

# FSA 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Sample Prompt

Also available on the FSA Assessments Practice Test link

## FSA ELA Writing Practice Test

Read the "Goofs and Great Inventions" passage set.

### Goofs and Great Inventions

#### Lost Cities, Lost Treasure

In 1871, an adventurer named Heinrich Schliemann started digging in the ground of a Turkish city, seeking the lost land of Troy. Schliemann, a businessman and scholar, was born in Germany in 1822. As a young man he dreamed of discovering the treasures of the ancient world, and even made a plan for it when he was nine years old.

His youthful sense of adventure eventually brought him to California, where he made a fortune in the gold rush. With his profits, he began his second career in archaeology.

Archaeology was still a young science in the 1800s. In fact, it was hardly a science at all. The promise of treasure and adventure in foreign lands attracted people like Schliemann. Like a lot of treasure hunters, Schliemann was smart, curious—and hungry for gold or fame. On the other hand, he loved ancient cultures, especially Greek culture. He loved learning and traveling. By the end of his life, he spoke 13 languages, including his native German. He loved Greek history and culture so much that he and his wife Sophie named their children Agamemnon and Andromache.

There was another, less likeable side to Schliemann. He has been described as a trickster who didn't always tell the truth. He was known for changing or making up details in his stories of discovery. He wrote a thrilling account of his experience in the San Francisco fire of 1849—even though he was nowhere near San Francisco at the time. And as much as he loved antiquities and learning, his love of attention and money were equally strong. They may have been too strong in the end.

In 1868 he had been seeking the lost city of Troy for many years. He found out that a British archaeologist named Frank Calvert owned part of a site in Turkey. It was near the modern town of Canakkale. Calvert believed that ancient Troy was founded at this site. He did not have the funds to dig or discover for himself. Schliemann agreed to fund and share in the work.

Calvert was very different from Schliemann. He was self-taught, modest, and liked to keep his discoveries quiet. He was serious about protecting the artifacts he found. He did not have enough money of

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his own to carry out his work. He had to rely on Schliemann's funds. This proved disastrous for him, and perhaps even worse for the remains of Troy.

By 1871, Schliemann had started digging up Troy his way. He was convinced he knew exactly how far down to dig, and how to get there. He had workers open up huge trenches in the earth, shoveling out layers of debris and artifacts that had lain undisturbed for centuries. Although he and Calvert both discovered treasure, the damage done to the site was profound. Today, archaeologists believe that the historic Troy that the Greek poet Homer described was in a layer much higher up. We will never know for sure.

Schliemann's careless actions erased important clues to Troy's past. Schliemann took the credit for what was found, and Calvert's contribution was almost forgotten. Calvert's family is still fighting to give him full credit for finding ancient Troy. Schliemann is remembered not only as a great explorer but also for being dishonest. Yet both men discovered great things at the site: ancient axes, household items, and jewels. Together, they did prove there had been an ancient city called Troy. The gold and other precious items they found are now in the Pushkin Museum in Moscow, Russia. Was the find worth the damage it caused to the site?

"Lost Cities, Lost Treasure." Written for educational purposes.

#### How a Melted Bar of Chocolate Changed Our Kitchens

Percy Spencer never set out to help you cook your dinner in only 5 minutes. All he did was carry a bar of chocolate in his pocket onto the factory floor. What he discovered that day was more than how to get chocolate stains out of your clothes. He discovered a completely new way to cook.

The events leading up to the most powerful melted candy in the world gives us a clue to the kind of person Percy Spencer was. He was born in the town of Howland, Maine in 1894. As a boy, he liked to tinker and discover how things worked. His uncle was handy with machines, and taught Spencer a lot about them. When a log hauler broke down outside their house, the young boy had fun watching and helping while his uncle worked to fix the truck.

# Sample Fsa Writing Prompt

**Terry C. Jones**



**Sample Fsa Writing Prompt:**

## Reviewing **Sample Fsa Writing Prompt**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is truly astonishing. Within the pages of "**Sample Fsa Writing Prompt**," an enthralling opus penned by a very acclaimed wordsmith, readers embark on an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve to the book is central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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### **Table of Contents Sample Fsa Writing Prompt**

1. Understanding the eBook Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - The Rise of Digital Reading Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt User Reviews and Ratings

- Sample Fsa Writing Prompt and Bestseller Lists
- 5. Accessing Sample Fsa Writing Prompt Free and Paid eBooks
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt Public Domain eBooks
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt eBook Subscription Services
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating Sample Fsa Writing Prompt eBook Formats
  - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt Compatibility with Devices
  - Sample Fsa Writing Prompt Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Interactive Elements Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
- 8. Staying Engaged with Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Setting Reading Goals Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Sample Fsa Writing Prompt
  - Distinguishing Credible Sources

13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
  - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
  - Exploring Educational eBooks
14. Embracing eBook Trends
  - Integration of Multimedia Elements
  - Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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