

NAPLAN — Year 9 Literacy

Set 2 — Sample Language conventions test answers

About the sample Language conventions test

The formats and response types in these practice items for spelling, grammar and punctuation are similar to those in the real tests. To prepare students for the test, be sure they understand the instructions.

In spelling, you may wish to hear the words for these items first, and use the errors to construct items relevant to your own students.

In grammar, students need to know that these questions are about formal, written language. In oral language, unconventional usages may “sound right” (e.g. “could of” may sound as right as “could have”, which is the conventionally correct form). When they are told to ‘correctly complete’ a sentence, students must think about conventional grammar, vocabulary and punctuation.

For teaching purposes, create additional items using examples from current class work.

Answers

Spelling	1 debt; 2 refrigerator; 3 categories; 4 armour; 5 Apparently; 6 valuable; 7 locations; 8 isolated; 9 occupy; 10 evidence; 11 defendant; 12 gallery; 13 defeated; 14 precaution; 15 cubical; 16 answered; 17 homicide; 18 excessively; 19 imbalance; 20 vegetable; 21 minerals; 22 supplement; 23 merely
Grammar and Punctuation	24 B&C; 25 A; 26 B; 27 C; 28 A; 29 B; 30 C; 31 C; 32 C; 33 B; 34 A; 35 C; 36 A&C; 37 ... in the loading zone; 38 to give; 39 B; 40 would have worried, could have danced, should have thought, must have obeyed, might have happened

***Note on Item 32:** Listed below is the order of adjectives between the initial article and the “head noun” (the one at the end that all the adjectives refer to).

References

Bear, D R, Invernizzi, M, Templeton, S & Johnston, F 2008, *Words their way: Word Study for phonics, Vocabulary and spelling instruction* (4th ed), Pearson, Upper Saddle River.

Ganske, K, 2008, *Mindful of words: Spelling and vocabulary explorations 4-8*, The Guilford Press, New York.

Resources

Resources on the QSA website that may be useful include:

- *Spelling Yrs 1–9: scope and sequence guide* — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/7284.html
- *A framework for describing spelling items* — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/1443.html
- *Grammar Yrs 1–9: scope and sequence guide* — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/7284.html
- *Teachers’ notes: Notes on grammar* — www.qsa.qld.edu.au/1443.html.