

English

Reading

Directions: In this section of the test, you will show how well you can understand written English. There are several selections and some questions about each one. For each question, mark the letter of the correct answer on your answer sheet.

“Eat Your Vegetables!”

If you don't eat your vegetables
Aunt Cornelia said to me,
you'll end up weak and scrawny,
your bones all rubbery.

So I snacked on squash¹ and lettuce
and even ate my peas
I gobbled up cucumbers
and put eggplant² on my cheese.

I made tomato ice cream
with special mushroom sauce
I baked up cabbage cookies
and even fried some moss³.

But now that I've had gardens
full of fresh and leafy stuff
my face has gotten green
and my skin is rather rough.

My fingers look like carrots
and my nose has grown a root.
I do feel very healthy
But I'd better eat some fruit.

Translations

- ¹squash = *calabaza*
²eggplant = *berenjena*
³moss = *musgo*



1 What kind of writing is this?

- A poem
- B story
- C article
- D play

2 The writer's purpose is to be

- A helpful.
- B sad.
- C funny.
- D loving.

3 In the selection, gardens full of green and leafy stuff means

- A many flowers.
- B cheese sauce.
- C ice cream cookies.
- D a lot of vegetables.





June 3

It's so good to be back in Puerto Rico. Of course, I miss my friends and family in Chicago, but these vacations with my grandparents are so great. I'm tired from the flight but I want to get up early tomorrow and go fishing with grandpa.

June 4

I am extremely fatigued, as Mrs. Powell would say. She's always trying to get us to improve our vocabulary. We got up at 5:00, then hiked for an hour, carrying all our heavy equipment. But eventually we made it to the beach. It felt great to go in the water. We unrolled our huge net and headed into the water. The net alone probably weighed 15 pounds! But we caught a bunch of red snapper. They tasted fantastic – and knowing that we caught them ourselves made them taste even better.

June 6

I forgot to write yesterday. We were up pretty late at the party my aunt gave for me. My little cousin is so cute. Angelita is only eight, but she's a great dancer. She chatters away so quickly that it's sometimes hard for me to follow her. I really need to practice my Spanish.

June 9

I've been having such a terrific time that I keep forgetting to write in my journal! But Mrs. Powell said we should keep journals this summer – she says it's an excellent way to improve our writing skills. I'm glad I'm going to have her for English again next year. I can't believe I'll be in the 9th grade.

June 10

Tomorrow we're going fishing again. This time we're going to fish from a small boat. And we're getting up even earlier – 4:00 in the morning. But grandpa says it's worth it. Over the weekend, I'm going to go snorkeling with my cousin Julio. We went last year. I couldn't believe the colors of the tropical fish! And the water is so clear, you can see every detail of the fish and the coral. I wonder what my friends back in Chicago are doing. They're not snorkeling in Lake Michigan, I'm pretty sure of that!

4 Mrs. Powell is the writer's

- A teacher.
- B aunt.
- C cousin.
- D grandmother.

5 The selection is mainly about a

- A wonderful vacation.
- B boring assignment.
- C new school.
- D big fish.

6 According to the selection, what will the writer do on June 11?

- A snorkel with Julio
- B fish with grandpa
- C dance with Angelita
- D fly on an airplane with friends



That Sounds Good!

1 Until about 120 years ago, there was no such thing as recorded music. If people wanted to listen to music, they had to go to a place where musicians were performing live. If people wanted to listen to music at home, they had to play the instruments themselves—or or invite some musicians over to play for them!

5 The first machine that could record and play music was invented in the late 1800's. This machine, called the gramophone, recorded sound onto a flat plastic disc called a record. To hear the sound, a needle was placed onto a spinning record. These earliest records rotated 78 times per minute.

8 In the 1980's, the compact disc, or CD, was introduced. The CD player does not use a needle. Instead, there is a laser inside the player that gets information from the CD. CD's became very popular because they were smaller than records but could hold more music.

12 In recent years, people have begun using MP3 players to listen to music. MP3 is the name of the computer files used in the player. MP3 players are very small and have very few moving parts. They keep the music on computer chips instead of on CD's or records. MP3 players can hold much more music on them than CD's or records. With today's music players, you can keep thousands of songs in the palm of your hand.



7 What is selection mostly about?

- A famous musicians
- B where to buy music
- C machines that play music
- D how musicians use computers

8 In line 2, what does the word performing mean?

- A selling
- B playing
- C recording
- D listening

9 Why can MP3 players hold so much music?

- A They use lasers.
- B They use mirrors.
- C They use a flat disc.
- D They use computer chips.

10 MP3 players get their name from

- A the name of the computer file.
- B the size of the computer chips.
- C the number of moving parts.
- D the speed of the player.