

**PURPOSE AND TONE: Test A**

A. In the space provided, indicate whether the primary purpose of each sentence is to inform (I), to persuade (P), or to entertain (E).

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. If you spend a dollar every minute, it will take you about twenty centuries to spend a billion dollars.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. By selling candy and other junk food in the lunchroom, public schools are teaching poor nutrition; such "lessons" should not be allowed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. I asked my boss for a raise, so he moved my office from the basement to the second floor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. People should not be allowed to have children until they take a parenting class.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Between 93 and 95 percent of all fertile married couples choose to have children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Insanity is hereditary. You get it from your kids.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Have your eyes checked at the We Care Eye Care Center, where we sell glasses at a discount to families.

B. Each of the following passages illustrates one of the tones named in the box below. In each space provided, write the letter of the tone that applies to the passage. Two tone choices will be left over.

A. ironic	B. annoyed	C. enthusiastic
D. distressed	E. forgiving	

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. <sup>1</sup>Strawberries are now available in the markets, and what a winning crop! <sup>2</sup>In contrast to last year's berries, which were badly affected by poor weather conditions, these are plentiful, delicious, and relatively inexpensive. <sup>3</sup>They will make a fine climax to any meal, whether under a dollop of sour cream laced with brown sugar or crushed over a scoop of vanilla ice cream. <sup>4</sup>In fact, these luscious berries are so sweet, they can stand very well on their own. <sup>5</sup>Strawberry lovers won't be disappointed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. <sup>1</sup>I visited my grandmother in a nursing home yesterday. <sup>2</sup>Ninety-two years old and partially paralyzed by a stroke, she now struggles to feed herself and is irreversibly bound to her bed or wheelchair. <sup>3</sup>Once vital and fiercely independent, she is now frail and incapable of even using the bathroom unassisted. <sup>4</sup>Mortified by her dependence on others, her moods range from quiet acceptance to whining complaint. <sup>5</sup>I do not see evidence of a divine plan in this situation. <sup>6</sup>Maybe there is no divine plan, or perhaps I am just not wise enough to see it.

*(Continues on next page)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. <sup>1</sup>Eighth-grader Terry met his friend Ron in front of Ron's house on the first day of summer vacation. <sup>2</sup>Ron looked at Terry's broad grin and remarked sympathetically, "I can't help but notice that you look utterly miserable. <sup>3</sup>You can confide in me—what's the matter?"

<sup>4</sup>Still smiling, Terry sighed and replied, "Well, who wouldn't be bummed out, confronted as we are with weeks stretching in front of us and nothing to do but waste the most beautiful months of the year on unimportant pursuits like basketball, fishing, and bike riding."

<sup>5</sup>"Yeah," whined Ron, as the two ambled towards the nearby basketball court. <sup>6</sup>"And the most depressing thing of all is that we don't get to see our valued colleague, Mr. Petersham, in the principal's office all summer."

<sup>7</sup>"We must try to endure it with superior courage," Terry replied, and then he dashed onto the court for his first lay-up.

(*Note:* Select the tone that describes the boys' conversation.)