

# PRAXIS-WRITING-SECTION<sup>Q&As</sup>

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) - Writing Section

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## QUESTION 1

Identify the error in the following sentence:

The defeated baseball team sat down to his and her supper with heavy hearts.

- A. The defeated
- B. sat down
- C. his and her
- D. heavy hearts.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The word "their" should be used here.

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## QUESTION 2

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Although James would rather walk to work then ride the bus, the sidewalks in his neighborhood were still covered with ice from the most recent winter storm.

- A. would rather
- B. then
- C. were still covered
- D. most recent E. No error

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The correct answer is "then" because the word "then" has been used instead of "than." Though many people use these words interchangeably, the two words have different functions and cannot be used in place of each other in grammatically correct writing. "Then" is a measure of time; it tells the reader when something will occur. For example, I'll eat lunch and then go to the store. "Than" is used to compare people or things. For example, Mary likes Pedro more than Edward. To correct the sentence above, change "then" to "than" to show the comparison between walking to work and riding the bus.

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## QUESTION 3

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

A growing technology trend is to merge multiple devices with complimentary functions such as a phone, music player and the scheduling features of a planner.

- A. the scheduling features of a planner.
- B. and a planner with scheduling features.
- C. and scheduling features.
- D. scheduling features.
- E. a planner.

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: It is informative to include the details about a planner's features, it should be accompanied by the features of a phone and a music player if that is the way the sentence is being written. Therefore, choices "the scheduling features of a planner", "and a planner with scheduling features", "and scheduling features" and "scheduling features" are incorrect. Choice "and a planner with scheduling features" and "and scheduling features" even add "and" again making the sentence read "...music player and and..." which is clearly wrong. Be careful; the test wants to catch you off guard. Only choice "a planner" is direct and maintains parallelism.

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#### QUESTION 4

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

If you do not believe my claim, you should have the decency to say so.

- A. No error
- B. you could have the decency to say so.
- C. you should have the decency, to say so.
- D. you would have the decency to say so.
- E. you decently could say so.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: This sentence is correct as written.

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#### QUESTION 5

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

Even though I have seen the movie countless times, I still laughed when the sheriff throws his mug.

- A. laughed when the sheriff throws his mug.
- B. laugh when the sheriff throws his mug.
- C. laugh when the sheriff threw his mug.

D. laughed whenever the sheriff throws his mug.

E. laugh when the sheriff will throw his mug.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: "laughed when the sheriff throws his mug", "laugh when the sheriff threw his mug", "laughed whenever the sheriff throws his mug", and "laugh when the sheriff will throw his mug" all have verb tense mismatches.

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