Sharks are regarded by many people as terrible beasts to be feared and even killed. I think this attitude is unfair. Rather than some evil creature, a shark is simply a type of fish. It does what fish do—swim and look for food to survive.

A shark has never entered our natural habitat, let alone with weapons to hunt us down. The only reason a person would ever be harmed by a shark is because that person chose to enter the ocean—the shark’s habitat! We don’t blame a lion for chasing down a gazelle. We don’t condemn spiders for catching bugs that fly into their webs. Why should we think any differently about sharks?

If you really think about it, you will see sharks in a different light. Sharks do not deserve to be hated for only doing what Mother Nature has taught them—no more and no less.

1a. What was the author’s purpose in writing this passage?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

1b. Underline one sentence in the text that supports your conclusion in 1a and explain how it supports why the author wrote the text.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

2. Which sentence best expresses the main idea of the passage?

A. Sharks are unfairly judged by people.
B. Sharks are terrible beasts.
C. Sharks are scary creatures.
D. Sharks are simply fish.
3. Should we think differently about sharks based on the evidence in the section of the passage below? Why or why not?

The only reason a person would ever be harmed by a shark is because that person chose to enter the ocean—the shark’s habitat! We don’t blame a lion for chasing down a gazelle. We don’t condemn spiders for catching bugs that fly into their webs. Why should we think any differently about sharks?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

4. Read the sentences below and follow the directions for problems 4a and 4b.

We don’t blame a lion for chasing down a gazelle. We don’t condemn spiders for catching bugs that fly into their webs.

4a. What does the word condemn mean as used in the text?
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

4b. Underline the word or words that help you determine the meaning of condemn as used in the text.
5. Circle the word that best completes each sentence.
   5a. Tyler and Ainsley have to share (they, their, them) book.
   5b. That computer is (we, me, mine).
   5c. (Him, He, We) runs everyday.
   5d. (Me, I, Us) went to the movies with (them, they, we).

6. Choose the best word to complete the sentence.

   The terrible villain in the story is __________ to everyone, even his henchmen.

   - A harsh
   - B unkind
   - C mean
   - D cruel

7. Underline any misspelled words in the sentence below.

   Steve and Marlo said their going to stay after skool for practice.

8. Which word parts help you better understand the meaning of the word autobiography in the sentence below? Mark all that apply.

   Later in her life, Binniah started to write an autobiography.

   - A auto- means self
   - B to- means in the direction towards
   - C bio- means life
   - D -graph- means to write
9. Read the sentence below, and answer the questions that follow.

Amaria is as quiet as a mouse in class.

9a. What type of figurative language is used in the sentence?

__________________________________________________________________________

9b. Explain the intended meaning of the figure of speech in the sentence.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

10. Rewrite the two sentences below into one sentence, using proper capitalization and punctuation and maintaining the meaning.

My neighbor has six dogs.
All of her dogs chased a squirrel into my yard.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

11. Which expressions have the solution 24.5? Mark all that apply.

A 2(11 + 1.25)  C 4 + 3.5 × 4
B 3(6 + 2.2)  D (4 × 2) + (6.5 × 1)
12. Greg wants to run a total of 50 miles in 5 days. The table shows how far he runs each day for 4 days. Each lap is 2 miles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of the Week</th>
<th>Laps Run</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>$4\frac{1}{2}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>$3\frac{3}{4}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>$6\frac{1}{4}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>$5\frac{1}{8}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many laps should Greg run on Saturday? ____________________________

13. Mark has $\frac{7}{8}$ of a stick of butter. He typically uses $\frac{1}{6}$ of a stick each time he makes pancakes. How many more times can he make pancakes with the butter he has?

A 3 times  
B 4 times  
C 5 times  
D 6 times

14. The following are the approximate lengths in inches of 9 ribbons. Create a dot plot of the data.

9, 12, 15, 12, 18, 19, 16, 16, 18
15a. Plot the points below on the coordinate plane, then connect each point to form a polygon.

A \(-5, 4\)  B \(3, 4\)  C \(3, -2\)  D \(-5, -2\)

15b. Determine the lengths of each side:

\[ AB \] _____________________________
\[ BC \] _____________________________
\[ CD \] _____________________________
\[ AD \] _____________________________

16. Sophie spent $42.65 on new mats for her car. She now has $12.98 left. Which equation could be used to find out how much money Sophie had before she bought the mats?

A  \[ x + 42.65 = 12.98 \]
B  \[ x - 42.65 = 12.98 \]
C  \[ x(42.65) = 12.98 \]
D  \[ 42.65 - 12.98 = x \]
17. The trapezoid shown is divided into two right triangles and a rectangle.

![Diagram of a trapezoid with labels: 4.1 yd. at the top, 6.2 yd. at the bottom, and h for the height.]

Write an expression that could be used to determine the area of the trapezoid.

________________________________________________________________________

18. Write an example for each.

18a. 6 is the quotient _________________________

18b. 6 is the coefficient _________________________

18c. 6 is the sum _________________________

18d. 6 is the product _________________________

19. There are 8 grams of sugar in a piece of candy. How many grams of sugar are there in five pieces of the candy? Complete the table to help you solve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grams of Sugar</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Candies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are _________________________ grams of sugar in 5 of the candies.
Pretest (cont.)

20. An equation is shown.

\[
\frac{1}{4} \times \square = \square
\]

Miguel claims that for any fraction multiplied by \(\frac{1}{4}\), the product will always be less than \(\frac{1}{4}\).

20a. Write a number in each box to complete an equation that supports Miguel’s claim.

\[
\frac{1}{4} \times \square = \square
\]

20b. Write a number in each box to complete an equation that does not support Miguel’s claim.

\[
\frac{1}{4} \times \square = \square
\]
Dear Teachers,

You complain that we students don’t take enough interest in the material we learn in school. You say that we spend too much time on the web, hanging out with our friends, and using technological gizmos. Here is something to consider. Instead of banning us from using these things in school, why not use what we use as ways to motivate us to learn? For example, challenge us to find the answer to a question by surfing for it. Let us hang out with our friends, but give us an educational task to achieve together. As for gizmos, encourage us to use these things to discover and share the things we learn with others.

So, teachers, rather than force us to ditch our devices, you should look for ways to show us how to expand our knowledge with them. This is the 21st century. This is where we will be for the rest of our lives. Why not help us learn with the tools available to us? Tell you what—we’ll teach you to use the devices if you’ll teach us what we can learn and discover with them.

Sincerely,

Concerned Seventh-Grade Students of Midland Middle School

1a. What was the author’s purpose in writing this passage?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

1b. Underline one sentence in the text that supports your conclusion in 1a and explain how it supports why the author wrote the text.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

2. Which sentence best expresses the main idea of the passage?

A Teachers should allow students to use the technology available to them to learn.

B Teachers might not be as adept at using technology as their students.

C Technological devices have no place in the 21st century classrooms.

D Students are not interested in technology.
Posttest (cont.)

3. Should teachers integrate technology in lessons based on the evidence in the section of the passage below? Why or why not?

So, teachers, rather than force us to ditch our devices, you should look for ways to show us how to expand our knowledge with them. This is the 21st century. This is where we will be for the rest of our lives. Why not help us learn with the tools available to us? Tell you what—we’ll teach you to use the devices if you’ll teach us what we can learn and discover with them.

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

4. Read the sentences below, and follow the directions for problems 4a and 4b.

As for gizmos, encourage us to use these things to discover and share the things we learn with others. So, teachers, rather than force us to ditch our devices, you should look for ways to show us how to expand our knowledge with them.

4a. What does the word *devices* mean as used in the text?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

4b. Underline the word or words that help you determine the meaning of *devices* as used in the text.
5. Circle the word that best completes each sentence.

5a. (Him, He, We) talk everyday.

5b. (Me, He, Them) went to dinner with (us, she, we).

5c. Ryann and Sherra have to share (they, their, them) book.

5d. That bike is (I, us, ours).

6. Choose the best word to complete the sentence.

The students were always cracking up at Helga’s ________________ jokes.

A comic  B hilarious  C amusing  D droll

7. Underline all misspelled words in the sentence below.

Don’t tell me your moveing, two!

8. Which word parts help you better understand the meaning of the word prescription in the sentence below? Mark all that apply.

Luther went to the doctor and got a new prescription.

A pre- means before  B script- means to write  C rip- means to tear  D -tion- means the act of
9. Read the sentence below, and then follow the directions for 9a and 9b.

The sun greeted us with its brilliant glow.

9a. What type of figurative language is used in the sentence?

__________________________________________________________________________

9b. Explain the intended meaning of the figure of speech in the sentence.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

10. Rewrite the two sentences below into one sentence, using proper capitalization and punctuation, and maintaining the meaning.

The bus was supposed to come at 7:15.
The bus was late.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

11. Which expression(s) have the solution 18.6? Mark all that apply.

A  0.6(10 + 8)          C  2 + 4.5 \times 2.1
B  3(5 + 1.2)          D  (6 \times 2) + (2.2 \times 3)
12. Clara wants to jog a total of 45 miles in 4 days. The table shows how far she jogs each day for 3 days. Each lap is 3 miles. How many laps should Clara jog on Tuesday?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day of the Week</th>
<th>Laps Run</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>$3 \frac{2}{3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>$5 \frac{1}{3}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>$4 \frac{1}{3}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Wallace has $\frac{3}{4}$ of a tank of gas. He typically uses $\frac{1}{6}$ of a tank each time he commutes to work. How many more times can he commute to work and back before he runs out of gas on his way?

A 3 times  
B 4 times  
C 5 times  
D 6 times

14. The following are the approximate lengths in inches of 11 pieces of yarn. Create a dot plot of the data.

5, 5, 7, 8, 8, 9, 10, 10, 10, 11, 12
15a. Plot the points below on the coordinate plane, and then connect each point to form a polygon.

A \((-7, 6)\) \hspace{2cm} \text{C} \((4, -3)\)

B \((4, 6)\) \hspace{2cm} \text{D} \((-7, -3)\)

15b. Determine the lengths of each side:

\begin{align*}
\text{AB} & \hspace{2cm} \text{BC} \\
\text{CD} & \hspace{2cm} \text{AD}
\end{align*}

16. Daryl spent $28.55 on a new backpack for school. He now has $8.57 left. Which equation could be used to find out how much money Daryl had before he bought the backpack?

\begin{align*}
\text{A} & \ x(28.55) = 8.57 \\
\text{B} & \ 28.55 - 8.57 = x \\
\text{C} & \ x + 28.55 = 8.57 \\
\text{D} & \ x - 28.55 = 8.57
\end{align*}
Posttest (cont.)

17. The trapezoid shown is divided into two right triangles and a rectangle.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{8.6 yd.} \\
\text{4.3 yd.} \\
\hline
\end{align*}
\]

Write an expression that could be used to determine the area of the trapezoid.

__________________________________________________________________________

18. Write an example for each.

18a. 3 is the coefficient _________________________

18b. 3 is the quotient _________________________

18c. 3 is the product _________________________

18d. 3 is the sum _________________________

19. There are 12 markers in each pack. How many markers are there in 7 packs? Complete the table to help you solve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Markers</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>36</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Packs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are _________________________ markers in 7 packs.
20. An equation is shown.

\[
\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}} = \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}}
\]

Miguel claims that for any fraction multiplied by \(\frac{1}{8}\), the product will always be less than \(\frac{1}{8}\).

20a. Write a number in each box to complete an equation that supports Miguel’s claim.

\[
\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}} = \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}}
\]

20b. Write a number in each box to complete an equation that does not support Miguel’s claim.

\[
\frac{1}{8} \times \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}} = \frac{\text{box}}{\text{box}}
\]
1a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: The author wrote the passage to persuade the reader that sharks are not evil.

1b. Answers will vary. Possible sentence: Sharks do not deserve to be hated for only doing what Mother Nature has taught them—no more and no less. This sentence is intended to persuade people not to dislike sharks.

2. A

3. Answers will vary. Possible answer: No, we should not think differently, because the evidence is faulty. Lions eat gazelles and spiders eat bugs to survive, so it is natural for them to attack them. Sharks do not ordinarily eat people.

4a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: blame

4b. Blame should be underlined.

5a. their

5b. mine

5c. He

5d. I, them

6. D

7. their; skool

8. A, C, and D

9a. simile

9b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: super-quiet

10. Answers will vary. Possible answer: All six of my neighbor’s dogs chased a squirrel into my yard.

11. A

12. \(5 \frac{3}{8}\) laps

13. C

14. 

15a. 

15b. \(AB = 8\)

\(BC = 6\)

\(CD = 8\)

\(AD = 6\)

16. B

17. Answers may vary. Possible answer: \(\frac{1}{2}(4.1 + 6.2)h\)

18a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(42 ÷ 7 = 6\)

18b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(6x\)

18c. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(2 + 4 = 6\)

18d. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(2 × 3 = 6\)

19. | Grams of Sugar | 8 | 16 | 24 | 32 | 40 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Candies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 40 grams of sugar in 5 of the candies.

20a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(\frac{1}{3}\)

20b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \(\frac{5}{4}\)
Posttest Answer Key

1a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: The author wrote the passage to persuade teachers to allow students to use mobile devices to learn.

1b. Answers will vary. Possible sentence: Let us hang out with our friends, but give us an educational task to achieve together. This sentence supports the purpose of encouraging teachers to motivate students.

2. A

3. Answers will vary. Possible answer: No, technology should not be integrated into schools because the evidence is faulty. The passage provides reasons but not evidence that technology can be used to learn.

4a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: pieces of equipment

4b. *Gizmos* should be underlined.

5a. We

5b. He, us

5c. their

5d. ours

6. B

7. your; moveing; two

8. B and D

9a. *personification*

9b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: hung beautifully from

10. The bus, which was supposed to come at 7:15, was late.

11. B and D

12. 1 2/3 laps

13. B

14. [Diagram]

15a. [Diagram]

15b. \[ \overline{AB} = 11 \]
\[ \overline{BC} = 9 \]
\[ \overline{CD} = 11 \]
\[ \overline{AD} = 9 \]

16. D

17. Answers may vary. Possible answer: \( \frac{1}{2} (8.6 + 4.3)h \)

18a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( 3x \)

18b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( 21 ÷ 7 = 3 \)

18c. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( 1 \times 3 = 3 \)

18d. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( 1 + 2 = 3 \)

19. | Markers | 12 | 24 | 36 | 48 | 60 | 72 | 84 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Packs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 84 markers in seven packs.

20a. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( \frac{1}{3} \)

20b. Answers will vary. Possible answer: \( \frac{5}{4} \)