1. Read this sentence from the news article.

**AFH is a study in attainable dreams:** about what happens when high expectations for performance, discipline, and creativity meet the raw and eager energy of youth.

Which word is most opposite in meaning to *attainable*?

A. achievable
B. feasible
C. unreachable
D. possible

**LA.910.1.6.8**  
The correct answer is C. Options A, B, and D are incorrect because they represent incorrect meanings of the assessed phrases found within the excerpted text.

The sentence is found on page 116. Definitions are from wordwizard.scholastic.com which defines *attain* as *to gain or achieve through work*. Option A is incorrect because achievable is a similar in meaning to the assessed word. *Achieve* is defined as *to do or carry out successfully; accomplish*. Option B is incorrect because feasible is similar in meaning to the assessed word. *Feasible* is defined as *capable of being done, carried out, or brought about; possible*. Option C is correct because unreachable is opposite in meaning to the assessed word. *Unreachable* means *unable to arrive at*. Option D is incorrect because possible is similar in meaning to the assessed word. *Possible* is defined as *capable of being, happening, being done, or being used.*

2. Which statement best expresses the main idea of page 116?

F. Youth come to AFH to get together so that they can listen to the latest hip-hop music.
G. After painting in art class in school, they want to paint somewhere else so they can sell their work.
H. They like to paint artwork on the sidewalks of urban downtown Boston.
I. Afterschool, untrained youth come to AFH to learn various art media and how to collaborate with each other.

**LA.910.1.7.3**  
The correct answer is I. Option F is incorrect because it represents incorrect summary statements. Options G and H are incorrect because they represent incorrect interpretations of the main idea.

**Option F** is incorrect because this sentence does not express the main idea of page 116. Although “Hip-hop beats pulse through the studios…” youth do not come to AFH just to listen to
music. **Option G** is incorrect because this sentence does not express the main idea of page 116. The author does not say that the AFH participants take art class in school. **Option H** is incorrect because this sentence does not express the main idea of page 116. The author writes that “Most of our participants come in off the sidewalk having never held a paintbrush…” The youth do not paint artwork on the sidewalk. **Option I** is correct because this is the main idea of page 116. Boston teenagers initially come to AFH untrained in art and they are soon able to “…set up easels, mix their paints and photo developing chemicals, rev up wood-crafting tools, and settle down to sculpture tables and graphic design computers. ….small groups gather in the hallways to plan collaborative projects.”

3. If this news article was reprinted in a textbook, which title would be the most accurate?

A. “Do Something Different”
B. “Mentoring Pays Off”
C. “The Most Environmentally-Friendly Building”
D. “A Painting in Boston’s Logan Airport”

LA.910.1.7.3
The correct answer is **A**. Options B, C, and D are incorrect because they represent incorrect interpretations of the main idea.

**Option A** is correct because the news article is about youth who try and succeed at something new—the arts. As the author writes in a quote from one of the youth, Mars, age 17, on page 117, “You’ve just got to give all you might and create as much as you can. Do something that people have never seen before. That’s what makes you an artist. Do something different.” **Option B** is incorrect because the news article does not focus on mentoring, although the author says that the youth have a period of apprenticeship. On page 118 the author writes, “Rather than formal instruction, participants have a master artist as a mentor for each medium they choose to study.” **Option C** is incorrect because the fact that the building is environmentally-friendly is one detail in the article, not the main idea. On page 119 the author writes, “The very building that houses the program is … EpiCenter, the most environmentally-friendly building in Boston.” **Option D** is incorrect because the painting in the airport is a detail in the news article, not the main idea. The caption inside a gray box on page 119 tells the reader about the picture above the caption: “AFH artists created a painting based on Paul Gauguin’s work. Their finished painting now hangs in Boston’s Logan Airport.”

4. From the pictures and subheadings of this news article, the reader can conclude

F. Many artists are able to make a lot of money when they push the limits of their talent.
G. The artists prefer to work alone as they learn to paint, draw, and socialize in the studio.
H. Many youthful artists create a wide variety of creative artwork.
I. The youth must collaborate with artists who have different styles.

LA.910.6.1.1
The correct answer is **H**. Options F, G, and I are incorrect because they represent facts, details, or other information drawn from the text features but unrelated to the question being asked.
Option F is incorrect because although the artist does discuss the money made by the artists on page 117, neither the pictures nor the subheadings discuss the money made by the youth for their artwork. Option G is incorrect because the artists do not all wish to work alone, and the pictures on page 117, 118, and 119 show that many AFH teenage artists work together on art projects. Option H is correct because the pictures show many different teenagers and a wide variety of art pieces they have created. The subheadings tell the reader that the youth are using their creative energy to push the limits of their creativity to beautify Boston. Option I is incorrect because although the pictures show AFH artists collaborating on projects, the reader is not told that this is a requirement. This sentence is in reference to a quote from Massiel in the caption on page 118, “We decided to collaborate because our styles are very different.”

5. Which statement from the news article is the best indication that AFH is serving the youth of Boston?

A. “Art is an elusive idea of a career for people young and old — a bit like basketball fame or becoming an astronaut.”
B. “Though most come from low-income families, 95 percent of AFH participants go on to college, and two-thirds of them pursue careers in commercial or fine arts.”
C. “Participants begin in the painting studio, and can branch out into sculpture, woodcrafting, photography, design, fashion, and silkscreening.”
D. “Rather than formal instruction, participants have a master artist as a mentor for each medium they choose to study.”

LA.910.6.2.2
The correct answer is B. Options A, C, and D are incorrect because they represent plausible but incorrect distractors based on the text.

Option A is incorrect because this sentence which is found in the introduction on page 116 does not address the youth of Boston. Option B is correct because this sentence which is found on page 120 shows that AFH is helping Boston youth not only find a career choice and a desire for further education and training, but earn the money to help them pursue their goals. Option C is incorrect because this sentence found on page 116 talks about the various art forms available to teens in AFH, not the role AFH serves in their lives. Option D is incorrect because this sentence found on page 118 does not show how AFH is serving the youth of Boston.
6. Which statements from the article best support the author’s main idea that by using simple techniques, anyone can be creative?

F. “Do what you love, because creative breakthroughs take years of hard work. Develop a network of colleagues, and schedule time for free, unstructured discussions.”
G. “What we do during our teenage years may affect how our brains develop. If a skill is not used, the part of the brain needed for that skill dies.”
H. “But research has shown that when you’re creative, your brain is using the same mental building blocks you use every day — like when you figure out a way around a traffic jam.”
I. “Even when an idea seems sudden, our minds have actually been working on it all along.”

LA.910.1.7.3
The correct answer is F. Options G, H, and I are incorrect because they represent plausible but incorrect distractors based on the text.

Option F is correct because it tells the reader how to become more creative. As Keith Sawyer says on page 125, “…the more ideas you have the better. … (ideas) build on what came before. And collaboration is the key. …Brainstorm with different people. Research and evidence suggest that this leads to new ideas.” The sentences in the option are found in the answer on page 126. Option G is incorrect because although these sentences may provide correct and interesting information, they do not directly relate to being creative. The sentences in the option are found in the orange box on page 124. Option H is incorrect because although this may be a true statement, it does not tell the reader how to be more creative. The sentence in the option is found in the first answer on page 123. Option I is incorrect because this statement is a reflection of the creative process, but it is not telling the reader how to become more creative. The sentence in the option is found in the first answer on page 125.

7. Engineer Jim Crocker got a creative idea while in a shower in Germany. Which example from “Creativity at Work” best shows a similar creative use of materials?

A. the painting based on a Paul Gauguin masterpiece
B. the unusual features of the Epicenter building in Boston
C. clothing depicting the history of black fashion in a department store window
D. Rassan Charles’ move from Haiti so he could make money from his artwork

LA.910.1.7.7
The correct answer is B. Options A and C are incorrect because they represent plausible but incorrect distractors based on the text. Option D is incorrect because it represents an incorrect comparison.
Jim Crocker’s brainstorm is discussed at the top of page 125. **Option A** is incorrect because the painting discussed on page 119 may show the creativity of the young artists, but it did not exhibit a creative use of materials. **Option B** is correct because as the reader learns on pages 119 and 120, many creative ideas were used in the construction of the Epicenter: “The Epicenter utilizes solar panels, rainwater collection, and recycled materials. Gallery balconies are lined with car windshields from old Crown Victorias, industrial-sized toilet paper dispensers are cut from the bottoms of 5-gallon plastic water jugs.” **Option C** is incorrect because although the clothing exhibited in the story window as described on page 119 was on larger-than-life steel human figures that the students welded, this does not show a creative use of materials. **Option D** is incorrect because although Rassan Charles is a budding painter, he is not exhibiting a creative use of materials.

8. From what you learned about the brain in this interview, what side of the brain do you think Yinetta Fuertes, an AFH artist, uses the most?

F. the right side because she was creating a work of art
G. the left side because she had to figure out what details to add to her painting
H. the right side because she is left handed
I. the left side because she talked to Director Susan Rogerson about her latest painting

LA.910.1.7.7

The correct answer is **F**. Options G, H, and I are incorrect because they represent plausible but incorrect distractors based on the text.

Yinetta Fuertes, a painter, is shown in a picture on page 119. **Option F** is correct because the right side of the brain controls imagination and art and music, areas needed when an artist creates a painting. **Option G** is incorrect because the left side of the brain does not control the creative areas of art and imagination. **Option H** is incorrect because she is not left handed; in the picture on page 119 Yinetta is shown painting using her right hand. **Option I** is incorrect because although the left side of the brain controls language which Yinetta would need to have a conversation, this is not the side of the brain an artist would use the most.

9. Read the sentence from the interview.

*In creativity research, we refer to the three Bs—for the bathtub, the bed, and the bus. They are places where ideas have famously and suddenly emerged. When we take time off from working on a problem, we change what we’re doing and our context.*

Which statement could be an example that the author could use to illustrate this concept?

A. You have been assigned a topic for a paper for history class, so you go on the Internet to research the topic.
B. You are working on fixing your car, and you go to the auto parts store to buy the parts you need.
C. You are trying to decide on a book to read for a book report, so you take a long walk on the beach.
D. You are wondering which movie to go see, so you read the movie reviews in a magazine.
LA.910.1.7.2
The correct answer is C. Options A, B, and D are incorrect because they represent incorrect interpretations of the author’s purpose or perspective.

The excerpt is found on page 123. **Option A** is incorrect because researching the topic, whether on the internet or by reading a book is not the change in context that Keith Sawyer is talking about. **Option B** is incorrect because although you have changed the location from wherever your car is to a store, you are still working on the same problem—fixing the car. **Option C** is correct because by taking a walk on the beach you have stopped focusing on your problem and you have changed the context. This is what Keith Sawyer means in this quote. **Option D** is incorrect because reading the movie reviews whether in a newspaper, a magazine, or online is still focusing on the same problem. You have not changed the context as is suggested in the excerpt.

10. How do the authors of “Creativity at Work” and “The Hidden Secrets of the Creative Mind” prepare the reader for the topic of their articles?

F. They begin with a question or subheading that appears in red type.
G. They put the title in white type and have it appear in front of a full-page illustration.
H. They include many pictures or illustrations with long captions to explain their content.
I. They begin with a paragraph that is typed a different font and type color.

LA.910.6.1.1
The correct answer is I. Options F, G, and H are incorrect because they represent incorrect analysis and interpretation of text features.

**Option F** is incorrect because only the author of “The Hidden Secrets of the Creative Mind” begins with a question (“What is Creativity” on page 123) which appears in red type. “Creativity at Work” begins on page 116 with a paragraph about art. **Option G** is incorrect because although both selection titles are printed in white type, only “Creativity at Work” on page 115 appears with a full-page illustration. **Option H** is incorrect because the pictures or illustrations within a selection are not included to prepare the reader for the topic of the selection. **Option I** is correct because both selections begin with a paragraph that functions as an introduction. “Creativity at Work” begins on page 116 with an introductory paragraph in colored typeface that is of a different font and size that the news article. “The Hidden Secrets of the Creative Mind” begins on page 123 with an introductory paragraph in blue bold-face type that is in a different font than the interview.