English Language Arts Test
Book 2

Grade 8

April 26–28, 2010
Name ___________________________
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 will listen to an article called “Folly or Fortune?” Then you will answer questions 27 through 30 to show how well you understood what was read.

You will listen to the article twice. As you listen carefully, you may take notes on the article 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.

Here are two terms you will need to know as you listen to the article.

- **folly**  a foolish act or idea
- **taunt**  to challenge in a mocking or insulting way
Using details from the article, complete the chart below by describing one reaction of the onlookers as the steamboat passed them. Then explain the reason the sight of the steamboat would cause that reaction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reaction of the Onlookers</th>
<th>Reason for That Reaction</th>
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The two inventors, Livingston and Fulton, can be described as both determined and foolish. Based on information in the passage, choose the word below that you think best describes the two inventors.

- determined
- foolish

Explain your choice, using details from the article.
Explain why the author most likely chose “Folly or Fortune?” as the title of this article. Use details from the article to support your answer.
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.
At first, many people had different opinions about the first steamboat in America. Describe what those opinions were. Explain the **most likely** reason for those opinions. Describe how and why those opinions changed. Use details from the article to support your answer.

In your answer, be sure to

- describe the different opinions about the first steamboat
- explain the **most likely** reason for those opinions
- describe how and why those opinions changed
- use details from the article to support your answer

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