator to feel it through the handkerchief. What he feels is the toothpick in the hem, because you have folded the corner of the handkerchief up under its center. Be sure not to let the loose toothpick fall out.

Ask the spectator to break it in two. (He, of course, breaks the one in the hem.) The audience can hear it snap. After making several passes over the handkerchief, flick it open and let the loose tooth pick drop out — unbroken.

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A he
 - B her
 - C his
 - D him

WEDNESDAY

3. The word scribbling means—
- A writing
 - B scratching
 - C clawing
 - D outliving

THURSDAY

4. The author portrays Louisa's father as—
- A a kind man
 - B a firm man
 - C a confused man
 - D a simpleton

FRIDAY

5. The author portray's Louisa's father somewhat harshly, probably to persuade the reader—
- A to hate the man
 - B to feel sorry for the man
 - C to admire Louisa Alcott's determination
 - D to feel sorry for Louisa and her sister

Louisa May Alcott

The most popular writer for girls who ever lived wished all her life that she had been a boy. Louisa May Alcott was called upon to play

(1)

the part of a man. For her father, Bronson Alcott, was content to be, in his own words, "as poor as poverty and serene as heaven." It was (2) second daughter, Louisa, who supported the family. All her life she was a giver and a fighter for others.

Papa Alcott had firm notions about "plain living and high thinking." To kill animals for food, he said, was a barbarian practice, and no Alcott was allowed meat. It was said that he would eat only the "aspiring" vegetables — those that grow upward rather than down into the earth. Often the family sat down to a dinner of no more than bread or porridge and apples.

Louisa was born in 1832 in Germantown, Pennsylvania, where her father kept a school. Other people did not always like Papa Alcott's ideas, and so the family moved often — from Germantown to Boston, and from Boston to the old village of Concord, Massachusetts.

"Stick to Your Teaching"

It was in Concord that Louisa began scribbling plays full of blood and thunder to be acted at home. She wrote her first little book, *Flower Fables*, when she was sixteen. It grew out of her walks with a Concord neighbor, the famous nature lover and writer, Henry Thoreau.

Thoreau, a homely, blue-eyed hermit, had time and patience enough for children. He showed Louisa and her friends the beauties of nature. All her days she remembered the notes of his flute floating over the waters of Walden Pond.

Soon the Alcotts moved again to Boston, where Mrs. Alcott did charity work, and Louisa and her sister Anna taught school. After school hours, Louisa worked as a maid, doing the wash at two dollars a week.

Hopefully, she took her *Flower Fables* to a publisher, only to be told, "Stick to your teaching, Miss Alcott. You can't write."

MONDAY

1. Which word belongs in the blank?
- A he
 - B she
 - C it
 - D they

TUESDAY

2. Which words belong in the blank?
- A is called
 - B was called
 - C were called
 - D are called

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best summary of this passage?
- A Most stars are as big as our earth.
 - B The moon is our nearest neighbor.
 - C From the earth, stars look small but they are actually quite large.
 - D It's fun to star-watch.

THURSDAY

4. The earth spins from—
- A east to west
 - B west to east
 - C north to south
 - D south to north

FRIDAY

5. What's the best main idea of the last paragraph?
- A The earth spins like a top, making one turn every 24 hours.
 - B Star maps can be very confusing.
 - C Most stars are a thousand times larger than the earth.
 - D Moonlight travels 186,000 miles per second.

Signposts in the Sky

It is hard to believe that most of the stars, which look so small, are thousands of times as big as our earth. A giant airliner looks a mere speck when (1) is only a mile or two overhead, and the nearest stars are billions of miles away.

The moon, our nearest space neighbor, is about eighty times as far from the earth as New York is from London. Moonlight, traveling at about 186,000 miles per second, takes only one and a quarter seconds to make the journey. The brightest star in the Southern Cross is so far away that its light takes 370 years to reach us. From Polaris, the North Star, which is 2500 times as bright as our sun, it takes 680 years. These stars are very close compared with many that a powerful telescope reveals.

If we tried to show the known stars on a star map, it would become such a mass of dots that we would learn hardly anything from it. These maps show only a few constellations, or groups of stars, that you can see with the naked eye — enough to help you find your way about the night skies. In most parts of the United States, the star groups on the upper map can be seen all night long throughout the year. They (2) "circumpolar" constellations, and they include the Big and Little Dippers, Cassiopeia (the Queen), Cepheus (the King), Draco (the Dragon) and Perseus (a mythical Greek hero).

Each twenty-four hours these stars seem to make a complete turn around the Pole, while others, farther from the Pole, seem to rise and set like the sun. If one evening you pick out a star group in the eastern sky, toward dawn you will have to look west to find it again. The reason is that the earth spins like a top from west to east, making one turn on its axis every twenty-four hours. When watching the stars with a map, you should turn it to match their positions at the time.

MONDAY

1. Which type of error can be found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake can be found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best implied main idea of paragraph two?
- A Benvenuto Cellini was a quick tempered swordsman.
 - B Cellini became an apprentice in a goldworker's shop.
 - C In Rome, Cellini worked on a silver box.
 - D As a child, Cellini watched goldworkers at work and his desire to become a goldworker increased.

THURSDAY

4. If you were to discover a piece of art made by Cellini you would probably become—
- A sad
 - B lonely
 - C wealthy
 - D frightened

FRIDAY

5. You can assume from the information presented that Cellini and his father—
- A were very close
 - B did not always agree
 - C did not know one another
 - D had been separated for many years

The Goldsmith Who Lived Dangerously

Benvenuto Cellini was the quickest-tempered swordsman in all Italy, and he made his enemies pay with their lives. Battle brought laughter to
(1)

his lips, and the deepest dungeon could not hold him. Above all, this swaggering rascal was the greatest goldsmith in the world. Although most of his remaining treasures are in Europe, the Gardner Museum in Boston has one of his bronze busts. There is a glittering golden cup believed to be his in New York's Metropolitan Museum.

Cellini was born in Florence in 1500. From his father, who was a maker of musical instruments, he inherited the skill of his hands. As a child he would stand in front of the goldworkers' shops, lured by the rat-tat-tat of the little hammers, the snuffling of the bellows, and the glow of the coals. He would edge his way inside the shops, to see the gem cutters at work on beautiful jewels, and to watch the gold being molded and beaten into shape.

Soon he got himself apprenticed in one of the shops. This raised a storm at home, for Papa Cellini had set his heart on making a musician of him. Benvenuto's nimble fingers on the flute could draw tears of joy from his father's eyes, but he was not the lad to practice scales' all day. He

(2)

would run away for months at a time to escape the hated notes, supporting himself in neighboring towns as a goldsmith's apprentice. When he was nineteen, in a temper with his father, he set out on foot for Rome, where the Pope was said to pour out money to artists as the city's fountains poured water.

His first job in Rome was to ornament a silver box for a Cardinal. This he decorated with interlacing leaves, fruit, children and grinning masks.

MONDAY

1. What word belongs in the blank?
- A they
 - B them
 - C their
 - C these

TUESDAY

2. What word belongs in the blank?
- A walk
 - B walked
 - C walks
 - D walking

WEDNESDAY

3. What did the boys do to save money?
- A They packed lunches.
 - B They washed their own clothes.
 - C They all stayed in the same hotel room.
 - D They walked across the border bridge.

THURSDAY

4. What's the best implied main idea of this passage?
- A The team never won another game.
 - B The team went on to win the National title.
 - C The team was too hungry to continue to play.
 - D The team had to leave because they were broke.

FRIDAY

5. Where does this story take place?
- A Monterrey, Mexico
 - B McAllen, Texas
 - C Mexico City, Mexico
 - D Mission, Texas

Wonder Kids

The kids from Monterrey, Mexico, on the northbound bus, were the smallest of the 3000 teams entering the Little League baseball tournament of 1957. They were also the poorest. Some had never before ridden a bus, had a barbershop haircut, or even seen downtown Monterrey. This 150-mile trip to McAllen, a Texas border town, was the bright peak of (1) twelve-year-old lives.

They were down-to-earth kids. Had anyone told them they were off on the greatest small-boy adventure since Jack climbed the Beanstalk, they would just grinned. If he'd added that they would wind up as the guests of presidents and great cities, they might have murmured, "Que locura!" — "What a craziness!"

The boys knew their money would barely take them to McAllen. If they could beat Mexico City, the only other Mexican team in the tournament, they would be champions of Mexico. That would be glory enough.

"We Just Play Them"

To save bus fare, the kids and their coaches (2) across the border bridge, lugging playing gear and clothes. At three to a room, they got a low rate in a McAllen motel. Harold Haskins, their manager, got a cafe to cut prices on two meals a day. By lunching on hamburgers and walking to the park, they might afford to stay three days. On the field next afternoon, the Monterrey boys looked like little brothers of the Mexico City team; but their spirit was king-size.

One fan asked tiny "Pini" (Peewee) González, "Don't those big boys scare you?"

Peewee smiled up at him. "We don't have to *carry* them," he said calmly. "We just play them."

So they did. While his infield moved like dancers and his outfielders stood idle, whip-thin Enrique Suárez held Mexico City hitless until his team piled up nine runs. The final score was 9:2. The next day Monterrey beat McAllen's own team 7 to 1.

On the third day Monterrey brought out Angel Macías. Angel is a right-handed shortstop and left-handed first baseman. He also plays the outfield and pitches — with either hand! Right-handed, he held Mission to one hit. Monterrey won 14-1 and found itself in the district play-offs. Haskins found only \$3 in his pocket with which to feed fourteen hungry boys.

That was Chapter I of the great sport story of 1957.

MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
 - B Capitalization
 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

WEDNESDAY

3. From the map you can tell the area detailed is—
- A east of Riverside Drive
 - B south of Riverside Drive
 - C west of Riverside Drive
 - D north of Riverside Drive

THURSDAY

4. The new alignment should help—
- A cut down the number of accidents at this intersection
 - B pedestrians cross South First Street
 - C the drainage into Town Lake
 - D the newspaper get delivered quicker

FRIDAY

5. Who is paying for this construction?
- A The city of Austin
 - B The state of Texas
 - C Tax payers
 - D *The American-Statesman*

Newspaper Alters Roads

by Tim Lott

American-Statesman Staff

The realignment of the intersection of Barton Springs Road and

(1)

Congress Avenue, part of an expansion on the south bank of Town Lake by the *Austin American-Statesman*, is being funded entirely by the newspaper.

David Gerard, manager of transportation and engineering for the city's Department of Public Works and Transportation, said the city — which will incur no cost — welcomed it.

Gerard said the new configuration, with 90-degree turns — is preferable to the old, which included some unusual angles.

"There had been plans discussed many years ago about realigning it to make it a 90-degree intersection," he said. But, he added: "We have numerous roadway improvement needs all over the city. This enables us to take the money that we do have and spend it at other locations."

American-Statesman Publisher Roger Kintzel, responding to questions posed in a letter that appeared in the newspaper Monday, said the newspaper is spending \$250,000 on the project.

Before the construction began, Barton Springs Road and Miller Street, the "driveway" into the newspaper's production entrance, intersected Congress Avenue just yards apart. Drivers were forced to make a quick right-left maneuver when going from Barton Springs Road to the newspaper.

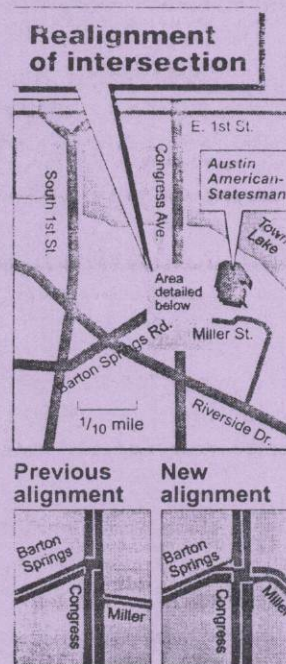
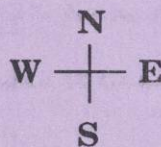
When the road construction and the newspaper's expansion project are completed, Kintzel said, Barton Springs Road will be aligned with Miller Street, improving safety and traffic flow.

The new Intersection also

(2)

will include left-turn lanes.

Kintzel said the project, which was to have been completed in mid-January, has been delayed for several months because of an unsteady sub-soil and heavy spring rains.



MONDAY

1. Which type of mistake is found in the underlined part?
- A Spelling
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 - C Punctuation
 - D No Mistake

TUESDAY

2. Which word goes in the blank?
- A smell
 - B smelled
 - C smelling
 - D smells

WEDNESDAY

3. What's the best main idea of the first paragraph?
- A The robbers forced their way into a mob of young bees.
 - B The robbers were all killed.
 - C The honey bees were surprised.
 - D The queen bee was angry.

THURSDAY

4. How many robbers invaded the hive in the garden?
- A 20,000
 - B 3
 - C 30,000
 - D 60,000

FRIDAY

5. Where will the robbers probably go next to steal honey?
- A Another hive in the garden
 - B The oak tree
 - C Back to the straw nest
 - D To a large flower garden

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Reading & Writing Moments Grade 6

Answer Key

The Day I Met Caruso

1. B
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. A

The End of Blackbeard the Pirate

1. C
2. A
3. C
4. B
5. D

Experiments With Air

1. C
2. A
3. B
4. B
5. C

Susan B. Anthony

1. C
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. C

Redistricting Plan

1. B
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. C

Amy Towson

1. D
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. D

The City That Died

1. D
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. C

Rolf, The Dog Who Finds Things

1. D
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. A

Make Yourself A Boomerang

1. B
2. D
3. C
4. C
5. A

Jane Addams

1. C
2. D
3. C
4. A
5. D

Richards Names Diverse Group

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. A

The Case of the Shaking Hand

1. B
2. A
3. B
4. C
5. C

Many Moons

1. D
2. A
3. C
4. D
5. B

The Company We Keep

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. C
5. A

Jewelry To Make

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. C

Mary McLeod Bethune

1. B
2. B
3. C
4. C
5. B

Texas Tax Burden

1. C
2. A
3. A
4. B
5. B

Cochise, Greatest of Apaches

1. A
2. C
3. C
4. C
5. A

Australia's Marvelous Throwing Stick

1. D
2. D
3. A
4. D
5. C

Ordeal in the Desert

1. D
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. B

Amelia Earhart

1. D
2. C
3. A
4. C
5. B

A Link Bracelet

1. D
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. C

Balance of Power

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. D
5. B

My Private Sea

1. D
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. B

America's Greatest Exploration

1. B
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. D

The Small Woman

1. C
2. A
3. D
4. B
5. D

Margaret Mead

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. D

Coin Through the Hat

1. D
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. C

Newspaper Alters Roads

1. D
2. B
3. D
4. A
5. D

Wonder Kids

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. B

The Goldsmith Who Lived

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. C
5. B

Signposts in the Sky

1. C
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. A

Louisa May Alcott

1. D
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. C

Famous Names

1. D
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. B

The Battle of the Bees

1. B
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. A

The Black Invasion

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. B

