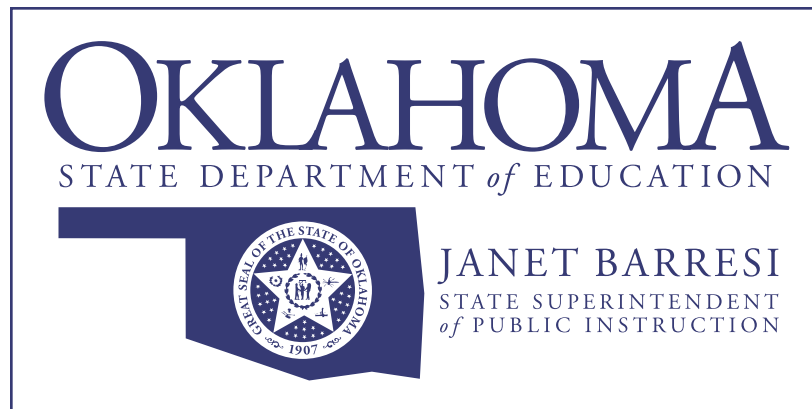


# Oklahoma School Testing Program



Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests

## 2011–2012 Released Items

End-of-Instruction  
ACE English III

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Oklahoma State Department of Education  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

## **Acknowledgements**

"The Oak" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, from *Demeter, and Other Poems* by Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809–1892). Published by Macmillan, London, New York, 1889.

"His First Assignment" by Ralph Henry Barbour, excerpted from "His First Assignment" as it appeared in *The New Boy at Hilltop, and Other Stories* by Ralph Henry Barbour (1870–1944). Published by D. Appleton and Co., 1910.

**PEARSON**

# Section 1

# Section 1

## Directions



Some people believe that cell phone use while driving should be banned. They argue that using a cell phone while driving causes drivers to be distracted, and this could lead to accidents. Others believe that the advantages of using cell phones while driving outweigh any possible risks. They argue that having the ability to call for directions or help is important. Although they are against banning cell phones while driving, they do advocate that all drivers should be aware of the possible distractions.

Write a persuasive essay taking a position on whether or not cell phones should be banned while driving. Be sure to support your position with reasons, examples, and/or personal experiences.

## **Section 2**

## Directions

Read this poem. Then answer the questions that follow.

### The Oak

by Alfred, Lord Tennyson



Live thy Life,  
Young and old,  
Like yon oak,  
Bright in spring,  
5 Living gold;

Summer-rich  
Then; and then  
Autumn-changed  
Soberer-hued  
10 Gold again.

All his leaves  
Fall'n at length,  
Look, he stands,  
Trunk and bough  
15 Naked strength.

**1** What rhyme scheme does the poet use in the first stanza?

- A a-b-c-d-e
- B a-b-a-b-a
- C a-b-c-d-b
- D a-a-b-b-b

**2**

Bright in spring,  
Living gold;

**What do these lines from lines 1–5 most likely symbolize?**

- F importance of jewelry
- G beautiful yellow leaves
- H bright promise of youth
- J pride in accomplishments

**3**

Summer-rich  
Then; and then  
Autumn-changed  
Soberer-hued  
Gold again.

**In lines 6–10 of the poem, what does the word soberer mean?**

- A darker
- B rougher
- C brighter
- D smoother

## Section 2

**4** According to the poet, what does the phrase “naked strength” imply about old age?

- F** Older people expend more effort when standing up.
- G** Older people need to enhance their appearances.
- H** Older people possess inner beauty and wisdom.
- J** Older people experience life more fully.

**5** Which lines from the poem best support the idea that the poet respects the oak?

- A** Live thy life,  
Young and old,
- B** Autumn-changed  
Soberer-hued  
Gold again.
- C** All his leaves  
Fall’n at length,
- D** Look, he stands,  
Trunk and bough  
Naked strength.

**6** What organizational technique does the poet use to communicate the ideas in this poem?

- F** a problem and its solution
- G** a conflict and its resolution
- H** the description of a character
- J** the sequential order of events



**7 What is the theme of this poem?**

- A** People should appreciate each stage of life.
- B** Trees and nature should be protected.
- C** Things will lose their value over time.
- D** Gold will continue to grow in value.

**8 What does this poem illustrate?**

- F** the poet's appreciation of nature
- G** the poet's respect for hard work
- H** the poet's admiration of youth
- J** the poet's fears for the future

**9 If a student wanted to learn more about the viewpoint of the poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, the most credible resource would be**

- A** a journal kept by the poet.
- B** a textbook entry about the poet.
- C** a collection of poetry by Alfred, Lord Tennyson.
- D** a Web site about the life of Alfred, Lord Tennyson.

## Directions

Read this excerpt by Ralph Henry Barbour about choosing a presidential candidate. Think about what suggestions you would make and then answer the questions that follow.

*Excerpted from*

### **His First Assignment**

by Ralph Henry Barbour

1 The Democratic National Convention to nominate a candidate for the  
2 presidency was but a month away dissension threatened. A moderate man  
3 of views was favored by the East on the subject of currency reform; the  
4 West and the greater portion of the South stood unanimous for a politician  
5 whose sucess in the coming battle would presage the most radical of  
6 measures. Final dissagreement between the Democrats of East and West  
7 meant certain victory for the Republican Party. Today all the country was  
8 asking whether the leaders had agreed on a nominee. If so, which one?  
9 The newspapers were hysterical in their demands for information; all day  
10 the wires leading to Washington had borne message after message  
11 imploring news, but only baseless rumors had sped back. Tom Collins,  
12 knowing all this, realized the hopelessness of his task.

**10** What is the best way, if any, to rewrite the sentence in lines 1 and 2?

- F** The Democratic National Convention to nominate a candidate for the presidency was but a month away. Dissension threatened.
- G** The Democratic National Convention to nominate a candidate. For the presidency was but a month away, dissension threatened.
- H** The Democratic National Convention: to nominate a candidate for the presidency was but a month away dissension threatened.
- J** No change

**11** What is the best way, if any, to rewrite the sentence in lines 2 and 3?

- A** The East favored a man of moderate views on the subject of currency reform;
- B** A man of moderate views from the East was favored on the subject of currency reform;
- C** The East favored a man on the subject of currency reform of moderate views;
- D** no change

**12** What change, if any, should be made to sucess, in line 5?

- F** suces
- G** succes
- H** success
- J** no change

## Section 2

**13** What change, if any, should be made to dissagreement in line 6?

- A disagreement
- B disagreement
- C dissagreement
- D no change

**14** What change, if any, should be made to their in line 9?

- F they're
- G there
- H thier
- J no change

**15** What is the best way, if any to rewrite for information; all day the wires in lines 9–10?

- A for information? All day the wires
- B for information, all day the wires
- C for information all day the wires
- D no change

**16** What is the best way, if any, to rewrite the sentence in lines 11 and 12?

- F The hopelessness of his task knowing all this, was realized by Tom Collins.
- G The task, knowing all this, was hopelessness and realized by Tom Collins.
- H Tom Collins, knowing all this hopelessness, realized his task.
- J no change



**STOP**

**END OF SECTION 2**

