Tips for Taking the Test

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

• Be sure to read carefully all the directions in the test book.
• Plan your time.
• Read each question carefully and think about the answer before writing your response.

In this test, you will be writing about a text that you will be listening to. Your writing will be scored on

• how clearly you organize your writing and express what you have learned
• how accurately and completely you answer the questions being asked
• how well you support your responses with examples or details from the text
• how correctly you use grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and paragraphing

Whenever you see this symbol, be sure to plan and check your writing.
Directions

In this part of the test, you are going to listen to a story called “A Winning Heart.” Then you will answer questions 27 through 30 to show how well you understood what was read.

You will listen to the story twice. As you listen carefully, you may take notes on the story anytime you wish during the readings. You may use these notes to answer the questions that follow. Use the space on Pages 2 and 3 for your notes.
Complete the graphic organizer by describing two sights Jordan sees that inspire him. Use details from the story in your answer.

### Two Sights Jordan Sees That Inspire Him

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The story describes Jordan’s love of basketball. What are some things about the game he enjoys? Use details from the story to support your answer.

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Why does Jordan feel sad when his father gives him tickets to the professional basketball game? Use details from the story to support your answer.
Planning Page

You may PLAN your writing for question 30 here if you wish, but do NOT write your final answer on this page. Your writing on this Planning Page will NOT count toward your final score. Write your final answer on Pages 7 and 8.
Jordan experiences a mix of emotions throughout the story, but at the end, the author says, “Jordan’s heart was filled with hope and happiness.” Write an essay in which you explain what causes Jordan’s feelings to change throughout the story.

In your answer, be sure to
• describe some of the emotions Jordan feels throughout the first part of the story
• explain what causes Jordan to be filled with hope and happiness at the end
• use details from the story to support your answer

Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.