

Middle School ELA Practice Worksheet

Fifty practice items for grades 6-8 reading comprehension, vocabulary, text evidence, grammar, paragraph writing, short responses, revision, and discussion skills. Includes multiple-choice and short written-response practice with an answer key.

QUESTIONS	50	MULTIPLE CHOICE	24	WRITTEN	26
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Instructions

Answer short-response questions in complete thoughts. For reading and evidence questions, point to a specific word, line, sentence, or detail from the text.

1 Which statement best describes the main idea of a nonfiction paragraph?

- A) the smallest detail
- B) what the paragraph is mostly about
- C) the page number
- D) only the first word

2 Name two things a student can annotate while reading.

3 An inference should be based on:

- A) a text clue and reasoning
- B) a random guess
- C) font size
- D) the title only

4 A character returns a lost wallet even though no one is watching. What trait might this show?

5 Theme is best defined as:

- A) a list of characters
- B) the message or insight of a story
- C) the chapter number
- D) a spelling rule

6 Write one possible theme for a story about a team that succeeds only after listening to each other.

7 Point of view tells the reader:

- A) who is telling the story
- B) how many pages are in the book
- C) which word is longest
- D) the publishing company

8 Why can first-person point of view be limited?

9 Which context clue suggests the word frigid means very cold?

- A) The lake was frigid, so ice formed at the edge.
- B) The lake was frigid, so it laughed.
- C) The lake was frigid, so it was loud.
- D) The lake was frigid, so it was tiny.

- 10** Use context clues to define reluctant: Mia was reluctant to speak, but her friend eagerly volunteered.

- 11** The prefix re- usually means:
- A) again
 - B) not
 - C) before
 - D) small

- 12** The suffix -less often means:
- A) full of
 - B) without
 - C) between
 - D) before

- 13** Break the word unbelievable into prefix, root, and suffix.

- 14** A strong short response usually includes:
- A) claim, evidence, and reasoning
 - B) only a quote
 - C) only a yes or no
 - D) a drawing with no words

- 15** Write a claim that answers this question: Why does Alex apologize to his friend?

- 16** Add evidence for this claim: Alex regrets what he said.

- 17** Explain how this evidence supports the claim: Alex looked down and whispered, 'I should not have said that.'

- 18** Which sentence introduces evidence smoothly?
- A) The text states that Jordan stayed after school to finish the project.
 - B) Because stuff.
 - C) Evidence yes.
 - D) It was good.

- 19** Write one sentence starter for text evidence.

- 20** A complete sentence needs:
- A) a subject, verb, and complete idea
 - B) only a capital letter
 - C) three commas
 - D) a title

- 21** Which is a sentence fragment?
- A) Because the storm arrived.
 - B) The storm arrived after dinner.
 - C) Maya closed the window.
 - D) They walked home.

- 22** Fix this fragment: After the bell rang.

- 23** Which sentence is a run-on?
- A) The rain stopped the team practiced outside.
 - B) The rain stopped before practice.
 - C) The team practiced outside.
 - D) Practice started late.

- 24** Fix this run-on: I finished the chapter I wrote a summary.

- 25** Which sentence uses commas correctly in a list?
- A) We read poems, myths, and speeches.
 - B) We read poems myths and speeches.
 - C) We, read poems myths, and speeches.
 - D) We read, poems, myths and, speeches.

- 26** Write a sentence with an introductory phrase and a comma.

- 27** Which pronoun is unclear? Sara told Lily that she won the contest.
- A) she
 - B) told
 - C) contest
 - D) won

- 28** Rewrite the sentence so the pronoun is clear: Sara told Lily that she won the contest.

- 29** A topic sentence should:
- A) state the paragraph's main point
 - B) hide the topic
 - C) be unrelated to the paragraph
 - D) only repeat the title

- 30** Improve this topic sentence: The story has many things.

- 31** Which transition shows contrast?
- A) however
 - B) for example
 - C) also
 - D) because

- 32** Which transition introduces an example?
- A) for example
 - B) therefore
 - C) however
 - D) instead

- 33** Write a sentence using the transition because.

- 34** Revision should usually start with:
- A) organization and meaning
 - B) font color
 - C) printer settings
 - D) the answer key

- 35** Name three layers of revision in a useful order.

- 36** Which sentence is most specific?
- A) The book was good.
 - B) The mystery builds suspense by hiding the narrator's true motive.
 - C) It was nice.
 - D) Stuff happened.

- 37** Make this sentence more specific: The character is nice.

38 In a novel study, conflict means:

- A) the main problem or struggle
- B) the cover image
- C) the page number
- D) a vocabulary list

39 Give an example of internal conflict.

40 Give an example of external conflict.

41 Setting includes:

- A) time and place
- B) only the title
- C) only the narrator
- D) the answer choices

42 How can setting affect a story?

43 A good discussion response should:

- A) refer to the text and build on ideas
- B) interrupt quickly
- C) avoid evidence
- D) change the subject

44 Write one respectful way to disagree in class discussion.

45 Write one question you could ask during a novel discussion.

46 Which detail best supports the claim that Nina is persistent?

- A) Nina practiced the speech every night.
- B) Nina has brown shoes.
- C) The room had a window.
- D) The chapter is short.

47 Write a short response using claim, evidence, and reasoning for this claim: Nina is persistent.

48 A rubric helps students understand:

- A) how the work will be evaluated
- B) what color pen to use only
- C) the classroom temperature
- D) who printed the paper

49 Name two categories an ELA rubric might include.

50 Write one goal for improving your next ELA assignment.

Answer key

Direct answers only, in question order. Work the set first, then check.

1. B) what the paragraph is mostly about	2. Main idea and confusing words.	3. A) a text clue and reasoning	4. Honesty or responsibility.	5. B) the message or insight of a story
6. Cooperation helps people solve problems.	7. A) who is telling the story	8. The narrator only knows their own thoughts and experiences.	9. A) The lake was frigid, so ice formed at the edge.	10. Unwilling or hesitant.
11. A) again	12. B) without	13. un- + believe + -able.	14. A) claim, evidence, and reasoning	15. Alex apologizes because he realizes his words hurt his friend.
16. The passage says Alex looked down and whispered, 'I should not have said that.'	17. Looking down and admitting the mistake show that Alex feels sorry.	18. A) The text states that Jordan stayed after school to finish the project.	19. According to the passage,	20. A) a subject, verb, and complete idea
21. A) Because the storm arrived.	22. After the bell rang, the students packed their bags.	23. A) The rain stopped the team practiced outside.	24. I finished the chapter, and I wrote a summary.	25. A) We read poems, myths, and speeches.
26. After the quiz, the class discussed the answers.	27. A) she	28. Sara told Lily, 'You won the contest.'	29. A) state the paragraph's main point	30. The story shows that courage can grow during difficult moments.
31. A) however	32. A) for example	33. The narrator changes because she learns to ask for help.	34. A) organization and meaning	35. Organization, evidence, clarity.

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| 36. B) The mystery builds suspense by hiding the narrator's true motive. | 37. The character is generous because she shares her lunch with a new student. | 38. A) the main problem or struggle | 39. A character feels torn between telling the truth and protecting a friend. | 40. A character argues with a rival team before a competition. |
| 41. A) time and place | 42. It can shape the mood, conflict, and choices characters make. | 43. A) refer to the text and build on ideas | 44. I see it differently because the passage shows... | 45. Why do you think the character changed after the argument? |
| 46. A) Nina practiced the speech every night. | 47. Nina is persistent because she practiced the speech every night. This detail shows that she kept working even when the task required repeated effort. | 48. A) how the work will be evaluated | 49. Evidence and organization. | 50. I will explain my evidence more clearly after each quote. |
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Error log

Bring this page to your next session so the tutor can start from what actually blocked you.

Passage, book, or assignment I am working on:

My strongest ELA skill right now:

The skill I want to practice next session:
