2010 IA. NEWS ANALYSIS (35-45 MINUTES)

Write a news analysis of 400 words or fewer on ONE of the following five topics. Aim for a factual, editorial-style piece or an expository essay; use specific examples to add strength to your piece.

FORMAT: Please indicate which question you have chosen. You are not allowed to use spelling or grammar check software on the computer. If you do, your test and application for admission will be voided.

TIME: You should spend a maximum of 45 minutes on this section; it is suggested that you spend the first five to ten minutes outlining the analysis, and the last five editing it.

Name

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Birthday

MM DD YYYY

Choose ONE of the following.

1. The Taliban and al Qaida frequently take refuge in the mountainous tribal areas of Pakistan next to Afghanistan. Should the U.S. government allow its military forces to attack terrorists across the border in Pakistan? Discuss.

2. With the U.S. now facing new fiscal constraints, discuss President Barack Obama's likely legislative priorities. Which of his policy initiatives may have to be postponed?

3. What should U.S. policy be toward undocumented immigrants already in the country?

4. Congress recently approved a $700-billion government bailout of the U.S. financial industry. Was this a good decision? Explain why or why not. What were the alternatives?

5. Mayor Michael Bloomberg, once a supporter of a law mandating term limits for elected officials in NYC, changed his mind. He got the City Council to repeal the law so he can run for a third term next November. Discuss the pros and cons of his position.

Your News Analysis
2010 IB. NEWS WRITING DRILL (20-25 MINUTES)

Here are some notes gathered from interviews with Detective Kenneth Burns of the NYC Police Department and other primary sources. Use them to write a short news story of no more than 250 words. Type your story double-spaced in 12-point Times Roman font.

Be sure to place your name and social security number in the upper left hand corner.

You are not allowed to use spelling or grammar check software on your computer. If you do, your test and application for admission will be voided.

It is recommended that you allot 20 - 25 minutes to work on this section.

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Press Conference Notes

Use these notes to write a short news story, no longer than 250 words.

- Marcus and Daniel Regal, ages 4 and 6, live with their mother, Jeanette Liddy, in a five-story walkup in the Jamaica section of Queens.

- Liddy works as a part-time bookkeeper for a law office on Hillside Avenue in Jamaica. Their father, John Regal, who does not live with the family, is a NYC traffic enforcement officer in Manhattan.

- No one realized Marcus was missing on Friday until his mother went to school to pick him up and was told he had never arrived.

- Maria Mancuso, a neighbor of the family, described Liddy as a devoted mother who often took her sons to the playground after school. "Marcus is such a sweet boy, and he's always dressed so nicely," Mancuso said. "I can't believe this happened."

- Marcus was taken to Queens Hospital Center, where he was treated and released.

- Marcus was wearing a N.Y. Mets jacket and carrying a Spiderman lunch box.

- Marcus's uncle is a longtime groundskeeper for the N.Y. Mets and will continue working at the team's new stadium, Citi Field, when it opens next spring.

- Police arrested driver Ernie Powder, 25, and chaperone Willa Mason, 42, of the Reliable Bus Company.

- Marcus is autistic and attends a preschool program for children with special needs at P.S. 173.
• Neither the driver nor the chaperone checked the vehicle before they left it parked.

• The bus driver has an autistic sister. "I am especially sensitive to the needs of autistic children because I used to help take care of my sister when I was growing up," Powder told police.

• The charges were reckless endangerment and endangering the welfare of a child.

• Powder became certified to drive a school bus just six weeks ago. Mason has been certified to escort school buses for five years.

• Marcus was found dehydrated and hungry after six hours alone on the school bus.

• Though rules state that "every effort" must be made to contact parents when a child is absent from school, Liddy said she was never contacted.

• Reliable did not return several calls for comment.

• Powder and Mason were being held at the 74th Precinct stationhouse Friday night.

• "All the windows were closed and there was no air on the bus," Liddy said. "He could have suffocated."

• After the school called police, Detectives Kenneth Burns and Vincent Ritchie checked buses parked nearby until they spotted Marcus.

• School officials said Powder and Mason would be suspended pending the outcome of the investigation.

News Writing Drill
2010 IIA. GRAMMAR (10-15 MINUTES)

Select the right answer for correctness and clarity. You will have 15 minutes to complete this section.

Name * First Last

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- Select the right answer for correctness and clarity.

- 1. Her speech seemed to have no (affect/effect) on the outcome of the election. *
   
   affect/effect

- 2. From the tone of Alex’s voice, I (inferred/implied) that he was angry. *
   
   inferred/implied

- 3. Please keep this between you and (I/me). *
   
   I/me

- 4. The professor’s lecture centered (around/on) professional ethics. *
   
   around/on

- 5. (Whoever/Whomever) wins this round will advance to the finals. *
   
   Whoever/Whomever
6. A slideshow would be a nice (complement/compliment) to this article. *

complement/compliment

7. On the way to school, we (past/passed) the street fair. *

past/passed

8. (Fewer/Less) than 10 students passed the exam. *

Fewer/Less

9. Sony released (its/their) new MP3 player yesterday. *

its/their

10. Jon is (laying/lying) on the couch, watching the game. *

laying/lying

11. He is one of those players who always (come/comes) through when it counts. *

come/comes

12. Susan (lead/led) the team that won first place. *

lead/led

13. After the company’s earnings dropped, (its/it’s) stock fell sharply. *

its/it’s

14. The candidate worked to (elicit/illicit) a favorable response from the crowd. *

elicit/illicit
• 15. Paul finally gave his (ascent/assent) to the plan. *
ascent/assent

• Indicate whether the sentences below are structurally and grammatically correct.

• 16. Washed up on the beach, Sara found five sand dollars. *
correct/incorrect

• 17. Jan and Erik rushed to the store, they argued over what to buy. *
correct/incorrect

• 18. Alice worked for the McCain campaign; her brother backed Obama. *
correct/incorrect

• 19. He listed his hobbies as biking, skiing and to go snorkeling. *
correct/incorrect

• 20. A dozen students read, edited and critiqued one another’s work. *
correct/incorrect
2010 IIB. CURRENT EVENT ID (30-35 MINUTES)

Please identify and/or state the news or historical significance of each of the following. Please be brief, 1–3 sentences will suffice.

Name *

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MM DD YYYY

5) David Paterson *

6) Tina Fey *

7) Hugo Chavez *

8) Jamie Dimon *

9) Alex Rodriguez *

10) Tim Russert *
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<td>17) Huffington Post</td>
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<td>19) Ellen DeGeneres</td>
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<td>20) Georgia (not the state)</td>
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Section Score (Filled in by Reviewer)