

English Toolkit: Indicator 2.2.5

Goal 2.0 Composing in a Variety of Modes

Expectation 2.2 The student will compose texts using the prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing strategies of effective writers and speakers.

Indicator 2.2.5 The student will use suitable traditional and electronic resources to refine presentations and edit texts for effective and appropriate use of language and conventions.

Assessment Limits:

Using resources to select and use appropriate language

- avoiding the use of trite expressions and clichés
- using smooth and informative transitions
- arranging parallel elements appropriately and effectively
- selecting appropriate use of active or passive voice
- selecting an appropriate word for a given purpose

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Scoring

- Answer Key

Public Release #1 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2005

English Indicator 2.2.5

Handout(s):

- English Resource: The JASON Project

Yuri is writing an article for the school paper about science in the classroom. The draft of Yuri's article requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following.

Yuri found the information below in a language handbook.

Avoid vague words and phrases that are not exact enough to be effective in writing.

According to this information, which sentence should be revised?

- A. Sentence 3
- B. Sentence 4
- C. Sentence 7
- D. Sentence 10

Public Release #2 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2007

English Indicator 2.2.5

Handout(s):

- English Resource: A Spoon Reborn

Students in an art appreciation class conducted research and wrote about different ways of creating art. Richard wrote an article about a Baltimore sculptor. The draft of Richard's article, "A Spoon Reborn," requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following:

Richard found the information below in a language handbook.

Avoid including overused expressions in your writing, such as *play it by ear*, *time will tell*, or *in the nick of time*.

According to this information, which sentence should be revised?

- A. Sentence 2
- B. Sentence 6
- C. Sentence 8
- D. Sentence 14

Sample Assessment #1 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2003

English Indicator 2.2.5

Handout(s):

- English Resource: Communication Technology

After reading a novel set in the future, students wrote essays about significant changes that occurred in the last two centuries. Pedro decided to write about changes in communication technology. For the following question, choose the best answer to questions about Pedro's essay. Read Pedro's essay: Communication Technology.

Pedro found the information below in a language handbook.

- Use slang only when appropriate.
- Use technical words with care.
- Use colloquial language (*get along with*, *go crazy*, *hang around with*) only when appropriate.

Which of these is the best way to revise the phrase "made the telegraph go down the tubes" in Sentence 10?

- did the telegraph in
- ended the demand for the telegraph
- made the telegraph go downhill
- was the reason the telegraph was wiped out

Sample Assessment #2 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2002

English Indicator 2.2.5

Handout(s):

- English Resource: Tenzing Norgay, Mountain Climber

Read the draft of Michael's essay on Tenzing Norgay, Mountain Climber. Then answer the following:

Michael thinks he may have used the word *climb* too often in his report. Which of these would be best to find synonyms for *climb*

- a dictionary
- a thesaurus
- a style book
- a language handbook

Handouts

The JASON Project

¹The movie *Titanic* and the expeditions to explore the ship's remains took thousands of viewers into the depths of the ocean. ²After seeing the high-tech equipment used to recover treasures from the sunken ship, students from around the world wrote letters to expedition leader Dr. Robert Ballard, asking to accompany him on an adventure. ³He couldn't take the students on his ship, but he did the next best thing: he created the JASON Project to bring the thrill of discovery to millions of students worldwide. ⁴The project offers students in grades 4 through 9 opportunities to explore the world through videos, interactive Internet programming, and live satellite broadcasts.

⁵The JASON Project named after the Greek hero Jason. ⁶The seas were first sailed by Jason, the first great explorer, according to ancient myths. ⁷Dr. Ballard chose the name Jason because he sees his project as one that will also make great explorations. ⁸The JASON Project is training a new generation of explorers by developing their skills in science, technology, math, geography, and language arts.

⁹Using the curriculum and materials of the JASON Project, students can complete many activities during the school year. ¹⁰For example, they can use really great equipment, send e-mail to lots of researchers, and conduct all sorts of investigations. ¹¹At the end of a school year, one student said, "I like science now, its not just about studying fungi with teachers in white coats." ¹²The sunken ships of the JASON Project have raised students' curiosity. ¹³They now want to know about the bottom of the sea plus the world above it.

A Spoon Reborn

¹When I was a child, I used to make “music” using pots and pans from my family’s kitchen, but I just read about an artist who uses kitchen utensils to create another kind of art. ²From spoons, recycled pots, and other consumer products, Jim Opasik creates sculptures of realistic and fantastic animals. ³Which are quickly becoming collectors’ items.

⁴Opasik took classes at Schuler School of Art in Baltimore where he studied anatomy and made clay statues. ⁵Wanting to be a little less “normal,” he began laminating wood, Plexiglas, and foam into sandwiches and then carved ballet dancers from these sandwiches. ⁶He also experimented with wire and spray foam and created a whole baseball team.

⁷“Art Ducko” is an example of his “kitchen” art and is a sculpture that looks like Donald Duck. ⁸When he wanted to make a snake, he looked at many pictures of snakes and then said, “Spoons!” ⁹Starting with small spoons for the tail and gradually using larger spoons, he overlapped them, and they ended up looking just like the scales of a snake. ¹⁰For the snake’s head, he used a larger spoon. ¹¹He called this creation “Souptentine.”

¹²Continuing his search for something unique, he decided to use kitchen utensils because “they contain fascinating shapes and textures already.” ¹³He also is dedicated to recycling, so he visits thrift stores, sidewalk sales, and flea markets looking for pieces he can turn into animals.

¹⁴It goes without saying that now Opasik displays and sells his sculptures at national craft shows. ¹⁵His eight-foot seahorse was once displayed at the Baltimore National Aquarium. ¹⁶Maybe I should revisit my family’s kitchen to see what future sculpture may be lurking there.

Communication Technology

Here are the first three paragraphs of Pedro's essay.

¹Every day after school Tyrone talks on the telephone, watches television, sends e-mail to his cousin, and plays music on his compact disc player. ²Never even thinking about the technology required to make it all happen. ³The last two centuries saw rapid increases in communication technology, and in the new millennium, inventors will continue to move technology forward.

⁴One of the earliest inventions in communication technology was the telegraph. ⁵It had wires but did not carry a voice. ⁶Using a metal lever, words were tapped out using short and long electrical impulses. ⁷Someone on the receiving end translated the series of sounds into words. ⁸This language of dots and dashes was called Morse code. ⁹The language worked great, but it was a pain to learn.

¹⁰Alexander Graham Bell intended to improve the telegraph, but his invention, the telephone, made the telegraph go down the tubes. ¹¹It took a long time to make it work well. ¹²First, thousands of miles of wire had to be installed on poles. ¹³Then equipment had to be manufactured and operators needed to be hired.

Tenzing Norgay, Mountain Climber

¹Tenzing Norgay, a humble man from India, became famous as a member of the first team to reach the peak of Mt. Everest, Earth's highest mountain. ²His accomplishments in mountain climbing and his attitude toward life brought him glory.

³Young Tenzing Norgay always believed he would have special luck and great achievement. ⁴In 1932 he became a carrier for mountain climbers in India. ⁵He climbed other mountains, but he remained focused on Everest.

⁶His famous climb occurred in 1953. ⁷He made the climb with Sir Edmund Hillary, a beekeeper from New Zealand with a whole bunch of climbing experience. ⁸The two men had great confidence in each other; however, this made them a strong team. ⁹During the climb, they had to cross a river, navigate an icefall, and cut steps in the snow in order to reach the peak. ¹⁰They wore eight layers of clothing and three pairs of gloves all at the same time.

¹¹The team reached the 29,028-foot peak on May 29, 1953, two months after they started their trek.

¹²Tenzing Norgay became a role model for those striving to rise above humble beginnings. ¹³His goal in life was to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. ¹⁴He devoted his entire life to this goal. ¹⁵His approach to life served as an inspiration to many other people, including his own son, who later climbed Mt. Everest also.

English Indicator 2.2.5 Answer Key

Public Release Item #1 - Selected Response (SR) - 2005
D. Sentence 10

Public Release Item #2 - Selected Response (SR) - 2007
D. Sentence 14

Sample Assessment Item #15 - Selected Response (SR) - 2003
B. ended the demand for the telegraph

Sample Assessment Item #16 - Selected Response (SR) - 2002
B. a thesaurus