

2006

FCAT

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test

Student Name _____

WRITING+ SAMPLE TEST BOOK



WRITING+

FCAT Sample Test Materials

These sample test materials are designed to help you prepare to answer FCAT questions. These materials introduce you to the kinds of questions you will answer when you take the FCAT and include hints for responding to the different kinds of questions. The FCAT Writing+ sample test materials for Grade 4 include the following:

☒ **Sample Test Book**

Includes a sample test and instructions for completing the sample test. The prompt section includes a prompt page, lined pages, and a planning sheet. The multiple-choice section includes sample questions. (Copies are available for all students in the tested grade.)

☐ **Sample Answer Key**

Includes explanations for the answers in the sample test. (Copies are available for classroom teachers only.)

☒ = This book

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FCAT Writing+

The writing assessment includes a prompt and multiple-choice questions.



Table of Contents

FCAT Writing+ Prompt Information Page 2

Prompt information and hints for completing this part of the test are provided. A sample prompt page, lined pages, and a planning sheet are included.

FCAT Writing+ Sample Test Questions Page 9

The Writing+ Sample Test consists of 22 practice questions that are similar to the questions on the FCAT.

FCAT Writing+ Prompt Information

Hints for Responding to the FCAT Writing+ Prompt

Here are some hints to help you do your best when you respond to the FCAT Writing+ prompt. Keep these hints in mind when you write.

- ✓ **Read the prompt carefully.**
- ✓ **Plan your writing by organizing your ideas.**
- ✓ **Support your ideas by telling more about each event or reason.**
- ✓ **Use a variety of sentence structures.**
- ✓ **Choose words that help others understand what you mean.**
- ✓ **Review and edit your writing.**

FCAT Writing+ Prompts

Below are examples of prompts. You may use one or both to practice your writing skills on pages 5–8. Your teacher may have other prompts for you to use.

Example of a Prompt That Asks You to Write to Explain

Below is an example of an expository prompt. The purpose of expository writing is to explain, define, or tell how to do something by giving information. The first part of the prompt presents the topic: helping the teacher. The second part suggests that you think about what you like to do to help the teacher.

Most students like to do something to help the teacher at school.

Think about what you like to do to help the teacher.

Now write to explain what you like to do to help the teacher.

Example of a Prompt That Asks You to Write a Story

Below is an example of a narrative prompt. The purpose of narrative writing is to tell a story. The first part of the prompt focuses on an unforgettable experience. The second part suggests that you think about an unforgettable experience, and then write about it.

Everyone has done something special that he or she will always remember.

Think about a time you did something special that you will always remember.

Now write a story about a time you did something special that you will always remember.

Florida's Writing Test

For the test you will be given a test book with a prompt inside. You will have 45 minutes to read the prompt, plan what you want to write, and write your response. A separate planning sheet will be provided. You will respond to a prompt that asks you to explain or to a prompt that asks you to tell a story.

What you write should be written neatly and should show that you can organize and express your thoughts clearly and completely. You may not use a dictionary or other reference materials.

Directions for Responding to the Prompt

Pages 5–8 of this booklet show you what an FCAT prompt page, lined pages, and planning sheet look like. This sample test book is for practice only. On the actual test, the prompt will appear in the box on the prompt page. It is important to use the planning sheet to jot down ideas and organize your writing. Although the planning sheet is not scored, you must turn it in with your test.

STUDENT'S NAME _____

PLANNING SHEET

Remember, use this sheet for planning what you will write. The writing on this sheet will **NOT** be scored. Only the writing in the writing folder **WILL** be scored.

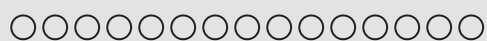
SAMPLE

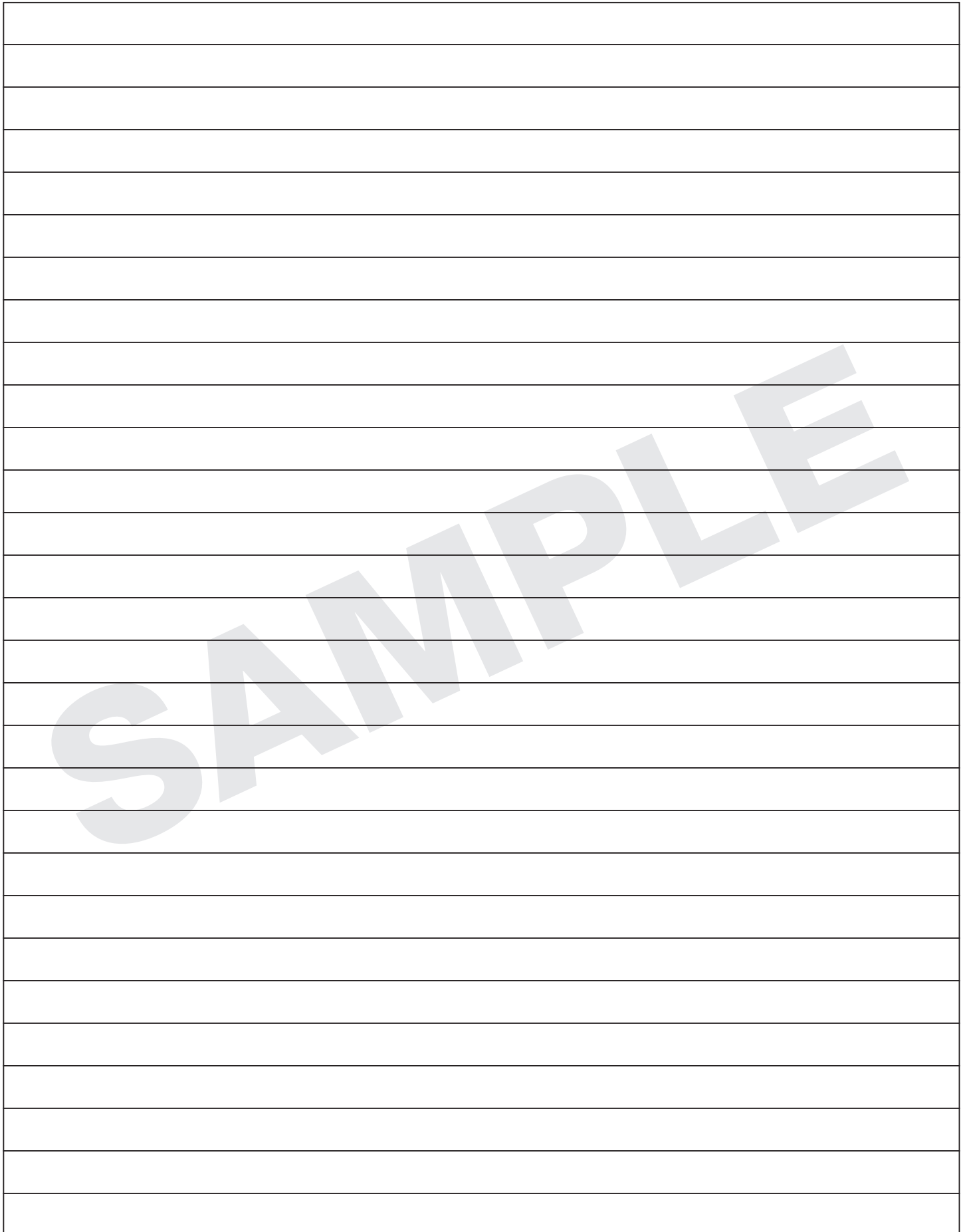
PROMPT

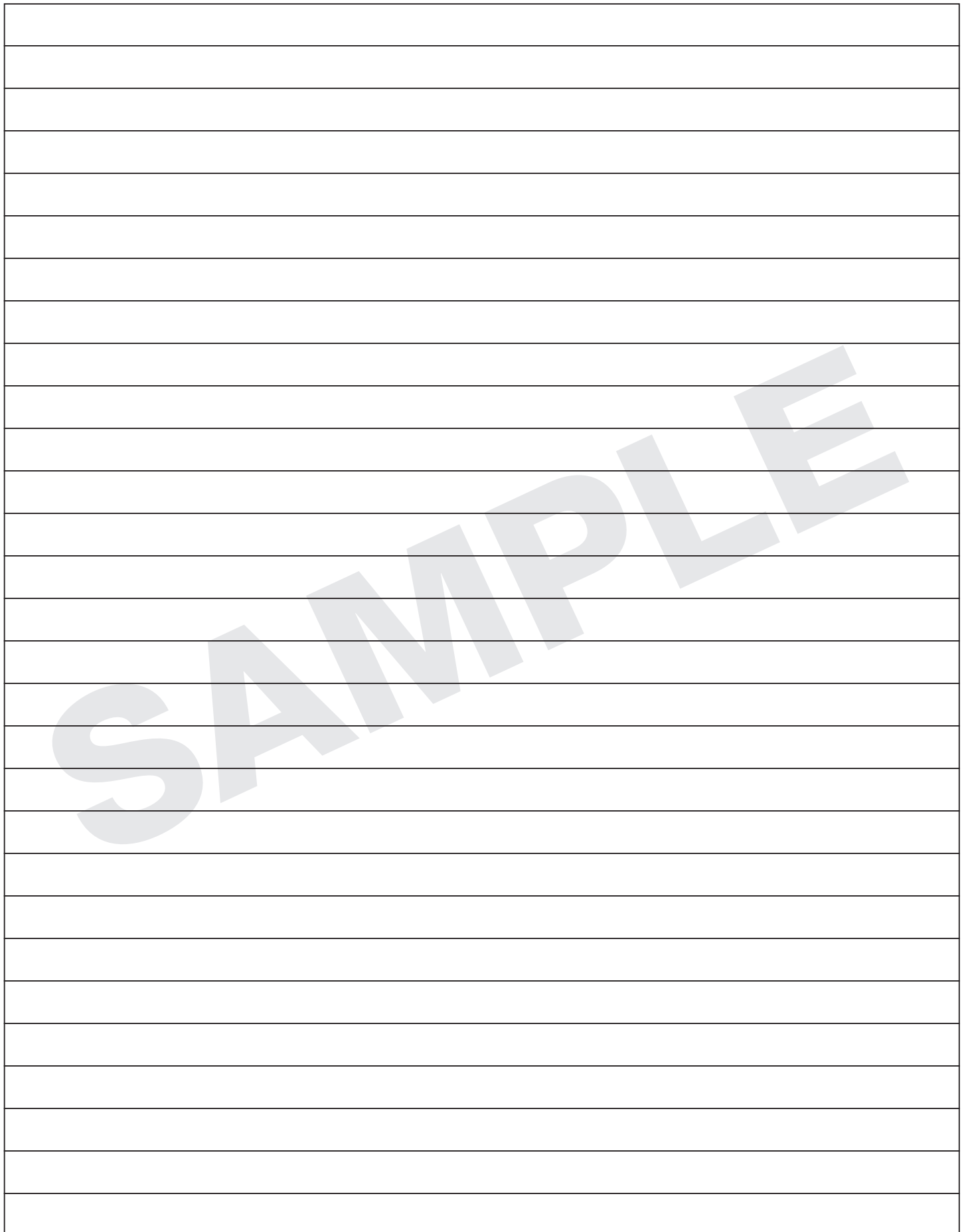
[On the actual test, an expository or a narrative writing prompt is typed in this space.]

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE.

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FCAT Writing+ Sample Test Questions



The questions in this section are called multiple-choice questions. **A multiple-choice question is followed by several answer choices.** Read all the answer choices under each question, and decide which answer is correct. Fill in the bubble next to the answer you think is correct for each multiple-choice question.

Hints for Responding to the FCAT Writing+ Questions

Here are some hints to help you do your best when you respond to the FCAT Writing+ multiple-choice questions.

- ✓ **Think positively. Some questions may seem hard, but others will be easy.**
- ✓ **Relax and do your best.**
- ✓ **Learn how to answer each kind of question. Some FCAT Writing+ questions have four answer choices, while others have three answer choices.**
- ✓ **Read the directions carefully. Ask your teacher to explain any directions you do not understand.**
- ✓ **Read carefully and answer the questions you are sure about first. If a question seems too difficult, skip it, and go back to it later.**
- ✓ **Be sure to fill in the answer bubbles completely without making any stray marks.**
- ✓ **Check each answer to make sure it is the best answer for the question.**

Directions for Completing the Multiple-Choice Questions

The Sample Test contains 22 sample test questions. It should take about 30 to 45 minutes to read the test and answer all the questions. Fill in the bubble beside the answer you have chosen. If you change your answer, be sure to erase completely. You may write on the pages of this test booklet; however, do not make stray marks near the answer bubbles.

What do these mean?

1

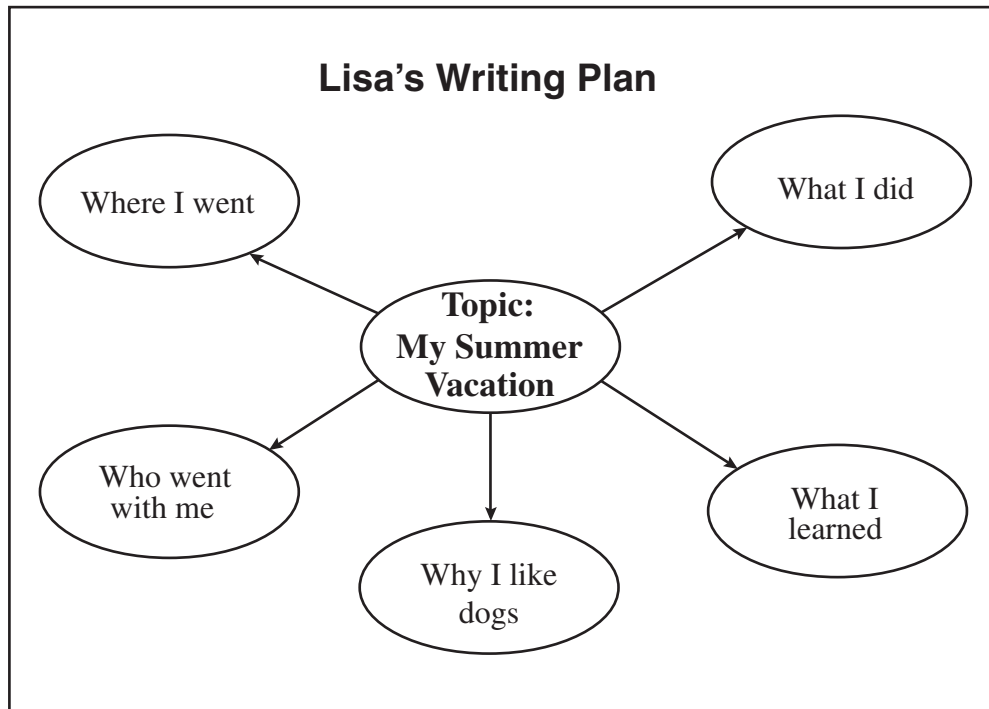
A symbol like this appears in the FCAT Writing+ test to show a sentence number.

→

This symbol appears in the FCAT Writing+ test to show a new paragraph.

The test includes the kinds of writing you often do or the kinds of writing you may see in your textbooks. Most of the writing is in draft form, and you will be asked to make changes to improve the writing.

Lisa made the plan below to organize ideas for a paper. Use her plan to answer questions 1–3.



- 1** Which subtopic below is off topic and should be taken out of Lisa's Writing Plan?
- Ⓐ What I did
 - Ⓑ What I learned
 - Ⓒ Why I like dogs
 - Ⓓ Who went with me
- 2** Based on the information in Lisa's Writing Plan, which idea below is on topic and should be added to the plan?
- Ⓕ Why I like to sing
 - Ⓖ When school starts
 - Ⓗ Where my dad works
 - Ⓘ What I enjoyed most
- 3** Based on the information in Lisa's Writing Plan, what kind of paper is Lisa planning to write?
- Ⓐ a paper that tells a story about summer weather
 - Ⓑ a paper that describes her favorite meal at camp
 - Ⓒ a paper that explains what her vacation was like
 - Ⓓ a paper that lists questions about her teacher's vacation

Andy made a list of the problems he and his parents saw at the playground. Use his list to answer questions 4–6.

Andy's List

Playground Problems	
Problems My Parents Saw	Problems I Saw
There is a lot of trash.	There are no trash cans.
Tables and benches are broken and ugly.	There are no flowers.
There are broken branches and piles of leaves.	The playground sign is missing.
The building next door used to be a store.	



- 4** Which statement below is on topic and should be added to the list?
- Ⓕ The grass needs to be cut.
 - Ⓖ There was a squirrel in the tree.
 - Ⓗ My friend lives near the playground.
 - Ⓘ The playground belongs to the community.
- 5** Which statement below is off topic and should be taken off the list?
- Ⓐ There are no trash cans.
 - Ⓑ The playground sign is missing.
 - Ⓒ The building next door used to be a store.
 - Ⓓ There are broken branches and piles of leaves.
- 6** Based on the information in Andy's List, what kind of paper is Andy planning to write?
- Ⓕ a paper that explains the problems he and his parents saw
 - Ⓖ a paper that gives the causes for and solutions to the problems
 - Ⓗ a paper that tells a story about a time Andy played on a playground
 - Ⓘ a paper that describes why he and his parents should fix the problems they saw

The story below is a first draft that Brianna wrote. The story contains mistakes. Read the story to answer questions 7–10.

Dinner with Suki

- [1] Linda was going to have a special dinner with her friend Suki.
[2] Linda was wearing a new dress, and her hair was tied with a ribbon.
[3] Linda's mother drove to Suki's house, and Linda ran inside. [4] Their car was shiny blue.
- [5] Suki showed her house to Linda. [6] Linda thought it was pretty.
[7] Pleasant smells came from the kitchen and made Linda hungry.
- [8] Soon they sat down at the table to eat. [9] Linda looked at the dishes of food. [10] The food looked different from any other she had ever seen. [11] Still, she smiled. [12] First, there was soup served in a hand-painted bowl. [13] Next, she ate some long, flat noodles covered with brown sauce.
- [14] The last dish was squid. [15] Linda was nervous about tasting it. [16] In school, she had learned that squid is seafood. [17] She knew many people liked to eat it. [18] Still, she had never tried eating it. [19] As it was placed on her plate, she wondered if she would like it. [20] The first bite was good. [21] The next bite was not as hard to chew. [22] The third bite was even easier! [23] Linda liked the entire meal. [24] She had a great new friend, and she had discovered a new food.



7 Which sentence contains a detail that is unimportant to the story?

- (A) sentence 1 (C) sentence 7
(B) sentence 4 (D) sentence 8

8 The writer wants to add the following sentence to the third paragraph of the story:

She enjoyed the tastes of the new foods.

Where should this be added to keep the events of the story in order?

- (F) after sentence 8 (H) after sentence 11
(G) after sentence 9 (I) after sentence 13

9 Which sentence below should be added after sentence 20 to support the ideas in the fourth paragraph?

- (A) She had never eaten squid before.
(B) It was hard to chew, yet she liked it.
(C) She wondered how this new dish would taste.
(D) It was kind of chewy, and she stopped eating it.

10 The writer wants to add a new paragraph to the story. Which event below should be added after the last paragraph to keep the story focused on the main idea?

- (F) Suki going to bed early
(G) Linda tying her hair with a red ribbon
(H) Linda describing the meal to her mother at home
(I) Suki waving good-bye to Linda's mother and showing Linda around the house

Janet wrote the letter below to her friend Tony. The letter contains mistakes. Read the letter to answer questions 11–14.

1639 Pinto Pony Lane
Tampa, FL 33615
August 22, 2004

Dear Tony,

→ [1] I hope you like your new house, but it's too bad you didn't stay in Grove City one more weekend. [2] The whole soccer team missed you on Saturday. [3] The Comets were the hardest team we have played all year.

→ [4] Here's how the game started. [5] Our team kicked the ball. [6] Penny kicked the ball to Matt. [7] Matt gave it a strong kick. [8] The Comets kicked it right back. [9] They kicked it down the field and into the net. [10] Our player at the net didn't see the ball until it was too late.

→ [11] At the end of the first half, Coach Brown told us not to be afraid of the other team. [12] He said we had beaten better teams before, but I couldn't remember any. [13] His talk cheered me up anyway.

→ [14] The second half was better. [15] Carlos ran around the other team and kicked the ball. [16] It went past their players into the net for our first point. [17] Then, Harvey kicked the ball to Megan, who kicked the ball into the net for another point. [18] I even kicked the ball into the net once! [19] No one has moved into your house.

→ [20] The game ended with both teams having the same score. [21] We might have won the game if you had been here. [22] Anyway, we still have the best team in town.

→ [23] Have you joined a new team yet? [24] I hope so. [25] Everyone misses you, so come back and visit us soon.

From an old friend,
Janet

- 11** Which sentence is off topic and should be taken out of the fourth paragraph?
- (A) sentence **14** (C) sentence **17**
(B) sentence **15** (D) sentence **19**
- 12** Which transition should be added to the beginning of sentence **15** to help connect the ideas in the paragraph?
- (F) Also (H) Furthermore
(G) First (I) However
- 13** Which sentence below should be added to support the ideas in the fifth paragraph?
- (A) I learned soccer rules two years ago.
(B) Moving to another city is probably fun.
(C) Saturday is my favorite day of the week.
(D) We were proud because we worked as a team.
- 14** The writer wants to add the following sentence to the letter:

He made us think we could win if we tried.

Where should this detail be added to correctly organize the ideas?

- (F) after sentence **4**
(G) after sentence **9**
(H) after sentence **13**
(I) after sentence **14**

Read the story "A Hidden Surprise." Choose the word or words that correctly complete questions 15–17.

A Hidden Surprise

Mom asked Megan and Jacob to rake the leaves. She handed rakes to (15). She gave a smaller one to (16) little brother, William. She said that a surprise was hidden in the leaves.

Megan and Jacob raked a large pile of leaves onto a blanket.

William fell back into the pile of leaves. Jacob started to get mad, but Megan just laughed. William (17) in the middle of the pile of leaves on the blanket. Megan and Jacob pulled the blanket to the backyard.

William found a blue piece of paper in the leaves. He handed the paper to Megan. She read, "We will go to Pizza World tonight! Love, Mom."



15 Which answer should go in blank (15)?

- (A) him
- (B) them
- (C) they

16 Which answer should go in blank (16)?

- (F) their
- (G) there
- (H) they're

17 Which answer should go in blank (17)?

- (A) sat
- (B) set
- (C) sit

Read and answer questions 18–22.

- 18** In which sentence below is all **punctuation** correct?
- Ⓕ My favorite fruit's are apples, pears, and watermelons.
 - Ⓖ My favorite fruits are apples pears, and watermelons?
 - Ⓗ My favorite fruits are apples, pears, and watermelons.
- 19** In which sentence below is all **capitalization** correct?
- Ⓐ Melinda's mom reminded us, "be sure to wear your helmets while riding your bikes on Elm street."
 - Ⓑ Melinda's mom reminded us, "Be sure to wear your helmets while riding your bikes on Elm Street."
 - Ⓒ Melinda's mom reminded us, "be sure to wear your helmets while riding your Bikes on elm Street."
- 20** In which sentence below is all **capitalization** correct?
- Ⓕ On the last Friday in June, Dr. Smith leaves for vacation.
 - Ⓖ On the last Friday in June, Dr. smith leaves for Vacation.
 - Ⓗ On the last Friday in june, dr. Smith leaves for vacation.

- 21 Put the ideas in the box together to create a sentence that makes sense.

**her backpack
from school
Sally unpacked
when she got home**

Which sentence below correctly combines the words from the box?

- Ⓐ Sally unpacked her backpack when she got home from school.
- Ⓑ When she got home her backpack, Sally unpacked from school.
- Ⓒ Sally unpacked when she got home from school her backpack.

- 22 Combine the sentences in the box to make one sentence.

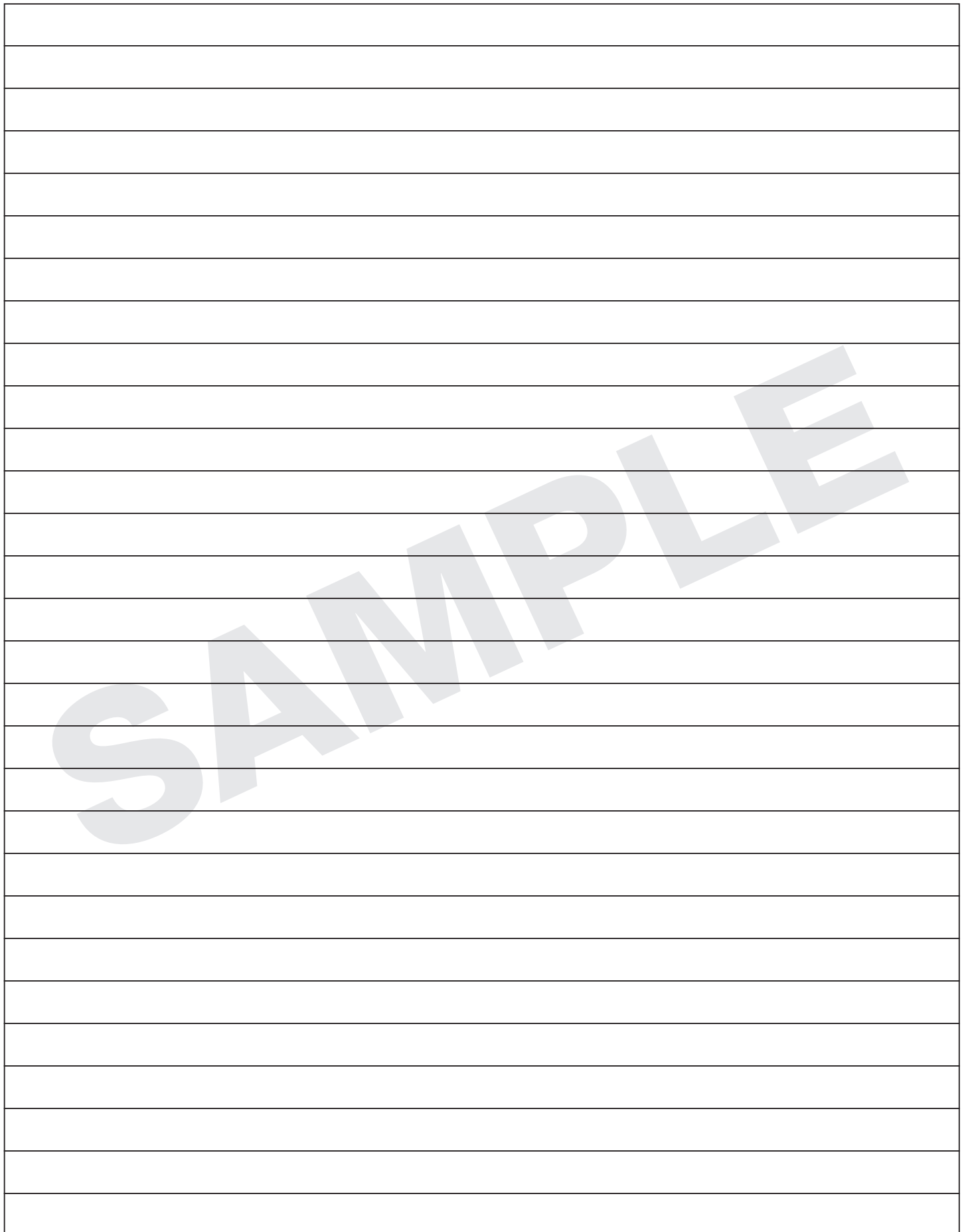
**Carla told a joke.
It was very funny.
She told it on the playground.**

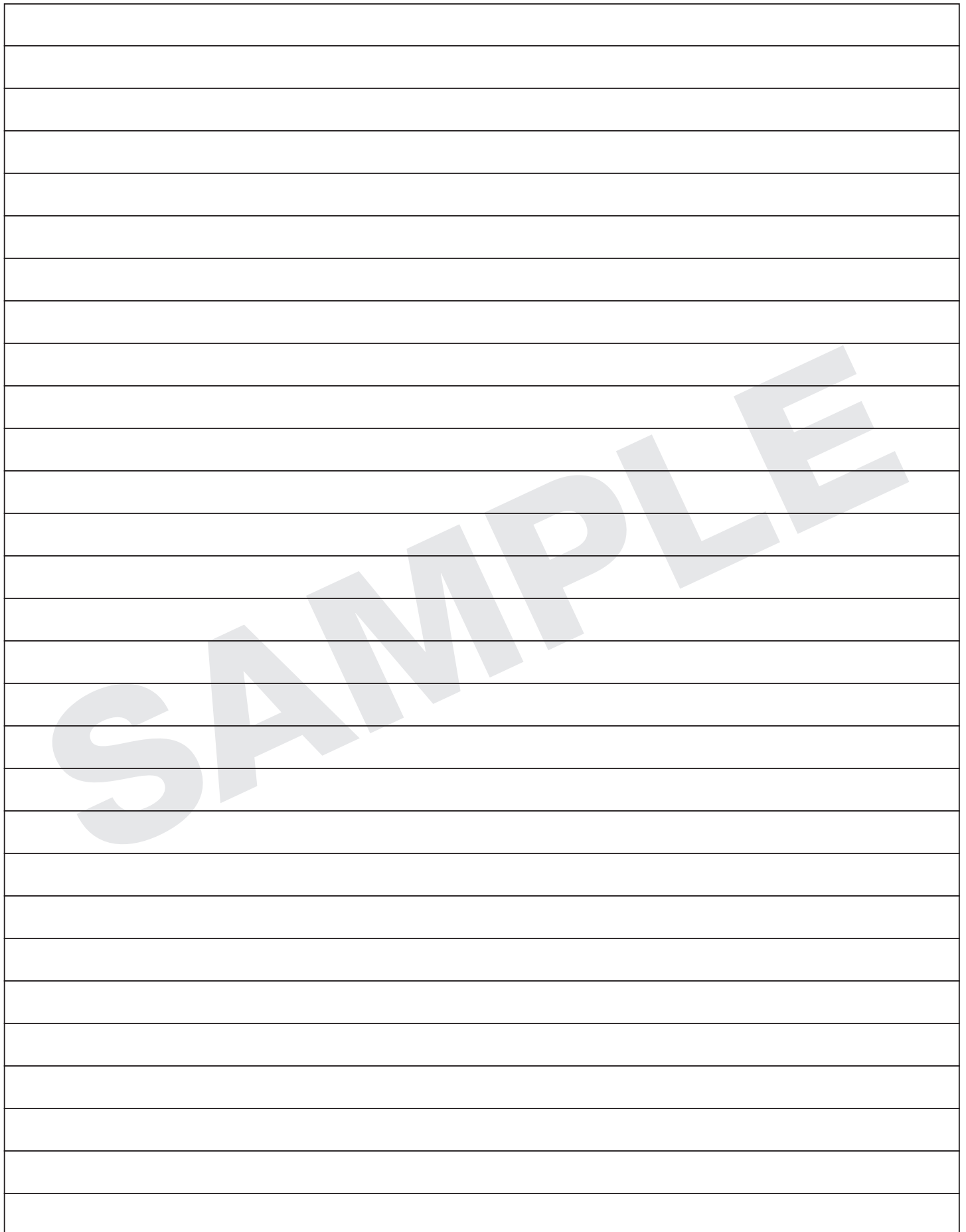
Which sentence below correctly combines the sentences in the box?

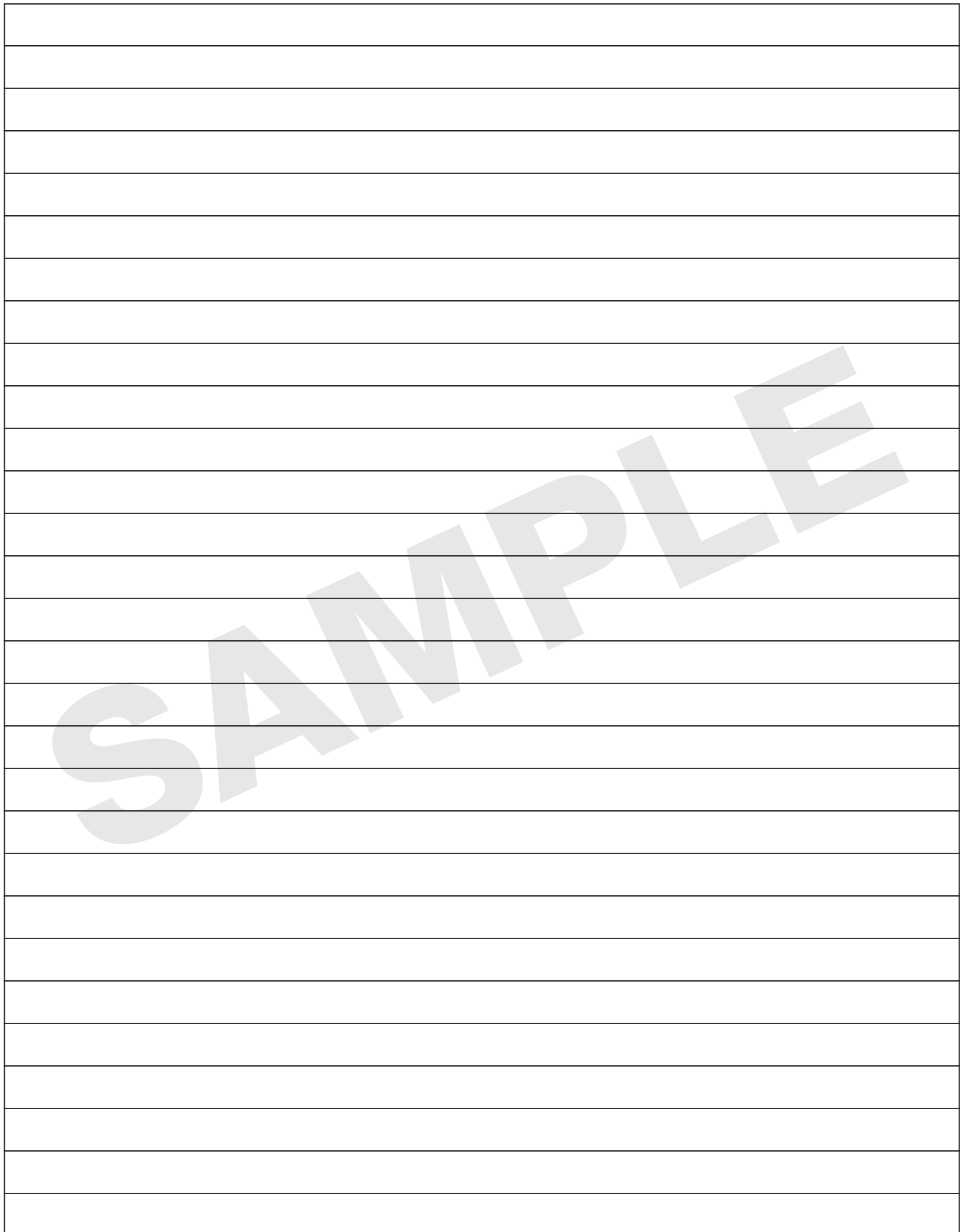
- Ⓕ Carla told a very funny joke on the playground.
- Ⓖ Carla told a very funny joke she told it on the playground.
- Ⓗ Carla told a joke and it was very funny on the playground.

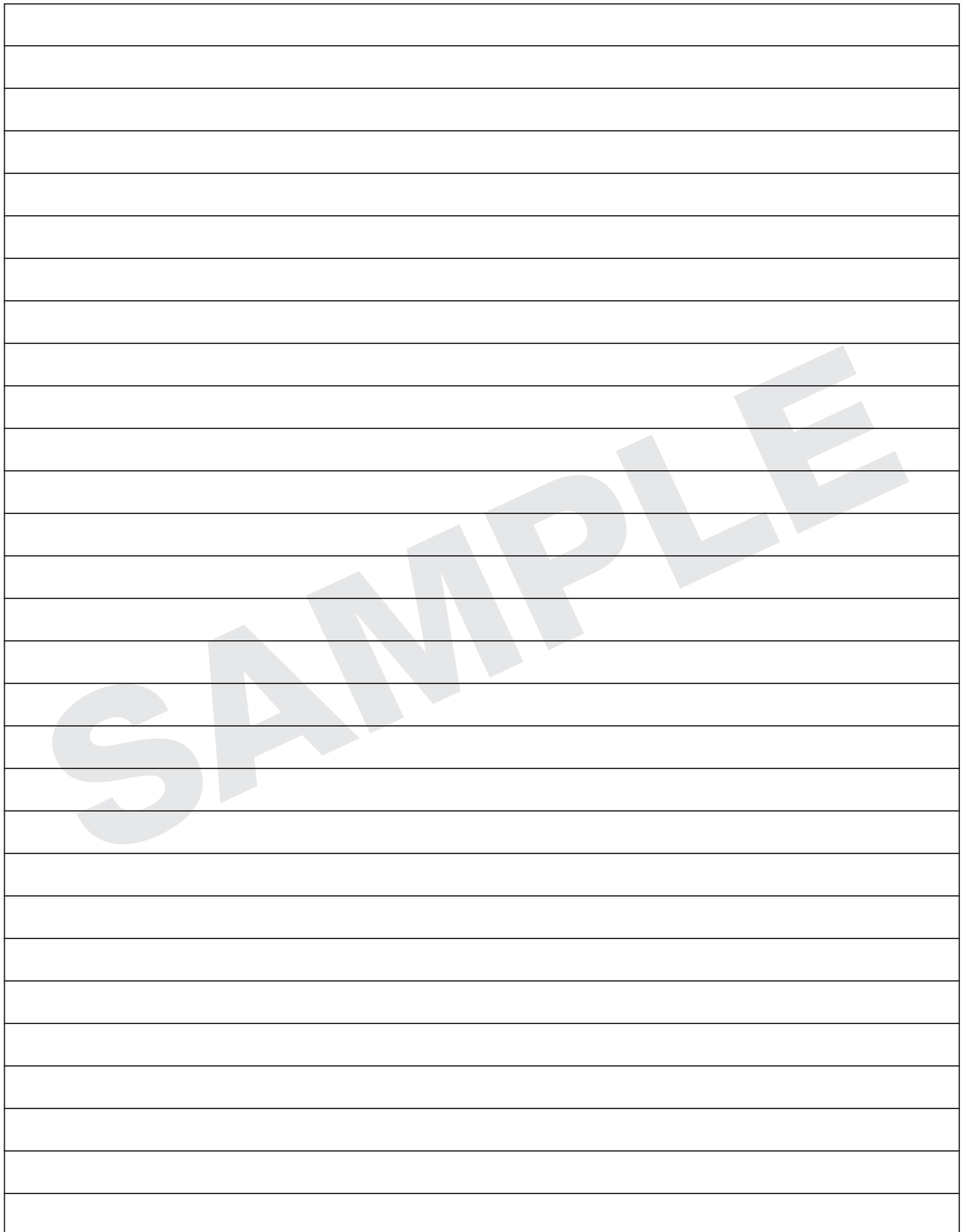


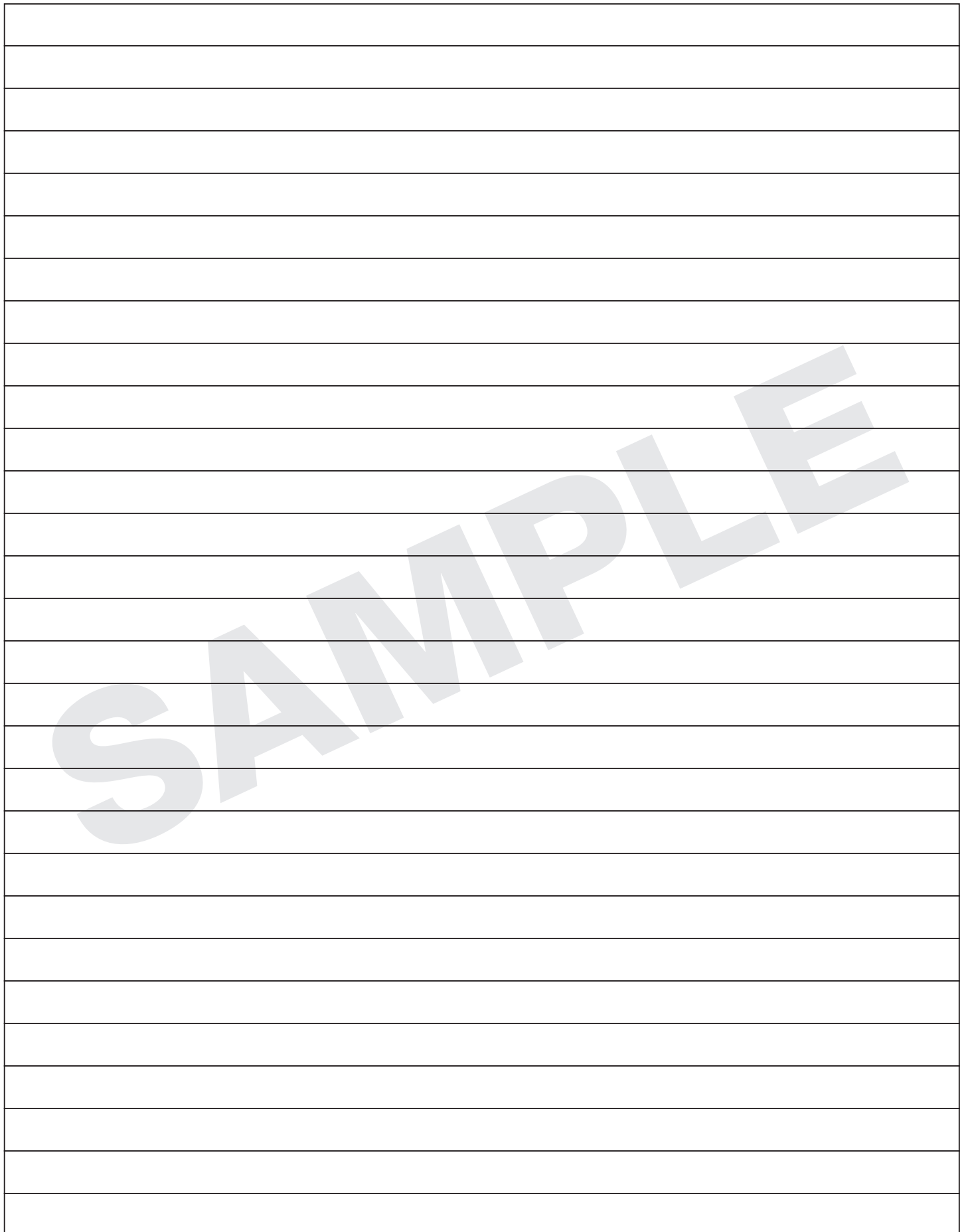
This is the end of the Writing+ Sample Test.
Until time is called, go back and check your work, or answer
questions you did not complete. When you have finished, close
your Sample Test Book.

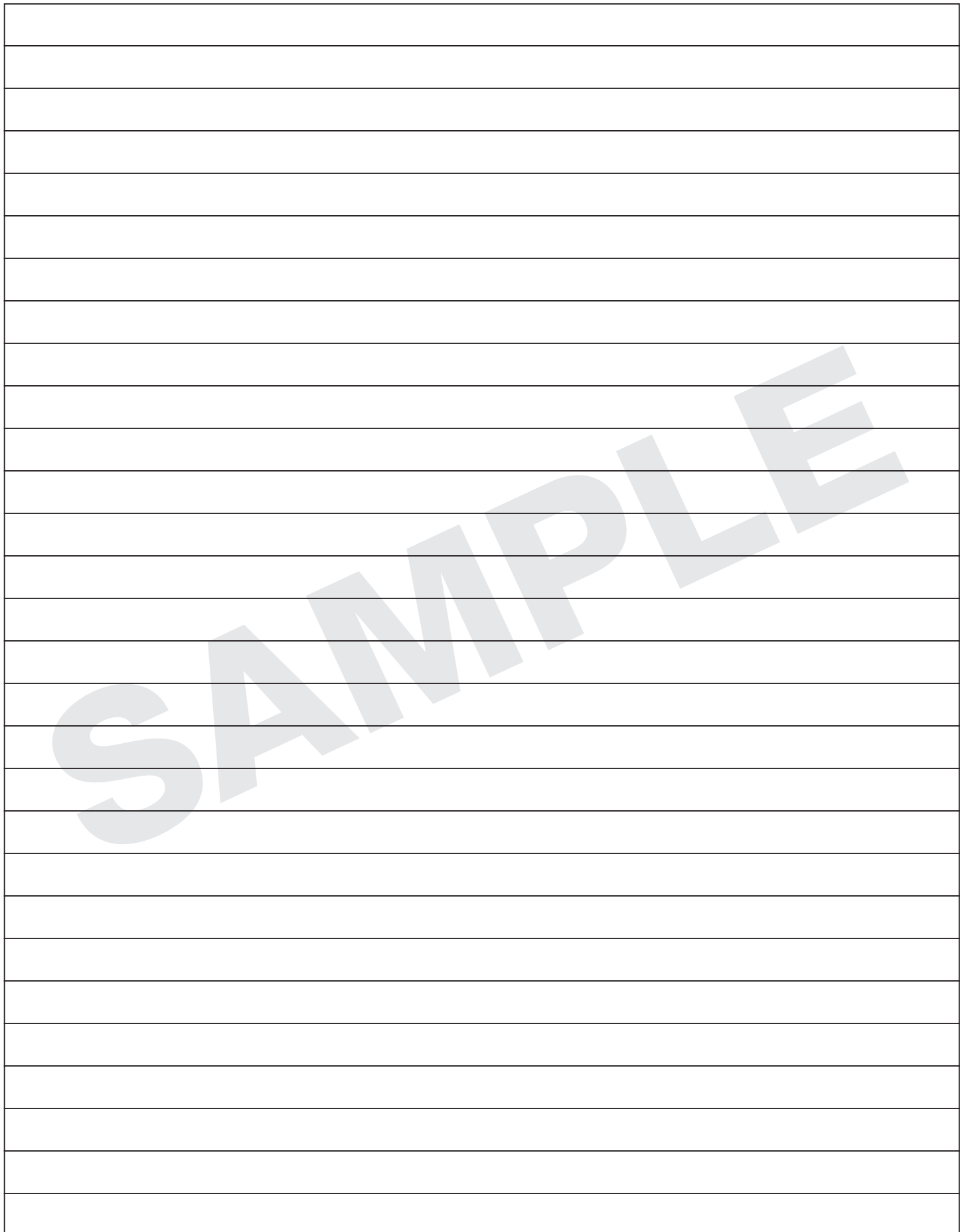














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