

eMPower™ **ME**

STUDENT
SAMPLE ITEM BOOKLET

Writing

Grade 7



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Sample Items

Directions

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

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”