



ELA 10 PreAP STAAR Distance Learning Packet: Week 3

Directions:

- 1. Complete each day's work.**
- 2. Read for 30 minutes each day.**
- 3. Complete the reading log daily.**

Week 3:
Composition: Persuasive Essay
Genre: Persuasive

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Santiago has written the following paper in response to a history assignment. Read Santiago's paper and look for any corrections he should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.



USS Constitution

Old Ironsides

(1) In the late 1700s, as a new American nation was creating its first navy shipbuilders were busily constructing a great vessel. (2) Trees from almost every state in the union provided the necessary wood. (3) Silversmith and patriot Paul Revere contributed the copper bolts and spikes. (4) Finally, after three years of work, the beautiful ship was ready. (5) *USS Constitution* entered service in 1797 as one of the fastest and finest ships in the entire naval fleet.

(6) The newly commissioned vessel was initially assigned to defend other U.S. ship's from pirate attacks. (7) After several successful tours of duty, it returned to Washington, D.C., just in time to be refurbished for the War of 1812. (8) *USS Constitution* defeated five British warships, which surprised both the Americans and the British. (9) It was during one of those battles that the famous ship earned the nickname Old Ironsides. (10) While watching shot after shot strike the side of the vessel and fall harmless into the water, one American sailor reportedly shrieked, "Her sides are made of iron! (11) See where the shot fell out!" (12) After each victory at sea, the ship and its sailors returned to Boston and were honored by an adoring public with a parade. (13) The accomplishments of Old Ironsides

helped unite Americans behind the war effort, they boosted morale and ended the myth that Britain's Royal Navy was invincible.

(14) For the next 40 years, the ship continued its career as a central part of U.S. naval defense. (15) It served as a flagship for navy squadrons in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. (16) In 1855, Old Ironsides was retired from active military duty but continued to serve as a training ship and later as a museum. (17) By the 1920s the aging ship was in desperate need of restoration. (18) Americans came to the rescue, donating money and materials to repair the beloved vessel so that it could be preserved as a monument to the nation.

(19) In July 1997, after another major restoration, Old Ironsides set sail off the coast of Massachusetts in celebration of its 200th birthday. (20) It was the first time in 116 years that the ship had sailed freely under its own power. (21) Planes flew overhead, and citizens cheered; sailors aboard two modern naval warships stood at attention as they past the historic ship. (22) On that special day Secretary of the Navy John H. Dalton addressed the crowd and described the ship as the "culmination and embodiment of a navy's and a nation's pride and honor, courage, and commitment."

(23) Today Old Ironsides is still a commissioned naval vessel. (24) It is manned by active-duty members of the U.S. Navy, who consider the assignment a special honor. (25) The legendary ship rests at anchor in Boston, Massachusetts, where visitors can tour its decks and learn more about its history.

1 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

- A Insert a comma after ***navy***
 - B Change ***shipbuilders*** to ***shipbuilder's***
 - C Change ***busily*** to ***bussily***
 - D Make no change
-

2 How should sentence 6 be changed?

- F Change ***commissioned*** to ***comissioned***
 - G Change ***ship's*** to ***ships***
 - H Change ***pirate*** to ***Pirate***
 - J Sentence 6 should not be changed.
-

3 What change needs to be made in sentence 10?

- A Change ***harmless*** to ***harmlessly***
- B Change the comma after ***water*** to a semicolon
- C Change ***shrieked*** to ***shreiked***
- D Insert quotation marks at the end of the sentence

4 What is the correct way to write sentence 13?

- F The accomplishments of Old Ironsides helped unite Americans behind the war effort. Boosting morale and ending the myth that Britain's Royal Navy was invincible.
- G The accomplishments of Old Ironsides helping unite Americans behind the war effort, boosting morale and ending the myth that Britain's Royal Navy was invincible.
- H The accomplishments of Old Ironsides helped unite Americans behind the war effort by boosting morale. And ending the myth that Britain's Royal Navy was invincible.
- H The accomplishments of Old Ironsides helped unite Americans behind the war effort, boosting morale and ending the myth that Britain's Royal Navy was invincible.

5 What change should be made in sentence 21?

- A Delete the semicolon
- B Change ***stood*** to ***standing***
- C Change ***they*** to ***it***
- D Change ***past*** to ***passed***

WRITTEN COMPOSITION: Persuasive

Read the following quotation.

The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.
—*from I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*
by Dr. Seuss

Think carefully about the following statement.

According to Dr. Seuss, knowledge leads to new opportunities.

Write an essay stating your position on whether learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.

Be sure to —

- state your position clearly
- use appropriate organization
- provide specific support for your argument
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

USE THIS PREWRITING PAGE TO
PLAN YOUR COMPOSITION.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU WRITE YOUR COMPOSITION ON
THE LINED PAGE IN THE ANSWER DOCUMENT.

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STAAR WRITTEN COMPOSITIONS

A large rectangular box with a thick black border, containing 25 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box, leaving a small margin from the top and bottom edges.

STUDENTS MAY NOT WRITE OUTSIDE THE BOX

PERSUASION

Genre Definition: Text that develops an argument and debates a topic in a logical way

Genre Examples: Persuasive essays, editorials, persuasive speeches, debates

Thinking Jobs:

1. Topic
2. What is the author trying to teach or tell me about the topic?
3. What is the author's point of view?

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Where the Wild Things Are

by Beth Pratt-Bergstrom
Earth Island Journal

- 1 In 2012, I read a headline in the *Los Angeles Times*, “Mountain lion makes itself at home in Griffith Park,” that radically transformed my life’s work. At first glance I thought it simply a curious story that defied plausibility. How could a mountain lion be living in the middle of the second largest city in the United States? And why would the poor cat even want to?
- 2 Most of my 25-year environmental career has been spent in two of the largest national parks in this country—Yosemite and Yellowstone. Protected areas like those fit more with my preconceived notion of where wildlife should live, especially a large predator. My long-held view of Los Angeles (or of any city really) dismissed urban centers as environmental wastelands, full of endless highways, traffic snarls, and unchecked development that had banished all hope of even a butterfly being able to safely flutter through.
- 3 Like most opinions founded on ignorance, this proved to be very wrong.
- 4 After reading about the city-dwelling cougar, I contacted the National Park Service researchers studying the mountain lion—now famously known as P-22—and accompanied them on an excursion to track him in Griffith Park. The park is a hybrid of city and nature surrounded by a spider web of freeways, only two miles from the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and visited by 10 million people annually. As I trekked around, surrounded by people at every turn and confronted with the inescapable Hollywood sign and the imposing Los Angeles skyline, I dismissed this landscape as being about as far from the untrammelled wilderness of a Yellowstone or Yosemite as one could get. I scoffed at the notion of “nature” in a park with a golf course, tennis courts, a merry-go-round and miniature train, the Griffith Observatory, and the Greek Theater.



Steve Winter/National Geographic Creative

- 5 And then I had a life changing epiphany. *This cat has more of an imagination than I do.*
- 6 Why *can't* a mountain lion live in a city? Why is the human-built environment seen as off-limits to wildlife? If it's good enough for a mountain lion, who are we to judge?
- 7 I'll always be a national park advocate. Yosemite remains my favorite place on Earth, and I relish my experiences of listening to a wolf howl and watching a grizzly bear lope by in the wilds of Yellowstone. Five years ago, I would have laughed hysterically if you had told me I'd soon be dedicating my career to the conservation of wildlife in cities. But P-22 shifted my perspective. His remarkable story of crossing two of the busiest freeways in the country to find a new home, as well as his ability (and those of his Santa Monica Mountain cougar kin) to adapt to life in a challenging urban interface speaks to the beauty and resiliency of wild things.
- 8 After P-22 opened my eyes, I began seeing examples of this new paradigm of coexistence working across California. Now I focus most of my work on helping wildlife in cities, and I've just finished writing a book on the success stories of people and wildlife bending our preconceived rules about what is "natural," and thriving together instead of apart.
- 9 You'd be surprised at the places where these stories crop up. In Silicon Valley, for instance, a family of foxes decided to make a home on the Facebook campus in Menlo Park along with 2,500 employees, and Mark Zuckerberg himself took an interest in the skulk. Instead of treating them as pests, the Facebook staff embraced sharing their workplace with these admittedly adorable wild neighbors. They even created a FB Fox page that boasts over 100,000 followers from all over the world. But the interest extended beyond sharing images suitable for #cuteoverload. The motto of the FB Fox page "Please honor the foxes—no chasing or feeding—just mutual respect," speaks to the desire to ensure the animals stay safe, healthy, and wild. Facebook's facilities-management team worked with wildlife officials and contacted a local gray fox researcher to educate staff about the animal. In one typical pro-fox social media post, an employee shared a photo of one of the foxes resting under his automobile with the reminder: "Before you drive off, please check if there is a fox under or near your car."
- 10 The traditional philosophy of conservation has been to segregate people and wildlife—to set aside islands of habitat—and although we must continue to do so, it's not enough. And it's not entirely working. Even in the best-protected places on the planet—national parks—some species are having a tough time. When the number-one threat to wildlife worldwide is loss of habitat, we can no longer think of our cities or towns or neighborhoods, or even our backyards, as exempt from the natural world—or as off-limits to wildlife. Our shared spaces are as essential to conservation as our traditionally protected lands.

- 11 Yes, wildlife would be better served if cities were converted back to open space. But barring a stunning reversal of the trends of human existence, this won't happen any time soon. Given this reality, isn't a city that incorporates wildlife surely better than one that doesn't?
- 12 Not that every city could, or should, have a mountain lion. But there are many other creatures, both big and small, that could do with some urban love. Take the monarch butterfly, for instance. Populations of this amazing orange and black butterfly, which migrates thousands of miles from Canada to Mexico City, have declined by as much as 90 percent across the US. The problem? The plentiful "gas stations" of milkweed and other plants needed to sustain them along their migration route have largely disappeared. Planting milkweed and creating habitat is one easy way to help monarch populations rebound, and this can even be done from an apartment balcony. Wherever we live, we can create our own "national park" space.
- 13 National parks and other protected areas are vital to conservation. But what I have come to realize since that day spent walking in Griffith Park is that cities are also essential to the future of wildlife. Wouldn't it be a wonderful legacy for the next 100 years of national parks if we expanded our values and considered it just as important for cities to have the same charge as our parks "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations"?
- 14 Adopting an expanded view of the national park ethic in our urban spaces would exponentially increase our ability to protect wildlife and biodiversity around the world.
- 15 I, for one, believe cities and nature can mix and need to mix for wildlife to have a future. We need to foster a daily relationship with our wild, nonhuman kin. It's not about habituating wildlife to us, but about habituating ourselves to the wild world.

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- 1** What is the author's purpose for writing this article?
- A** To encourage people to visit national parks
 - B** To advocate for coexistence of humans and wildlife in urban areas
 - C** To explain methods for tracking a cougar through Griffith Park
 - D** To persuade people to convert urban cities back to natural spaces
-

- 2** Which words from paragraph 7 best help the reader understand the meaning of the word *resiliency*?
- F** *relish my experiences*
 - G** *cougar kin*
 - H** *adapt to life*
 - J** *urban interface*

- 3** Why does the author use rhetorical questions in paragraph 6?
- A** To argue that human-built environments are not suitable for wildlife
 - B** To illustrate a shift in her perspective regarding wildlife habitats
 - C** To explain that mountain lions are vastly different from other types of wildlife
 - D** To prove that she has experience on the subject of mountain lions
-

- 4** In paragraph 12, why does the author refer to milkweed plants as “gas stations” for monarch butterflies?
- F** Milkweed plants are enjoyed by several species of butterflies.
 - G** Milkweed plants are becoming more available in cities.
 - H** Milkweed plants can be grown in any environment.
 - J** Milkweed plants are essential for the migration of monarch butterflies.
-

- 5** In paragraph 5, the author conveys a tone of —
- A** relief
 - B** surprise
 - C** humiliation
 - D** pride

- 6** What is one conclusion the author makes about wildlife?
- F** Certain urban spaces should be abandoned by people because wildlife need them more.
 - G** Larger species of wildlife are not as strong as smaller species of wildlife.
 - H** Humans need to change their understanding of wildlife preservation.
 - J** More national parks should be formed to help wildlife.
-

- 7** Read this quotation from paragraph 9.

You'd be surprised at the places where these stories crop up. In Silicon Valley, for instance, a family of foxes decided to make a home on the Facebook campus in Menlo Park along with 2,500 employees, and Mark Zuckerberg himself took an interest in the skulk.

Why does the author include this idea?

- A** To emphasize that wildlife living in urban areas is more common than people think
 - B** To compare the wildlife found in different regions of California
 - C** To describe Mark Zuckerberg's disapproval of the foxes living on the Facebook campus
 - D** To question whether the foxes are safe living in Menlo Park
-
- 8** In paragraph 14, what does *biodiversity* mean?
- F** Decisions about nature made by people
 - G** Understanding and respecting nature
 - H** Multiple species of plants and animals
 - J** Animals living in populated urban areas

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 1

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 1.

A B C D

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 2

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 2.

F G H J

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 3

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 3.

A B C D

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 4

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 4.

F G H J

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 5

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 5.

A B C D

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 6

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 6.

F G H J

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 7

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 7.

A B C D

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Where the Wild Things Are | QUESTION 8

Part 1: Circle the correct answer for Question 8.

F G H J

Part 2: Provide justification for your answer.

Part 3: Provide justification for why the other answer choices that you did not select were incorrect.

Incorrect Answer	Rationale

Student Name: _____

Class Period: _____

Independent Reading Log

Day and Date	Title	Pages	1 question or prediction
Day: <i>Monday</i> Date: _____			
Day: <i>Tuesday</i> Date: _____			
Day: <i>Wednesday</i> Date: _____			
Day: <i>Thursday</i> Date: _____			
Day: <i>Friday</i> Date: _____			