TEACHER EDITION

Grade 3 Editing Workbook

Editing drafts with standard English conventions

TEKS 3.11D Editing | Monday to Friday Practice | State Assessment-Style Questions | Answers and Rationales

INSIDE THIS TEACHER EDITION

The correct answer is marked for every question, with a short reason beside each answer choice.

Sample: PREPARE, Weeks 1 and 2

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How to Use This Workbook

Each week gives students short, daily editing practice with the same kinds of questions they will see on the state assessment. The weeks follow our Grade 3 scope and sequence in the same order as the Standards Slide Decks, and every excerpt comes from the low stamina passage of that week's cluster.

Day	Question	Passage excerpt
Monday	1 subject-verb agreement question	One excerpt with every error needed for Monday to Thursday
Tuesday	1 part of speech question	
Wednesday	1 capitalization question	
Thursday	1 punctuation question	
Friday	5 questions using this week's skills	A different excerpt with a new set of errors

Daily routine (about 10 minutes)

- Students read the whole excerpt in the box first. Each sentence is numbered, such as (1), (2), (3).
- Students read the question, return to the numbered sentence, and test each answer choice in the sentence.
- Students fill in one bubble. Remind them that Make no change is a real choice on the state assessment, and sometimes it is the right answer.
- Each day practices one skill at a time. Friday mixes only the skills practiced Monday to Thursday.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy pulled out her notebook. **(2)** "Mystery number one: How did this shells travel so far?"

(3) Her first clue were the shell itself. **(4)** It came from a coastal area but Poverty Point was inland.

(5) Her second clue was a map. **(6)** Emsy traced the distance from the Coast to Poverty Point with her finger. **(7)** "That is much too far for a shell to roll by itself," she said.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

● **(A)** Change *were* to *was*
Correct. The subject *clue* names one thing, so it needs the singular verb *was*: "Her first clue was the shell itself."

○ **(B)** Change *were* to *are*
Distractor. *Are* is a plural verb. It does not agree with the singular subject *clue*.

○ **(C)** Change *were* to *have been*
Distractor. *Have been* is a plural verb form. "Clue have been" does not agree; one clue needs *has* or *was*.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The plural verb *were* does not agree with the singular subject *clue*. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy pulled out her notebook. **(2)** "Mystery number one: How did this shells travel so far?"

(3) Her first clue were the shell itself. **(4)** It came from a coastal area but Poverty Point was inland.

(5) Her second clue was a map. **(6)** Emsy traced the distance from the Coast to Poverty Point with her finger. **(7)** "That is much too far for a shell to roll by itself," she said.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

○ **(A)** Change *Mystery* to *Mysteries*
Distractor. Emsy is naming one mystery, so the singular noun *Mystery* is correct. "Mysteries number one" does not make sense.

○ **(B)** Change *number* to *numbers*
Distractor. *Number one* names one number, so the singular noun *number* is correct.

● **(C)** Change *shells* to *shell*
Correct. The word *this* points to only one thing, so the singular noun *shell* is correct: "this shell."

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *This shells* does not match; *this* needs a singular noun. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy pulled out her notebook. **(2)** "Mystery number one: How did this shells travel so far?"

(3) Her first clue were the shell itself. **(4)** It came from a coastal area but Poverty Point was inland.

(5) Her second clue was a map. **(6)** Emsy traced the distance from the Coast to Poverty Point with her finger. **(7)** "That is much too far for a shell to roll by itself," she said.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?

○ **(A)** Change *Emsy* to *emsy*
Distractor. *Emsy* is a name, a proper noun, and it begins the sentence, so it keeps its capital letter.

● **(B)** Change *Coast* to *coast*
Correct. *Coast* is a common noun. It names any coast, not one special place, so it does not begin with a capital letter in the middle of a sentence.

○ **(C)** Change *Poverty Point* to *poverty point*
Distractor. *Poverty Point* is the name of one special place, a proper noun, so both words keep their capital letters.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *Coast* should not be capitalized. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy pulled out her notebook. **(2)** "Mystery number one: How did this shells travel so far?"

(3) Her first clue were the shell itself. **(4)** It came from a coastal area but Poverty Point was inland.

(5) Her second clue was a map. **(6)** Emsy traced the distance from the Coast to Poverty Point with her finger. **(7)** "That is much too far for a shell to roll by itself," she said.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?

○ **(A)** Insert a comma after *came*
Distractor. A comma after *came* would split the verb from the words that finish the thought.

● **(B)** Insert a comma after *area*
Correct. Sentence 4 joins two complete sentences with the conjunction *but*. A comma belongs before *but*, after *area*.

○ **(C)** Change the period after *inland* to a question mark
Distractor. Sentence 4 tells something. It does not ask a question, so it ends with a period.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. A compound sentence needs a comma before the conjunction. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) "One traveling object could be an accident" Emsy thought. **(2)** "But several objects from distant places makes a pattern."

(3) She wrote one last questions in her notebook: Why would people bring these things so far?

(4) The answer was Scarcity. **(5)** People did not always have every resource they wanted or needed where they lived. **(6)** They could trade what they had for valuable goods from other places.

1 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

○ **(A)** Change *object* to *objects*
Distractor. The word *One* tells us there is only one, so the singular noun *object* must stay. "One traveling objects" does not match.

● **(B)** Insert a comma after *accident*
Correct. When a quotation that tells something comes before the speaker, a comma ends the quoted words, inside the quotation marks: "…an accident," Emsy thought.

○ **(C)** Change *Emsy* to *emsy*
Distractor. *Emsy* is a name, a proper noun, so it keeps its capital letter.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The quotation needs a comma before the closing quotation mark. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

2 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

○ **(A)** Change *objects* to *object*
Distractor. The word *several* means more than one, so the plural noun *objects* must stay. "Several object" does not match.

○ **(B)** Insert a comma after *objects*
Distractor. A comma after *objects* would split the subject from the words *from distant places* that tell about it.

● **(C)** Change *makes* to *make*
Correct. The subject *objects* is plural, so it needs the plural verb *make*: "several objects…make a pattern."

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The singular verb *makes* does not agree with the plural subject *objects*. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Use the selection on the front of this page to answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

3 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

● **(A)** Change *questions* to *question*
Correct. The words *one last* tell us there is only one, so the singular noun *question* is correct.

○ **(B)** Change *Why* to *why*
Distractor. *Why* begins the question Emsy wrote after the colon, so it keeps its capital letter.

○ **(C)** Change the question mark after *far* to a period
Distractor. Emsy wrote a question, *Why would people bring these things so far?* A question ends with a question mark.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *One last questions* does not match. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

4 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?

○ **(A)** Change *was* to *were*
Distractor. The subject *answer* is singular, so the singular verb *was* is correct. *Were* does not agree.

● **(B)** Change *Scarcity* to *scarcity*
Correct. *Scarcity* is a common noun in the middle of the sentence, so it does not begin with a capital letter.

○ **(C)** Change the period after *Scarcity* to a question mark
Distractor. Sentence 4 tells something. It does not ask a question, so it ends with a period.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *Scarcity* should not be capitalized. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

5 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?

○ **(A)** Change *They* to *they*
Distractor. *They* is the first word of the sentence, so it must keep its capital letter.

○ **(B)** Change *places* to *place*
Distractor. *Other places* names more than one place, so the plural noun is correct. "From other place" is missing a word.

○ **(C)** Insert a comma after *trade*
Distractor. A comma after *trade* would split the verb from the words *what they had* that finish the thought.

● **(D)** Make no change
Correct. Sentence 6 is already correct. *They* begins the sentence with a capital letter, *other places* correctly names more than one place, and no comma is needed. On the state assessment, Make no change is sometimes the right answer.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy smiled and wrote her final claim:

(2) The seashell probably reached Poverty Point through long-distance trade.

(3) Underneath, she listed her evidence: the shell came from the coast Poverty Point was far inland, people traveled along major rivers, and other distant materials had been found there too.

(4) Mystery solved.

(5) Emsy looked at the shell again. **(6)** It were more than an object.

(7) It was a clues from the past and a story waiting to speak.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?

○ **(A)** Change *were* to *are*
Distractor. *Are* is a plural verb. "It are" does not agree.

○ **(B)** Change *were* to *have been*
Distractor. *Have been* is a plural verb form. "It have been" does not agree; *It* needs *has* or *was*.

● **(C)** Change *were* to *was*
Correct. The subject *It* is singular, so it needs the singular verb *was*: "It was more than an object."

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The plural verb *were* does not agree with the singular subject *It*. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy smiled and wrote her final claim:

(2) The seashell probably reached Poverty Point through long-distance trade.

(3) Underneath, she listed her evidence: the shell came from the coast Poverty Point was far inland, people traveled along major rivers, and other distant materials had been found there too.

(4) Mystery solved.

(5) Emsy looked at the shell again. **(6)** It were more than an object.

(7) It was a clues from the past and a story waiting to speak.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 7?

○ **(A)** Change *story* to *stories*
Distractor. The word *a* comes before *story*, so it must stay singular. "A stories" does not match.

● **(B)** Change *clues* to *clue*
Correct. The word *a* tells us there is only one, so the singular noun *clue* is correct: "a clue from the past."

○ **(C)** Change *past* to *pasts*
Distractor. *The past* names one time, the time before now, so it stays singular.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *A clues* does not match; *a* needs a singular noun. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy smiled and wrote her final claim:

(2) The seashell probably reached Poverty Point through long-distance trade.

(3) Underneath, she listed her evidence: the shell came from the coast Poverty Point was far inland, people traveled along major rivers, and other distant materials had been found there too.

(4) Mystery solved.

(5) Emsy looked at the shell again. **(6)** It were more than an object.

(7) It was a clues from the past and a story waiting to speak.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

○ **(A)** Change *seashell* to *Seashell*
Distractor. *Seashell* is a common noun in the middle of the sentence, so it stays lowercase.

○ **(B)** Change *Poverty Point* to *poverty point*
Distractor. *Poverty Point* is a proper noun, the name of one special place, so both words keep their capital letters.

○ **(C)** Change *trade* to *Trade*
Distractor. *Trade* is a common noun, so it stays lowercase.

● **(D)** Make no change
Correct. Sentence 2 is already correct. *Seashell* and *trade* are common nouns and stay lowercase, and *Poverty Point* is the name of a special place, so it keeps its capital letters. On the state assessment, Make no change is sometimes the right answer.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Emsy smiled and wrote her final claim:

(2) The seashell probably reached Poverty Point through long-distance trade.

(3) Underneath, she listed her evidence: the shell came from the coast Poverty Point was far inland, people traveled along major rivers, and other distant materials had been found there too.

(4) Mystery solved.

(5) Emsy looked at the shell again. **(6)** It were more than an object.

(7) It was a clues from the past and a story waiting to speak.

What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

○ **(A)** Insert a comma after *evidence*
Distractor. A colon already follows *evidence* to introduce the list. A comma there is not needed.

○ **(B)** Insert a comma after *shell*
Distractor. A comma after *shell* would split the subject from its verb *came*.

● **(C)** Insert a comma after *coast*
Correct. Emsy lists four pieces of evidence in a series. A comma must separate each item, so a comma belongs after *coast*.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The first two items in the series run together. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

The Mystery of the Traveling Shell

(1) Her third clue were even more interesting. **(2)** The map showed large rivers, including the Mississippi and ohio Rivers. **(3)** People at Poverty Point traveled along rivers, which could have helped them move from place to places.

(4) Then emsy found her fourth clue. **(5)** Archaeologists had discovered other materials at Poverty Point, including copper that also came from far away?

1 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 1?

○ **(A)** Change *Her* to *her*
Distractor. *Her* is the first word of the sentence, so it must keep its capital letter.

● **(B)** Change *were* to *was*
Correct. The subject *clue* is singular, so it needs the singular verb *was*.

○ **(C)** Insert a comma after *clue*
Distractor. A comma after *clue* would split the subject from its verb.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. The plural verb *were* does not agree with the singular subject *clue*. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

2 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 2?

○ **(A)** Change *rivers* to *river*
Distractor. The map shows more than one river, the Mississippi and the Ohio, so the plural *rivers* is correct. "Large river" is also missing a word.

○ **(B)** Change *showed* to *show*
Distractor. The subject *map* is singular. "The map show" does not agree; the past tense *showed* is correct.

● **(C)** Change *ohio* to *Ohio*
Correct. *Ohio* is part of the name of a real river, the Ohio River, so it must begin with a capital letter, just like *Mississippi*.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *ohio* is a proper noun that needs a capital letter. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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Use the selection on the front of this page to answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

3 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?

○ **(A)** Change *People* to *people*
Distractor. *People* is the first word of the sentence, so it must keep its capital letter.

● **(B)** Change *places* to *place*
Correct. *From place to place* means moving from one place to another place, so both nouns are singular: "from place to place."

○ **(C)** Insert a comma after *Point*
Distractor. A comma after *Point* would split the subject *People at Poverty Point* from its verb *traveled*.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *From place to places* does not match. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

4 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 4?

● **(A)** Change *emsy* to *Emsy*
Correct. *Emsy* is a name, a proper noun, so it must begin with a capital letter.

○ **(B)** Change *clue* to *clues*
Distractor. The word *fourth* names one clue in order, so the singular noun *clue* is correct.

○ **(C)** Change the period after *clue* to a question mark
Distractor. Sentence 4 tells something. It does not ask a question, so it ends with a period.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. *emsy* is a name that needs a capital letter. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

5 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?

○ **(A)** Change *had* to *has*
Distractor. The subject *Archaeologists* is plural. *Has* is singular, so it does not agree; *had* works with any subject.

○ **(B)** Change *copper* to *Copper*
Distractor. *Copper* is a common noun, the name of a metal, so it stays lowercase.

● **(C)** Change the question mark after *away* to a period
Correct. Sentence 5 tells something. It does not ask a question, so it must end with a period.

○ **(D)** Make no change
Distractor. A telling sentence cannot end with a question mark. There is an error in this sentence, so Make no change is wrong.

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