

A large rectangular box containing 30 horizontal lines for writing.

Multiple-Choice Questions, Set 1

(Questions 1–35, 25 minutes)

Improving Sentences

The following sentences are questioning you about sentence correctness and expression of information. Part, or all, of each sentence is underlined. Following the sentence, five versions of the underlined portion are presented. Choice **A** repeats the original; the other choices are different. If you think a better sentence can be found in Choices **B–E**, then choose one of them. If the sentence is correct as stated, your answer will be **A**.

1. In their haste to complete the school in time for the new school year, contractors disregarded some safety codes, thereby they endangered the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building.

 - A. codes, thereby they endangered the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building.
 - B. codes they have endangered the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building.
 - C. codes and so endangered the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building.
 - D. codes, thus the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building were endangered.
 - E. codes, thereby endangering the lives of all the students, faculty and staff in the building.
2. However, I myself believe that playing sports enhances students' academic performance.

 - A. However, I myself believe that playing sports enhances
 - B. Playing sports, however, I believe enhances
 - C. However I personally believe that playing sports enhances
 - D. I believe, however, that playing sports enhances
 - E. However, it is my opinion that to play sports is to enhance
3. I really enjoyed ballet, just no one thought I had any talent at all.

 - A. I really enjoyed ballet, just no one thought I had any talent at all.
 - B. Even though I really enjoyed ballet, just no one thought I had any talent at all.
 - C. Although I really enjoyed ballet, no one thought I had any talent at all.
 - D. I really enjoyed ballet, and therefore no one thought I had any talent at all.
 - E. Ballet was enjoyable to me, however no one thought I had any talent at all.
4. Older TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* took months or even years to build a large viewing audience; most shows today, however, never have that opportunity.

 - A. Older TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* took
 - B. Although older TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* took
 - C. With older TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* taking
 - D. Such older TV shows as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* took
 - E. When older TV shows such as *Laugh-In* and *Mork and Mindy* took

5. In the stained glass studio, the cat perched on the counter staring at four artisans quietly clanking, cutting and soldering pieces of coloring glass into just the right place of a puzzle that was slowly becoming one fabulous custom-made window.
- A. four artisans quietly clanking, cutting and soldering pieces of coloring glass
 - B. four clanking, cutting artisans quietly soldering pieces of coloring glass
 - C. four artisans quietly clanking, cutting and soldering pieces of colored glass
 - D. four quietly clanking and cutting artisans who were soldering pieces of colored glass
 - E. colored glass being soldered by four quietly clanking and cutting artisans
6. In the decorating world, handmade door designs ranging from intricate, curvy Victorian to Arts and Crafts to modern or styles reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright.
- A. In the decorating world, handmade door designs ranging from intricate,
 - B. In the decorating world, handmade door designs can range from intricate,
 - C. Handmade door designs, in the decorating world, can range from intricate,
 - D. Door designs of the handmade variety in the decorating world can range from intricate,
 - E. In the decorating world, doors that are made by hand can range from intricate,
7. To celebrate the grand opening of the new park project in town and demonstrating her company's commitment to urban renewal, the president and CEO of the biggest company in town is making a large donation to the Nature Center and the local public schools' nature programs.
- A. To celebrate the grand opening of the new park project in town and demonstrating her company's commitment to urban renewal,
 - B. Celebrating the company's commitment to urban renewal the grand opening of the new park project in town demonstrates her company's urban renewal commitment
 - C. To celebrate the new park project's grand opening that demonstrates commitment to urban renewal by her company,
 - D. To celebrate the grand opening of the new park project in town and to demonstrate her company's commitment to urban renewal,
 - E. Celebrating by demonstrating her company's commitment to urban renewal, the new park project was opened, and
8. In the original concept, the fountain not only would celebrate the running water of the summer, but it would also celebrate ice by using misting devices that will have sprayed water, which would fall into the basin of the fountain, freezing and forming lovely ice patterns.
- A. that will have sprayed water, which would fall into the basin of the fountain
 - B. that would have sprayed water, which would fall into the basin of the fountain
 - C. that when it sprayed water that would fall into the base of the fountain
 - D. that would have sprayed water, which would then be falling into the basin of the fountain
 - E. that will be spraying water, which will then fall into the fountain's basin
9. When hockey withdrawal hit Georgia Pergakis hard, she didn't sulk; instead she hopped a plane to Sweden and became an unlikely Scandinavian media darling.
- A. When hockey withdrawal hit Georgia Pergakis hard, she didn't sulk;
 - B. Georgia Pergakis, didn't sulk when hockey withdrawal hit her,
 - C. Hockey withdrawal didn't make Georgia Pergakis, who was hit hard, sulk,
 - D. Not one for sulking, Georgia Pergakis didn't allow hockey withdrawal hit her hard,
 - E. Hardly hit by hockey withdrawal, Georgia Pergakis didn't sulk,

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10. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or even what century.
- A. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or even what century.
 - B. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or in what century he lived.
 - C. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or even the century his life was in.
 - D. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or even when was his century.
 - E. Historians do not know for sure what his family name was or even what century he was living.
11. Neither the boys' tennis team nor the girls' basketball team are going be invited to participate in the State Championship this season.
- A. Neither the boys' tennis team nor the girls' basketball team are going to be invited
 - B. Neither the boy's tennis team nor the girl's basketball team are going to be invited
 - C. Neither the boys' tennis team nor the girl's basketball team have been inviting
 - D. Neither the boys' tennis team nor the girls' basketball team is going to be invited
 - E. No invitation has come for the boys tennis team nor the girls basketball team

Identifying Sentence Errors

These sentences will test your ability to recognize grammar and usage errors. Some are basic; a very few are obscure. Each sentence contains an error or no error at all (Choice E). Remember, your correct answer is actually identifying what is wrong with the sentence. If there is nothing wrong, then the answer will be E, No error.

12. According to the restaurant manager, the most important wait staff were those which had contributed to the positive reputation of the restaurant rather than those who collected the most impressive tips. No error.
- A B C D E
13. Today a physician must often make a choice among private practice or engaging in a number of research projects. No error.
- A B C D E
14. Drawn by the large crowd gathering in the park, the curious jogger standing listening to the heated argument between the two men. No error.
- A B C D E
15. Public transportation is for everybody, so please be considerate towards your fellow passengers by avoiding strong-smelling food and loud music, even on personal players, because others may not appreciate it as much as you. No error.
- A B C D E
16. Like a flour sifter that allows fine grains of flour to pass through but keeps debris out of the sifted flour, the kidneys filter small waste products into the urine but keep large, good particles like proteins in the blood. No error.
- A B C D E

17. At a City Council zoning meeting earlier this month, the decision was quietly made to give out on a project that has caused nothing but headaches and expenses, despite its seeming to have been a good idea at an earlier time. No error.
18. Either Ashar or Ahmed is going to receive a Community Scholarship for academic achievement, service to the community, and outstanding character. No error.
19. Fixing or moving the monument would be more expensive than its original cost, so the Advisory Board has decided to cut its losses and take the monument down. No error.
20. Whether you are to be considering Mount Everest as a climber, or simply admiring it as one of the seven wonders of the world, it will take your breath away. No error.
21. Mr. Lavine asked Joshua and I if we were going to try out for the Knowledge Bowl team, which last year won the state championship. No error.
22. Attaining incredibly high speeds when they run, it is astonishing how fast and amazingly graceful the gangly giraffes are looking when they get going. No error.
23. It was fortunate that the inexperienced pediatrician was able to examine the fretful child calm and with confidence and a soothing bedside manner. No error.
24. What was noteworthy about Otis's invention was that it was possible not only to move freight but to transport people up and down within a tall building. No error.
25. Before the advent of the elevator, hotel guests were reluctant to climb up many flights of stairs several times daily, so rooms on the lower floors were considered premium therefore costing more. No error.
26. It was an amazing accident that elementary school children on a science outing to collect frogs found many of them to have grave deformities, which has led to much speculation between scientists nationally as to possible causes of such malformations. No error.
27. To celebrate they're colleague's graduation, coworkers in the office agreed to contribute equally to a catered lunch and a few silly presents. No error.

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28. At Maple Creek High School, some members of the chess club are also on the swim team; unfortunately their competitions occasionally overlap and those whom are members of both teams have a difficult conflict to resolve.
- No error.
29. The two selfless sisters dedicated their lives to their professional job; their exemplary lives and altruistic attitudes made them two of Miss Nightingale's favorites. No error.

Improving Paragraphs

The following is an early draft of a short essay. Some parts need to be revised. Read the passage, paragraph by paragraph and choose the best answers for the questions that follow. In choosing answers, follow the rules of standard written English.

- 1) The London Underground, or “the Tube,” as it is known to Londoners, is normally the quickest and easiest way of getting around London. 2) In addition, London is served by twelve Tube lines, and underground trains on all lines run every few minutes during most hours of every day. 3) It has 275 stations conveniently dotted across the metro area. 4) Sixty-three of these stations are in central London. 5) One is never far from the convenience of the Tube.
- 6) Americans who visit London for the first time are usually very impressed by London’s Underground. 7) Even people from New York, Washington D.C. and Chicago, as well as other U.S. cities boasting successful mass transit systems.
- 8) London’s Tube enables people to travel short distances or to access the outlying suburbs as well. 9) Because many of the outlying tube stations are adjacent to train stations whose trains travel well into the surrounding countryside.
- 10) Large, crowded American cities which need mass transit systems such as Seattle and Detroit, should study the London Underground. 11) Granted, the system has been in place a long time, over 100 years in fact and it takes an incredible amount of money, time and coordination to keep it running. 12) Nevertheless, such a system is so worthwhile: it lessens traffic on the roads, and is far kinder to the environment. 13) In fact, many Londoners don’t even own cars nor need them. 14) They can get anywhere by just hopping on the Tube.

- 30.** Sentence 2 is best placed:
- A. where it is now.
 - B. at the end of paragraph one.
 - C. following sentence 3.
 - D. at the beginning of the paragraph.
 - E. following sentence 4.
- 31.** In the spirit of the first paragraph, sentences 3 and 4 can best be combined as:
- A. It has 275 stations conveniently dotted across the metro area, where 63 of them are centralized.
 - B. It has 275 stations conveniently dotted across the metro area, and 63 of these are in central London.
 - C. Having 275 stations conveniently dotted across the metro area, 63 are in central London.
 - D. Sixty three stations are in central London out of 275 stations that are dotted across the metro area.
 - E. It has 275 stations conveniently dotted across the metro area but only 63 in central London.
- 32.** Sentence 7 can best be expressed:
- A. as it is now.
 - B. New York, Washington D.C. and Chicago visitors as well as other U.S. cities boasting successful mass transit systems.
 - C. People from New York, Washington D.C. and even Chicago, as well as other U.S. cities boasting successful mass transit systems.
 - D. Even people from New York, Washington D.C. and Chicago, as well as other U.S. cities boasting successful mass transit systems are impressed.
 - E. People are even impressed from New York, Washington D.C., as well as other U.S. cities, and Chicago who boast successful mass transit systems.
- 33.** Sentence 8 can best be stated:
- A. as it is now.
 - B. London's Tube enables people to travel short distances, or to access the outlying suburbs as well.
 - C. Short distances or outlying suburbs are accessible by London's Tube.
 - D. London's Tube accesses outlying suburbs as well as people who travel short distances.
 - E. Traveling short distances or accessing suburbs is possible by people on London's Tube.
- 34.** Sentence 9 can best be stated:
- A. as it is now.
 - B. This is because many of the outlying Tube stations are adjacent to train stations whose trains travel well into the surrounding countryside.
 - C. Many train stations that travel well into the surrounding countryside are adjacent to the outlying Tube stations.
 - D. Outlying Tube stations that are adjacent to train stations allow people to travel well into the surrounding countryside.
 - E. The surrounding countryside can be traveled because many of the outlying Tube stations are adjacent to train stations whose trains travel there.

35. Sentence 10 can be correctly stated:

- A. as it is now.
- B. Large, crowded American cities needing mass transit systems, such as Los Angeles and Detroit, should study the London Underground.
- C. Large, crowded American cities that need mass transit systems, such as in Los Angeles and Detroit, should study the London Underground.
- D. The London Underground should be studied by large, crowded American cities that need mass transit systems such as Los Angeles and Detroit, should study the London Underground.
- E. Large American crowded cities needing mass transit systems should study the London Underground; Los Angeles and Detroit, for example.

Multiple-Choice Questions, Set 2

(Questions 1–14, 10 minutes)

Improving Sentences

The following sentences are questioning you about sentence correctness and expression of information. Part, or all, of each sentence is underlined. Following the sentence, five versions of the underlined portion are presented. Choice **A** repeats the original; the other choices are different. If you think a better sentence can be found in Choices **B–E**, then choose one of them. If the sentence is correct as stated, your answer will be **A**.

1. The idea behind the old high school system was that they could train an adequate workforce by sending only a small fraction of students to college, and that the other kids either couldn't do college work nor didn't need to.
 - A. and that the other kids either couldn't do college work nor didn't need to.
 - B. and college work could be done by those other kids or they didn't need it.
 - C. and those that didn't need to or couldn't do college work wouldn't go.
 - D. and that the other kids either couldn't do college work or didn't need to.
 - E. and that the other kids either didn't need to do college work or couldn't do it anyway.
2. Today, millions of U.S. teens attend high schools with more than 2,000 students; many fall between the cracks because of the sheer size of the institutions nevertheless the schools are so large they don't allow some students to get to know (or be known by) their instructors, administrators or fellow students.
 - A. nevertheless, the schools are so large they don't allow some students to get to know
 - B. however, the schools are so large they don't allow some students to get to know
 - C. the schools are so large, therefore, that they don't allow some students to get to know
 - D. the schools, however, are so large they don't allow some students to get to know
 - E. subsequently, the schools are so large they don't allow some students to get to know
3. President Dwight Eisenhower, a Republican, created what was then called the Arctic National Wildlife Range, in 1960, as one of his last acts in office.
 - A. President Dwight Eisenhower, a Republican, created what was then called the Arctic National Wildlife Range, in 1960, as one of his last acts in office.
 - B. As one of his last acts in office, the Arctic National Wildlife Range was created by President Dwight Eisenhower, a Republican, in 1960.
 - C. Created by President Dwight Eisenhower, a Republican, as one of his last acts in office, the Arctic National Wildlife Range was created in 1960.
 - D. In 1960, a Republican: President, Dwight Eisenhower, created the Arctic National Wildlife Range as one of his last acts in office.
 - E. The Arctic National Wildlife Range was created by Republican President Dwight Eisenhower as one of his last acts in office in 1960.

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4. Airline companies across the US are hoping to save up to \$375,000 by eliminating pillows from their domestic flights; however, passengers are unhappy about this situation, but it is doubtful that they will be caring enough to actually boycott flying.
- A. but it is doubtful that they will be caring enough to actually boycott flying.
 - B. boycotting flying is actually doubtful due to passengers who don't care that much.
 - C. doubtfully, passengers will not care enough to actually boycott flying altogether.
 - D. passengers, however, do not care enough and will actually not boycott flying.
 - E. but it is doubtful that they will actually care enough to boycott flying.
5. A wilderness designation is being overturned, setting a precedent that could make it easier to overturn other wilderness areas and wildlife refuge designations and open them up to extractive industries.
- A. A wilderness designation is being overturned, setting a precedent that could make it easier to overturn other wilderness areas
 - B. Setting a precedent that could make it easier to overturn other wilderness areas, a wilderness designation is being overturned
 - C. A wilderness designation is being overturned, setting a precedent that could make it easier to overturn other wilderness areas
 - D. Precedents that could make it easier to overturn other wilderness areas is being overturned
 - E. Making it easier to overturn other wilderness areas is a precedent that is being made
6. Regardless of the semantics, the trust fund we call Social Security has functioned exactly as planned, and will continue to do so if they can be protected from the likes of think-tank radicals who need to have a reality adjustment.
- A. if they can be protected from the likes of think-tank radicals
 - B. if it can be protected from the likes of think-tank radicals
 - C. if think-tank radicals can protect it
 - D. if think-tank radicals can protect the Social Security
 - E. if Social Security can be protected by think-tank radicals
7. It takes more than being smart and a good person to rightfully earn a position of great power and responsibility, it takes a successful track record.
- A. It takes more than being smart and a good person to rightfully earn a position of great power and responsibility, it takes a successful track record.
 - B. To rightfully earn a position of great power and responsibility a successful track record must be earned as well as being smart and a good person.
 - C. A successful track record plus being smart and a good person will give you a rightful position of power.
 - D. It takes more than being smart and a good person rightfully to earn a position of great power and responsibility; it takes a successful track record.
 - E. Being smart and a good person are no longer enough for a position of power because of needing a good track record.
8. Schools must have the flexibility of being able to offer smaller programs for those who need more attention, accelerated learning for students who can enter college earlier and paths to technical or vocational training for others.
- A. Schools must have the flexibility of being able to offer
 - B. Schools must be able to offer in their flexibility
 - C. Schools must have the flexibility to offer
 - D. Offering the following must be worked into the flexibility of the school
 - E. Schools must be able to offer due to their flexibility

9. In my Principals of Engineering class, we are building a sophisticated, accurate ping-pong-ball ballistics device, using computer modeling while learning higher-level math and physics as we proceed.
- A. In my Principals of Engineering class, we are building a sophisticated, accurate ping-pong-ball ballistics device,
 - B. A sophisticated, accurate ping-pong-ball ballistics device is being built in my Principals of Engineering class
 - C. In my Principles of Engineering class, we are building a sophisticated, accurate ping-pong-ball ballistics device,
 - D. In my Principles of Engineering class, we are building a sophisticated ping-pong-ball ballistics device that is also accurate.
 - E. Sophisticated and accurate ping-pong-ball ballistics device, in my Principles of Engineering class, is being built,
10. Scientists at Massachusetts General Hospital have developed a pill, made from the extract of a Central American fern, that may help prevent sunburn.
- A. Central American fern, that may help prevent sunburn.
 - B. fern from Central America that may help prevent sunburn.
 - C. Central American fern that is thought to, perhaps prevent sunburn.
 - D. Central American fern that may help prevent sunburn.
 - E. Central American fern which may help prevent sunburn.
11. Heart disease now kills more women than men, so women need to be their own advocates, knowing their risk factors and to ask their doctors about tests and treatments.
- A. knowing their risk factors and to ask their doctors about tests and treatments.
 - B. to know their risk factors and to ask about tests and treatments.
 - C. to know their risk factors and asking about tests and treatments.
 - D. knowing their risk factors and tests and treatment being asked about.
 - E. risk factors known and tests and treatments being pursued.
12. Every time a building is erected, the grass that was once beneath it is often replaced by a tar roof or swath of asphalt, but the roof of each newly-built building can be replaced by a garden.
- A. but the roof of each newly-built building can be replaced by a garden.
 - B. but a garden can replace the roof of each newly replaced building.
 - C. but the roof can be a garden on top of each newly built building.
 - D. but gardens of newly-built building's roofs can be grown.
 - E. but the newly-built roof can be a garden on top of each building.
13. Unlike the human eye, the fly's eye has 350 facets, including some that see behind them, enabling the fly to detect movement much faster than we can and allow them to zoom at insane speeds without crashing.
- A. including some that see behind them,
 - B. seeing behind is included,
 - C. including backwards viewing,
 - D. including some that see behind it,
 - E. it includes that which is behind,

14. In some areas of Sri Lanka, the tsunami was especially cruel in its choice of victims; nevertheless, the poor suffered more than the rich, the weak more than the strong, and women and children, who despite having lived all their lives by the water had never learned to swim.
- A. nevertheless, the poor suffered more than the rich, the weak more than the strong,
 - B. however, the poor suffered more than the rich, the weak more than the strong,
 - C. consequently, the poor suffered more than the rich, the weak more than the strong,
 - D. suffering more than the rich were the poor and suffering more than the strong were the weak,
 - E. the poor and the weak suffering much more than the rich and the strong,

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION ONLY. DO NOT WORK ON ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE TEST.

