Six Traits Writing Workshop
WNY School Support Center UB Buffalo Public Schools

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Writing in the Content Areas
Writing as a Means of Assessment

General Music -- Grade 8

CHOOSE TWO (2) ESSAYS (must be written with no less than 175 words)

A. COMPARE AND CONTRAST THE LIVES AND MUSIC OF TWO DIFFERENT JAZZ PERFORMERS SUCH AS LOUIS ARMSTRONG AND DUKE ELLINGTON. Be sure to include information about their childhood, the instruments that they played, musical compositions, and their lifestyles.

B. CHOOSE TWO DIFFERENT STYLES OR GENRES OF MUSIC TO CONTRAST AND COMPARE. Give examples of musicians that represent each style.
2. Men and women of all races and cultures have made outstanding contributions to science and technology. Women and minority scientists and inventors, however, have been largely overlooked and not been given the attention they deserve.

Name a female or minority scientist or inventor you have studied this year. In your separate answer booklet, write a well-developed essay which includes the name of your chosen scientist, the field of science in which they worked, two contributions this scientist has made to society, and an obstacle they had to overcome.
2. The article on the next page is from the summer 2002 edition of the *Defenders*. Read the article and answer the questions below.

A. All living things carry out life processes. Identify and explain two life processes of the snakes that are discussed in the article “Striking Serpents.”

B. Throughout history, humans have looked upon snakes as evil and dangerous organisms. Using information obtained from the article, write a well-developed paragraph explaining why this view is incorrect.
Laura received a box of chocolates for her birthday. The chocolates in the box have five different fillings. The table below shows how many chocolates with each type of filling are in the box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Filling</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caramel</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coconut</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mint</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherry</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toffee</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The chocolates are all the same shape and size. Laura does *not* like coconut or toffee. What is the probability that she will pick a chocolate from the box that has a filling she *does* like?

Probability ___________________

On the lines below, explain the process you used to determine your answer.
In June of 1985, the people living in the town of Rose, New York, were told that the United States Postal Service planned to close their town’s post office. This meant that the people of Rose would have to get their mail from another post office, and would have other post office services (like buying stamps and sending packages) only three days a week.

The attached documents are from June 1985 through April 1994. They tell and show what the people of Rose, New York, did in their town after they heard the news.

Write a composition about the people of Rose and their post office. In your composition, explain how the people of Rose felt about the building that has been their post office since 1827 and give three examples of what the people did together as a community, or separately as citizens to save their post office.

Before you write your composition, look at the documents on pages 5 through 7. Then complete the notes below.