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# Weekly Test Lesson 14

Read the passage. Then answer the questions.

## Louis Braille

Louis Braille was born in France in 1809. His father made leather goods for horses. Louis loved to play in his father's shop. Sometimes, Mr. Braille would let Louis use his tools to make marks on leather. One day, Mr. Braille was away. Louis was three years old. He crawled up on the workbench. He got hurt with one of his father's tools. Then he got an infection. Soon Louis could no longer see. He was blind.

Mr. and Mrs. Braille were scared for Louis. In those times, people did not look very kindly on those who were blind. But Mr. and Mrs. Braille knew Louis was smart. When Louis was eight, they bravely sent him to the local school. They hoped for the best.

They were very pleased. Louis was a great student. He could do math in his head. He remembered everything the teacher said. But more than anything, he wanted to read.

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## Reading

When Louis was ten, he went to one of the first schools for blind people. The best part of the new school was that it had books for blind people! Each letter in a book was large and raised. Louis could feel the letters to read the books. But the books were big. They were the size of suitcases! They took a very long time to read. Louis thought that there must be a better way.

One day, a man named Charles Barbier came to school. He had come up with a set of raised dots. The dots stood for different things. He felt they could be used to help blind people read, but the system was very hard to understand. However, it gave Louis an idea.

After many tries, Louis came up with his own set of 26 dot combinations for the 26 letters. They were quick and easy for blind people to use to read. People touch the dot combinations to read the words.

Today—more than 150 years later—Braille’s system is still used. Blind people all over the world use braille to read and write. Even people who are not blind can learn to read and write braille.

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- 1 Why does the author tell about Mr. Braille's job at the beginning of the passage?
- (A) to explain how Louis became blind
  - (B) to show that Mr. Braille loved his son
  - (C) to give facts about how to make leather goods
  - (D) to show that Mr. Braille was very sad about the accident

- 2 Read the sentence from the passage.

When Louis was eight, they bravely sent him to the local school.

What does the word bravely mean as it is used in the sentence?

- (A) not brave
- (B) in a brave way
- (C) being too brave
- (D) braver than some

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- 3 Why was going to the school for the blind an important event in Louis Braille's life?
- A He learned quickly.
  - B He was good at math.
  - C He learned how to read.
  - D He wanted to go to school.
- 4 How did Charles Barbier help Louis develop his reading system? Use details from the passage to support your answer.

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- 5 Label each event in the order in which it happened. The first event will be labeled 1, and the last event will be labeled 3.
- \_\_\_ Louis went to a special school.
  - \_\_\_ Louis's eye became infected.
  - \_\_\_ Louis became blind.

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- 6 Why did the author write this passage?
- Ⓐ to tell people how to read braille
  - Ⓑ to persuade readers to learn braille
  - Ⓒ to inform people about Louis Braille's life
  - Ⓓ to entertain readers with tales from Braille's school

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## Writing

- 7 Which sentence has an error in spelling?
- (A) I did moast of my homework before.
  - (B) My coach thinks I need to play more.
  - (C) He tried to throw the ball into the hoop.
  - (D) Sal forgot soap when he gave his dog a bath.

- 8 Read the sentence.

This year, Mother's day will be on Sunday, May 8.

Which revision is needed?

- (A) Change year to Year.
  - (B) Change day to Day.
  - (C) Change Sunday to sunday.
  - (D) Change May to may.
- 9 Which sentence is written incorrectly?
- (A) I was born on may 31, 2002.
  - (B) The football party is on Friday.
  - (C) My family is here for New Year's Eve.
  - (D) Thanksgiving is always on a Thursday.

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**Writing**

- 10 Read the sentences. Underline the sentence that is written incorrectly.

Lee did not want her party to be on a thursday. She is having her birthday party at the aquarium on Friday, January 2. Her real birthday is on New Year's Day.