

GED-SECTION-2^{Q&As}

Section Two Language Arts - Writing

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QUESTION 1

The Gateway Arch

A

(1)The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.

(2)Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument builded to honor St. Louiss role as the gateway to the West.

B

(3)Construction on the 630-foot-high structure began in 1961.

(4)The construction was completed four years later in 1965.

(5)The monument includes an underground visitor center that explores westward expansion threw galleries and a theater.

(6)Two passenger trams take visitors to the Observation Room and the Museum of Westward Expansion at the top.

C

(7)In 1947, a group of interested citizens held a nationwide competition to select a design for a new monument that will celebrate the growth of the United States.

(8)Other U.S. monuments are spires, statues, or imposing buildings.

(9)The winner of this contest was a plan for a completely unique structure.

(10)The man who submitted the winning design Eero Saarinen later became a famous architect.

(11)In designing the Arch, Saarinen wanted to "create a monument which would have lasting significance and would be a landmark of our time."

D

(12)The Gateway Arch is a masterpiece of engineering.

(13)A monument even taller than the Great Pyramid in Egypt, and in its own way, at least as majestic.

(14)The Gateway is an inverted catenary curve, the same shape that a heavy chain will form if suspended between two points.

(15)Covered with a sleek skin of stainless steel, dazzling bursts of sunlight are often reflected by the Arch.

(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Sentence 9: The winner of this contest was a plan for a completely unique structure. The most effective revision to this sentence would begin with which of the following?

A. Similarly,

- B. However,
- C. Later,
- D. In conclusion,
- E. Therefore,

Correct Answer: B

This transition establishes the correct relationship between sentence 8, which describes what other monuments are like, and sentence 9, which states that this monument design was unique. Choice a is incorrect because sentence 9 does not state an idea similar to the one in sentence 8. Choice c is incorrect because sentence 9 does not follow sentence 8 chronologically. Choice d is incorrect because it does not offer a conclusion to the ideas that precede it. Choice e is incorrect because sentence 9 does not offer an "effect" of sentence 8.

QUESTION 2

Yoga

A

(1)

One of today's hottest fads is also one of the world's oldest practices: the ancient art of yoga.

(2)

Yoga is different from other fitness activities because it is not only physical.

(3)

In the correct form, yoga is a practice of unification: an emotional, spiritual, and physical exercise.

B

(4)

A simple sitting pose such as staff pose, for example, requires that you tighten and lengthen stomach, back, and arm muscles as you stretch your legs out in front of you and place your hands by your side.

(5)

More difficult poses, such as brave warrior, require you to balance on one leg and hold a pose that strengthens leg, back, and stomach muscles.

(6)

Though they may seem easy to those who have never practiced, yoga poses require great concentration, and they are surprisingly effective in stretching and strengthening muscles.

C

(7)

While yoga tones and strengthens the body, it also tones and strengthens the mind.

(8)

Many poses can be only held if you are completely focused on the task, and full benefit of the poses are coming only through proper breathing.

(9)

Concentrated, deep breathing during yoga helps you extend more fully into the poses.

(10)

Thereby gaining greater benefit from the stretch.

(11)

And the steady circulation of breath through your body both calms and energizes.

D

(12)

I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga.

(13)

I have been practicing yoga for only one year.

(14)

I am addicted to yoga unlike any other physical activity because it is also a spiritual practice.

(15)

Through yoga, I am able to release tensions that lodge in various parts of my body: the tight shoulders, the cramped legs, the belly that is in knots.

(16)

The physical release is also a spiritual release.

(17)

I feel calm after doing yoga, reconnected to my body, and reconnected to my inner self.

Sentence 1: One of today's hottest fads is also one of the world's oldest practices the ancient art of yoga. Which correction should be made to sentence 1?

- A. Delete the apostrophe in today
- B. Change oldest to most old.
- C. Insert a comma after fads.
- D. Insert a colon after practices.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: D

Colons are used to introduce lists, quotations, and explanations. In this sentence, the ancient art of yoga "explains" what one of the world's oldest practices is.

Choice a is incorrect because the apostrophe is necessary to show possession (a fad belonging to today). Choice b is incorrect because the superlative of one-syllable words is formed by adding -est. Choice c is incorrect because commas

should not be placed between subjects and verbs. Choice e is incorrect because the colon needs to be inserted.

QUESTION 3

Refer to the following meeting minutes and answer the question.

Employee Advocate Committee Minutes of Meeting Held:

July 21, 2005 In Attendance: Dakota Mills, Vice President Rebecca Styles, Committee Chairperson Oliver Perez, Committee Secretary

Brenda Oslowski

Michael Wen

Jamal Roberts Absent:

Anthony Wilkins

A

1. Employee Lounge.

(1) Brenda reported an increase in complaints about the employee lounge.

(2) The complaints included:

B

(3) Jamal suggested creating a survey to determine how to best redesign the lounge.

(4) Rebecca suggested putting a suggestion box in the lounge.

(5) The committee agreed that a survey would be more systematic and getting more input from employees.

(6) Michael volunteered to create the survey that he will bring a draft of to the next meeting.

(7) Oliver volunteers to research the cost of a new microwave and refrigerator.

(8) The need for more telephones was another complaint about the lounge that was discussed.

C

2. Employee Appreciation Day.

(9) Rebecca reminded the committee that it was time to plan the annual Employee Appreciation Day, we brainstormed several ideas for Appreciation Day activities, including:

D

(10) Brenda noted that the company could best show its appreciation by moving quickly improving the lounge.

(11) The committee have agreed that the survey should be completed before Employee Appreciation Day.

E

(13) The

committee will reconvene next Thursday July 28 at 10 A.M.

Sentence 6: Michael volunteered to create the survey that he will bring a draft of to the next meeting.

Which is the best way to write the underlined portion of this sentence?

A.

that he will bring a draft of

B.

and will bring a draft

C.

bringing a draft of it

D.

therefore, he will bring a draft of it

E.

that he is going to bring a draft of

Correct Answer: B

This version correctly states the second action Michael will take in this compound verb: Michael volunteered and will bring a draft to the next meeting. Choice a is incorrect because it is wordy and awkward, especially with the placement of after draft. Choice c is incorrect because it is also awkward and does not have the helping verb will to indicate the future tense of the verb. Choice d is incorrect because it creates a run-on sentence. Choice e is grammatically correct but bulky and awkward because it uses is going to bring instead of will bring and because, like choice a, it places of after draft.

QUESTION 4

MEMORANDUM

To: All Jubilee Products Employees From: Blair Borowski, Facilities Manager

Date: March 1, 2005

Re: New Carpet **ATTENTION**

A

(1) This Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6, under your feet carpet company will be installing new carpets throughout the building.

(2) All office areas being currently carpeted will get new carpeting.

(3) All office areas that are not currently carpeted will also be carpeted.

B

(4) To prepare for the carpet installation, Under Your Feet have requested the following:

1.

(5) Remove ALL nonfurniture items from the carpet or floor in your work area.

2.

(6) ALL items except computers and telephones from the top of your furniture should be removed. (7) If for your office items you need boxes or storage space, please contact me at extension 425.

(8) The new carpet will be dark blue.

C

(9) Your compliance is very important, I will circulate a reminder on Thursday and again on Friday morning.

D

(10) Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

(11) If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contacting me.

Sentences 2: All office areas being currently carpeted will get new carpeting. Which correction should be made to sentence 2?

A. Change being to that are.

B. Replace office with Office.

C. Change will get to is getting.

D. Move all to follow areas.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: A

The clause that are currently carpeted is the correct clause to modify all office areas. Choice b is incorrect because office is not a proper noun and should not be capitalized. Choice c is incorrect because the helping verb will is necessary to indicate the future tense. Choice d creates an awkward word order and does not correct the problem with being currently carpeted, which is the present perfect tense and incorrect. Choice e is incorrect because being currently carpeted must be corrected.

QUESTION 5

MEMORANDUM

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From: Blair Borowski, Facilities Manager

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C

(9) Your compliance is very important, I will circulate a reminder on Thursday and again on Friday morning.

D

(10) Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

(11) If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contacting me.

Sentences 11: If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contacting me. Which correction should be made to sentence 11?

A. Delete if.

B. Change contacting to contact.

C. Insert not after don't.

D. Change the period at the sentence to a question mark.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

There should not be an ing on the end of a verb in an infinitive phrase. Choice a is incorrect because the subordinating conjunction if is necessary for the logic of the sentence. Choice c is incorrect because inserting not would create a double negative. Choice d is incorrect because the sentence is a statement, not a question. Choice e is incorrect because the infinitive needs to be corrected.

QUESTION 6

How to Be an Active Listener

A

(1)Effective face to face communication depends upon the ability to listen well.

(2)Many of us hear what others say without really listening to the message they are sending.

(3)We must listen actively to correctly understand what is being said.

B

(4)The first step to active listening is to pay attention.

(5)Dont fidget, doodle, or look off at something else.

(6)Daydreaming is something that you shouldnt do, or look at your watch, or worry about what youre going to make for dinner.

C

(7)You should actively respond to what you hear.

(8)Use nonverbal responses, nod or shake your head, laugh or smile, and make other appropriate gestures. (9)Lean forward and look the speaker in the eye to be shown that you are paying attention.

D

(10)As you listen, respond verbally as well.

(11)Offer affirmations such as "yes" "uh-huh" and "I understand."

(12)Ask questions to get details or examples or to clarify matters.

(13)Paraphrasing what you hear to be sure you are understanding things correctly.

E

(14)The third step is that distractions should be avoided.

(15)If you are going to listen to someone; turn off the television or radio.

(16) Don't look at your computer screen or pick up the phone.

(17) Close the door if possible to avoid interruptions or outside distractions, and you will be a more effective listener.

Sentences 7: You should actively respond to what you hear. The most effective revision to sentence 7 would involve

A. moving sentence 7 to the end of paragraph C.

B. changing You should to The second step is to.

C. inserting the number 2 at the beginning of the paragraph.

D. changing the yours in the sentence to we.

E. deleting sentence 7

Correct Answer: B

This revision creates a smooth transition between paragraphs B and C by clearly introducing the second step. Choice a is incorrect because sentence 7 is the topic sentence of paragraph C and should be placed before the specific examples of active listening. Choice c is incorrect because none of the other paragraphs uses numbers for the steps. Choice d is incorrect because changing you to we would make the point of view inconsistent throughout the passage. Choice e is also incorrect because the topic sentence is necessary and should not be deleted.

QUESTION 7

The Gateway Arch

A

(1) The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.

(2) Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument build to honor St. Louis's role as the gateway to the West.

B

(3) Construction on the 630-foot-high structure began in 1961.

(4) The construction was completed four years later in 1965.

(5) The monument includes an underground visitor center that explores westward expansion through galleries and a theater.

(6) Two passenger trams take visitors to the Observation Room and the Museum of Westward Expansion at the top.

C

(7) In 1947, a group of interested citizens held a nationwide competition to select a design for a new monument that will celebrate the growth of the United States.

(8) Other U.S. monuments are spires, statues, or imposing buildings.

(9) The winner of this contest was a plan for a completely unique structure.

(10)The man who submitted the winning design Eero Saarinen later became a famous architect.

(11)In designing the Arch, Saarinen wanted to "create a monument which would have lasting significance and would be a landmark of our time."

D

(12)The Gateway Arch is a masterpiece of engineering.

(13)A monument even taller than the Great Pyramid in Egypt, and in its own way, at least as majestic.

(14)The Gateway is an inverted catenary curve, the same shape that a heavy chain will form if suspended between two points.

(15)Covered with a sleek skin of stainless steel, dazzling bursts of sunlight are often reflected by the Arch.

(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Sentence 2: Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument builded to honor St. Louiss role as the gateway to the West. Which correction should be made to sentence 2?

A. Change role to roll.

B. Replace builded with built.

C. Delete the comma after Memorial.

D. Change monument to Monument.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

The past tense of build is irregular and should be built. Choice a is incorrect because roll has a different meaning. Choice c is incorrect because the comma is necessary after the introductory phrase. Choice d is incorrect because monument is not a specific noun in this context. Choice e is incorrect because the verb needs to be corrected.

QUESTION 8

The Gateway Arch

A

(1)The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.

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(15)Covered with a sleek skin of stainless steel, dazzling bursts of sunlight are often reflected by the Arch.

(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Paragraph C, sentences 7 through 11: In 1947, a group of interested citizens . . . would be a landmark of our time." Which revision should be made to the placement of this paragraph?

A. Move paragraph C to the first sentence of the passage.

B. Move paragraph C to follow paragraph A.

C. Move paragraph C to the last paragraph in the essay.

D. Delete paragraph C.

E. No revision to placement is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

It is most logical to switch the order of paragraphs B and C so that the passage is in chronological order. Choice a is incorrect because paragraph A introduces us to the Arch and should remain the first paragraph of the passage. Choice c is incorrect because it further disrupts the chronological order, and paragraph D is the logical conclusion to the passage. Choice d is incorrect because the paragraph offers important information and should not be deleted. Choice e is incorrect because the paragraph is best moved above paragraph B.

QUESTION 9

How to Buy a Gift

A

(1)We buy gifts all throughout the year for many different occasions. (2)Including birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries.

(3)A few simple strategies can help you pick a good gift every time.

B

(4)First, decide how much money you will spend on the gift.

(5)This depends upon two things: how much you can afford to spend and how much you want to spend.

(6)You may be able to afford \$100.

(7)You may only want to spend \$25.

(8)A maximum limit should be set so that you do not go over budget.

C

(9)Second, decide what sort of gift you want to give.

(10)Do you want your gift to be something practical, or would you rather give something whimsical.

(11)Do you want a gift that is unique, or would the receiver prefer something ordinary?

(12)Do you need something that's top of the line, or would the receiver appreciate a bargain brand?

(13)Even if you don't know exactly what you want to get, having an idea of the kind of gift you want can help you make the most of your time while you are shopping.

D

(14)Determine where you can purchase the kind of gift you want within your budget.

(15)For example, don't go to an upscale department store if your budget is only \$25.

(16)A little research can help you find the right place for your purchase.

(17)That is making you, your wallet, and your gift recipient happy.

Sentence 17: That is making you, your wallet, and your gift recipient happy. Which is the most effective way to write the underlined portion of sentence 17?

A. That is making you

B. That will make you

C. You will be made

D. While it makes you E. Having made, you

Correct Answer: B

The helping verb needs to express that the action takes place in the future, so will is the best choice. Choice a is

incorrect because it uses a helping verb that expresses present, not future, action. Choice c is incorrect because it is illogical. Choice d is incorrect because it creates a sentence fragment. Choice e is incorrect; it also creates a sentence fragment, and it is illogical.

QUESTION 10

The Gateway Arch

A

(1)The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.

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(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Sentence 7: In 1947, a group of interested citizens held a nationwide competition to select a design for a new monument that will celebrate the growth of the

United States.

Which correction should be made to sentence 7?

- A. Change will to would.
- B. Replace held with did hold.
- C. Insert a comma after monument.
- D. Move in 1947 to the end of the sentence.
- E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: A

The past tense of the helping verb will is required. Choice b is incorrect because the simple past tense is required. Choice c is incorrect because no comma is necessary between monument and the descriptive clause that follows. Choice d is incorrect because it changes the meaning of the sentence, indicating that the growth of the United States occurred in 1947. Choice e is incorrect because the verb tense needs to be changed.

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