



New York State Testing Program

English

Language Arts Test

Book 2

Grade

8

January 16–19, 2007

Name _____

TIPS FOR TAKING THE TEST

Here are some suggestions to help you do your best:

- Be sure to read carefully all the directions in the test book.
- Plan your time.
- Read each question carefully and think about the answer before writing your response.

This test asks you to write about what you have listened to or read.

Your writing will NOT be scored on your personal opinions. It WILL be scored on:

- how clearly you organize and express your ideas
- how accurately and completely you answer the questions
- how well you support your ideas with examples
- how interesting and enjoyable your writing is
- how correctly you use grammar, spelling, punctuation, and paragraphs



Whenever you see this symbol, be sure to plan and check your writing.

Listening and Writing***D***irections

In this part of the test, you will listen to an article called “Louis Braille: A Light in the Dark.” Then you will answer questions 27 through 30 to show how well you understood what was read.

You will listen to the article twice. As you listen carefully, you may take notes on the article anytime you wish during the readings. You may use these notes to answer the questions that follow. Use the space on Pages 2 and 3 for your notes.

Go On

Notes

Notes

STOP

27

In the chart below, list **two** personal experiences that influenced Louis Braille to develop the dot system. Then explain why each experience was significant.

Experience		Why it was significant
1.		
2.		

28

Read this sentence from the article.

They know him as the man who opened more doors to reading.

Explain the meaning of this sentence. Use details from the article to support your answer.

29

Circle the personality trait you think **best** describes Louis Braille.

intelligent

determined

Explain your choice using details from the article.

Go On

Planning Page

You may PLAN your writing for question 30 here if you wish, but do NOT write your final answer on this page. Your writing on this Planning Page will NOT count toward your final score. Write your final answer on Pages 7 and 8.



Place Student Label Here



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