Informative and Explanatory Writing

Name: _____	Date: _____	Score: _____ / 10

Quick Review

Focus on informative writing that explains a topic clearly. Strong test answers are precise, purposeful, and supported by the wording of the task.

PRACTICE

Answer each question. Choose the best answer for multiple-choice items and write complete short responses.

1. Which choice BEST demonstrates informative writing that explains a topic clearly?

A. The water cycle is interesting and everyone should learn it.

B. The water cycle includes evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection, and each stage moves water through the environment.

C. I think evaporation is the best science word.

D. Clouds are nice, and rain can be annoying.

2. Which revision best applies informative writing that explains a topic clearly? Original: Volcanoes are dangerous things that explode.

A. Volcanoes form when pressure forces molten rock through openings in Earth's crust, creating lava flows, ash, and new landforms.

B. Volcanoes are dangerous things that explode.

C. The water cycle is interesting and everyone should learn it.

D. I think evaporation is the best science word.

3. A student is working on this task: A student is explaining how public libraries support communities. Which choice would be MOST effective?

A. The water cycle is interesting and everyone should learn it.

B. I think evaporation is the best science word.

C. Organize the response by services: access to books, technology, classes, and meeting spaces.

D. Clouds are nice, and rain can be annoying.

4. Which explanation best describes why the stronger choice works?

A. It is longer than the other choices, so it must be better.

B. It uses complicated words even if they do not fit.

C. It avoids evidence so the reader can decide alone.

D. It is specific, relevant to the task, and controlled by informative writing that explains a topic clearly.

5. Which next step would most strengthen the student's work?
   - **A.** Add an unrelated personal story.
   - **B.** Add domain-specific vocabulary and define it in context.
   - **C.** Replace precise words with vague ones.
   - **D.** Remove the clearest evidence.
6. Which mistake should the student avoid?
   - **A.** Turning the explanation into an unsupported opinion.
   - **B.** Checking that each choice fits the audience.
   - **C.** Using evidence that directly supports the point.
   - **D.** Rereading the sentence after revising it.
7. Which answer is too vague to earn full credit?
   - **A.** It works because it applies informative writing that explains a topic clearly to the exact task.
   - **B.** It is stronger because the evidence is relevant and sufficient.
   - **C.** It is better because it sounds good.
   - **D.** It improves clarity without changing the meaning.
8. Which habit best supports accuracy on this type of question?
   - **A.** Choose the first familiar word.
   - **B.** Ignore the audience and purpose.
   - **C.** Pick the longest answer every time.
   - **D.** Read the whole sentence or task before choosing an answer.
9. Draft a focused topic sentence for an explanatory paragraph about renewable energy.

   _____

   _____
10. Name two kinds of evidence that belong in an informative essay.

    _____

    _____

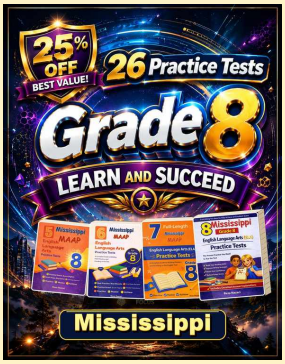
Answer Keys

1	A	**B**	C	D	6	**A**	B	C	D
2	**A**	B	C	D	7	A	B	**C**	D
3	A	B	**C**	D	8	A	B	C	**D**
4	A	B	C	**D**	9	See below			
5	A	**B**	C	D	10	See below			

Explanations

1. B	The correct choice demonstrates informative writing that explains a topic clearly clearly and precisely.
2. A	The revision improves the original while preserving its intended meaning.
3. C	The correct choice fits the task and gives the writer or speaker a concrete move to make.
4. D	Length and difficult vocabulary do not make an answer strong; relevance and control do.
5. B	The best next step improves clarity, support, or control of the skill.
6. A	The correct answer names a common error that weakens this skill.
7. C	A test response must explain the reason, not merely praise the answer.
8. D	Careful reading prevents attractive but wrong choices.
9.	**Answer:** Strong answers should explicitly use informative writing that explains a topic clearly, stay specific, and explain the reason for the choice. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.
10.	**Answer:** Strong answers should include a corrected example or explanation that preserves meaning while improving informative writing that explains a topic clearly. Use exact wording from the text or task, then explain your reasoning.

Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other Mississippi MAAP ELA Test Books!



Mississippi MAAP Grade 8 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

No repeated questions — maximum practice value!

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼

SCAN ME

Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books

26 Tests!
4 Books
One Bundle

Important: All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

5 Practice Tests

- ✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations
- ✓ Perfect foundation for MAAP ELA prep
- ✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills
- ✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards

Start your practice journey!

6 Practice Tests

- ✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations
- ✓ **Unique tests** — different from the 5 tests book
- ✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests
- ✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards

Take your practice to the next level!

7 Practice Tests

- ✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation
- ✓ **Unique tests** — different from 5 and 6 tests books
- ✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice
- ✓ Aligned to Grade 8 MAAP ELA standards

Maximum preparation power!

8 Practice Tests

- ✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book
- ✓ **Unique tests** — different from 5, 6 and 7 books
- ✓ Great for final review before test day
- ✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence

Be fully prepared!

Get the bundle at EffortlessMath.com — *scan the QR code above to open the product page.*