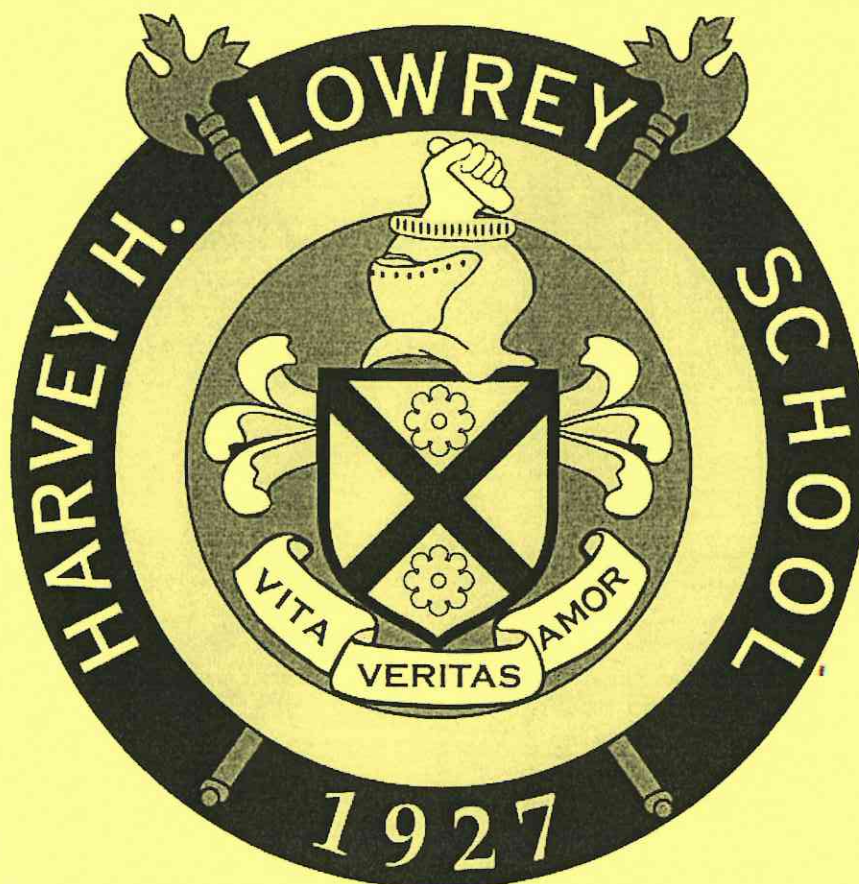


# Grade 7 Summer Packet

## Lowrey Middle School



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Language Arts Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents,

We are providing this summer homework packet for your child to complete. Please have your children try to do all the problems independently. Once they try on their own, then you may go over all the items together. Have your child explain his/her answers to you.

Summer homework keeps skills fresh. With grades 6-8 having to take the reading, writing, and math MEAP exams in October this year, completing this packet will give them a good start in getting ready for this exam.

Please try to have your child complete a page a day and not leave this packet and rush through it at the end of summer. Also, please encourage your child to READ as much as possible over the summer, it is very important.

Always, we thank you for your support and willingness to work together as a team towards the success of your child.

## READING: Comprehension 01 01

Directions: Read each passage. Choose the best answer to each question.

### Who was Asa Randolph?

Asa Philip Randolph spent his life helping African-American workers win better pay and working conditions. Born in Florida in 1889, Randolph moved to New York City to go to college. To support himself, he took a job as a waiter on a steamship, but the workers' living quarters were awful. When Randolph organized a protest, he was fired.

Randolph did not let this experience discourage him. In the next few years, he helped shipyard workers, elevator operators, and train porters form unions to demand better pay and working conditions. Then, during World War II, Randolph prepared to lead 50,000 African Americans in a march on Washington, D.C., to protest unfair job policies. His actions got the attention of President Franklin Roosevelt, who stopped the march by ordering an end to such job discrimination.

Despite this victory, Randolph continued to fight for African Americans' rights. He was an elderly man in 1963 when he organized another march on Washington to protest African Americans' lack of freedoms. This time the march took place, and it drew an astounding 200,000 participants. It was the largest demonstration of its kind that our nation had ever witnessed.

20. Which event happened first?

- (A) Randolph graduated from college.
- (B) He helped workers form unions.
- (C) World War II began.
- (D) Randolph moved to New York.

21. Randolph probably became most famous for –

- (A) getting fired from his job
- (B) going to college in New York
- (C) standing up to President Roosevelt
- (D) helping workers form unions

22. Which statement is an opinion?

- (A) Randolph held a number of jobs.
- (B) The living quarters were awful.
- (C) He was an elderly man in 1963.
- (D) He organized a protest march.

23. A good title for this passage would be –

- (A) "A Life's Work"
- (B) "Marching on Washington, D.C."
- (C) "Randolph and Roosevelt"
- (D) "Finding a Good Job"



## READING: Vocabulary (continued)

11. Use a paper \_\_\_\_\_ to hold the pages together.

I'll be on time if I walk at a good \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) clip                      (C) staple  
(B) speed                    (D) pace

12. Can you \_\_\_\_\_ the baby while I'm on the phone?

Salty foods \_\_\_\_\_ to make you thirsty.

- (A) mind                    (C) start  
(B) tend                    (D) watch

**Directions:** Read the sentence and the question. Find the word that best answers the question.

13. The mayor said that the teenagers' behavior was \_\_\_\_\_.

Which word suggests that the teenagers should be ashamed?

- (A) mature  
(B) disgraceful  
(C) awesome  
(D) respectful

14. Rusty showed up at the meeting dressed in \_\_\_\_\_ clothes.

Which word suggests that Rusty looked relaxed and comfortable?

- (A) casual  
(B) expensive  
(C) formal  
(D) business

**Directions:** Read the sentences. Choose the word that best completes the meaning of each sentence.

Mickey has started working on his science report. The \_\_\_\_\_ (15) he chose is volcanoes. He went to the library and \_\_\_\_\_ (16) four books about volcanoes. The librarian also helped him find a recent \_\_\_\_\_ (17) about volcanoes from a science magazine. Mickey plans to make a clay \_\_\_\_\_ (18) of a volcano to show to his class. It will help him \_\_\_\_\_ (19) what happens when a volcano erupts.

15. (A) discovery              (C) thing  
(B) topic                    (D) problem

16. (A) borrowed            (C) needed  
(B) bought                (D) mentioned

17. (A) writer                (C) advertisement  
(B) book                    (D) article

18. (A) report                (C) drawing  
(B) model                  (D) design

19. (A) remember            (C) illustrate  
(B) predict                (D) realize

## READING: Comprehension (continued)

### Editorial

Next Tuesday voters will decide whether to spend tax money to provide a Youth Center for our city's teens. Most parents and teachers think a Youth Center is badly needed, but some well-known senior citizens have spoken out against it. They say they should not have to pay for something they are not going to use.

Many seniors find this argument convincing, but they should give the issue some more thought before voting against the Youth Center. Everyone will benefit when the run-down Yaeger Building is renovated, and the Youth Center will help teens keep out of trouble. In addition, some Youth Center programs will be designed to provide assistance and companionship to senior citizens who live alone. Finally, seniors should remember that tax dollars are already spent each year to support the Main Street Senior Center, a place where seniors can gather.

If senior citizens carefully consider all that the Youth Center can do for the city, they will do the right thing and vote to support it.

32. The author tries to persuade seniors to vote for the Youth Center by –
- (A) praising young people
  - (B) reminding senior citizens that they were teenagers once
  - (C) telling how the Youth Center can help everyone, including seniors
  - (D) emphasizing its low cost
33. The article says that the Yaeger Building will be "renovated." Renovated means –
- (A) restored to good condition
  - (B) given a new name
  - (C) removed from the site
  - (D) purchased by the city
34. Many senior citizens do not want a Youth Center because they –
- (A) do not want to pay for it
  - (B) do not care about young people
  - (C) doubt that it will be a success
  - (D) do not have a senior center
35. Which detail best supports the main idea of this passage?
- (A) Next Tuesday voters will decide whether to pay for a Youth Center.
  - (B) Most parents and teachers think a Youth Center is needed.
  - (C) Some senior citizens have spoken out against the Youth Center.
  - (D) Some Youth Center programs will benefit senior citizens.

## LANGUAGE ARTS: Mechanics and Usage

**Directions:** Read each sentence and look at the underlined part. Look for a mistake in capitalization, punctuation, or word usage. If you find a mistake, choose the best way to write the underlined part of the sentence. If there is no mistake, fill in the bubble beside answer D, "Correct as is."

1. Ted had never saw snow before.  
(A) seed                      (C) seen  
(B) sawed                    (D) Correct as is
2. She and him are my favorite teachers.  
(A) Her and him            (C) Her and he  
(B) She and he             (D) Correct as is
3. Margo said, "Hank you are the winner."  
(A) "Hank, you are the winner."  
(B) "Hank you are the winner."  
(C) Hank, you are the winner.  
(D) Correct as is
4. The Comstock Memorial Library was built in 1901.  
(A) Comstock memorial Library  
(B) Comstock Memorial library  
(C) Comstock memorial library  
(D) Correct as is
5. One of my sisters play the flute.  
(A) plays                    (C) do play  
(B) playing                 (D) Correct as is
6. My job is more difficult than yours.  
(A) difficulter  
(B) most difficult  
(C) difficultest  
(D) Correct as is
7. After you left, the telephone rang.  
(A) leave, the telephone rang  
(B) are leaving, the telephone rings  
(C) left, the telephone rings  
(D) Correct as is
8. The car didn't never make that sound before.  
(A) did not never make  
(B) never made  
(C) never didn't make  
(D) Correct as is
9. I have an appointment with Dr Spencer but I have to cancel it.  
(A) Dr Spencer, but  
(B) Dr. Spencer but  
(C) Dr. Spencer, but  
(D) Correct as is
10. We went fishing in the gulf of Mexico.  
(A) gulf of mexico  
(B) Gulf of Mexico  
(C) Gulf of mexico  
(D) Correct as is



## LANGUAGE ARTS: Mechanics and Usage (continued)

**Directions:** Read each paragraph. Decide whether the underlined parts need editing. If you find a mistake in spelling, capitalization, punctuation, or word usage, choose the best way to write the underlined part. If no editing is needed, fill in the bubble beside answer D, "No change."

Jena and I are wondering why our science experiment was unsuccessfull. We're checking

11

our measurements. And observations. If we

12

can't find the problem, we will start over.

11. (A) experiment was unsuccessful  
(B) expeariment was unsuccessfull  
(C) experiment was unsucesful  
(D) No change
12. (A) measurements and, observations.  
(B) measurements, and observations.  
(C) measurements and observations.  
(D) No change

Today's whether forecast was wrong. Instead

13

of sunshine and breezes, there have been

14

showers and strong winds.

13. (A) weather forecast  
(B) whether fourcast  
(C) whether forcast  
(D) No change
14. (A) breezes. There have  
(B) breezes, there, have  
(C) breezes there. Have  
(D) No change

The cast for the school play has just been announced. Rehearsals for cast members will

15

begin on Monday afternoon the scenery crew

16

will meet then, too.

15. (A) announced. Rehersels  
(B) announced. Rehearsals  
(C) anounced. Rehersals  
(D) No change
16. (A) Monday, afternoon the scenery crew  
(B) Monday. Afternoon the scenery crew  
(C) Monday afternoon. The scenery crew  
(D) No change

# Pretest

## LANGUAGE ARTS: Composition

Directions: Read each paragraph. Then answer the questions that follow.

### Paragraph 1

Many people have gotten so used to popping corn in the microwave that they've forgotten the old-fashioned technique. Start by pouring oil into a pot that is just enough so that the bottom is coated. Then cover the oil with a layer of popcorn. Eaten plain, popcorn is low in fat and calories. Put a lid on the pot, place the pot on a burner, and turn the heat setting to "High." After a minute, you'll hear the oil start to sizzle. Keep the pot on the burner until you hear the first few kernels of corn pop. Then raise the pot about an inch over the burner. The corn will pop furiously. It will pop for a while before it slows down and stops.

17. Which is the best topic sentence for this paragraph?

- (A) Microwave popcorn comes in many different flavors.
- (B) Did you know you can make fresh popcorn without a microwave oven?
- (C) Popcorn is one of the most popular snacks sold in movie theaters.
- (D) Do you know why popcorn pops?

18. Which is the best way to revise the second sentence of this paragraph?

- (A) Start by pouring a coat of just enough oil into the bottom of a pot.
- (B) Start with a pot coated with just enough oil to cover the bottom of it.
- (C) Start by pouring just enough oil into a pot to coat the bottom.
- (D) Start with oil, pour just enough, and coat the bottom of a pot.

19. What is the best way to combine the last two sentences of this paragraph?

- (A) The corn will pop furiously for a while before it slows down and stops.
- (B) The corn will pop furiously and for a while it will pop before it stops.
- (C) The corn will pop furiously but before its slows down and stops.
- (D) For a while the corn will pop furiously and slow down and stop.

20. Which sentence does not belong in this paragraph?

- (A) Then cover the oil with a layer of popcorn.
- (B) Eaten plain, popcorn is low in fat and calories.
- (C) After a minute, you'll hear the oil start to sizzle.
- (D) Then raise the pot about an inch over the burner.



# Reading

## PRACTICE 10 • Interpreting Text

Directions: Read each passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

### SAMPLES

Katie forced herself to take a deep breath and clasped her hands together to keep them from shaking. She wished the butterflies in her stomach would go away. She knew from experience, though, that she wouldn't calm down until she set foot on the stage. All around her, other members of the cast were doing their best to get rid of their opening-day jitters. Mark paced back and forth, muttering to himself. Hans and Nathan played checkers. Keisha was a statue behind the wing curtain, going over her lines in her head. Well, Katie thought, at least she wasn't the only one who was worried about miffing her lines.

Just then, the orchestra struck up the notes of the opening number, and the curtain began to rise. "Here goes nothing," Katie murmured.

A. The phrase "butterflies in her stomach" suggests that Katie –

- (A) had not eaten lately
- (B) felt anxious
- (C) had the flu
- (D) felt embarrassed

B. At the end of the first paragraph, the word miffing means –

- (A) reciting
- (B) speaking loudly
- (C) messing up
- (D) memorizing

### Tips and Reminders

- For words you don't know, look in the passage for clues that can help you guess their meaning.
- If a sentence or phrase does not seem to make sense the way it is written, look for a hidden or "implied" meaning. Use context clues to help you figure out what it really means.

## PRACTICE

Andrew stared out the window in complete disbelief. "The cat's gone totally nuts!" he exclaimed as he watched Boots leap sideways into the air and come down facing the opposite direction. As Andrew stood there, the black and white streak dashed around the corner of the house, only to reappear a moment later with a leaf in his mouth.

"Mom, Boots has really lost it!" Andrew laughed as he watched the cat's antics. The cat pranced sideways and pounced on an invisible bug. "Come watch this," Andrew croaked, holding his sides and choking with mirth.

"Oh, yes," Andrew's mom chuckled as she joined Andrew at the window. "I gave him a new toy full of catnip this morning. That always makes him a little crazy." At that moment, Boots suddenly stopped behaving like a tiny cyclone and sat calmly on the back step, licking his paw and acting as though everything was perfectly ordinary.

1. Describing Boots as "a black and white streak" suggests that Boots was –
  - (A) jumping up and down
  - (B) trying to hide
  - (C) running quickly
  - (D) chasing something black and white
2. In the second paragraph, the word antics means –
  - (A) playful, silly tricks
  - (B) funny comments
  - (C) puzzling thoughts
  - (D) calm, steady actions
3. In the second paragraph, the word mirth means –
  - (A) amazement
  - (B) fear
  - (C) confusion
  - (D) amusement
4. Boots "stopped behaving like a tiny cyclone" means that Boots –
  - (A) began spinning in circles
  - (B) calmed down
  - (C) made Andrew laugh
  - (D) left the yard

## PRACTICE 10 • Interpreting Text (continued)

"Ouch!" Meg exclaimed as she lifted her fingers from the neck of the guitar. "Pressing down on the strings hurts my fingers."

"I know," said her teacher sympathetically. "Right now your fingers are soft. Soon you'll develop calluses, and they won't hurt so much."

Meg sighed and tried strumming a chord. The strings sounded like a hive of angry hornets. Try as she might, Meg couldn't seem to press down hard enough to get a clear sound. "I'll never be a professional musician at this rate," she said disconsolately.

"Hold on," Meg's teacher said. "Let's try something." She disappeared into her office and came back with a smaller, lighter guitar. "This was my first guitar," she said. "The strings are set down a little lower, closer to the neck. That means it has easier action. Try it."

Meg formed a "D" chord and pressed down. Then she softly strummed the strings. Her face lit up like a beacon on a dark night. "Hey, that actually sounded like music!" she said with a grin.

5. You can tell from this passage that a callus is a -

- (A) broken fingernail
- (B) hardened part of the skin
- (C) part of a guitar
- (D) strong hand muscle

6. "The strings sounded like a hive of angry hornets" means that they -

- (A) played loudly and harshly
- (B) made a dull, dead sound
- (C) made very little noise
- (D) buzzed terribly

7. In the third paragraph, the word disconsolately means -

- (A) determinedly
- (B) anxiously
- (C) dejectedly
- (D) excitedly

8. "Her face lit up like a beacon on a dark night" means that Meg felt -

- (A) happy
- (B) embarrassed
- (C) amused
- (D) nervous



## PRACTICE 13 • Main Idea and Details (continued)

### PRACTICE

**Directions:** Read this passage about shark teeth. Then answer questions 1–4.

Have you ever seen a shark tooth necklace? Shark teeth are found in a wide variety of shapes and colors. Each species of shark has differently shaped teeth.

While many shark teeth that people find are black or dark gray, others are brown or white. Newly dropped teeth are usually white—the same color they are in the shark’s mouth. Black or gray teeth are fossilized and were dropped many years ago. As a tooth’s enamel breaks down, it gradually turns black.

You may wonder how sharks can lose so many teeth and still survive. Most sharks have several rows of teeth in their mouths, one behind the next. When one tooth falls out, the one behind it just shifts forward to take its place. Also, sharks grow teeth throughout their lives, so whenever one breaks or wears out, another grows to replace it. Too bad people don’t have this ability!

1. What is the main idea of the last paragraph?
  - (A) When a shark’s tooth falls out, other teeth shift forward.
  - (B) Sharks grow teeth all their lives.
  - (C) People don’t have this ability!
  - (D) You may wonder how sharks can lose so many teeth and still survive.
2. You could use the shape of a shark tooth to –
  - (A) identify the species it came from
  - (B) figure out how old the tooth is
  - (C) see whether the tooth is fossilized
  - (D) tell what the shark ate
3. Which detail supports the idea that sharks have been on Earth for centuries?
  - (A) There are many species of sharks.
  - (B) Different types of sharks have differently shaped teeth.
  - (C) Lost shark teeth have become fossilized.
  - (D) Most shark teeth are white.
4. What is this passage mostly about?
  - (A) how sharks grow teeth
  - (B) the characteristics of shark teeth
  - (C) how to find shark teeth
  - (D) why shark teeth are different colors

## PRACTICE 13 • Main Idea and Details (continued)

**Directions:** Read this passage about the Chicago fire in 1871. Then answer questions 5–8.

One hundred twenty-six years after being blamed for one of the worst city fires in U.S. history, Mrs. O'Leary and Daisy, her cow, have been cleared. In 1871, a huge fire blazed through downtown Chicago, destroying a third of the city. Three hundred people died in the blaze, and 100,000 lost their homes.

The common belief at the time was that Daisy, a cow belonging to Mrs. O'Leary, had started the fire. According to the story, Mrs. O'Leary was milking Daisy one evening when the cow kicked over a lantern. Wind spread the fire rapidly, and soon it was burning out of control.

New research, though, shows that Daisy was falsely accused. A local researcher now says that Daniel "Peg Leg" Sullivan, a cart driver with one leg, was to blame. Sullivan started the fire in Mrs. O'Leary's barn and then told officers that he was standing nearby when he saw the fire break out.

The Chicago City Council finally passed a resolution stating that Mrs. O'Leary and Daisy had been wrongly blamed. In letting the cow off the hook, they overturned one of the most interesting tales in U.S. history.

5. According to the story, Daisy started the Great Chicago Fire by –
  - (A) kicking over a burning lantern
  - (B) stepping on an electrical cord
  - (C) burning a wooden cart
  - (D) kicking a burning piece of wood
6. What is the main topic of the last paragraph?
  - (A) Daniel Sullivan
  - (B) U.S. history
  - (C) how the fire got started
  - (D) the City Council's resolution
7. Which detail supports the idea that Daisy was wrongly accused?
  - (A) Mrs. O'Leary was milking Daisy just before the fire started.
  - (B) Mrs. O'Leary and Daisy lived in Chicago.
  - (C) Daisy's role in the fire was one of the most interesting stories in U.S. history.
  - (D) Daniel "Peg Leg" Sullivan started the fire.
8. What is the best title for this passage?
  - (A) "Fire Burns Chicago"
  - (B) "Mrs. O'Leary's Cow Cleared"
  - (C) "A Great U.S. Story"
  - (D) "'Peg Leg' Starts Fire"