

eMPower**ME**

STUDENT  
SAMPLE ITEM BOOKLET  
**Writing & Language**  
Grade 7





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# Sample Items

## Directions

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

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### So, Who Can Sew?

**1.** The skills children learn these days are not the skills their grandparents learned. **2.** In the past, it was common for people to learn the domestik art of sewing. **3.** Many people even made their own clothing. **4.** Today's techie teens have texting thumbs but no nimble fingers and instead either pay someone else to fix their clothes, or they must replace worn clothing altogether.

**5.** Learning to sew has long-lasting benefits that students need to learn. **6.** Sewing provides opportunities for character development, such as patience in working through a process, confidence from completing a project, independence, and creativity. **7.** In fact, a source found that children are "naturally interested in sewing." **8.** Another source also found that "the critical ages for learning creative skills are eight to twelve." **9.** Some individuals argue that this skill does not reflect the needs of twenty-first century students. **10.** Yet, students can also apply technology to their creations by using software to scan, draw online, and stitch out their own designs.

**11.** It's no wonder that some schools recognize the importance of sewing and are bringing it back to their classrooms. **12.** The challenge for schools now is that many teachers do not have this knowledge. **13.** However, students and teachers can find sewing classes in fabric shops, adult education programs, camps, and other youth organizations.

1. How should the underlined word in sentence 2 be changed?
  - A NO CHANGE
  - B domestic
  - C doamestic
  - D domestek
  
2. How should the underlined words in sentence 4 be changed to maintain the style of the passage?
  - A NO CHANGE
  - B Kids today just don't know the proper skills
  - C Offspring in our present society lack a vital cleverness
  - D Today, too few children are taught this important skill

3. Which source for the underlined portion of sentence 7 would be considered the **most** reliable?
- A an online educational poll
  - B a post on a sewing website
  - C customers at a sewing shop
  - D researchers from a university
4. How should the underlined word in sentence 8 be changed to **best** connect with sentence 7?
- A NO CHANGE
  - B However, another
  - C Nonetheless, another
  - D Surprisingly, another
5. Which change makes the underlined word in sentence 9 more precise?
- A NO CHANGE
  - B copy
  - C show
  - D repeat

*This question has two parts. Be sure to answer both parts of the question.*

6. Which choice would be the **best** to add as a concluding sentence for the passage?
- A Students should be taught how to sew during elementary school.
  - B Arts such as sewing are as important to student development as the core subjects of math and science.
  - C To ensure you have the skills needed to be successful for work and life, go out and find a sewing class today.
  - D Teaching sewing to students not only provides them with important skills but also helps make certain they pass along these skills to future generations.

Which choice provides the **best** evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A “instead either pay someone else to fix their clothes, or they must replace worn clothing altogether”
- B “patience in working through a process, confidence from completing a project, independence, and creativity”
- C “the critical ages for learning creative skills are eight to twelve”
- D “students and teachers can find sewing classes in fabric shops, adult education programs, camps, and other youth organizations”