

**Grade 7 English Language Arts Sample Items (Reading)
Answer Key**

Item #	Item Type	Point(s)	Standard	Rubric / Key	Scoring
1	Multiple Choice	1	L.7.5	A	The correct response receives 1 point
2	Hot Text	1	RI.7.4	For this item, a full-credit response includes "It's only by working together as a colony" AND "A colony of bees is like one big brain" AND "the group as a whole"	The correct response receives 1 point
3	Multiple Choice	1	RI.7.6	A	The correct response receives 1 point
4	Hot Text	2	RI.7.2	For this item, a full-credit response includes A) It is hard to determine how bees' brains work. E) Individual bees are more intelligent than previously thought. (1 point) AND D) "Even more remarkably, bees can combine several things they've learned in one situation and call on that knowledge in new situations." (paragraph 3) E) "It's hard enough to study the minds of humans, who can actually tell you what they're thinking." (paragraph 9) For this item, a partial-credit response includes the correct answer in Part A but not in Part B. No points are given for answering only Part B correctly.	The correct response receives 2 points

Item #	Item Type	Point(s)	Standard	Rubric / Key	Scoring
5	Multiple Choice	1	RI.7.3	A	The correct response receives 1 point
6	Evidence-Based Selected Response	1	RI.7.1	Part A: D Part B: A and B	The correct response receives 1 point

**Grade 7 English Language Arts Sample Item (Writing)
Sample Responses**

Item #	Item Type	Standard	Rubric & Scoring
7	Writing Prompt	W.7.1	<p>Writing prompts are scored using the 10-point rubrics posted on the Portal. Each rubric has three domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose, Focus, and Organization (0-4 points) • Evidence and Elaboration (0-4 points) • Conventions of Standard English (0-2 points) <p>Sample responses and scores are included on the pages that follow.</p>

10-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
4	4	2

Good day Middle School! A recent question left unanswered has been floating around in our school's atmosphere. "Do video games have a physical effect on the players' health?" Well, sorry to say, but it does. No, you won't be able to shoot monsters like in your video games, but you will have better eye-to hand coordination. Alas, there are some negative effects on your health too. Players' have experienced inadequate sleep, pain in their wrist or neck, and obesity. Res assured, if you don't play excessively, you should not get these effects. Unfortunately, the hard-core gamers out there are in for another story.

According to research, players' have experienced pain in their wrists, neck, or elbow. Carpal tunnel (an injury to a nerve in the wrist) and tennis elbow, has also been linked to excessive gaming (Source 1). Most of these pains are caused by sitting in one position for multiple hours and by repeating the same movements (source 2). Gamers who take long breaks and stretch are less likely to experience pain. Sometimes this pain doesn't effect those gamers after they stop playing. Ways to prevent this from even happening to portion-size the amount of time that you play your video games. Not enough players' actually get any physical exercise besides tapping a screen or clicking a mouse. If you add physical exercise along with gaming, there will be less tension on your joints.

Moving along, some players' do not get enough sleep. Some players' who do not have bedtimes (or follow them) tend to sleep after midnight. At first, tis is all fun and games until you start feeling the side effects. Exhaustion, depression, obesity, and poor school performance are risks from inefficient sleep (source 3). Not to mention that you won't grow with little sleep! Playing games until 1 a.m without moving or stopping will change your body in the long term. Ways to prevent this is to set a bed-time and follow it. Putting a limit on video games is the first step to a healthier lifestyle.

Finally, we come to the last major effect on our bodies. I'm sure most of us have heard of it...obesity. For those of you who don't know, obesity is the term for excessive weight. Along with obesity comes heart problems, high chlolesteral, stretch marks, and sometimes lack of self-esteem. Obesity is not a disease, but it is in correlation with excessive gaming. "People may choose video games over physical activity" (source 2). Like I wrote above, gamers who don't move for hours on end are not getting any exercise. Obesity from video gaming can be prevented by adding some physical exercise, along with your gaming. Take a walk, clean the house, or play with your pets or siblings or friends. Of course obesity is not only caused by excessive gaming, but playing games is one factor. For those of you reading this that are obese, I suggest eating a balanced diet with less processed foods and adding exercising into your daily routine (and less gaming).

Now students', I hope that I have answered your question. Excessive gaming can cause pain, lack of sleep, and obesity which can lead to more health problems. On the contrary, video games can actually be good for you, by not only relaxing by for your eyes. "...playing video games can improve eye-hand coordination and visual attention" (source 1). Video games can also sharpen your vision. As for physical exercise, some games like Wii fit plus or Wii fit resort

turns physical activity into games like yoga. Although video games DO have a positive effect on us, it will not necessarily work for everyone. So, to wrap it all up, limiting the time that you play video games will benefit your health in more ways than one. See you next time!

7-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
3	2	2

Boom! Pow! You'r X-box is roaring. Then mom walks in and turns it off. Does it really need to be off? Studies show that playing video games can sharpen your vision, cause good reflex's, and some can get you physically active. Video games are not really that bad.

First, it sharpens your vision. All of the action games you play cause you to spot a target. You can monitor 2 things at once (Action-Packed video games sight for sore eyes). Video games change the way your brain functions (Source 1). You process faster and think quick. A lot of people despise video games but, if you think about it they really aren't as bad as you thought.

Video games also strengthen your reflexes. These games are almost like a simulator. They put you in a situation and want you to defend yourself. So the instant you see a target you imeadeiatly go after it. After you play the game for a while your reflexes build and get stronger. Before you know it you don't just think, you act!

There is a video game council that gets you physically active. It is called the Wii. Nintendo invented a council that allows you to do physical activities while playing. There are games such as boxing that causes you to move your arms (Heart Groug backs video games in obesity campain). The Wii also can come with a foot pad that you can use to jog on, and jump on (Source 4). This game is called Wii Fit Plus. It counts your calories burnt, lets you set goals, shows if you're a healthy weight, and has fun games to play!

Video games are healthy but they can also be very unhealthy. If you stay in the same position for a long time you can become obsese, and you can get cramps. Also games can lower your amount of sleep. (Teens Sleep cutshort by high tech toys). As long as you are moving and working while playing, you will become best friends with your game.

Video games are a really healthy thing if you use them right. Your vision can be sharpened, you can build strong reflexes, and you can even get physically active with them. Video games are fun and healthy if they are used responsibly.

3-point Student Sample Response

Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
1	1	1

I think the video games affect the physical health when you play all day and your body stay in the same place for hours your body receive damage to the physical health. Another thing that affect the physical health is when the only thing you do is play video games and in the same time you eating food. Another thing that affect the physical health is when you play all night and you only sleep 6 hours, well below the 9 hours recommended for the newsletter. The 97% people in the United States at the age of 12-17 play video games. I think the video game is funny but you need to use the video games two hours per day and with precaution. If you do sports you can play more time video games because when you play sports you do exercises and your body is in form. Finally I think the video games can help you or destroy your life.