G3 Being a Writer
Week 3

Directions:

• Work on your writing prompt throughout the week. Complete your brainstorming, draft, revising and editing, and final draft.
• Complete the STAAR practice throughout the week.
• Complete one Daily Gram a day.
• Complete one Skills Practice a day.
Writing Prompt
Written Composition: Opinion

Write about a great book you read. Tell what the book is and explain why you enjoyed it.

Be sure to-

- clearly state your opinion
- support your opinion with reasons
- restate your opinion at the end of your composition
- choose your words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences
USE THIS PREWRITING PAGE TO PLAN YOUR COMPOSITION.
STAAR Practice
Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

Kat wrote the following paper about an interesting woman. Read Kat’s paper and look for any revisions she needs to make. Then answer the questions that follow.

Always Ready to Help

(1) The American Red Cross is known for its work in the United States. (2) It keeps supplies, food, and clothing to people during difficult times. (3) Yet, many people do not know that the American Red Cross was started by a brave woman named Clara Barton. (4) Clara spent her entire life helping others.

(5) Clara Barton was born on December 25, 1821, in North Oxford, Massachusetts. (6) When Clara was 11 years old, her brother was in an accident. (7) Clara was his nurse for two years. (8) She gave him medicine until he became better.

(9) In 1854 Clara moved to Washington, D.C. (10) Thousands of people currently live and work in Washington, D.C. (11) While there, the Civil War began. (12) She learned about the men fighting in the war and knew they needed support. (13) She quit her job and went to offer aid to the soldiers. (14) She gave them supplies, clothing, and food. (15) Clara also read to them and listened to their stories.

(16) Clara went to Europe after the war ended and visited the country of Switzerland. (17) In Switzerland she learned about the International Red Cross. (18) The organization protected people during wars. (19) Clara helped this group by caring for people hurt in wars. (20) She was proud of the work the organization did. (21) Clara knew she wanted to help more people.
(22) Clara in the United States wanted to start a Red Cross and returned home. (23) She told people about what she did in Europe. (24) Clara wanted to start the organization right away. (25) However, she first needed permission from the government.

(26) In 1882 Clara got her wish. (27) The government gave her approval to form the American Red Cross. (28) Clara served as its president for 23 years.

(29) The American Red Cross continues the important work today that Clara Barton started. (30) Many people have been able to rely on the American Red Cross because of her. (31) Clara Barton would be glad.

*Third party trademark American Red Cross® was used in these testing material.*
7 Kat wants to use a better word than *keeps* in sentence 2. What word should replace *keeps* in sentence 2?

A clears  
B turns  
C provides  
D supports

8 Kat would like to include the following sentence in the second paragraph (sentences 5–8).

> This experience of caring for someone would help her later in life.

Where is the **BEST** place to add this sentence?

F After sentence 5  
G After sentence 6  
H After sentence 7  
J After sentence 8

9 Kat has included a sentence that does not belong in the third paragraph (sentences 9–15). Which sentence should she remove?

A Sentence 9  
B Sentence 10  
C Sentence 12  
D Sentence 14
10 What is the **BEST** way to revise sentence 22?

F Clara wanted to start a Red Cross and in the United States she returned home.

G Clara returned home and wanted to start in the United States a Red Cross there.

H Clara wanted in the United States to start a Red Cross there and to return home.

J Clara returned home and wanted to start a Red Cross in the United States.

11 What is the **MOST** effective way to revise sentence 29?

A Starting the important work today is the American Red Cross that continues the important work of Clara Barton.

B Today the American Red Cross continues the important work that Clara Barton started.

C The American Red Cross started and continues Clara Barton’s work today that is important.

D Today the important work started the American Red Cross that Clara Barton continues.

12 Kat wants to improve the conclusion of her paper. Which sentence should replace sentence 31?

F Clara Barton would be proud of the organization’s many important acts.

G Clara Barton was glad she got to serve as president of the organization.

H Clara Barton would have liked to have helped more people.

J Clara Barton was pleased the government listened to her idea.
Daily Grams
DAY 60

CAPITALIZATION:
   Capitalize this closing of a friendly letter:

1. your cousin,
   shawn

PUNCTUATION:
   Punctuate these abbreviations:

2. A. inch = in
   B. quart = qt
   C. cup = c

PARTS OF SPEECH:  PREPOSITIONS

   A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and stops with a noun that follows.
   For example, in is a preposition.
   In the house is a prepositional phrase.

   Circle the prepositional phrase that begins with from:

3. The letter was from Timmy.

RHYMING WORDS:

4. Write two words that rhyme with glad: _____________ and _____________

SENTENCE COMBINING:

5. Marty likes to play in the sand.
   Marty's brother likes to play in the sand.
CAPITALIZATION:

Do not capitalize a game (unless it is a trademarked game such as Scrabble).

1. he and grandma loe made carmel apples and played checkers.

PUNCTUATION:

Place a title of a short story or poem in quotation marks (“ ”).

Example: He wrote a poem and named it “Blue Sky.”

2. Nicki wrote a story called My Dog for her little sister

PARTS OF SPEECH: ADVERBS

Adverbs often tell when.

Circle any adverb that tells when:

3. The bus arrived late.

PARTS OF SPEECH: PRONOUNS

Circle the correct pronoun:

4. Karen and ( me, I ) like that.

SENTENCE COMBINING:

5. The coupon is on the desk.

The coupon is for cereal.
DAY 62

CAPITALIZATION:

Remember:
Capitalize the first word, the last word, and all important words of a title.

1. Michael and his grandpa read *encyclopedia brown*.

PUNCTUATION:

Place a comma after the street address in a sentence.
Place a comma between the city and state.
Do not place a comma between the state and zip code.

Example: He moved to 2 Central Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076.

2. I live at 10 Tulip Lane Darien Connecticut 06820

COMPOUND WORDS:

3. Write two compound words: ___________________ and ___________________

SUBJECT/VERB:

A subject tells who or what a sentence is about.
A verb often shows action.

Place one line under the subject and two lines under the verb:

4. Our father digs for gold.

SENTENCE COMBINING:

5. The apple is red and crunchy.
   
The apple is also juicy.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
CAPITALIZATION:
1. does she work at carefree cleaners on lakeview street?

PUNCTUATION:
2. He was born on Saturday May 22 1982

PARTS OF SPEECH: VERBS

Write the contraction:
3. A. they will - ____________________  C. who is - ____________________
   B. are not - ____________________  D. will not - ____________________

FRIENDLY LETTER: ENVELOPE

Write your return address on this envelope:
4. __________________________________________
   ____________________________________ line 1: your first and last name
   ____________________________________ line 2: your street address
   ____________________________________ line 3: your city, state zip code

   Mr. and Mrs. T. Downs
   26 Horton Place
   Rockford, MI  49341

SENTENCE COMBINING:
5. Snow fell.
   Doug and Lynn went sledding.
DAY 64

CAPITALIZATION:
1. he will drive to nebraska for a meeting next sunday.

PUNCTUATION:
2. Hurray Grandma sent money

PARTS OF SPEECH: PRONOUNS

Circle the correct answer:
3. Are ( Tom and I, me and Tom ) allowed to go?

PARTS OF SPEECH: ADJECTIVES

When you are comparing two things with a one-syllable adjective (describing word), use er.

When you are comparing three or more things with a one-syllable adjective (describing word), use est.

Circle the correct adjective:
4. Of the five baskets, this one is ( darker, darkest ).

SENTENCE COMBINING:
5. Carla colored a picture.
   Carla then played outside.
Skills Practice
The Best Day!

A. Read each sentence. Circle the conjunction that works best. Then write it on the line.

1. Yesterday was Georgio’s best day at school ________________ he made a new friend. (before, because)

2. Georgio saw Sally ________________ she got off of the school bus. (when, until)

3. Sally was scared ________________ it was her first day of school. (because, after)

4. Georgio said hello to Sally ________________ she got to the school door. (before, until)

5. He brought Sally to the office ________________ she didn’t know where to go. (after, because)

6. Sally felt better ________________ Georgio walked her to her classroom. (after, before)

7. He waited ________________ Sally’s teacher introduced her to the class. (until, before)

8. Sally thanked Georgio ________________ he left for his class. (because, before)

9. Sally didn’t think she would like her new school ________________ she made a new friend. (because, until)

B. Write a short passage about a time when you helped someone. Use simple sentences and complex sentences.
Grandpa’s Present

A. Read the passage. Circle the correct conjunctions.

Avi was worried (because, after) she didn’t have a birthday present for her grandpa. She needed to think of something (before, after) tomorrow. What could she get? She didn’t have money to buy anything. Avi thought and thought (because, until) she finally came up with an idea. She would write a poem for Grandpa David. Avi drew pictures of Grandpa’s favorite things all around the poem (after, until) she had carefully copied it onto shiny paper.

B. Use a conjunction from the word box to combine each sentence pair to form a complex sentence. Write the new sentence on the lines.

| after | because | before |

1. Avi was a little nervous. Grandpa opened his present.

2. She felt much better. He gave her a big, warm hug.

3. Grandpa David loved his present. No one had ever written a poem for him.

C. Write a short passage about the best present you have given to someone. Include three simple sentences and two complex sentences.
A Family Trip

A. What is needed to make each phrase a complete sentence? Write S (for subject) or P (for predicate).

1. Visited San Francisco.  
2. One of the nicest parks for kids.  
3. Pours water into a wading pool.  
4. A big grassy field.  
5. A giant merry-go-round.

B. Read each incomplete sentence. Correct it by adding a subject or predicate. Write the new sentence on the line.

1. Will visit the Space Center this summer.

2. Stays open at night.

3. Like the center’s outdoor slumber parties.

4. Helps you look at the stars through a telescope.

5. My family.

C. Write a brief passage about a trip you took. Be sure to use complete sentences.
On the Beach

A. Draw a line to connect each simple sentence on the left to a sentence on the right. Add a comma and a conjunction from the word box. Write the sentences on the lines.

and  but  or

I like to swim in a pool.  I swim with fish at the same time.
I ride the ocean waves.  I can look for seashells in the sand.
I can build sandcastles.  I like the ocean even more.

1. ___________________________________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________________________________

B. Read each sentence pair. Circle the conjunction at the end of each sentence pair that could be used to combine the sentences correctly.

1. I always put on sunscreen. I go to the beach. (after, before)

2. Dad sets up an umbrella. It offers shade from the sun. (because, until)

3. We swim, play, and read. It gets dark. (after, until)

C. Write a brief passage about something you like to do in the summer. Use simple, compound, and complex sentences.
Space Camp

A. Read the passage. Correct each incomplete sentence.

Like to go to Space Camp? It’s lots of fun. NASA astronauts. Then you train to be an astronaut. Can sit at the controls of the space shuttle. Can try some space exploration activities. Kids ages 14 and older. Kids from ages 7 to 13 can attend a half-day training program.

B. Read each incomplete sentence. Add a subject or a predicate to complete it.

1. A journey into space. ________________________________

2. Visitors at the Space Center. __________________________

3. Strap in to a make-believe shuttle. _____________________

4. People of all ages. ________________________________

C. Write a passage about what you imagine being in space might be like. Use complete sentences.