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## Middle Level Communication Arts/Literature (Grades 5–8)

### Subtest 2 Sample Items

**1. Which of the following forms of communication apprehension is most common and generally the easiest to manage or overcome?**

- A. audience-specific apprehension
- B. situational apprehension
- C. context-based apprehension
- D. traitlike apprehension

**2. Which of the following sentences contains an error in usage?**

- A. I am uninterested in becoming a lawyer.
- B. The Union comprises 50 states.
- C. Newton developed the principle of gravity.
- D. Victory alluded them for two years.

**3. Which of the following introductory sentences would most effectively engage readers' interest in an essay on the human brain?**

- A. The average adult human brain is five to six inches wide, six to seven inches long, and three to four inches high.
- B. In one day, a single human brain generates more electrical impulses than do all the telephones in the world.
- C. In the human brain, the right side keeps track of body position and the position of objects around the body.
- D. The human brain can function for four to six minutes without oxygen, after which brain cells begin to die.

**4. Which of the following versions of a sentence from an expository essay would be most effective for a writer to use to convey an idea clearly and concisely?**

- A. For years upon years, monarch butterflies have embarked on noble quests from North America to the balmy, craggy lands of central Mexico.
- B. Monarch butterflies travel prodigious distances for aeons in order to evade the icebox-like winters of Canada and find warm refuge in Mexico.
- C. Each year, millions of monarch butterflies migrate from Canada and the United States to their winter grounds in mountainous central Mexico.
- D. Great masses of monarch butterflies form a migratory horde that treks annually from inhospitable U.S. and Canadian lands to Mexico's oases.

**5. Which of the following versions of a sentence from a descriptive essay makes the best use of specific nouns, strong verbs, and effective modifiers to convey the subject precisely?**

- A. The graceful ballerina swept across the stage, spun once, and leapt quickly and lightly into her partner's outstretched arms.
- B. The attractive ballet dancer came out, did various movements, including a jump, after which she fell into her partner's arms.
- C. The beautiful dancer moved from left to right, turned around, and jumped high in the air toward a dancer who caught her.
- D. The impressive performer shot across the stage, made one rotation, exploded upward, descended, and a man collected her.

### Answer Key

Item Number	Correct Response	Subarea	Objective
1	B	I. Listening and Speaking	0009
2	D	II. Writing	0010

Item Number	Correct Response	Subarea	Objective
3	B	<a href="#">II. Writing</a>	0011
4	C	<a href="#">II. Writing</a>	0013
5	A	<a href="#">II. Writing</a>	0014

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