

Writing Grade 8 F

Grade Level Standard(s):

C.8.1

Required Assessment Materials:

- Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School
- Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School Picture Board
- Writing 8 F Career Education: Give us the Choice! Paper
- Writing 8 F Attainment Task Questions for Student Use

Response Code:

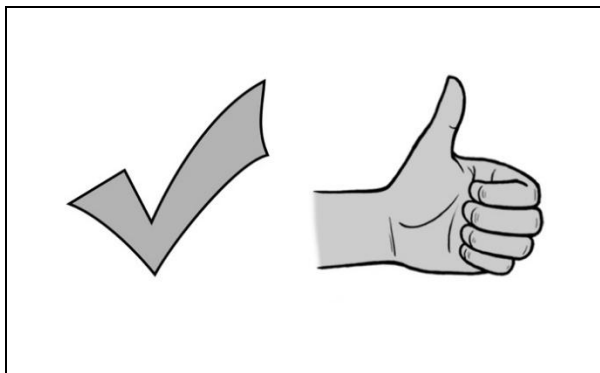
- Indicate the answer provided by the student.

Text Coding:

- “Quotation marks” indicate the script that the teacher should read to the student.
- *Italicized text* provides further direction for the test administrator.
- Words in parentheses () are optional; they may replace or be read in addition to the word(s) immediately preceding.

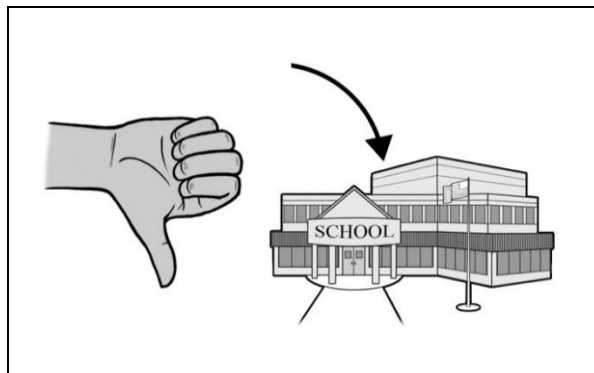
a.

The benefits of having career education in middle school are clear.



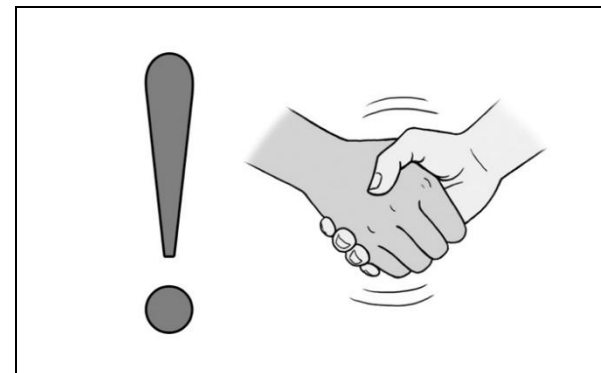
b.

Career education is only needed in high school.



c.

It is important to give parents and students what they want.



Before beginning task administration, please ensure that all conditions specified in the administration protocol (starting on page 9 of the Administration Guide Overview and Attainment Task Administration) have been met. Inform the student that the task is about to start by saying, “We are about to start the task, and I am going to ask you some questions.”

All questions from this task are available for presentation to the student in the material Writing 8 F Attainment Task Questions for Student Use.

Explain to the student that they will be reading a passage and will then answer a question about the passage. Present the student with Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School (Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School Picture Board may be presented as a support for the student). Have the student read, or read to the student, the passage Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School.

“Jaylani is writing an argument about why her middle school needs to offer career education. She made the following claim: ‘Having career education choices at middle school allows students to learn about many jobs, take risks, and develop goals.’ She is writing the concluding paragraph.”

Present the student with Writing 8 F Career Education: Give us the Choice! Paper. Have the student read, or read to the student, Writing 8 F Career Education: Give us the Choice! Paper.

2. “Which is the **best** opening sentence for Jaylani’s concluding paragraph?”

Response Option	Response Rationale
a. The benefits of having career education in middle school are clear. (Correct)	<i>The student demonstrates an understanding between benefits of career education in middle school and Jaylani’s argument.</i>
b. Career education is only needed in high school.	<i>The student recognizes career education is available at high school but does not identify this as a counterargument.</i>
c. It is important to give parents and students what they want.	<i>The student identifies a preferential statement unrelated to the topic of career education in middle school.</i>
Depth of Knowledge (DOK) 2	

Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School

¹In recent years there has been a lot of discussion about pushing career education down to middle grades. Researchers say about 66% of high school graduates wanted more career exploration in middle and high school. Also, 80% percent of high school counselors felt decisions about college and careers were too much for students to manage. Given the data, why is there debate?

²Opponents say it will limit student prospects and lock students in a specific track. ³Advocates argue it will provide greater options and unlock potential.

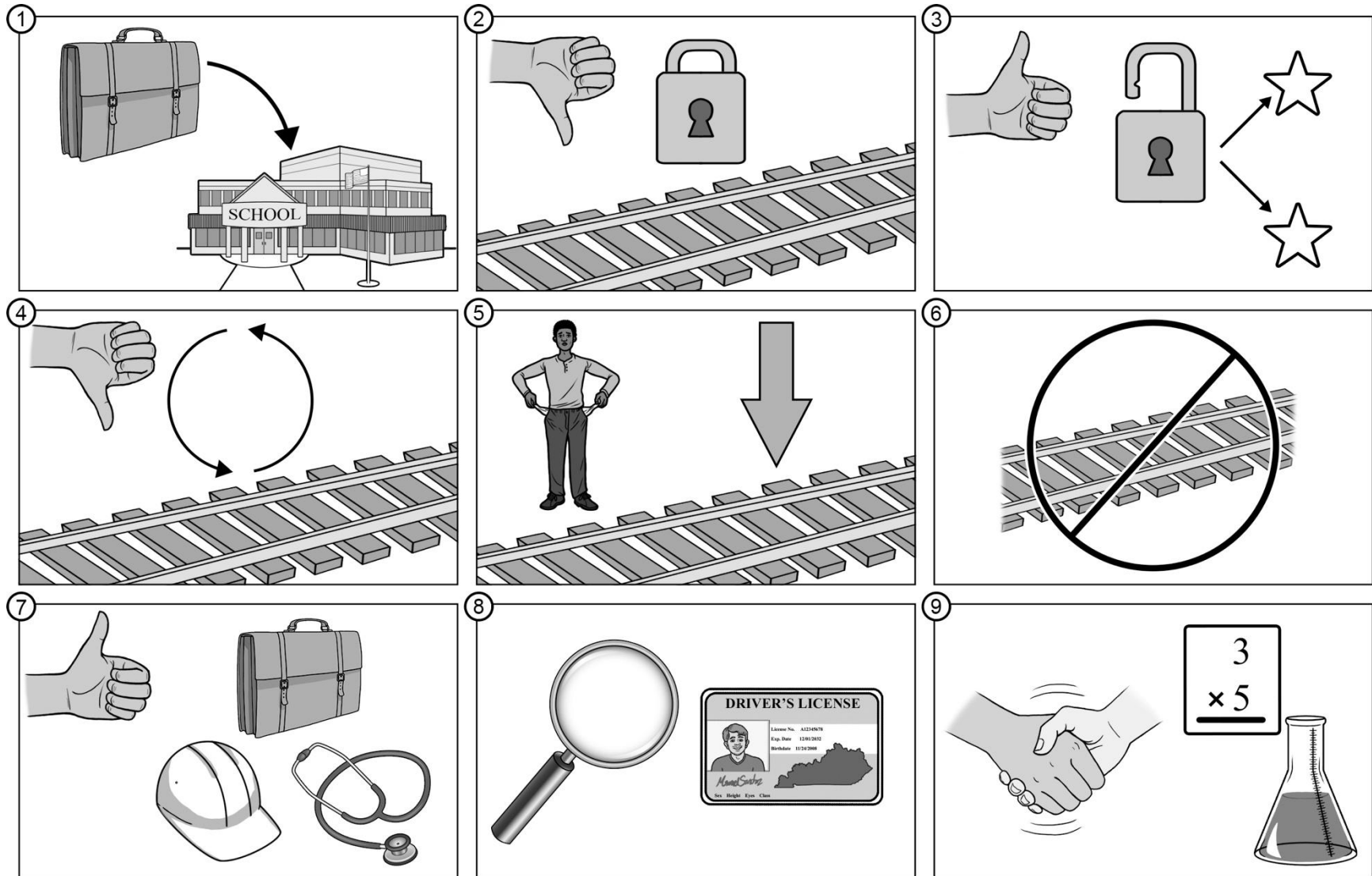
⁴Those who are against early career education do not want a repeat of tracking. Tracking placed students in a specific educational track. ⁵Data showed that an unequal number of non-white and poor students were placed in lower-skill tracks. ⁶Tracking was removed from policy because many students got locked in their tracks and could not try new things. However, advocates argue just the opposite will happen now.

⁷Advocates argue just the opposite. First, experts say teens may be exposed to careers they did not even know existed. Also, there is less stress in middle school, so students can try something and fail without the same consequences. ⁸Also, teenagers are trying to find their identity, and if they do not think they can reach a goal, they may stop trying. ⁹However, if schools can catch students before they give up, they may be able to encourage more students to try math and science fields. Then students can work to attain those goals.

There are many things to consider about career education in middle school. Consider all the data and make an informed decision.

Adapted from: [Why starting career education in middle school pays off](#)

Writing 8 F Career Education in Middle School Picture Board



Writing 8 F Career Education: Give Us the Choice! Paper

Did you ever struggle in school? Well, I do! I like some subjects better than others and do better in some classes than others. I think it would help if career education were taught in middle school. While some argue against it, this choice should be given to students and parents. Having career education choices at middle school allows students to learn about many jobs, take risks, and develop goals.

First, the purpose of career education in middle school is to learn about a lot of different jobs. Students may find a job they did not know about before they took the class. Next, experts say that if career classes are available in middle school, it allows students to take more risks. Students can learn about skills and jobs without worrying about the costs of not doing well. Finally, giving students a chance to explore many jobs before they give up on an idea may help them grow into their identity. Students can make a plan to reach their goals.

Writing 8 F Attainment Task Questions for Student Use

2. Which is the best opening sentence for Jaylani's concluding paragraph?

Kentucky Academic Standard: C.8.1 - Compose arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Alternate Assessment Target: *a. No further limitations b. No further limitations c. No further limitations d. No further limitations e. Excluded from assessment f. No further limitations g. No further limitations*

Student Group	Number of Students*	Percent Correct #5
All Students	591	42.81%
Gender		
Female	212	42.45%
Male	379	43.01%
Ethnicity		
African American	67	43.28%
American Indian or Alaska Native	<10	Not Reported
Asian	10	50.00%
Hispanic of Latino	42	38.10%
Native Hawaiian of Pacific Islander	<10	Not Reported
White (Non-Hispanic)	437	44.16%
Two or More Races	33	27.27%
English Learner	36	41.67%
Economically Disadvantaged	440	44.32%

*Number of students that attempted the item