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CSET

*CSET (California Subject Examinations for Teachers) Certification Exam*

## Questions & Answers PDF

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## Question: 1

The perspective from which a story is told is called:

- A. Theme
- B. Point of view
- C. Style
- D. Voice

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The point of view is generally first- or third-person. Stories in the second person exist, but these are rare.

## Question: 2

Which of the following is true of the introduction to a written piece?

- A. It is best to write it first.
- B. It is best to write it last.
- C. It should reinforce the points made in the piece.
- D. It is the least important part of a piece of writing.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

In most cases, it is best to write the introduction last. Although it is the first part of the finished work, the introduction provides a synopsis for what is in the entire document. Until the writing is complete, the writer cannot reflect on the work as a whole. Writing the introduction prior to the body runs the risk that what follows may not completely conform to the ideas expressed in the introduction. An introduction usually should not reinforce ideas made in the piece, as the body portion of a work is the best place to flesh out ideas. Answer D is incorrect because an introduction frames the rest of the work; it is an incorrect generalization that the introduction, body, or conclusion are always the most or least important parts.

## Question: 3

Which of the following genres takes an opinion and defends it?

- A. Essays

- B. Biographies
- C. Memoirs
- D. Informational texts

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

In an essay, the writer defends an opinion, giving reasons for that opinion. Biographies are written to narrate the life of a person. Memoirs detail a person's own life and do not defend opinions. Informational texts are factual.

### Question: 4

A teacher planning instructional activities to develop student use of writing conventions should teach 4th-grade students to do which of the following?

- A. Capitalize historical events and book, essay, and story titles and use quotation marks and commas
- B. Capitalize names, weekdays, months, letter salutations, and closings and use apostrophes
- C. Capitalize abbreviations, initials, acronyms, and organizations and punctuate quotations
- D. Capitalize the initial letters in sentences and use punctuation at ends of sentences

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

One of the expectations of 4th-grade students is to capitalize the names of historical events and documents and book, essay, and story titles, to use quotation marks, and to use commas in compound sentences. 2nd-grade students are expected to capitalize names, weekdays, months, and letter salutations and closings and to use apostrophes (B) to indicate contraction and possession. Capitalizing abbreviations, initials, acronyms, and organization names and using correct punctuation in quotations (C) is an expectation for 5th-grade students. Capitalizing initial letters in sentences and punctuating the ends of sentences (D) is an expectation for kindergarten students.

### Question: 5

Which text should a teacher choose in order to practice the skills of previewing and reviewing information?

- A. A poem
- B. A chapter from the students' science class textbook
- C. A library book of each students own choosing
- D. A short story from language arts class

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

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Previewing and reviewing are skills that assist in learning detailed or large amounts of information. Using these concepts, students learn skills such as skimming and outlining to get an idea of what the text is about before actually reading it. After reading, the students learn to review the information they learned and compare it to their initial previews. This method is particularly helpful when individuals are reading in order to learn new information, as they would be when reading their science texts.

### Question: 6

Which choice most appropriately fills the blanks in this statement? "In writing, \_\_\_\_\_ is the writer's attitude as evident from the writing, and \_\_\_\_\_ is the individual way in which the writer expresses themselves through the writing."

- A. voice, tone
- B. tone, voice
- C. style, tone
- D. voice, style

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Tone is the writer's attitude in a given piece of writing, as it is expressed in that writing.

Voice can be thought of as the person who the reader particular way an individual writer expresses themselves. Choice B fills in the blanks correctly. Style (C and D) includes both of these and more; it is the effect a writer creates through purposeful use of all the elements of written language, from tone and voice to grammar and structure.

### Question: 7

Which of the following approaches to writing instruction is characterized by setting clear writing goals, observing concrete data, and applying learning to written composition?

- A. Prewriting strategies
- B. Modeling strategies
- C. Inquiry strategies
- D. Process writing

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Setting clear goals, observing concrete data, and applying learning are all aspects of inquiry strategies, so choice C is correct. Each of the other choices refers to a teaching approach or set of strategies that does not involve these elements. Prewriting strategies (A) include helping students generate ideas, organize ideas, access their background knowledge, identify research topics, and use graphics to visualize ideas. Modeling strategies (B) includes teacher demonstration, giving students exemplary models of expected writing types, helping students analyze models, and

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inviting students to emulate effective model elements in their writing. Process writing (D) includes giving students opportunities for extended practice, peer interaction, personal responsibility, writing for authentic audiences, and self-evaluation.

### Question: 8

Which of the following is accurate regarding paragraph focus and development?

- A. Paragraphs with unrelated sentences are not well developed.
- B. Paragraphs with generalizations but no details are unfocused.
- C. Paragraphs without term definitions or contexts will lack focus.
- D. Paragraphs without needed background are underdeveloped.

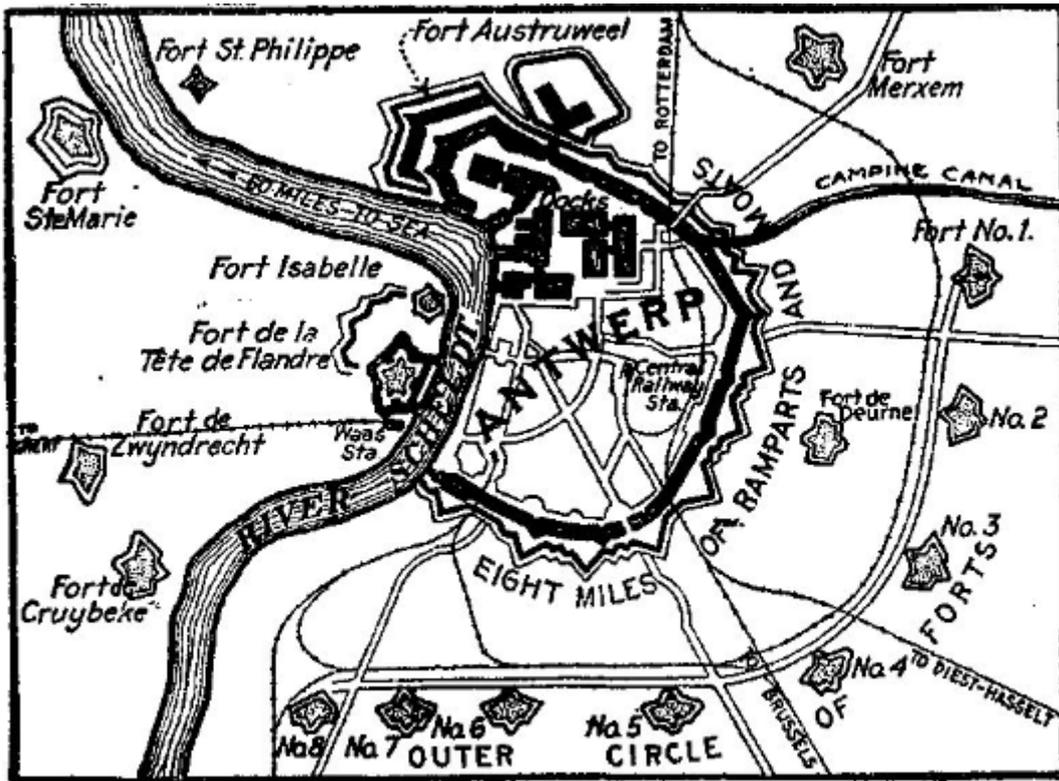
**Answer: D**

Explanation:

One way writers fail to develop paragraphs sufficiently is omitting necessary background information. Omitting definitions of important terms and/or contexts for others' ideas is another cause of paragraphs that are underdeveloped, rather than lacking focus (c). Descriptions of settings, supporting evidence, and specific details are also necessary for adequate paragraph development. Paragraphs with generalizations but no details are hence undeveloped or underdeveloped, rather than unfocused (b). When the sentences within one paragraph seem unrelated, the paragraph is poorly focused rather than poorly developed (a). Lack of transitions between ideas, and including too many ideas in one paragraph, are additional sources of unfocused/inadequately focused paragraphs.

### Question: 9

Why was the city of Antwerp in Belgium building so many forts in 1914?



ANTWERP AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS

- A. World War I had started. Germany had invaded other Belgian cities and was moving to invade Antwerp.
- B. World War I had started. Italy had invaded other Belgian cities and was moving to invade Antwerp.
- C. Antwerp was fortifying against possible British air attacks in World War I.
- D. Antwerp feared a Russian invasion after the start of World War I.

**Answer: A**

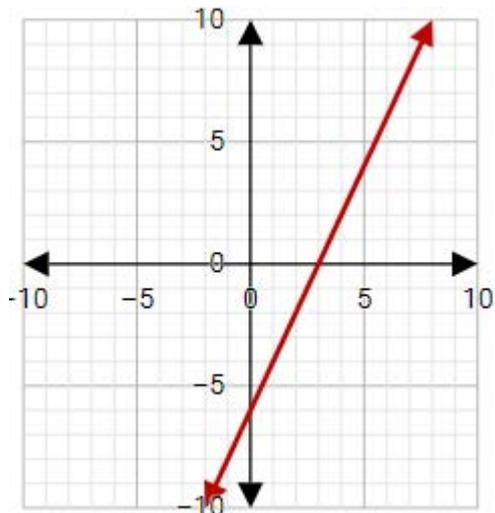
Explanation:

The other choices are incorrect because Italy, Russia, and England were not invading Belgium.

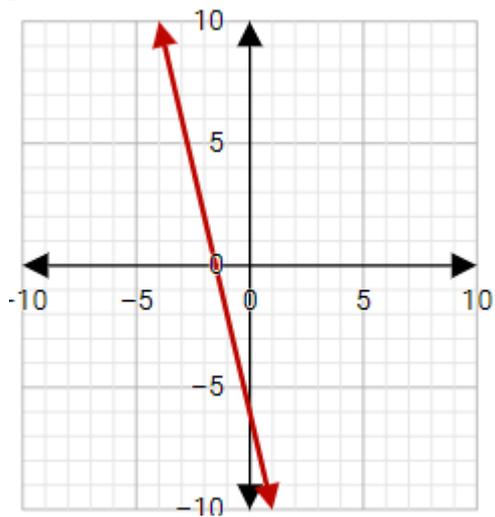
### Question: 10

Which of the following is the graph of the equation  $y = -4x - 6$ ?

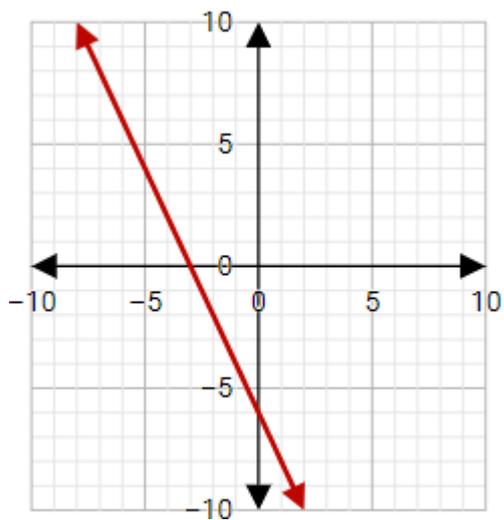
- A.



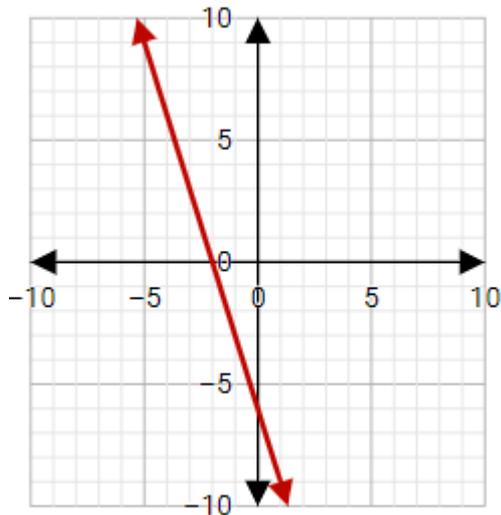
B.



C.



D.



**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The equation  $y = -4x - 6$  is in slope-intercept form,  $y = mx + b$ , where  $m$  is the slope and  $b$  is the  $y$ -intercept. All four graphs show the correct  $y$ -intercept,  $-6$ , but only one shows the correct slope,  $-4$ . The slope of a line can be found by picking any two points  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  on the line and calculating  $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$ . For choice B, we can choose points  $(0, -6)$  and  $(-2, 2)$ , which gives us

$$m = \frac{2 - (-6)}{-2 - 0} = -4. \text{ None of the other graphs have a slope of } -4.$$



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