Part 1 Reading Comprehension

Directions: Read the selection and answer the questions.

Winning is Her Goal By Marty Kaminsky

1 Mia Hamm may be the best soccer player in the world. She has scored more goals than anyone else. But it doesn't matter to her how many times she scores, as long as her team is successful.

2 "I want to do whatever I can to help the team win," she says. "If that means working on defense and not getting a shot on goal, that's fine with me." 3 Mia started playing soccer when she was six. Her parents brought her to a ballet class, but Mia didn't like it. She wanted to play with her older brother Garrett instead. She was lucky that Garret didn't mind taking her along when he played with other kids. So she never went back to ballet after that first class. 4 "Garrett always picked me for his teams," Mia says. "No one else would pick me because I was a quiet little girl. Boy, did they regret it." 5 Mia's family moved often because of her father's job in the Air Force, and Mia found that taking part



Mia Hamm playing the sport she loves

in soccer, basketball, and baseball helped her meet new kids. "Sports helped me develop friendships and made it easier to fit in," she says. "It also helped me to build confidence in myself." 6 Mia became so good at soccer that in 1987 she was invited to join the United States team. She was only fifteen. No one that young had ever played on the national team. But Mia's hard work and great speed helped her become a valuable member of the team. Coach Tony DiCicco says Mia is quiet and shy off the soccer field. "But when she steps onto the field, she is intense and she can be a vocal leader," says Mr. DiCicco, who coached the U.S. team that won the Women's World Cup in 1999. 8 There is no doubt that Mia Hamm is one of the best soccer players ever. She is also one of the most unselfish players. 9 "Every coach would love to have their star player fit in as well as Miadoes," says Coach DiCicco. "All she wants is to be a part of the team, whether she scores three goals or doesn't score at all."

- 1 Which sentence from the selection is an opinion?
 - O A. She is also one of the most unselfish players.
 - O B. She has scored more goals than anyone else.
 - O C. Mia started playing soccer when she was six.
 - O D. No one that young had ever played on the national team.
- 2 Read the sentence below from paragraph 7 and provide a synonym for the word intense.

But when she steps onto the field, she is *intense* and she can be a vocal leader.

Synonym: _____

- 3 According to the selection, how is Mia's personality off the soccer field different than her personality on the soccer field?
 - O A. Off the soccer field Mia is intense; on the soccer field Mia is shy.
 - O B. Off the soccer field Mia is shy; on the soccer field Mia is intense.
 - O C. Off the soccer field Mia is friendly; on the soccer field Mia is selfish.
 - O D. Off the soccer field Mia is unselfish; on the soccer field Mia is quiet.
- 5 Which sentence best summarizes the selection?
 - O A. Mia's training with Coach DiCicco taught her to work hard and be part of a team.
 - O B. Mia's travels with her family gave her the opportunity to play soccer in many countries.
 - O C. Mia's experience playing sports growing up helped her become a world-class soccer player.
 - O D. Mia's participation in ballet class gave her confidence to try out for the Unites States Soccer Team.
- 6 Who might benefit most from reading this selection?
 - O A. A young person who wants to learn how to play soccer
 - O B. A young person who wants to study the importance of teamwork
 - O C. A young person who wants to read about the Women's World Cup
 - O D. A young person who wants to score more soccer goals than other players

Part 2 Proofreading

Proofread this story. Correct any errors.

scientist cant take their eyes off them. Why. because chameleons are such interesting lizards. Not only do chameleons have an amazing talent for changing color, they also have one of The fastest and most powerful tongues in the animal kingdom. Chameleons spend a graet deal of their life sitting still. but them are expert at catching fast-moving insects for food. and chameleons are unusaull in the way they get their food. They don't use jaws or claws to catch ther prey, as many animals do. Chameleons use their fast and powerful tongue .

Answer Key

<u>scientists</u> can't take their eyes off them. Why? <u>B</u>ecause chameleons are such interesting lizards. Not only do chameleons have an amazing talent for changing <u>colors</u>, they also have one of <u>the</u> fastest and most powerful tongues in the animal kingdom. Chameleons spend a <u>great</u> deal of their <u>lives</u> sitting still. <u>But <u>they</u> are <u>experts</u> at catching fast-moving insects for food. <u>A</u>nd chameleons are <u>unusual</u> in the way they get their food. They don't use jaws or claws to catch <u>their</u> prey, as many animals do. Chameleons use their fast and powerful <u>tongues</u>.</u>

Part 3 Parts of Speech

Directions: On the line to the left, write the part of speech of the underlined word.

8 parts of speech:

Noun, adverb, conjunction, pronoun, preposition, interjection, verb, adjective

- 1. _____They attended the <u>concert</u> last weekend.
- 2. _____Several cats ran into Rob's garage.
- 3. _____The truck driver delivered the package <u>quickly</u>.
- 4. _____ Fast runners won all the awards at the track meet.
- 5. _____My friend and I <u>walked</u> home after school.
- 6. _____I wanted a peanut butter and jelly sandwich for lunch.
- 7. _____ She was counting the ballots during civics class.
- 8. _____ Hey! That was my seat.
- 9. _____Will they finish the <u>test</u> on time?
- 10. _____The diagram was <u>fairly</u> complicated.

- 11. _____He will practice his musical piece soon.
- 12. _____Ronnie saw the awesome sight from the <u>air</u>.
- 13. _____Her sister is the <u>oldest</u> member of the group.
- 14. _____ <u>Check</u> the score, Tom.
- 15. _____Will the <u>students</u> find the answers themselves?
- 16. _____The child asked for the bike and the <u>scooter</u>.
- 17. _____ They slowly carried the couch <u>down</u> the stairs.
- 18. _____Sherry talked on the phone until midnight.
- 19. _____ Hurray! Our team has finally scored a goal.
- 20. _____ The troops scattered throughout the woods.

In each sentence one noun is missing. Write one noun to complete the sentence.

12. The ape swung from the (your noun).	13. I have read one <u>(your noun)</u> of my book.
14. The vulture's <u>(your noun)</u> helped him grab the little animal.	15. (your noun) was proud to escort Julie to the school dance.

Circle the form of <u>the verb be</u> that best completes each sentence.

- 1. The balloons at the circus (was, were) free.
- 2. My parents (was, were) filled with bliss when they learned that they had won a free vacation.
- 3. The new pants I bought (was, were) too long, so I took them to a tailor to alter.
- 4. The pickle (was, were) very sour.
- 5. The thunder (was, were) so loud that it shook our house.

Write whether the underlined word is a *noun* or a *verb*.

21.	It is very interesting to watch the clowns practice their <u>skits</u> .
22.	Thoughts of chocolate <u>began</u> to invade my mind after I saw the commercial on the television.
23.	Some countries <u>have</u> a prime minister instead of a president.

Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

- 16. Joe and Rick will come with (they, them).
- 17. We bought some persimmons, because (they, them) were in season.
- 18. Shattered by their daughter's death, their pain will always be with (they, them).
- 19. John gave his dogs a bath and (they, them) didn't like it at all.
- 20. When my brothers disappear, (they, them) are usually doing something wrong.

Part 4 Writing Sample

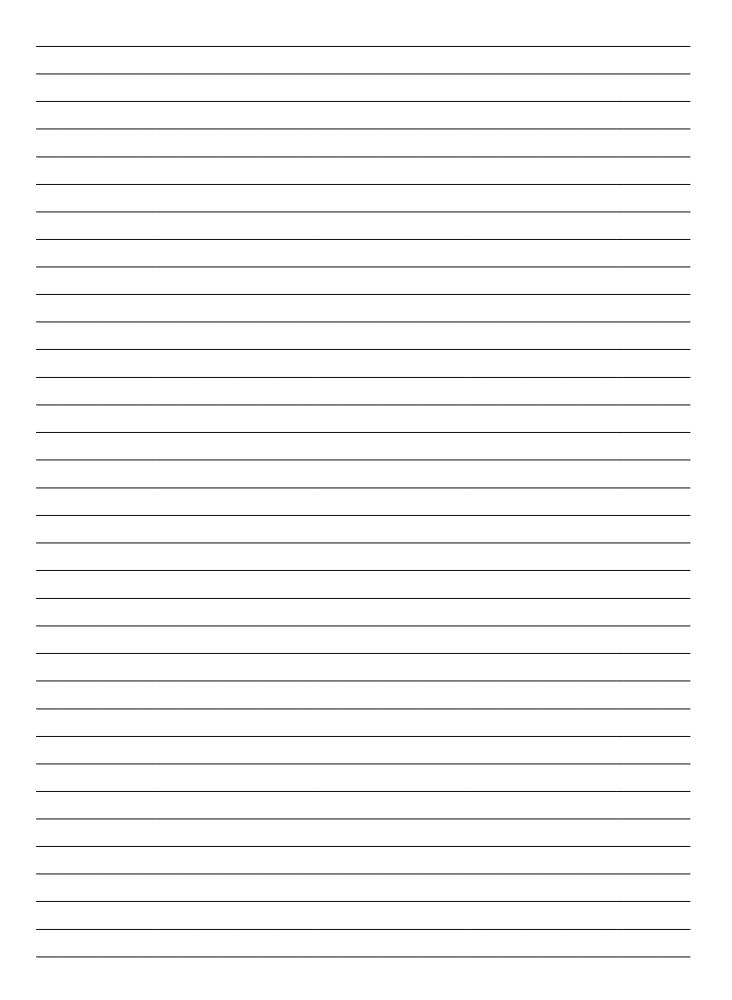
HomeConnection Writing Sheet 6th Grade

Student Name _____Today's Date _____

Expository Prompt: A New Skill or Talent

Imagine you could wake up tomorrow with a new skill or talent, such as the ability to play basketball, to play an instrument, to speak another language, or to do something else. What new skill or talent would you choose? Write a multiple paragraph essay for your teacher identifying the skill or talent and <u>explaining</u> why you would choose it.

Use this space to plan your essay



Part 5 Reading Fluency

The Grand Canyon

1 minute Reading Fluency

What is one of the world's biggest holes in the ground? It's more than a mile deep and almost three hundred miles long, and more than ten miles wide at some points. If you guessed the Grand Canyon, you're right. The Grand Canyon is an enormous gorge carved over millions of years by the Colorado River in northwestern Arizona. Among the world's great tourist attractions, the Grand Canyon is walled by colorful strata, or layers, of rock dating back millions of years. The reds, pinks, and yellows in the rock are the result of traces of different minerals. Most tourists visit the South Rim of the canyon, where there are hotels and many trails to explore. Bright Angel Trail is a popular hiking trail. The South Rim is open year round to visitors. The North Rim is cooler and quieter than the South Rim but is open only six months of the year. The only ways to reach the inner canyon are by foot, on mule, or by raft on the Colorado River. Visitors can take daylong raft trips over smooth water or weeklong trips that include rolling rapids. Almost two hundred years ago, American John Wesley Powell led the first successful trip through the canyon. He and ten other men traveled down the river in four small boats, braving waters that had never been mapped.

Native Americans were the first to live and work in the canyon, more than eight hundred years ago. They lived in rock pueblos on both rims of the canyon, hunting and fishing, growing crops, making pottery, and weaving baskets. Wildlife is abundant in the canyon. Hundreds of kinds of birds live there, as well as bighorn sheep, mule deer, beavers, bats, snakes, lizards, and frogs. There are also many types of trees, cacti, and wildflowers. You can see that the Grand Canyon is much more than just a big hole in the ground. It is an amazing site, alive with stories of the past and present that are written on the rock, on the land, and on the river.

HomeConnection Reading Fluency Standards

Grade Level	Fall WPM 50-60th percentile	Spring WPM 50-60 th percentile
Grade 1	20-25	40-50
Grade 2	50-70	80-90
Grade 3	70-90	100-110
Grade 4	100-110	120-130
Grade 5	115-125	130-140
Grade 6	130-140	150-170
Grade 7	130-140	160-170

(correct words per min)