

FreedomProject Academy

7TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST

Instructions:

1. Print the entire test.
2. All work must be completed only by the student. It is imperative for us to see the student's own work for accurate placement. No outside sources are to be used including but not limited to the following: textbooks, notes, text messages, Internet sources, smart phones, tablets, parents, family, or friends.
3. Be sure to include the student's name and note the time it took to complete the test at the top of the first page.
4. The Grammar section of this test should be in manuscript (printed) writing; however, the Literature and Writing sections should be in **cursive**. If the student has not learned cursive, take steps to work on that skill over the summer to prepare for school in the fall.
5. Scan completed test and email to tests@fpeusa.org.

Name _____ Date: _____ Time to complete: _____
7TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST. Please answer all questions. The grammar section should be in manuscript (printing) writing. Place all labels **above** the word(s) wherever no lines are provided.

GRAMMAR

Put S for “Sentence” and F for “Fragment.”

- ___ 1.) Our school has a homework hot line.
- ___ 2.) Definitely mailed the invitations yesterday.
- ___ 3.) Will you practice guitar before dinner?
- ___ 4.) Playing catch with Queenie.

Underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

- 1.) My grandmother plays mah-jongg with my friends and me every Saturday.
- 2.) On Saturday, Amy, Theo, and I walked through Chinatown and took pictures.
- 3.) Beyond the large rocks at the far end of the beach is a small cave.
- 4.) Several tents were set up in the park.

Classify the following sentences as declarative, interrogative, imperative, or exclamatory. Add the appropriate end mark.

- _____ 1.) Please answer the phone _____
- _____ 2.) What a good time we had _____
- _____ 3.) Whose book is this _____
- _____ 4.) We traveled last week _____

Look at the words in italics. Label each as a noun (N), pronoun (Pro), or adjective (Adj).

- 1.) The *Romans* built a huge system of *roads*, *some* of which are still used.
- 2.) Last summer *we* visited *Alaska*, which is our *largest* state.
- 3.) The *pen* with the *blue* ink is *hers*.
- 4.) *This* story is my *favorite* one.

Identify the bolded italicized words as common (C) or proper (P).

- 1.) Was ***Spanish*** the first ***language*** your ***mother*** spoke?
- 2.) Many American ***tourists*** visit ***London*** in the ***summer***.

Look at the words in italics. Label each as a verb (V), adverb (Adv), preposition (Prep), conjunction (Conj), or interjection (I).

- 1.) The tornado ***struck*** our neighborhood ***without*** warning.
- 2.) ***Suddenly***, a siren went ***off***.
- 3.) ***Well***, I was frightened, ***but*** I was not hurt.
- 4.) ***Wow***, the test was easier than last year's final exam, ***and*** it ***took*** less time.
- 5.) The house ***across*** the street has green shutters.

Place parentheses () around each prepositional phrase and underline the word or phrase it modifies. Label each prepositional phrase as an adjective phrase or an adverb phrase.

- 1.) That store has something for everyone.
- 2.) The door to the secret room is locked.
- 3.) According to the map, Tony's farm is just ahead.

Identify each group of italicized words as an Independent Clause (I) or a Subordinate Clause (S).

- 1.) ***When school is out***, these halls seem quite lonely.
- 2.) As far as I can tell, the red piece goes right here, and ***the green piece goes under there***.
- 3.) ***Geronimo***, who was a leader of the Apache, ***died in the early part of the twentieth century***.

Identify each sentence as simple (S), compound (CD), complex (CX), or compound-complex (CD-CX).

_____ 1.) Jaleel learned several African folk tales and recited them.

_____ 2.) The school bus stopped suddenly, but no one was hurt.

_____ 3.) The dance committee has chosen Hawaiian theme, so the volunteers will decorate the gym with flowers and greenery while Todd finds the right music.

_____ 4.) Bring an extra sweatshirt with you if you have one.

Identify each italicized word as a direct object (DO), indirect object (IO), predicate nominative (PN), or predicate adjective (PA).

1.) We made our *parents* a *family tree* for their anniversary.

2.) The home of the former president is now a *library* and *museum*.

3.) After the long hike, all of the Scouts felt *sore* and *sleepy*.

Circle each letter that should be capitalized.

1.) luis valdez filmed *the shepherd's tale*, a traditional mexican play, for television.

2.) monique said, "that movie is about world war II."

3.) darnell and i took a rafting trip on the arkansas river near leadville, colorado.

Use correct punctuation in each of the sentences below – commas, semicolons, colons, underlining (italics), quotation marks, apostrophes, hyphens, parentheses, and dashes.

1.) When you go cross-country skiing, bring the following items skis boots poles and ski wax.

2.) Benjamin Franklin wrote it answered Karen in a book called Advice to a Young Tradesman.

3.) The two chefs dishes all were original recipes were delicious.

4.) Cheryl will take gymnastics Eddie will take piano lessons.

LITERATURE: VOCABULARY / COMPREHENSION

Read this selection, and then answer the questions which follow.

7TH GRADE ENGLISH PLACEMENT TEST LITERATURE SELECTION **from *Where the Red Fern Grows*: Chapter 2**

“Billy, [hound] dogs cost money, and that’s something we don’t have right now,” Papa said. But some time later...

The fishermen were wonderful, as true sportsmen are. They seemed to sense the urgency in my voice and always bought my wares. However, many was the time I’d find my vegetables left in the abandoned camp. There never was a set price. Anything they offered was good enough for me.

A year passed. I was twelve. I was over the halfway mark. I had twenty-seven dollars and forty-six cents. My spirits soared. I worked harder.

Another year crawled slowly by, and then the great day came. The long hard grind was over. I had it—my fifty dollars! I cried as I counted it over and over.

As I set the can back in the shadowy eaves of the barn, it seemed to glow with a radiant whiteness I had never seen before. Perhaps it was all imagination. I don’t know.

Lying back in the soft hay, I folded my hands behind my head, closed my eyes, and let my mind wander back over the two long years. I thought of the fishermen, the blackberry patches, and the huckleberry hills. I thought of the prayer I had said when I asked God to help me get two hound pups. I knew He had surely helped, for He had given me the heart, courage, and determination.

Early the next morning, with the can jammed deep in the pocket of my overalls, I flew to the store. As I trotted along, I whistled and sang. I felt as big as the tallest mountain in the Ozarks.

Arriving at my destination, I saw two wagons were tied up at the hitching rack. I knew some farmers had come to the store, so I waited until they left. As I walked in, I saw my grandfather behind the counter. Tugging and pulling, I worked the can out of my pocket and dumped it out in front of him and looked up.

Grandpa was dumbfounded. He tried to say something, but it wouldn’t come out. He looked at me, and he looked at the pile of coins. Finally, in a voice much louder than he ordinarily used, he asked, “Where did you get all this?”

“I told you, Grandpa,” I said, “I was saving my money so I could buy two hound pups, and I did. You said you would order them for me. I’ve got the money and now I want you to order them.”

Grandpa stared at me over his glasses, and then back at the money. "How long have you been saving this?" he asked.

"A long time, Grandpa," I said.

"How long?" he asked.

I told him, "Two years."

His mouth flew open and in a loud voice he said, "Two years!"

I nodded my head.

The way my grandfather stared at me made me uneasy. I was on needles and pins. Taking his eyes from me, he glanced back at the money. He saw the faded yellow piece of paper sticking out from the coins. He worked it out, asking as he did, "What's this?"

I told him it was the ad, telling where to order my dogs.

He read it, turned it over, and glanced at the other side.

I saw the astonishment leave his eyes and the friendly-old-grandfather look come back. I felt much better.

Dropping the paper back on the money, he turned, picked up an old turkey-feather duster, and started dusting where there was no dust. He kept glancing at me out of the corner of his eye as he walked slowly down to the other end of the store, dusting here and there.

He put the duster down, came from behind the counter, and walked up to me. Laying a friendly old work-calloused hand on my head, he changed the conversation altogether, saying, "Son, you need a haircut."

I told him I didn't mind. I didn't like my hair short; flies and mosquitoes bothered me.

He glanced down at my bare feet and asked, "How come your feet are cut and scratched like that?"

I told him it was pretty tough picking blackberries barefoot.

He nodded his head.

It was too much for my grandfather. He turned and walked away. I saw the glasses come off, and the old red handkerchief come out. I heard the good excuse of blowing his nose. He stood for several seconds with his back toward me. When he turned around, I noticed his eyes were moist.

In a quavering voice, he said, "Well, Son, it's your money. You worked for it, and you worked hard. You got it honestly, and you want some dogs. We're going to get those dogs.

He walked over and picked up the ad again, asking, "Is this two years old, too?" I nodded.

"Well," he said, "the first thing we have to do is write this outfit. There may not even be a place like this in Kentucky any more. After all, a lot of things can happen in two years."

Seeing that I was worried, he said, "Now you go on home. I'll write to these kennels and I'll let you know when I get an answer. If we can't get the dogs there, we can get them someplace else. And I don't think, if I were you, I'd let my Pa know anything about this right now. I happen to know he wants to buy that red mule from Old Man Potter."

I told him I wouldn't, and turned to leave the store.

As I reached the door, my grandfather said in a loud voice, "Say, it's been a long time since you've had any candy, hasn't it?"

I nodded my head.

He asked, "How long?"

I told him, "A long time."

"Well," he said, "we'll have to do something about that."

Walking over behind the counter, he reached out and got a sack. I noticed it wasn't one of the nickel sacks. It was one of the quarter kind.

My eyes never left my grandfather's hand. Time after time, it dipped in and out of the candy counter: peppermint sticks, jawbreakers, horehound, and gumdrops. The sack bulged. So did my eyes.

Handing the sack to me, he said, "Here. First big coon you catch with those dogs, you can pay me back."

I told him I would. On my way home, with a jawbreaker in one side of my mouth and a piece of horehound in the other, I skipped and hopped, making half an effort to try to whistle and sing, and couldn't for the candy. I had the finest grandpa in the world and I was the happiest boy in the world.

I wanted to share my happiness with my sisters but decided not to say anything about ordering the pups.

Arriving home, I dumped the sack of candy out on the bed. Six little hands helped themselves. I was well repaid by the love and adoration I saw in the wide blue eyes of my three little sisters.

LITERATURE: VOCABULARY / COMPREHENSION

Answer the following questions after reading the above passage from *Where the Red Fern Grows*. You may refer back to it at any time. (30 pts.)

For the vocabulary section, circle the letter of the correct answer.

1.) “The fishermen were wonderful, as true sportsmen are. They seemed to sense the **urgency** in my voice and always bought my wares. However, many was the time I’d find my vegetables left in the abandoned camp.”

In the sentence above, **urgency** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. pressing need
- b. argumentativeness
- c. weakness
- d. indifference

2.) “Another year crawled slowly by, and then the great day came. The long hard **grind** was over. I had it—my fifty dollars! I cried as I counted it over and over.

In the sentence above, **grind** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. shave
- b. smile
- c. labor
- d. leisure

3.) “As I set the can back in the shadowy eaves of the barn, it seemed to glow with a **radiant** whiteness I had never seen before. Perhaps it was all imagination. I don’t know.”

In the sentence above, **radiant** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. dark
- b. shining
- c. round
- d. dim

4.) “Laying a friendly old work-**calloused** hand on my head, he changed the conversation altogether, saying, “Son, you need a haircut.”

In the sentence above, **calloused** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. lightened
- b. softened
- c. smoothed
- d. hardened

5.) "In a **quavering** voice, he said, "Well, Son, it's your money. You worked for it, and you worked hard. You got it honestly, and you want some dogs. We're going to get those dogs."

In the sentence above, **quavering** means which of the following? (1 pt.)

- a. shouting
- b. breathless
- c. singing
- d. shaking

Please answer **all parts** of each of the remaining comprehension questions in **complete sentences** by hand in **cursive**. Points will be deducted if these directions are not followed.

6.) Why wouldn't Billy's dad allow him to have hound dogs? (2 pts.)

7.) How were the fisherman wonderful? Why do you think Billy would find vegetables in the abandoned fishing camp? (2 pts.)

8.) How old was Billy by the time he saved up \$50? What did he mean by "the long hard grind"? (2 pts.)

9.) Describe at least five (5) things Billy was thinking about as he lay in the hay. Of what significance were these thoughts? (5 pts.)

10.) Why did Billy visit Grandpa? What did Billy mean when he said, "I was on needles and pins"? (3 pts.)

11.) Explain Grandpa's behavior after Billy tells him how long he's been saving his money, and a little later when Billy explained the scratches he had. Why does Grandpa act this way? (3 pts.)

12.) Why is Grandpa's voice quavering when he finally speaks to Billy again? (2 pts.)

13.) Explain three details of Grandpa's plan regarding the hound pups. (3 pts.)

14.) What was the purpose of Grandpa buying all that candy for Billy? How did Billy pass it on? (3 pts.)
