

STAAR CONNECTION™

Diagnostic Series™

Writing

4

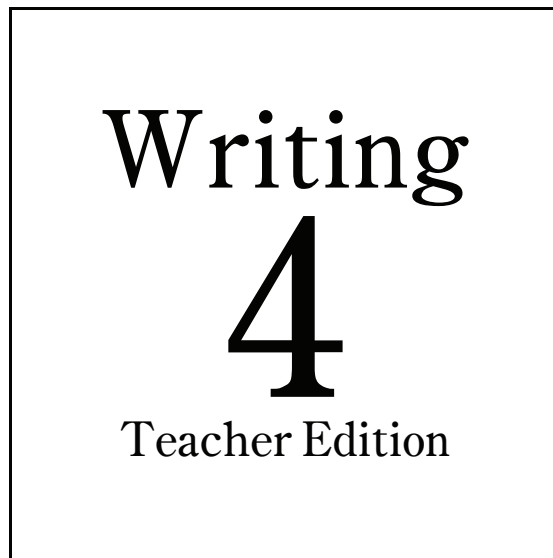
teacher



KAMICO®

Instructional Media, Inc.

STAAR CONNECTION™



Diagnostic Series™



KAMICO®
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P.O. Box 1143
Salado, Texas 76571
Telephone: 254.947.7283 Fax: 254.947.7284
E-mail: info@kamico.com Website: www.kamico.com

KAMICO® Instructional Media, Inc.
STAAR CONNECTION™
Diagnostic Series™
Grade 4 Writing
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Name _____ Date _____

Read the selection, and choose the best answer to each question.

Nora wrote about Millie Hughes-Fulford. Read Nora's paper, and think about how it should be revised. Then answer the questions that follow.

A Special Pioneer

(1) I have always liked astronauts for their bravery and skill. (2) My favorite astronaut is Millie Hughes-Fulford. (3) I like her because she was born in Mineral Wells, Texas, where I was born. (4) Millie used her time as an astronaut to help people down here on Earth.

(5) She graduated high school early. (6) She went to college at the age of sixteen. (7) Millie finished her degree and went to graduate school. (8) There she earned a doctoral degree. (9) Then, she began studying cancer. (10) She wrote some really awesome papers about cancer research and stuff.

(11) After joining the government space program in 1983, Millie finally went into space in June 1991. (12) During her trip, she did many medical experiments. (13) She wanted to learn about how cancer affects cells. (14) She spent nine days in space doing her research. (15) She made many important discoveries. (16) She learned a lot from her findings.

(17) When she came back from space, she moved to California. (18) There she went to work at a university. (19) She became the first civilian scientist to fly into space. (20) She still works on medical experiments about cancer and other diseases.

- 1 What is the **best** way to combine sentences 5 and 6?
- A She graduated high school early and went to college at the age of sixteen.
 - B Either she graduated high school early, or she went to college at the age of sixteen.
 - C She graduated high school early even though she went to college at the age of sixteen.
 - D She graduated high school early after she went to college at the age of sixteen.
- 2 Nora wants to add a topic sentence to the beginning of the second paragraph (sentences 5–10). Which would be the **best** topic sentence for this paragraph?
- F Cancer is a serious illness in which some of the body's cells grow faster than normal cells and hurt healthy parts of the body.
 - G School is very important, not just for people who want to be astronauts, but for people who want other types of jobs, too.
 - H Millie was very smart and wanted to learn about science so she could help others.
 - J Millie went to college at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, and went to graduate school at Texas Woman's University.
- 3 Nora does not think that sentence 10 is appropriate for this assignment. She does not think the tone is appropriate for her audience. How should she change the sentence?
- A She wrote many important papers about cancer research.
 - B She wrote a whole bunch of papers on cancer research!
 - C She wrote these papers, and they were really awesome.
 - D She wrote some important stuff, like, you know, papers.

4 Nora wants to move sentence 19 to improve the organization of her paper. Where is the **best** place to move sentence 19?

F before sentence 1

G after sentence 2

H after sentence 7

J after sentence 11

5 Nora wants to insert the following sentence into her paper.

Millie studied mice, tiny jellyfish, and even her fellow astronauts as the subjects of these space experiments.

What is the **best** place to insert this sentence?

A after sentence 2

B after sentence 12

C after sentence 15

D after sentence 17

6 What is the **best** concluding statement to add to the end of this selection?

F A brave astronaut and brilliant scientist, Millie Hughes-Fulford continues her important work helping people who have cancer and other diseases.

G Other astronauts have included engineers, teachers, and even members of Congress.

H Although she grew up in Mineral Wells, Texas, Millie Hughes-Fulford now lives in San Francisco, California.

J Millie Hughes-Fulford works at the University of California Medical Center at San Francisco.

Read the selection, and choose the best answer to each question.

Joshua wrote the Texas governor about a need at his school. He would like you to read his letter and look for any edits he needs to make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

1 4563 Morgan Avenue

2 Creekside, Texas 78654

3 September 23 2011

4 Governor Jim Mattison

5 Office of the Governor

6 PO Box 12428

7 Austin, Texas 78711-2428

8 Dear Governor Mattison:

9 I am writing to ask you for a new Texas flag for my school. My teacher
10 said you give away flags that have flown over the Texas Capitol. I hope
11 you will think about giving us a flag.

12 My school, Apache Junction elementary, needs a new flag for the
13 flagpole. Our current Texas flag is very old and faded. It is not good flag
14 etiquette to fly a flag in such shape, but our only other choice would be to fly
15 no flag at all. While we could buy a new a flag, it would be more good for
16 students if that money could be used for educational supplies.

17 My school is an old school. We have a long and important history here
18 in West Texas. Our former students include a famous politician, an astronaut,
19 and a movie star. Such an important place deserves a good flag. How could
20 we ask for a neater flag than one that has flown over the state capitol.

21 Having a new flag would be grate. I know that our students, staff, and
22 teachers would appreciate it. I hope you will consider sending us one of these
23 special Texas flags.

24 Sincerely yours

25 Joshua Bennington

7 What change, if any, should be made in line 3?

- A change **September** to **september**
- B change **September** to **Septembur**
- C add a comma after **23**
- D make no change

8 What change, if any, should be made in the underlined sentence in lines 12 and 13?

- F change **My** to **Me**
- G change **elementary** to **Elementary**
- H add a comma after **flag**
- J make no change

- 9 What change, if any, should be made in the sentence in lines 15 and 16?
- A change *buy* to *bye*
 - B change *more good* to *better*
 - C change *supplies* to *supplys*
 - D make no change
- 10 What change, if any, should be made to the sentence in lines 19 and 20?
- F change *we* to *us*
 - G change *neater* to *neatest*
 - H change the period after *capitol* to a question mark
 - J make no change
- 11 What change should be made to line 21?
- A change *new* to *knew*
 - B change *would* to *wood*
 - C change *be* to *bee*
 - D change *grate* to *great*
- 12 What change, if any, should be made to line 24?
- F change *Sincerely* to *sincerely*
 - G change *yours* to *Yours*
 - H add a comma after *yours*
 - J make no change

Look at the picture below.



The scientist Albert Einstein said, "Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."

Write about a time you learned from a mistake you made.

Be sure to —

- write about a personal experience
- organize your writing
- develop your ideas in detail
- choose your words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

READ the information in the box below.

President Thomas Jefferson once said, "I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it."

THINK about the good things that come with hard work.

WRITE about why hard work is important.

Be sure to —

- clearly state your central idea
- organize your writing
- develop your writing in detail
- choose your words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

STAAR CONNECTION™
Diagnostic Series™ Grade 4 Writing
TEKS Writing Alignment Chart and Cross-Curricular Alignments

KAMICO® supports cross-curricular teaching strategies and encourages efforts to apply, transfer, and integrate knowledge across multiple content areas. Therefore, each assessment in this writing book reinforces at least one grade 4 social studies or science TEKS.

For each grade or course, TEA has identified some of the TEKS eligible to be assessed on STAAR as readiness standards. These readiness standards will be emphasized on the STAAR assessments. The remaining TEKS eligible to be assessed on STAAR are considered supporting standards. Although supporting standards will be assessed, they will not be emphasized on STAAR. KAMICO® has shown whether each question assessed in this book is aligned to a readiness standard or a supporting standard.

Readiness standards

- are essential for success in the current grade or course,
- are important for preparedness for the next grade or course,
- support college and career readiness,
- necessitate in-depth instruction, and
- address broad and deep ideas.

Supporting standards, although introduced in the current grade or course,

- may be emphasized in a subsequent year,
- may be emphasized in a previous year,
- play a role in preparing students for the next grade or course but not a central role, and
- address more narrowly defined ideas.

Assessment				
Question Number	Answer	Reporting Category	TEKS	Readiness or Supporting Standard
1	A	2	15C	Readiness
2	H	2	18Ai	Supporting
3	A	2	15C	Readiness
4	J	2	15C	Readiness
5	B	2	15C	Readiness
6	F	2	18Aiii	Supporting
7	C	3	21C	Readiness
8	G	3	21B	Readiness
9	B	3	20Aiii	Supporting
10	H	3	21C	Readiness
11	D	3	22C	Supporting
12	H	3	21C	Readiness
Cross-Curricular Alignments				
		Social Studies TEKS	Science TEKS	
Writing Prompts		20A		
Revising Section		20A	3D	
Editing Section		17E		