

Name: _____



Question: 1 of 50

QID: 2350

Marks: 1

Look at these details from a paragraph about the same topic:

Scientists wear goggles to keep chemicals out of their eyes.

Goggles protect swimmers' eyes from the water.

Skiers wear goggles to keep snow and ice out of their eyes.

Choose the main, or central, idea that ties all the details together.

- A.** Goggles are worn to protect people's eyes during different activities.
- B.** People use goggles when swimming and skiing.
- C.** Construction workers wear goggles for safety.

Question: 2 of 50

QID: 2351

Marks: 1

Read the passage.

Antarctica: Not What You Think

When people think of Antarctica, they think of snow and ice. When they think of deserts, they think of sun, heat, and sand. Yet in spite of its cold temperatures, Antarctica is actually a desert. In fact, it is the largest desert on the planet. A desert is a very dry environment that receives less than ten inches of precipitation yearly. On average, Antarctica gets less than two inches. Most of that precipitation is in the form of snow, but rain or ice can sometimes fall as well.



What is the main, or central, idea of the passage?

- A.** Most precipitation in Antarctica is in the form of snow, though it can also get rain or ice.
- B.** Even though Antarctica is cold and has snow, it is a desert.

Read the following story.

One Bright Idea

I've been working on a present for my dad, Danielle told her friend, Lina. She was holding a colorful knitted strip.

"Neat!" Lina said. "What is it?"

"A bookmark," Danielle said. "Can't you tell?" Lina thought it looked a little too thick to put in a book.

Danielle was just learning to knit, and her creations were not very practical. Lina recalled the misshapen duck booties Danielle had knit for her baby cousin. Lina hoped the baby never had to wear them.

Now Danielle picked up a big bag of yarn. She beamed at Lina and patted the floor next to her. "Come and pick out your colors!" she said.

Lina sat down. "My colors?"

"I'm going to knit you a sweater for your birthday," said Danielle. "I bought all this yarn. I was thinking shades of blue. Maybe some yellow?"

"That is so sweet of you. But that's too much work," said Lina. The thought of Danielle spending so much time on something she would never wear almost broke her heart.

"It's no problem. You're my best friend. And I love knitting," said Danielle.

Lina took a deep breath. "Danielle, I don't want a sweater." There, she had said it. "Those colors are so pretty, though. Maybe you could make me something to decorate my room?"

"A decoration?" Danielle echoed. Lina hoped she wasn't upset.

"Have you ever seen those pictures online of lampshades wrapped in yarn?" Lina went on. "I've always thought they look so cool, but I'm not crafty enough to make one myself."

"Oh! I know what you're talking about!" Danielle said in excitement. "I could do blue yarn at the bottom, then start adding some yellow in the middle . . ."

As Danielle began to plan excitedly, Lina breathed a sigh of relief. Now she would be getting a birthday present that reminded her of her best friend— and one that she would be excited to use.

Which of the following best describes the main theme or lesson of the story?

- A. A creative solution can ease a difficult conversation. B. Handmade gifts are not always better.

Read the text below

Instructions for guests: Hang your jackets in the closet. Place your shoes on the rack.
Put your gloves and hats in the basket on the top shelf.

What is the text's most likely purpose?

- A. to persuade B. to inform
 C. to entertain

Question: 5 of 50

QID: 2361

Marks: 1

Read the text below.

Antonio gasped. A bird was in his living room, flying in circles.

What is the text's most likely purpose?

- A. to persuade
- B. to inform
- C. to entertain

Question: 6 of 50

QID: 2365

Marks: 1

Read the text.

Thanks to modern technology, we're seeing self-driving cars on the roads. To make self-driving cars possible, engineers had to solve several issues. For example, how could they stop the car from hitting anything? One answer is cameras. Special cameras let the cars "see" traffic lights and "read" road signs. The cars also use lasers, or special light beams. By bouncing these beams of light off the curb, the car can sense where it is on the road. This can also help it avoid crashes.

Which text structure does the text use?

Submit

- A. problem- solution
- B. compare- contrast

Question: 7 of 50

QID: 2370

Marks: 1

Does the sentence use a simile or a metaphor?

My little brother is as sweet as pie.

- A. simile
- B. metaphor

Question: 8 of 50

QID: 2375

Marks: 1

Which point of view does the narrator use in the passage?

Lily sank back on her heels to look around at the blue walls and ceiling, and the gold stars pasted on here and there. Then she stretched up again, working with Poppy's paint scraper, to peel off a star that was almost beyond her reach.

From Patricia Reilly Giff, *Lily's Crossing*. Copyright 1997 by Patricia Reilly Giff

- A. first person
- B. second person
- C. third person

Which point of view does the narrator use in the passage?

You have to find Homer. He's your friend. You enter the front yard through the old, rusty gate. You tiptoe around to the back of the house. You see a stone bench and an empty fish pond, but no Homer.

From R. A. Montgomery, *The Haunted House* (Choose Your Own Adventure). Copyright 1981 by R. A. Montgomery

- A. first person
- B. second person
- C. third person

Read the sentences.

Sophie had spent the morning pacing the room, stopping only occasionally to chew at a fingernail. When the doorbell rang, she nearly jumped out of her seat.

Based on these sentences, how is Sophie probably feeling?

- A. relieved
- B. anxious

Read the text.

"Why isn't anyone eating the cookies I made?" Annie wondered.

"They're not drinking the lemonade I made, either," Zoe said. "Maybe I put in too much sugar?" She poured herself a glass and took a sip. "Gross! This tastes like sour seawater!"

Annie smacked her forehead. "We really need to label our sugar and salt containers."

Based on the text, which sentence is more likely to be true?

- A. The girls accidentally used salt instead of sugar.
- B. Zoe used ocean water instead of tap water.

Read the story.

Rescue Mission

Fatimah brushed Pancho's coat and held out an apple for him.

Her little horse deserved it. They'd ridden up Mount Danger today. That trail was steep and difficult. But they loved it. Fatimah hadn't owned Pancho long, but the horse was better than she was at finding his way.

Fatimah closed the stall door and turned on the nightlight. One thing she'd learned about Pancho was that he hated the dark. Another was that he loved peanut butter.

"Good night, silly horse," she said and headed to the house.

The phone was ringing. Fatimah answered, "Hello?"

"Fatimah! Thank goodness you're home! We need you on a rescue mission!"

She recognized Raul's voice. "Where's the emergency?" She'd often ridden with the search and rescue team with her old horse, Blaze. But Pancho wasn't trained for rescue work.

"There's a girl on Mount Danger," Raul explained breathlessly. "Amanda something. Her father came in. Said they were hiking and she fell. Broke her leg and lost some blood. He couldn't carry her. He got lost. He can't explain where she fell. Nobody knows that mountain as well as you!"

"Except Pancho," Fatimah sighed. The sun was setting. She wasn't sure she could convince Pancho to go out in the dark.

She told Raul, "Come on over. Bring your biggest flashlight. Make it two." Shoving her rescue kit into her backpack, she hurried to the barn.

Raul's huge flashlight made the darkness vanish. Pancho, though sleepy, seemed happy to be saddled up for another ride. With Fatimah on Pancho and Raul on his horse Stormy, they started up Mount Danger. They didn't want the injured girl to spend the night out there alone.

Fatimah told Pancho, "We need you to find Amanda." But she knew Pancho had no idea how to rescue anyone.

"We were up here earlier today and didn't see those hikers," she told Raul. "They were probably on the other side."

"It's lucky you know that," Raul said. "Otherwise we'd be searching for weeks."

"It'll be hours, at least," Fatimah answered, worried they might not be able to find the girl that night.

They stopped every now and then to call. There was no response. Raul's flashlight was getting dim. Fatimah worried the battery would fail before they found Amanda.

Pancho suddenly stopped. He raised his nose and sniffed. He snorted and then started walking faster and faster.

"What's up?" Raul asked.

Fatimah shrugged. "He usually only gets that excited about peanut butter," she laughed.

Pancho started running toward a clump of trees. He didn't seem to care that it was pitch dark. Clinging to him, Fatimah turned on her headlamp. Then right in front of them she spotted a girl huddled in the underbrush. Beside the girl lay a half-eaten peanut butter sandwich. Pancho gobbled it down before anyone could stop him.

"Pancho!" Fatimah said. "Raul, we found her!" she called then, louder than she'd intended. It was going to be all right.

What is the story's setting?

- A. Mount Danger and the area around it
- B. an army outpost in the Sierra Nevada range
- C. a Girl Scout summer camp by a lake
- D. a rescue training center in South Dakota

Now, read the information in the chart.

History of a Southeast Ghost Town: Glenrio

New Route 66 brings drivers to Glenrio in 1926.



Restaurants and hotels are built in the 1930s.



Glenrio becomes a busy roadside town in the 1940s.



In 1975 a new highway is built around the town, cutting it off from travelers.



Without travelers coming through, Glenrio eventually becomes a ghost town.



What happened in the step after 1975 when the highway was built around the town?

- A. Glenrio became a ghost town.
- B. Glenrio became a busy city.
- C. Route 66 was torn down.

Choose the poem that uses end rhyme.

- A. Sign of a nation, great and strong
Toward her people from foreign wrong:
Pride and glory and honor,— all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.
- B. I break a staff.
I break the tough branch.
I know no light in the woods.
I have lost pace with the winds.

Choose the poem that has a **regular rhythm**, or a pattern of sound like a beat.

- A.** How does the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!
- B.** To the dust cave—
he loves dust, he hoards it,
gathers it in mountains,
blows it into clouds,
blue clouds, green clouds, yellow clouds, gold—

Read the first part of the story.

Knight in Training

Evan put down his phone and sighed. His best friend's birthday party was tonight, but it was a skating party. The last time Evan had tried ice skating, he had wiped out and split his pants, and everyone had laughed. So just now, he had told Ben he wasn't coming tonight. Worst friend ever, said a voice in his head.

Flopping onto the sofa, Evan grabbed the video game controller. Maybe playing Knight in Training would help him forget the disappointment he had heard in Ben's voice. He turned the game on, and a message popped up on the screen.

Congratulations! You have completed Page Training and advanced to the next level. Click here to start Squire Training.

Evan clicked, and the screen flashed. Then, a knight burst out of the TV, flew through the air, and landed feet-first on the floor! Evan blinked in amazement. A full-size knight was standing in his basement!

What is the main thing on Evan's mind right before he starts to play Knight in Training?

- A.** He's happy he's not going to the party.
- B.** He feels sad that his friends don't like video games.
- C.** He feels bad about letting his friend down.
- D.** He is excited about advancing in the game.

Read the poem. Then, review the bolded text in the second stanza.

Two Sisters

The chlorine smell, an echoed splash—
Another Friday at the pool.
My older sister is about to smash
Another diving record for her school.

I smile but hold back my sighs
As I cheer for her from the stand.
I see myself through her eyes:
The little sister, meek and bland.

But I'm wrong, though, because one day
Like a comet shooting through the night,
My sister stops me just to say,
"It amazes me how well you write."

My sister is the star, and yet
She envies something about me.
I now look twice at those I've met.
Some talents are harder to see.

The bolded text requires an inference, or a guess, about missing details. Based on the text, which sentence is most likely to be true?

- A. The narrator feels like she's not as good as her sister.
- B. The narrator doesn't think that her sister is going to break the record.
- C. The narrator wants to learn how to dive as well as her sister.

Read the poem. Then, review the bolded text in the second stanza.

My Model Car

The hours piled on,
As I sprawled out on my carpet,
Tinkering with tweezers,
Fiddling with rubber bands,
Trying to make my model car come to life.

**Finally, eyes bleary, I went for a walk,
Leaving the car parts behind.
I took in the details of the neighborhood,
The trills and chirps of birds in the trees,
The thick, smoky smell of a grill
Fired up in my neighbor's yard.**

I came back and opened my door.
Hoping the car had assembled itself. No, but—
I suddenly saw the parts with new eyes,
My mind clear and ready.
My tools bent and twisted the pieces
Like they'd always known what to do.

The bolded text requires an inference, or a guess, about missing details. Based on the text, which sentence is most likely to be true?

- A. The sounds and smells of the neighborhood distract the narrator from her problem.
- B. The smell of her neighbor's grill makes the narrator realize that she is hungry.
- C. The narrator wishes she could fly away like a bird.

Read the text about sloths.

Sloths are known for being one of the slowest animals on the planet. They also sleep up to twenty hours every day. Even though sloths are lethargic, they manage to stay safe by living in the treetops of South and Central America. Sloths have special qualities that help them spend their lives hanging from branches.

For example, sloths' long fur grows in the opposite direction from that of most animals. Most animals' fur grows downward, which helps rainwater run down off the animal. Sloths' fur, however, grows upward. When a sloth is hanging upside down, rainwater is still directed off its body. This helps the sloth dry off more quickly. Sloth fur has another special purpose. Each strand of fur has grooves that collect algae. The algae give the sloth a greenish color, which helps it blend in with its leafy environment. Along with sloths' slow movement, this disguise makes sloths hard for predators to spot.

Sloths also have long, curved claws on their front and back legs. Sloths can use their claws to protect themselves from predators. More importantly, the long, sharp claws curve around branches for a powerful grip. In this way, sloths' claws keep them from slipping and falling out of trees.

Hanging upside down all day can be hard for other reasons. In most animals, hanging would cause the stomach, heart, and other organs to press on the lungs. Not for sloths, though. Sloths have special bands of tissue called adhesions that help attach certain organs to the rib cage. These bands of tissue hold the organs in place so they don't press down on the sloth's lungs. Thus the sloth stays healthy and comfortable while hanging in its upside-down world.

Based on clues in the text, what would probably happen if a sloth did not have adhesions?

- A. It would not be able to sense predators in the treetops.
- B. It would get headaches while it was hanging upside down.
- C. It would move more quickly through the treetops.
- D. It would have trouble breathing while hanging upside down.

Read the text about Circus Roncalli.

Imagine you are in the audience of a circus. A herd of golden horses gallops around the ring. You gasp, flabbergasted, as a giant orange goldfish swishes its fins in midair. Suddenly, a twenty-foot-tall elephant doing a handstand appears in the ring! It sounds unbelievable, but it's just another show at Circus Roncalli. Unlike traditional circuses that use live animals, this German circus uses technology to create holograms, or projected 3D pictures, of animals.

Why holograms? First, it is expensive to transport and care for live animals, especially large ones like elephants. One elephant can weigh more than three pickup trucks and can eat more than two hundred pounds of food per day! But a holographic elephant is weightless and does not require food. Second, the place where the circus performs has changed over time. Circus Roncalli used to perform outside of cities in large meadows. This gave them lots of space for their animals. Now, Circus Roncalli performs in busy cities. They set up in small parking lots that have little room for large animals. Third, circus life is hard work for animals. Switching to holograms helps Circus Roncalli avoid harming animals.

Using a hologram is convenient, but making a hologram is not an easy task. First, engineers use computers to show a 3D model of the animal. Then, the engineers determine how audience members will see the animal from every seat. When the hologram is finished, the image is projected in the circus ring for the audience to enjoy. To create one holographic elephant, Circus Roncalli needs fifteen engineers, three thousand video processors, and eleven laser beams.

Even though there are not live animals, Circus Roncalli still entertains audiences with an exciting show. Audiences have fallen in love with the circus's delightful holograms. The animals may be imaginary, but the fun is definitely real!

Based on the text, how is Circus Roncalli different from a traditional circus?

- A. Circus Roncalli uses technology to entertain audiences. B. Circus Roncalli lets audiences pet the animals in the show.
- C. Circus Roncalli entertains audiences with just clowns and acrobats. D. Circus Roncalli only uses elephants in their performances.

Read the text.

Becoming Amazing

1 Even under the best circumstances, with conditions just right for success, it is very difficult to become a skilled ballet dancer. It takes years of hard work, training, and sacrifice from a young age. Few succeed. Yet Misty Copeland was able to rise from a difficult life situation to become a dancer for the American Ballet Theatre (ABT). And she didn't just become a ballerina—she became a star.

2 Copeland was born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1982. She and her five sisters and brothers had an unsettled life. Their mother had little money, and they moved often. Copeland was a shy and anxious child who found comfort in making up dance routines to popular Mariah Carey songs. After moving to California, she became the captain of her middle-school drill team, a dance group that performed at school events. Her coach, Elizabeth Cantine, saw something special in her right away. Cantine suggested that Copeland attend ballet class at the neighborhood Boys & Girls Club.

3 It was there that Copeland met Cindy Bradley, her first ballet teacher. Bradley saw something special in Copeland, too. At thirteen years old, Copeland had had no ballet training. By her age, ballet dancers usually had been training for years. Despite this, Copeland was able to learn ballet moves almost immediately. Bradley was so impressed with Copeland's natural talent that she pictured Copeland "becoming amazing."

4 And Copeland did become amazing. She started winning national ballet contests, and when she was fourteen, she got her first solo role. At age fifteen, she won first place in the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Awards. Copeland continued to study ballet over the next three years. Then, after attending a summer program at ABT, she was invited to join the company as a professional dancer. She was eighteen years old, and on her way to greatness!

5 Yet Copeland had more challenges ahead. A few months after joining ABT, she broke her spine while dancing. She had to stop dancing and wear a back brace almost all day, every day. The injury could have ended her career, but Copeland refused to quit. As soon as she was able, she went right back to dancing. Then, a few years later, she broke another bone while dancing, this time in her left leg. She had to have an operation, which left her unable to walk for weeks.

6 Copeland never gave up, though, and her determination paid off. In 2015, she danced the lead role in one of the world's most famous ballets, Swan Lake. Soon after, she became the first African American woman to be named an ABT principal dancer. She had achieved greatness!

7 Copeland's success made her a role model for others, too. She was on the cover of Time magazine as one of the "100 Most Influential People" in 2015. She wrote a best-selling book about her life, called *Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina*. She also wrote a children's book, *Firebird*, in which she tells others like herself that they, too, can become amazing.

Who is the text about?

- A. Misty Copeland, a dancer who overcame challenges to become a star ballerina
- B. Misty Copeland, a famous dancer and composer who wrote the ballet Swan Lake
- C. Misty Copeland, a dancer who became a successful singer after an accident ended her dancing career
- D. Misty Copeland, a young dancer who started the American Ballet Theatre

Read the paragraph. Then, add the better concluding sentence.

New York City's Grand Central Terminal is one of the most bustling transportation stations in the world. It houses a railroad called the MTA Metro-North and several subway stops. The terminal's busiest time of day is between two and six in the afternoon, and its busiest day of the week is Thursday. However, the terminal is never quiet. More than 750,000 travelers pass through the station on an average day. It's a popular place to shop or enjoy a meal. Around 10,000 people pass through every day just to grab a bite at one of the terminal's many food shops, markets, and restaurants.

- A. As a result, Grand Central Terminal has many places to eat.
- B. In sum, it's hard to find a time when Grand Central Terminal is not full of people.

Read the paragraph. Then, add the better topic sentence.

One of the most common examples is a mule, whose parents are a donkey and a horse. But there is also an animal species known as a liger, which is a mix of a lion and a tiger. A zonkey is a mixture of a donkey and a zebra. And beefalo are created by crossing cattle and bison.

- A. Two animal species can sometimes mix to create a new animal.
- B. A lion can mate with certain other animal species.

Which sentence states a fact?

- A. The modern sport of golf developed in Scotland in the late 1400s.
- B. Golf is possibly the most boring sport that was ever invented.

Read the opinion below.

Drinking energy drinks is a bad idea.

Select the reason that best supports this opinion.

- A. Energy drinks can help you feel more awake.
- B. Drinking energy drinks can make it hard for you to fall asleep.

Question: 26 of 50

QID: 2624

Marks: 1

You are writing a story about Polly, who is trying to study. Choose the best description to show that Polly is on edge.

- A. Try as she might, Polly could not block out the chatter. She slapped her desk and said, "Shh!"
- B. Polly buried her face in her hands and sighed.

Question: 27 of 50

QID: 2625

Marks: 1

You are writing a story about Edwin, who has a bee on his nose. Choose the best description to show that Edwin is calm.

- A. Edwin's mind raced. Please don't sting me, he thought.
- B. Edwin closed his eyes and took slow, even breaths.

Question: 28 of 50

QID: 2640

Marks: 1

Why might your teacher give you a **pretest**?

- A. to see how much you know after you finish a lesson
- B. to see how much you know before you start a lesson

Question: 29 of 50

QID: 2651

Marks: 1

The root **auto** means own or self. What does the word **autobiography** mean?

- A. a book that someone writes about his or her own life
- B. a book that someone writes about someone else's life
- C. a book that someone writes about the solar system and its planets

Question: 30 of 50

QID: 2665

Marks: 1

Select the item that doesn't belong.

- A. timer
- B. ruler
- C. watch
- D. clock

Question: 31 of 50

QID: 2666

Marks: 1

Select the place that doesn't belong.

- A. meadow
- B. market
- C. store
- D. shop

Question: 32 of 50

QID: 2673

Marks: 1

Which word is a synonym of sack?

- A. transport
- B. bag

Question: 33 of 50

QID: 2680

Marks: 1

Complete the analogy.

cake is to dessert as throne is to

- A. chair
- B. castle

Question: 34 of 50

QID: 2685

Marks: 1

Which word matches the picture?



- A. meddle
- B. medal

Question: 35 of 50

QID: 2700

Marks: 1

What does bluff mean in this sentence?

Finn doesn't bluff well, so I always know when he's hiding something.

- A. bluff verb to try to fool others
- B. bluff noun a steep cliff

Question: 36 of 50

QID: 2713

Marks: 1

What is the meaning of food for thought?

Dr. Levin gave us some food for thought when he said too much TV can be unhealthy.

- A. something to think about seriously
- B. something too small to make a difference

Question: 37 of 50

QID: 2715

Marks: 1

What is the meaning of face the music?

Malia wished she could ignore the fact that she scratched her brother's car, but she knew she had to face the music.

- A. to accept unpleasant results of one's actions
- B. to turn to better hear a speaker or band

Question: 38 of 50

QID: 2721

Marks: 1

Which is a stronger emotion?

- A. anger
- B. fury

Question: 39 of 50

QID: 2734

Marks: 1

Read the passage and then answer the question.

For some tasks, smaller is better. In 2013, two men exploring a South African cave found some bones in an underground chamber. When anthropologist Lee Berger saw photos of the chamber, he thought it was important. But reaching it required squeezing through narrow cave passages, some less than eight inches wide. Berger couldn't fit. He published an ad seeking experienced scientists who could work in caves. Six women met the requirements. These "underground astronauts" dug up more than 1,500 fragments of bones from the cave. From these specimens, Berger's team was able to rebuild fifteen partial skeletons. They concluded that they had discovered a new human ancestor, which they named Homo naledi.

What is the meaning of specimens as used in the passage?

- A. large granite stones
- B. individual pieces
- C. small souvenirs
- D. statues or monuments

Question: 40 of 50

QID: 2746

Marks: 1

Which word would you find on a dictionary page with the following guide words?

sell - snicker

- A. stubborn
- B. slight

Question: 41 of 50

QID: 2747

Marks: 1

Would you find the word dream on a dictionary page with the following guide words?

disposal - dungeon

A. yes

B. no

Question: 42 of 50

QID: 2751

Marks: 1

What kind of sentence is this?

That screeching hurts my ears!

A. interrogative

B. exclamatory

Question: 43 of 50

QID: 2756

Marks: 1

What is the word in bold?

Toads' tongues are long so they can catch insects.

A. a plural noun

B. a plural possessive noun

Question: 44 of 50

QID: 2761

Marks: 1

Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentence.

When Jane is upset, she always confides in-----

A. he

B. him

Question: 45 of 50

QID: 2766

Marks: 1

What does the modal verb show? Select the best answer choice.

If you want the seedlings to thrive, you **must** plant the seeds when the soil is warm.

A. necessity

B. possibility

Question: 46 of 50

QID: 2771

Marks: 1

Complete the sentence with the best subject.

-----think that the town needs a new library more than a new stadium.

- A. All of us B. My father

Question: 47 of 50

QID: 2786

Marks: 1

Which tense does the sentence use?

The boy balances on one wobbly foot.

- A. past tense B. present tense
 C. future tense

Question: 48 of 50

QID: 2791

Marks: 1

Is the word in bold an adjective or an adverb?

Erin was **wrongly** accused of cheating.

Hint: The word in bold describes the word that is underlined.

- A. adjective B. adverb

Question: 49 of 50

QID: 2796

Marks: 1

Which correctly shows the title of a song?

- A. "Black or White" B. "black or white"

Question: 50 of 50

QID: 2801

Marks: 1

Which correctly shows the title of a book?

- A. "Harold and the Purple Crayon" B. Harold and the Purple Crayon

-- END OF QUESTION PAPER --