

City or country?

Some people think the country is the best place to live.

Others think it is better to live in a city.

What do you think? Where is the best place to live?

Perhaps you think both places are good for different reasons.

Write to convince a reader of your opinions.

- **Start with an introduction.**

An introduction lets a reader know what you are going to write about.

- **Write your opinions on this topic.**

Give reasons for your opinions.

Explain your reasons for your opinions.

- **Finish with a conclusion.**

A conclusion sums up your reasons so that a reader is convinced of your opinions.

Remember to:

- plan your writing
- use paragraphs to organise your ideas
- write in sentences
- choose your words carefully to convince a reader of your opinion
- pay attention to your spelling and punctuation
- check and edit your writing so it is clear .

The Box

Today you are going to write a narrative or story.

The idea for your story is “The Box”.

What is inside the box? How did it get there?
Is it valuable? Perhaps it is alive!

The box might reveal a message or something that was hidden.

What happens in your story if the box is opened?

Think about:

- the characters and where they are
- the complication or problem to be solved
- how the story will end.

Remember to:

- plan your story before you start
- write in sentences
- pay attention to the words you choose, your spelling and punctuation, and paragraphs
- check and edit your writing when you have finished.



Narrative writing

Marking criterion	Description of narrative writing marking criterion
Audience	The writer's capacity to orient, engage and affect the reader
Text structure	The organisation of narrative features including orientation, complication and resolution into an appropriate and effective text structure
Ideas	The creation, selection and crafting of ideas for a narrative
Character and setting	Character: The portrayal and development of character Setting: The development of a sense of place, time and atmosphere
Vocabulary	The range and precision of contextually appropriate language choices
Cohesion	The control of multiple threads and relationships across the text, achieved through the use of grammatical elements (referring words, text connectives, conjunctions) and lexical elements (substitutions, repetitions, word associations)
Paragraphing	The segmenting of text into paragraphs that assists the reader to negotiate the narrative
Sentence structure	The production of grammatically correct, structurally sound and meaningful sentences
Punctuation	The use of correct and appropriate punctuation to aid the reading of the text
Spelling	The accuracy of spelling and the difficulty of the words used

Persuasive writing

Marking criterion	Description of persuasive writing marking criterion
Audience	The writer's capacity to orient, engage and persuade the reader
Text structure	The organisation of the structural components of a persuasive text (introduction, body and conclusion) into an appropriate and effective text structure
Ideas	The selection, relevance and elaboration of ideas for a persuasive argument
Persuasive devices	The use of a range of persuasive devices to enhance the writer's position and persuade the reader
Vocabulary	The range and precision of contextually appropriate language choices
Cohesion	The control of multiple threads and relationships across the text, achieved through the use of grammatical elements (referring words, text connectives, conjunctions) and lexical elements (substitutions, repetitions, word associations)
Paragraphing	The segmenting of text into paragraphs that assists the reader to follow the line of argument
Sentence structure	The production of grammatically correct, structurally sound and meaningful sentences
Punctuation	The use of correct and appropriate punctuation to aid the reading of the text
Spelling	The accuracy of spelling and the difficulty of the words used

YEAR

9

Example test

LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

0:45

Time available for students to
complete test: 45 minutes

Use 2B or HB
pencil only

Do not write on this page.

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been circled.
Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

1

The nineteenth-century bilding was heritage listed.

1

2

The bravary of our lifesavers at the beach is legendary.

2

3

Doing daily sit-ups is an excellent way to strengthen the stummick muscles.

3

4

It was the begining of the school year.

4

5

Tiny particals of dust were floating in the sunlight.

5

6

When Kim saw the advertisment on television, she knew what she wanted for her birthday.

6

7

The hostel was not big enough to acommidate all the backpackers.

7

8

All donations to charities are greatfully received.

8

9

Nurses take a consientous approach to patient care.

9

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *The Christmas Island red crab*.

The spelling mistakes have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

The Christmas Island red crab

- 10** Christmas Island is home to many unique speacies. The most famous of these is the Christmas Island red crab. 10
- 11** Tourists visit the island for the red crabs' anuell migration to the sea to spawn. 11
- 12** At the peak of the migration season, the crabs cover the island so denssley that they can be seen from the air. 12

Read the text *Sun protection*.

The spelling mistakes have been circled.

Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

Sun protection

- 13** I occasionally wonder about some of my friends. 13
- 14** They still go out into the sun without the appropriet protection. 14
- 15** They know that this inevitibly causes skin damage. 15
- 16** Why do people do this when the damage is preventibel? 16

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Why do we yawn?*
Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

Why do we yawn?

- | | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| 17 | Imagine you are at a meeting in a crowded and poorly ventillated room. | 17 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 18 | If someone starts yawning, so do you, because yawning is an infectious and involentry action. | 18 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 19 | One suggestion as to why people yawn is that it elervates the amount of oxygen in their bloodstream. | 19 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 20 | Extra oxygen might help to alleviate fatigue. | 20 |

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

- | | | |
|-----------|--|----|
| 21 | The coach made the team watch a vidio of the previous game. | 21 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 22 | The chemical structure of many plastics makes them flexible. | 22 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 23 | The detective was sertain of the identity of the suspect. | 23 |
| <hr/> | | |
| 24 | The volcanic erruption spread lava across the region. | 24 |

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

**Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.**

25

The catastrophic storm and subsequent flooding cost billions.

25

26

The perimeter of a circle is its circumfrance.

26

27

The author has created an admirable character who has intelligents and curiosity.

27

28

The survey committee was asked to exclude any irelevant data.

28

29

The persistant winds and associated downpour caused havoc.

29

30

For our health project, we had to record our kilojul intake for an entire week.

30

For questions 31 to 57 shade one bubble to show your answer.

31

Shade one bubble to show where the missing apostrophe (') should go.



Peoples ideas about animals in zoos make me angry.

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Shanaka Fernando*. The text has some gaps.
Choose the correct option to fill each gap.

Shanaka Fernando

32

In 2007, Melbourne's Shanaka Fernando was awarded the Australia's Local Hero Award [] of his work as the founder of the not-for-profit restaurants, Lentil as Anything.

- ☐ for recognising
- ☐ in recognising
- ☐ for recognition
- ☐ in recognition

33

Shanaka made a speech when he accepted his award. His comments on the meaning of being Australian [] .

- ☐ is interesting
- ☐ were interesting
- ☐ was interesting
- ☐ will be interesting

34

"I didn't know the answer to the question of what it means to be Australian until quite [] , " said Shanaka.

- ☐ recently
- ☐ before
- ☐ now
- ☐ soon

35

"I went out into country Victoria with refugees for a tree planting weekend, and I came into contact [] I considered an amazing spirit of community and openness.

- ☐ with who
- ☐ with which
- ☐ with what
- ☐ with where

36

To be Australian [] welcoming of others. It is to encourage each other to shine and to reach our full potential."


- ☐ is I think to be,
- ☐ is, I think to be
- ☐ is I think, to be
- ☐ is, I think, to be

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS


37 Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ Helen paid for that tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for this tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for them tickets with my money.
- ☐ Helen paid for those tickets with my money.

38 Where should the missing apostrophe (') go?




The cross-section of a fallen tree shows its growth rings, which indicate



the trees age.

39 Which option correctly completes the sentence?

 running out of oil—the backbone of modern economies and the fuel of western civilisation.

Were

☐

We're

☐

Where

☐

We're

☐

40 Which sentence uses speech marks (" and ") correctly?

- ☐ "Quietly he asked," Where did you leave it?"
- ☐ Quietly he asked, "Where did you leave it?"
- ☐ "Quietly he asked, where did you leave it?"
- ☐ Quietly he asked", where did you leave it?"

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

41 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The first of Tim Winton's novels that I read [REDACTED] *Blueback*.

am

are

was

were

☐☐☐☐

42 Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ Regarding Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ In regards to Nell, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ Comparing with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.
- ☐ In comparison with Nell's, my tennis skills are quite basic.

43 How could this sentence be rewritten correctly with the same meaning?

"Does Jacinta want to use the computer this morning?" Ben asked his dad.

- ☐ Ben asked his dad did Jacinta want to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked Jacinta if she wanted to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked Jacinta that she wants to use the computer this morning.
- ☐ Ben asked his dad whether Jacinta wanted to use the computer this morning.

44 Which words correctly complete the sentence?

Digital cameras, [REDACTED], are now widely used.

- ☐ since considering expensive technology
- ☐ once considered expensive technology
- ☐ which once considered expensive technology
- ☐ in spite of considering expensive technology

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Read the text *Aaron* and answer questions 45 and 46.

Aaron

Walking over a hill, Aaron saw that the thin bitumen road levelled out below to wind through the low land like a struggling eel. He stood for a minute, taking it all in: grey cloud, green ground, patches of sunlight, the lake.

45 In the first sentence, the word *struggling* is used as

- ☐ a verb.
- ☐ a noun.
- ☐ an adverb.
- ☐ an adjective.

46 In the second sentence, a colon (:) is used to

- ☐ introduce an idea.
- ☐ introduce a list.
- ☐ separate items in a list.
- ☐ separate two complete ideas.

47 Which word in this sentence is a pronoun?

They stayed away for a while, blunted and dormant.



Text on this page adapted from *Stony Heart Country* by David Metzenthen, Penguin Books, reproduced with permission by Penguin Group (Australia), 1999.

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

48 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The ten warmest years have all occurred [REDACTED] 1990.

within

☐

since

☐

about

☐

during

☐

49 Which sentence is correct?

- ☐ The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that is being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes has to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.
- ☐ The packaging of the boxes have to be strong enough to protect the goods that are being transported.

50 Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Plucking the strings of a guitar makes [REDACTED] vibrate, and each produces a different range of notes.

it

☐

them

☐

that

☐

those

☐

51 Which sentence has the correct punctuation?

- ☐ "Sorry I'm late, he apologised, but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late" he apologised "but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "but my car wouldn't start."
- ☐ "Sorry I'm late," he apologised, "But my car wouldn't start."

YEAR 9 LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

52 Which words correctly complete the sentence?

_____ sustained, a rainforest requires a rainfall of at least 1500 millimetres a year.

- ☐ If they have
- ☐ In order to be
- ☐ So that they can
- ☐ Therefore being

53 Which option correctly completes the sentence?

Council plans for the new pool were approved _____ on Monday.

- ☐ last Friday: work will begin
- ☐ last Friday, work will begin
- ☐ last Friday; work will begin
- ☐ last Friday! work will begin

54 Which punctuation mark should be used in **both** spaces in this sentence?

The three sports _____ cricket, netball and tennis _____ were played enthusiastically by the family.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| — (dash) | : (colon) | ... (ellipsis) | ; (semicolon) |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

END OF TEST

NAPLAN Language Conventions Example Test – Year 9

Question number	Answer key	Question number	Answer key
Y9 Q01	building	Y9 Q31	A
Y9 Q02	bravery	Y9 Q32	D
Y9 Q03	stomach	Y9 Q33	B
Y9 Q04	beginning	Y9 Q34	A
Y9 Q05	particles	Y9 Q35	C
Y9 Q06	advertisement	Y9 Q36	D
Y9 Q07	accommodate	Y9 Q37	D
Y9 Q08	gratefully	Y9 Q38	D
Y9 Q09	conscientious	Y9 Q39	B
Y9 Q10	species	Y9 Q40	B
Y9 Q11	annual	Y9 Q41	C
Y9 Q12	densely	Y9 Q42	D
Y9 Q13	occasionally	Y9 Q43	D
Y9 Q14	appropriate	Y9 Q44	B
Y9 Q15	inevitably	Y9 Q45	D
Y9 Q16	preventable	Y9 Q46	B
Y9 Q17	ventilated	Y9 Q47	A
Y9 Q18	involuntary	Y9 Q48	B
Y9 Q19	elevates	Y9 Q49	C
Y9 Q20	fatigue	Y9 Q50	B
Y9 Q21	video	Y9 Q51	C
Y9 Q22	flexible	Y9 Q52	B
Y9 Q23	certain	Y9 Q53	C
Y9 Q24	eruption	Y9 Q54	A
Y9 Q25	subsequent		
Y9 Q26	circumference		
Y9 Q27	intelligence		
Y9 Q28	irrelevant		
Y9 Q29	persistent		
Y9 Q30	kilojoule		
<p>*For multiple choice response answer keys: The first response bubble = A; the second response bubble = B; the third response bubble = C; the fourth response bubble = D</p>			