

I. Narrow the following subjects to topics that will function as a title for a paragraph. Then write a possible topic sentence for each topic. (10%)

Subject: Baseball

(1) Narrowed topic: _____ (4%)

(2) Topic sentence: _____ (6%)

II. Write a possible title for the following paragraph. (10%)

Talking through the book together before reading it gives reluctant readers familiarity and control of language patterns and vocabulary, a motivating interest in the story, and a feeling of "I can read this." The introduction should be short—not more than five to seven minutes – and be carefully planned by the teacher so the language children need to know to read the story is included. As children become more independent readers, the introduction will become shorter – perhaps just a sentence about the book.

III. Please summarize the main points made in the following reading passage. Restate the ideas in your own words. (30%)

Everyone knows what blue-collar and white-collar jobs are, but now a job of another hue — green — has entered the lexicon. Presidential candidates talk about the promise of "green collar" jobs — an economy with millions of workers installing solar panels, weatherizing homes, brewing biofuels, building hybrid cars and erecting giant wind turbines. Labor unions view these new jobs as replacements for positions lost to overseas manufacturing and outsourcing. Urban groups view training in green jobs as a route out of poverty. And environmentalists say they are crucial to combating climate change.

No doubt that the number of green-collar jobs is growing, as homeowners, business and industry shift toward conservation and renewable energy. And the numbers are expected to increase greatly in the next few decades, because state governments have mandated that even more energy come from alternative sources.

But some skeptics argue that the phrase "green jobs" is little more than a trendy term for politicians and others to bandy about. Some say they are not sure that these jobs will have the staying power to help solve the problems of the nation's job market, and

others note that green jobs often pay less than the old manufacturing jobs they are replacing. Indeed, such is the novelty of the green-job concept that no one is certain how many such jobs there are, and even advocates don't always agree on what makes a job green."

A green-collar job is in essence a blue-collar job that has been upgraded to address the environmental challenges of our country," said Lucy Blake, chief executive of the Apollo Alliance, a coalition of environmental groups, labor unions and politicians seeking to transform the economy into one based on renewable energy.

It can be difficult to parse the difference between green- and blue-collar jobs. Dave Foster, executive director of the Blue Green Alliance, a partnership between the United Steelworkers and the Sierra Club, pointed to workers who mine iron ore in Minnesota and ship it to steel mills in Indiana. "Ten years ago, that steel was used for making low-efficiency automobiles, so those jobs were part of the dirty economy," he said. "But now that steel is being used to build wind turbines. So now you can call them green jobs." (Published in the Times special section The Business of Green on March 26, 2008)

IV. Essay Writing. Your essay should be no more than 300 words in length (50%)

Read and think about the following statement.

Academic intrinsic motivation declines with increasing grade level.

Do you agree or disagree with the above statement? Give reasons and examples to support your opinion.