

**Tyler is writing notes about the life of Samuel Clemens, whose pen name was Mark Twain. The notes contain errors. Read the notes to answer questions 4–6.**

### **Tyler's Notes**

1. In 1839, at the age of four, Samuel Clemens' family moved to Hannibal, Missouri.
2. After his father's death in 1847, he became a printer's assistant and then worked as a printer for his brother, Orion.
3. In 1852, when Samuel was seventeen, he left Hannibal to see the world.
4. After wandering around out West for a few years, he became a riverboat pilot and worked in that trade until the Civil War forced boat traffic on the Mississippi River to stop in 1861.
5. In 1865, he became famous for his story "The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County."
6. In 1867, he traveled to other countries.
7. At the age of seventy-five, he died when he had predicted he would—when Halley's Comet returned in 1910.

- 4 Based on the notes, which sentence below should the writer add to the list?
- F. Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) was born in 1835.
  - G. Mark Twain's home in Hartford, Connecticut, is a tourist attraction.
  - H. My favorite Mark Twain novel is *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.
  - I. Hannibal, Missouri, was also the birthplace of Molly Brown, who survived the sinking of the *Titanic*.

- 4 The correct answer is F. (Samuel Clemens [Mark Twain] was born in 1835.)

Item Type: Plan-Based

Reporting Category: Organization

Benchmark: LA.B.1.4.1 The student selects and uses appropriate prewriting strategies, such as brainstorming, graphic organizers, and outlines.

Benchmark Clarification: The student uses prewriting to establish an effective organizational structure based on the central idea and purpose for writing.

The correct answer is F. Based on the chronological organization of Tyler's notes, a detail that includes a date should be added.

#### **Distractor Rationale**

- G. Tyler's notes are organized chronologically. Adding a detail about Mark Twain's home being a tourist attraction does not add a chronological detail; therefore, this detail should not be added to the list.
- H. Tyler's notes are organized chronologically. A detail about the writer's favorite Mark Twain book is not a detail that can be placed in chronological order; therefore, this detail should not be added to the list.
- I. Tyler's notes are organized chronologically. Information about a *Titanic* survivor's birthplace is not a detail that can be placed in chronological order; therefore, this detail should not be added to the list.