

PRAXIS-WRITING-SECTION^{Q&As}

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) - Writing Section

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QUESTION 1

Identify the error in the following sentence:

It is a great glory to always be sitting among friends and kinfolk.

- A. great glory
- B. to always be
- C. among friends
- D. kinfolk.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: This is a split infinitive; the correct form is to be always.

QUESTION 2

Identify the error in the following sentence:

She didn't answer him; she was concentrating on her paper.

- A. didn't
- B. him;
- C. was concentrating
- D. paper.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: The sentence is correct as written.

QUESTION 3

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Then he dropped them both, and the big one landed first which he had thought it would do, and the little one landed second, which he had thought it would do.

- A. No error
- B. one landed first, which

- C. one landed first: that
- D. one landed first; which
- E. one landed first ?that

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The punctuation should be the same for both of the parallel clauses.

QUESTION 4

Identify the error in the following sentence:

I was so worried about the test results that came back yesterday afternoon, but as it turns out Maria was more worried than me.

- A. so worried
- B. that came
- C. but
- D. me
- E. No error

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: "Me" can be used if it is an object that is affected, but not if an action is being performed. At the end of this sentence, the word that replaces me (i.e. I) needs to be "worried." Which sounds more correct, "Me was worried." or "I was worried."? Oftentimes questions such as these identifying the error writing questions on the test will demand you to apply critical thinking and place the word in a different context than its original context in order to test the meaning and how the word fits. Change "me" to "I" in order to fix this sentence.

QUESTION 5

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Firefighters and police officers risk their lives often by stepping into the way of danger physically; therefore, professionals such as doctors and lawyers have an equally significant impact on individuals\' lives medically and legally. Therefore, but nevertheless as a result and Firefighters and police officers risk their lives often by stepping into the way of danger physically; therefore, professionals such as doctors and lawyers have an equally significant impact on individuals\' lives medically and legally.

- A. therefore
- B. but
- C. nevertheless
- D. as a result

E. and

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The first clause (everything before the semi colon) definitely does not cause what is explained in the second clause (everything after the semi colon), so "therefore" is an inappropriate transition. This sentence is presenting contrasting professions (firefighter/police officer and doctor/lawyer) since two are viewed as blue-collar (working class) and the others are white-collar (professional); therefore, a contrasting conjunction is needed. Choice "therefore", choice "as a result" and choice "and" do not present contrasting conjunctions. In this sentence "but" is not your best option for a conjunction. A semi-colon is used, so the three simple conjunctions (and/but/yet/etc.) are not as appropriate as the complex conjunctions (therefore/however/nevertheless/etc.). If just a comma was used, then "but" would have been appropriate (i.e. "...into the way of danger physically, but professionals such as doctors..."). So now it's down to "nevertheless." Choice "nevertheless" is the best answer.

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