

ACT Lesson Packet

Day 1 - Grammar - Comma Splices and Fused Commas

Recognizing Comma Splices And Fused Sentences

Directions: In the exercise that follows, you will read a sentence and then determine if the error is a comma splice or a fused sentence.

To keep track of your answers, print the accompanying handout. If you are unsure which choice to make, consult the rules.

Before you begin, you should review the definitions of a comma splice and a fused sentence:

A comma splice contains two main clauses illegally joined by a comma. The problem looks like this:

MAIN CLAUSE + , + MAIN CLAUSE = .

A fused sentence, on the other hand, contains two main clauses illegally run together with no punctuation whatsoever. The problem looks like this:

MAIN CLAUSE + Ø + MAIN CLAUSE = .

Comma Splice Example

I went to the mall, Jane was there.

"I went to the mall" is an independent clause that can stand alone as its own sentence. "Jane was there" is also an independent clause. It is grammatically incorrect to link these two sentences with a comma.

Fused Sentence Example

A fused sentence (or run-on) occurs when two independent clauses are joined without punctuation or without a coordinating conjunction.

Fused sentence: Independent clause independent clause.

At first I wanted to be a doctor now I don't.

Fill out the comma splices and fused sentences worksheets in this packet.

Name _____

Date _____

COMMA SPLICES AND FUSED SENTENCES – EXERCISE 1

Directions: Determine whether the items below are [comma splices](#) or [fused sentences](#). Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Julie is a real hypochondriac when her stomach hurts, she is certain that she has a bleeding ulcer, and if she has a backache, she believes that she has cancer of the spine.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

2. My cat Buster loves to nap on warm appliances when he sleeps on top of the television, his tail swipes the screen like a windshield wiper.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

3. During English class, Anthony kept flirting with RaShaunda because his behavior was keeping Shenicka from understanding the lecture, Shenicka whacked him over the head with her heavy dictionary.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

4. In preparation for the quiz, La'Mia studied comma splices and fused sentences until she thought her brain would burst, finally, she put away her notes, convinced that she would remember the rules even on her death bed.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

5. At the back of the classroom, Nina sat with her arms crossed, glaring at her teacher, Mr. Beane, her body language indicated that English was her least favorite subject.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

6. When Matt shaved his head, his mother worried that he had joined a cult the real reason for the bald head, however, was that Matt could get more attention and sympathy from girls who thought he was sick with a dread disease.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

7. Mike loves to play computer games, especially *Tomb Raider*, he imagines that all of the villains are his problems, and he gets great satisfaction blasting them to bits.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

8. Cindy's mumbling often gets her in trouble just the other day, in fact, her stylist misunderstood Cindy's instructions and dyed her hair blue after Cindy asked him to trim the ends.
 - A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

9. Clyde knew that he should be saving money for next semester's tuition he spent every paycheck, however, on gold jewelry and expensive dinners for his greedy girlfriend Gloria.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
10. At the campus coffee cart, Gini makes the best drinks her sweet cream latte, a blend of vanilla ice cream and espresso, will put on the pounds, but its cool, smooth taste is worth a trip to the gym.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
11. Josie, Don's Cairn terrier, will bark at anything that moves, squirrels, wind blown leaves, passing cars, and her own shadow will start her yapping.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
12. Because his glasses were so thick, Quincy refused to get contacts, he worried that equally thick contact lenses would make him look like a bug-eyed space alien.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
13. Madison believed that the best job in the universe would be to work as a crew member on the star ship *Enterprise* since this job existed only on television, Madison settled for clerking at a neighborhood comic book store that sold *Star Trek* memorabilia.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

14. Michelle is terrified of spiders, so when she found one in the bathroom, she panicked, refusing to shower for three days to use the restroom, she drove to her neighborhood gas station.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
15. When Jim threw his back out while helping his wife Nancy move the sofa, he feared the treatment the doctor would recommend, a week's worth of bed rest during the nicest week in April would certainly wreck Jim's golf plans.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
16. Sima was so sleepy after her marathon studying session for calculus that she ordered a triple espresso before going to class once the caffeine kicked in, Sima knew that she wouldn't doze off on Dr. Ribley.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
17. Rachel painstakingly ironed her linen shirt all the while, she was thinking how pointless this chore was since linen begins to wrinkle the moment after the last button is fastened.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence
18. Jeremiah likes to put peanut butter on his pancakes instead of syrup, the smell is appealing, but I wouldn't want to eat anything so sticky that early in the morning.
- A. comma splice
 - B. fused sentence

19. Clarence couldn't believe that the hardware store was selling garden rakes for only \$1.99 each when he brought home twenty of them, his wife Marie just shook her head and squeezed them into a garage stuffed full of her husband's other "good buys."
- A. comma splice
B. fused sentence
20. Orange juice, toast, and cereal might be a healthy breakfast, but Ricardo always hits the snooze button on his alarm too many times all he can grab is a stale pastry and soda.
- A. comma splice
B. fused sentence



COMMA SPLICES AND FUSED SENTENCES – EXERCISE 2

Directions: Each sentence below contains three underlined parts, *one* of which is a [comma splice](#) or [fused sentence](#). You must find and fix the problem. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Hoping to relax after a busy week at work and school, Cheryl smoothed on some sunscreen, settled onto her pool raft, and opened her new Stephen King novel, then her neighbor cranked up the lawnmower, ruining the quiet.
2. Derek wanted a ferocious pit bull terrier to scare off burglars, but his apartment complex did not allow dogs as a result, Derek had to settle for naming his goldfish Mr. Jaws and installing additional door locks.
3. Sylvia carefully ironed her one good suit to wear to the bank interview the next day all the while, Buster, her hairy white cat, waited for her to lay the dark gray skirt on the bed so that he would have a warm spot to nap.
4. Chet decided to get a huge Chinese dragon tattooed across his shoulder blades once the stabbing needle pierced his skin, however, Chet quickly changed his mind, opting to pierce an ear instead.
5. Struggling to capture the nude model on paper, Sima whined that she didn't have the right pencil at the same time, she realized that this complaint was the same as saying that she couldn't sink a basketball because she didn't have expensive athletic shoes.

6. Hunched over the keyboard for **hours, Charlie** used two fingers to hunt and peck out the 2,000-word research **paper when** lightning caused his computer to **crash, Charlie** wept more tears than the thunderclouds spilled rain.
7. After listening for weeks to her boyfriend Steve bragging about his mother's **chili, Amy** anticipated the first delicious **spoonful, the** hair floating among the beef and **beans, however,** killed her appetite.
8. When Javier was supposed to be in **trigonometry, he** was instead flirting with pretty girls in the **cafeteria needless to say, he** was inadequately prepared to make the 98 that he needed on the final exam to pass the course.
9. Julina knew that she would never again **agree to** go out to dinner with **James, he** expected her to buy her own **meal, tip** the waitress, and chip in for gas.
10. At a garage sale, Clarence bought four gallons of exterior latex for only ten **dollars then,** when his neighbors saw the nuclear **pink, they** collected 120 **dollars to** buy four gallons of primer and four gallons of forest green paint.
11. When Millie overheard Coach Jones complain that women didn't belong on a basketball **court, she** became so angry that she picked up a tennis racket and whacked him over the **head, the** assault and battery **charge, in** Millie's opinion, was worth it.
12. Given 1,000 dollars as a graduation **gift, Kris** wavered between putting the money toward a new **computer or** going to Germany to visit his **sister, finally** Fräuleins and beer won out over modems and megabytes.
13. When Simone and her husband discovered sixteen jars full of insects in their daughter's **room, they** decided to get Maria a **dog, tolerating one** four-legged **animal seemed** better than having fifty six-legged "pets" in the house.

14. Syed finally decided to clean out his disorganized book **bag, old** US Government **handouts, math** notes from Intermediate **Algebra, leaky** ballpoint pens, and a smashed banana littered the inside.
15. With sharp scissors, Think tried to even her client's **hair, but** the woman kept twisting in her seat to yell at her two small **children who** were terrorizing the **salon, Think** finally decided that crooked ends were better than poking out a client's eye.
16. Everyone always invites Marc to the **movies, his** jeans are so oversized that he can sneak in two two-liter bottles of **soda, which** he straps to his **thighs, saving** his friends from the outrageous drink prices at the theater.
17. When Minori left Japan to study in the United **States, she** thought that she would miss her mother's delicious home **cooking, however,** after her first taste of a bacon cheeseburger, she didn't **care if** she ever returned to Japan.
18. The computer began to wail like an **ambulance, startling** poor **Robert, who** only wanted to retrieve his **paper, unfortunately,** a virus had immobilized the hard drive.
19. Jenny noticed a greasy snail-like trail that snaked from the kitchen counter, onto the floor, and then over to the **hallway, June,** Jenny's **cat, had** stolen another stick of **butter and** tried to drag it to the laundry room.
20. After a successful interview at a bookstore, Julio patiently waited by the **phone, hoping** to hear that he had gotten a summer **job, every** call, **though, was** a twelve-year-old boy calling for Rosita, Julio's younger sister.



COMMA SPLICES AND FUSED SENTENCES – EXERCISE 3

Directions: Each sentence below contains three underlined parts, *one* of which is a [comma splice](#) or [fused sentence](#). You must find and fix the problem. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. If Chris hopes to survive in his 8 a.m. English class, he needs to discover caffeine even when he has a test, his head hits the desk by 8:05, and snores soon escape his mouth.
2. Although you might not believe it, Antonio actually benefits from his chicken scratch handwriting because no one can read it, Antonio doesn't have to worry about using the right word or the correct spelling.
3. If you offer Valerie a piece of watermelon, she will refuse it, the slices look like the wicked smile of a circus clown who once scared her as a child during a trip to the big top.
4. During the summer when a variety of fruit is in season, Melville always avoids the fresh peaches, the fuzzy skin brushing against his lips makes Melville think that he's eating a small rodent.
5. Jean always nibbles around the pit of a cherry, just as if she were eating a peach, because she is vain about her smile, she doesn't want to chip a tooth on the hard center.
6. Because Simon thinks that he has big, ugly toes, he insists on wearing socks everywhere that he goes at the beach, in the shower, or around the house, you will find Simon with socks on his feet.

7. Sick with the **flu, Howard** craved a big hot bowl of his grandmother's chicken **soup,** **but** in the refrigerator, Howard had only a jar of olives and a carton of **milk, cream** of olive soup, Howard decided, would only worsen how he felt.
8. To gain attention, Christie has pierced each of her ears eight **times on** breezy **days,** **people** hear the tinkling sounds of Christie's unique wind **chimes as** the jewelry blows in the wind.
9. Since he was sound asleep on the library **sofa, William** was oblivious to his twenty-eight algebra **classmates, who** were sweating, sighing, and wracking their brains as they tried to ace their final **exam, poor** William was quietly earning a zero.
10. Sparkling with jewelry conned from **ex-boyfriends, Sylvia** keeps an eye out for new victims with fat **wallets, she** still needs a pair of diamond **earrings to** complement a necklace that she managed to coerce Ricardo into buying.
11. As her teachers had **recommended, Madison** tried to study in the **library but** discovered that the good music, unlimited soda, and big tables at the campus café made a great place to do **homework during** fall semester, Madison must have eaten 150 pizza slices while she slogged through Fundamentals of Biology.
12. Davina, a good friend in my biology **class, has** more interest in what is under a guy's *skin* than what's under his **clothes, for this reason, she** is pursuing a degree in radiography.
13. Jackie always made it a point to sit in the front **row because** she liked to focus on the lecture and take good **notes, the** excessive spitting of her Latin **professor, however,** drove her to the back of the room.
14. Latoya tried to concentrate on Dr. Lemon's dull art history **lecture, but** the darkened classroom and endless slide show soon had her dozing in her **seat, Latoya** knew that Beverly would poke her with a **pencil if** Dr. Lemon bothered to glance their way.

15. Todd is an amazing **cook, he** can look into a nearly empty refrigerator and put together an interesting **dinner; yesterday**, for **example, he** made a sliced pickle and mayonnaise sandwich, using an old blueberry muffin as bread.
16. Watching the Home Shopping Network late one **evening, Clarence** saw handheld televisions advertised for only **\$49.99, so** he bought ten of **them, in** his lifetime, Clarence was certain that he would need them all.
17. When Robert is riding his Honda **motorcycle, he** drives **recklessly, weaving** dangerously through rush hour traffic, Robert doesn't **care that** he might leave a kneecap or chunk of thigh speared on a car bumper.
18. During the fall semester, parking on campus is very **difficult, students** circle the lots like **vultures, waiting** for an empty **space, and** most students soon realize that taking a 7 a.m. class, despite the effort it takes to get up that early, at least cures their parking woes.
19. Jacques, a self-taught computer whiz, always hates going to his Introduction to Microcomputers **class the** reason **is that** both his textbook and professor are at least a year **behind when** they discuss software or internal components.
20. Belinda hates her psychology **class, although** her professor is an interesting **lecturer, the** auditorium is right next to the copy **center, and** the whump, whump, whump of the machines always makes Belinda drowsy.



Day 2 ACT Writing Prompt

Read the ACT Writing Prompt and write a written response in the space provided.

College Sports

College sports have become incredibly popular in the United States. Big games air on the most coveted TV channels at the most coveted times. Teams are followed not only by loyal students and alumni but also by diverse fans from across the country. Major athletic programs bring millions of dollars to university coffers. Star coaches can often earn more than university presidents, making them the highest paid employees on campus. Full scholarships are awarded to star athletes because of their athletic prowess rather than their academic record. In some instances, athletes are even given fake grades to help them stay on the team. Given all of this, should colleges continue to support their sports teams?

Read and carefully consider these perspectives. Each suggests a particular way of thinking about the role of athletics at colleges.

Perspective 1

Colleges should strongly support their sports teams. These teams not only generate millions of dollars for schools, but they also help sell prospective students on attending the college.

Perspective 2

Sports have no official place in college. Colleges are institutions created for learning, not for athletics. College sports compromise academic standards and disadvantage students who don't participate.

Perspective 3

While college sports play a valuable role on university campuses, it is important for administrators to not lose perspective. That some football coaches earn more than university presidents, for example, is clearly wrong.

Essay Task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on college support for sports teams. In your essay, be sure to:

analyze and evaluate the perspectives given

state and develop your own perspective on the issue

explain the relationship between your perspective and those given

Your perspective may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.

Write your prompt in the space provided.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for writing a prompt.

Day 3 News Summaries

Summarize two news stories using the template below. When you are finished define 5 difficult words from the stories. You can use TV or Radio if you do not have internet.

Day 2 - News Summaries

Use the provide News summary template to summarize two news stories. These can be from TV broadcasts, newspapers or anything you can find with news.

News Summary Template

Find 2 news stories that would be of interest to you and summarize it using the template below.

Link to news story (write out) This could be from TV or radio

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Link to news story (write out)

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Day 4 ACT Reading -Close Reading the Novel Ready Player One
Read the excerpt below and answer the questions that go along with it.

Excerpt: Ready Player One



0001

I was jolted awake by the sound of gunfire in one of the neighboring stacks. The shots were followed by a few minutes of muffled shouting and screaming, then silence.

Gunfire wasn't uncommon in the stacks, but it still shook me up. I knew I probably wouldn't be able to fall back asleep, so I decided to kill the remaining hours until dawn by brushing up on a few coin-op classics. Galaga, Defender, Asteroids. These games were outdated digital dinosaurs that had become museum pieces long before I was born. But I was a gunter, so I didn't think of them as quaint low-res antiques. To me, they

were hallowed artifacts. Pillars of the pantheon. When I played the classics, I did so with a determined sort of reverence.

I was curled up in an old sleeping bag in the corner of the trailer's tiny laundry room, wedged into the gap between the wall and the dryer. I wasn't welcome in my aunt's room across the hall, which was fine by me. I preferred to crash in the laundry room anyway. It was warm, it afforded me a limited amount of privacy, and the wireless reception wasn't too bad. And, as an added bonus, the room smelled like liquid detergent and fabric softener. The rest of the trailer reeked of cat urine and abject poverty.

Most of the time I slept in my hideout. But the temperature had dropped below zero the past few nights, and as much as I hated staying at my aunt's place, it still beat freezing to death.

A total of fifteen people lived in my aunt's trailer. She slept in the smallest of its three bedrooms. The Depperts lived in the bedroom adjacent to her, and the Millers occupied the large master bedroom at the end of the hall. There were six of them, and they paid the largest share of the rent. Our trailer wasn't as crowded as some of the other units in the stacks. It was a double-wide. Plenty of room for everybody.

I pulled out my laptop and powered it on. It was a bulky, heavy beast, almost ten years old. I'd found it in a Dumpster behind the abandoned strip mall across the highway. I'd been able to coax it back to life by replacing its system memory and reloading the stone-age operating system. The processor was slower than a sloth by current standards, but it was fine for my needs. The laptop served as my portable research library, video arcade, and home theater system. Its hard drive was filled with old books, movies, TV show episodes, song files, and nearly every video game made in the twentieth century.

I booted up my emulator and selected Robotron: 2084, one of my all-time favorite games. I'd always loved its frenetic pace and brutal simplicity. Robotron was all about instinct and reflexes. Playing old video games never failed to clear my mind and set me at ease. If I was feeling depressed or frustrated about my lot in life, all I had to do was tap the Player One button, and my worries would instantly slip away as my mind focused itself on the relentless pixelated onslaught on the screen in front of me. There, inside the game's two-dimensional universe, life was simple: It's just you against the machine. Move with your left hand, shoot with your right, and try to stay alive as long as possible.

I spent a few hours blasting through wave after wave of Brains, Spheroids, Quarks, and Hulks in my unending battle to Save the Last Human Family! But eventually my fingers started to cramp up and I began to lose my rhythm. When that happened at this level, things deteriorated quickly. I burned through all of my extra lives in a matter of minutes, and my two least-favorite words appeared on the screen: game over.

I shut down the emulator and began to browse through my video files. Over the past five years, I'd downloaded every single movie, TV show, and cartoon mentioned in Anorak's Almanac. I still hadn't watched all of them yet, of course. That would probably take decades.

I selected an episode of Family Ties, an '80s sitcom about a middle-class family living in central Ohio. I'd downloaded the show because it had been one of Halliday's favorites, and I figured there was a chance that some clue related to the Hunt might be hidden in one of the episodes. I'd become addicted to the show immediately, and had now watched all 180 episodes, multiple times. I never seemed to get tired of them.

Sitting alone in the dark, watching the show on my laptop, I always found myself imagining that I lived in that warm, well-lit house, and that those smiling, understanding people were my family. That there was nothing so wrong in the world that we couldn't sort it out by the end of a single half-hour episode (or maybe a two-parter, if it was something really serious).

My own home life had never even remotely resembled the one depicted in *Family Ties*, which was probably why I loved the show so much. I was the only child of two teenagers, both refugees who'd met in the stacks where I'd grown up. I don't remember my father. When I was just a few months old, he was shot dead while looting a grocery store during a power blackout. The only thing I really knew about him was that he loved comic books. I'd found several old flash drives in a box of his things, containing complete runs of *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *The X-Men*, and *Green Lantern*. My mom once told me that my dad had given me an alliterative name, Wade Watts, because he thought it sounded like the secret identity of a superhero. Like Peter Parker or Clark Kent. Knowing that made me think he was must have been a cool guy, despite how he'd died.

My mother, Loretta, had raised me on her own. We'd lived in a small RV in another part of the stacks. I was introduced to the OASIS at an early age, because my mother used it as a virtual babysitter. As soon as I was old enough to wear a visor and a pair of haptic gloves, my mom helped me create my first OASIS avatar. Then she stuck me in a corner and went back to work, leaving me to explore an entirely new world, very different from the one I'd known up until then.

From that moment on, I was more or less raised by the OASIS's interactive educational programs, which any kid could access for free. I spent a big chunk of my childhood hanging out in a virtual-reality simulation of *Sesame Street*, singing songs with friendly

Muppets and playing interactive games that taught me how to walk, talk, add, subtract, read, write, and share. Once I'd mastered those skills, it didn't take me long to discover that the OASIS was also the world's biggest public library, where even a penniless kid like me had access to every book ever written, every song ever recorded, and every movie, television show, videogame, and piece of artwork ever created. The collected knowledge, art, and amusements of all human civilization were there, waiting for me. But gaining access to all of that information turned out to be something of a mixed blessing. Because that was when I found out the truth.

...

I don't know, maybe your experience differed from mine. For me, growing up as a human being on the planet Earth in the twenty-first century was a real kick in the teeth. Existentially speaking.

The worst thing about being a kid was that no one told me the truth about my situation. In fact, they did the exact opposite. And, of course, I believed them, because I was just a kid and I didn't know any better.

So I swallowed all of the dark ages nonsense they fed me. Some time passed. I grew up a little, and I gradually began to figure out that pretty much everyone had been lying to me about pretty much everything since the moment I emerged from my mother's womb.

This was an alarming revelation.

It gave me trust issues later in life.

I started to figure out the ugly truth as soon as I began to explore the free OASIS libraries. The facts were right there waiting for me, hidden in old books written by

people who weren't afraid to be honest. Artists and scientists and philosophers and poets, many of them long dead. As I read the words they'd left behind, I finally began to get a grip on the situation. My situation. Our situation. What most people referred to as "the human condition."

It was not good news.

I wish someone had just told me the truth right up front, as soon as I was old enough to understand it. I wish someone had just said:

"You're probably wondering what happened before you got here. An awful lot of stuff, actually. Once we evolved into humans, things got pretty interesting. We figured out how to grow food and domesticate animals so we didn't have to spend all of our time hunting. Our tribes got much bigger, and we spread across the entire planet like an unstoppable virus. Then, after fighting a bunch of wars with each other over land, resources, and our made-up gods, we eventually got all of our tribes organized into a 'global civilization.' But, honestly, it wasn't all that organized, or civilized, and we continued to fight a lot of wars with each other. But we also figured out how to do science, which helped us develop technology. For a bunch of hairless apes, we've actually managed to invent some pretty incredible things. Computers. Medicine. Lasers. Microwave ovens. Artificial hearts. Atomic bombs. We even sent a few guys to the moon and brought them back. We also created a global communications network that lets us all talk to each other, all around the world, all the time. Pretty impressive, right?"

"But that's where the bad news comes in. Our global civilization came at a huge cost. We needed a whole bunch of energy to build it, and we got that energy by burning fossil fuels, which came from dead plants and animals buried deep in the ground. We used up most of this fuel before you got here, and now it's pretty much all gone. This means that

we no longer have enough energy to keep our civilization running like it was before. So we've had to cut back. Big-time. We call this the Global Energy Crisis, and it's been going on for a while now.

"Also, it turns out that burning all of those fossil fuels had some nasty side effects, like raising the temperature of our planet and screwing up the environment. So now the polar ice caps are melting, sea levels are rising, and the weather is all messed up. Plants and animals are dying off in record numbers, and lots of people are starving and homeless. And we're still fighting wars with each other, mostly over the few resources we have left.

"Basically, kid, what this all means is that life is a lot tougher than it used to be, in the Good Old Days, back before you were born. Things used to be awesome, but now they're kinda terrifying. To be honest, the future doesn't look too bright. You were born at a pretty crappy time in history. And it looks like things are only gonna get worse from here on out. Human civilization is in 'decline.' Some people even say it's 'collapsing.'

"You're probably wondering what's going to happen to you. That's easy. The same thing is going to happen to you that has happened to every other human being who has ever lived. You're going to die. We all die. That's just how it is.

"What happens when you die? Well, we're not completely sure. But the evidence seems to suggest that nothing happens. You're just dead, your brain stops working, and then you're not around to ask annoying questions anymore. So now you have to live the rest of your life knowing you're going to die someday and disappear forever.

"Sorry."

...

OK, on second thought, maybe honesty isn't the best policy after all. Maybe it isn't a good idea to tell a newly arrived human being that he's been born into a world of chaos, pain, and poverty just in time to watch everything fall to pieces. I discovered all of that gradually over several years, and it still made me feel like jumping off a bridge.

Luckily, I had access to the OASIS, which was like having an escape hatch into a better reality. The OASIS kept me sane. It was my playground and my preschool, a magical place where anything was possible.

The OASIS is the setting of all my happiest childhood memories. When my mom didn't have to work, we would log in at the same time and play games or go on interactive storybook adventures together. She used to have to force me to log out every night, because I never wanted to return to the real world. Because the real world sucked.

I never blamed my mom for the way things were. She was a victim of fate and cruel circumstance, like everyone else. Her generation had it the hardest. She'd been born into a world of plenty, then had to watch it all slowly vanish. More than anything, I remember feeling sorry for her. She was depressed all the time, and taking drugs seemed to be the only thing she truly enjoyed. Of course, they were what eventually killed her. When I was eleven years old, she shot a bad batch of something into her arm and died on our ratty fold-out sofa bed while listening to music on an old mp3 player I'd repaired and given to her the previous Christmas.

Excerpted from Ready Player One by Ernest Cline. Copyright 2011 by Ernest Cline.

Excerpted by permission of Crown.

Ready Player One

[Link](#)

What type of neighborhood does the narrator live in? Give a specific example from the excerpt to support your answer.

Paste a picture from one of the following games: Galaga, Defender, Asteroids.

Define the following words:

1. **Quaint-**
2. **Hallowed-**
3. **Pantheon-**
4. **Reverence-**
5. **Abject-**

How many people lived in the narrator's aunt's trailer?

Describe the narrator's laptop.

In computing, an emulator is hardware or software that enables one computer system (called the host) to behave like another computer system (called the guest). [Try out this Atari Pong emulation. Post a screenshot of your final score vs. the computer.](#) ← Link

What never failed to clear the narrator's mind and set him at ease?

What are the narrator's least two favorite words?

[Watch this clip from the show Family Ties and answer the following questions:](#) ← Link

1. **Who is the famous actor in the clip? (Hint: McFly, McFly)**
2. **Why is Alex excited?**

3. **What do you think his views are about women in the workplace? Give a specific example.**
4. **This TV show took place in the 1980's. How has society's views changed from those of Alex's.**

What happened to the narrator's father?

Define alliterative

Describe the narrator's childhood

What happened to the society in which he lives?

What are the narrator's views on death?

What is "The OASIS?"

This story is about a world where everything takes place in virtual reality. Have you ever tried virtual reality? If so what are your thoughts? Could you see it becoming something everyone uses and has in your home?

[Watch the trailer for the upcoming movie and answer the following questions.](#) ← Link

1. **The place the narrator lives is called "The Stacks." The trailer shows where he lives. Why do you think it is called, "The Stacks?" Give a specific example.**
2. **Where does the narrator live?**
3. **The trailer features many pop culture references (movies, books, video game characters). Give one example of a pop culture reference in the trailer.**

The novel is like a modern day Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. The following is a synopsis:

Ready Player One is a 2011 science fiction novel by Ernest Cline in his debut. The story, set in a dystopian 2044, follows protagonist Wade Watts on his search for an Easter egg in a virtual reality game, the discovery of which will lead him to inherit a fortune in a world wrecked by an energy crisis.

The novel is available in the BHS library. Check it out today!

Day 5 - Creating vocabulary comics

Today you are going to draw comics in the comic panes provided for the following vocabulary words:

Ambiguous- unclear

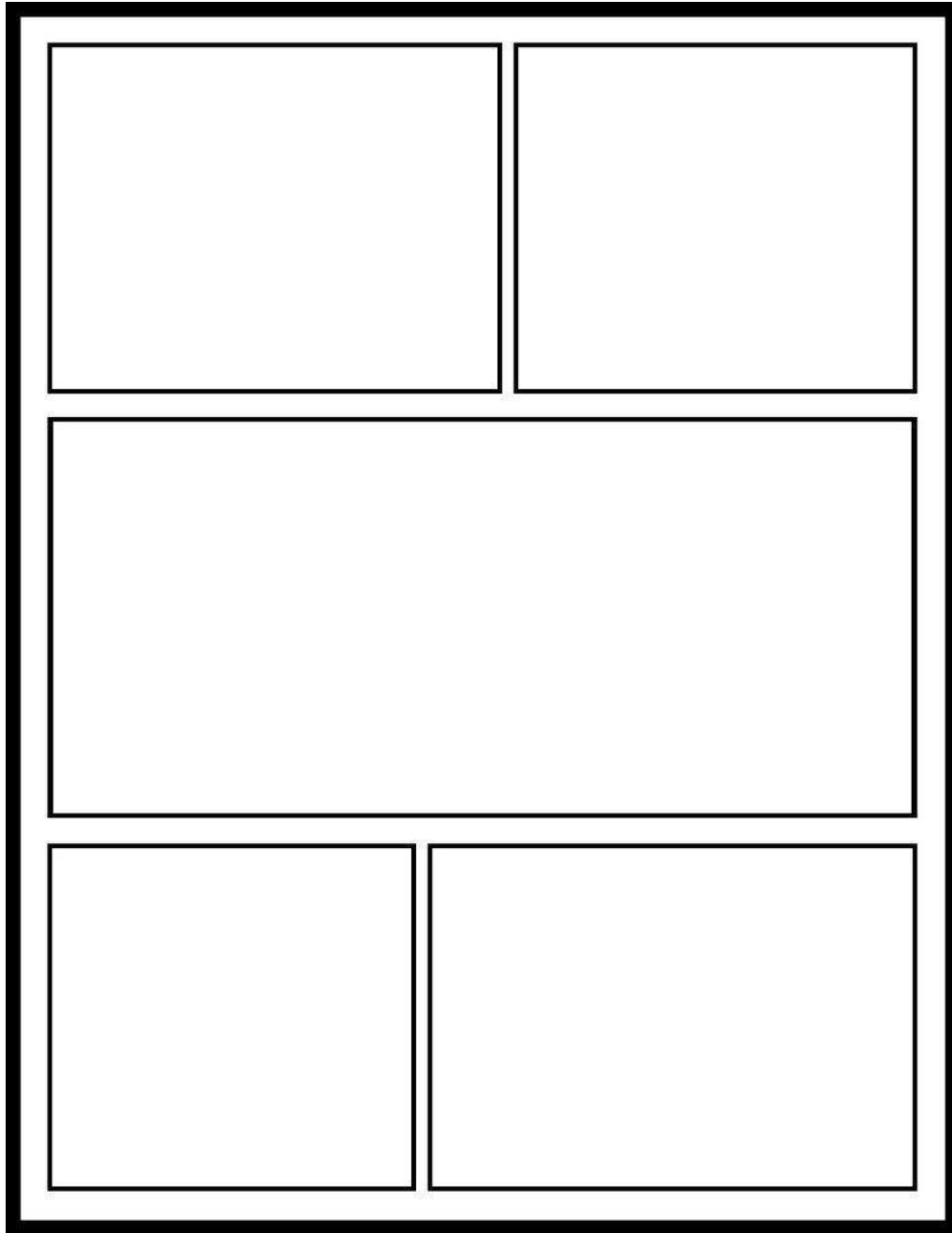
Scrupulous- thorough and careful

Adorn- to decorate

Camaraderie- goodwill among friends

Specious- seemingly true but logically false

Comic Pane for Comics



Day 6 - Grammar

Recognizing Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers

Directions: In the exercise that follows, you will need to determine whether or not sentences contain misplaced or dangling modifiers.

In a clear, logical sentence, you will find most modifiers right next to the words they describe:

The waitress served Gilbert a plate of gray meatloaf sauced with lumpy gravy.

Notice that sauced with lumpy gravy, a participle phrase, follows meatloaf, its target noun.

If too much distance separates a modifier and its target, the modifier is misplaced:

Sauced with lumpy gravy, the waitress served Gilbert a plate of gray meatloaf.

The waitress is sauced with lumpy gravy? That's not logical!

If the sentence fails to include a target, the modifier is dangling:

Studying the unappetizing plate of food, all appetite was lost.

We assume that Gilbert is the one studying the plate, but notice that he doesn't appear in the sentence. Thus, studying the unappetizing plate of food has no target to modify.

Fill out the worksheets below

MISPLACED AND DANGLING MODIFIERS – EXERCISE 1

Directions: Determine whether the sentences below contain misplaced or dangling modifiers. *Fix any problems that you find.* Check your answers with the interactive version of the exercise.

1. Emma Sue was delighted when Mr. Nguyen returned her perfect calculus test with an ear-to-ear grin.
2. Scrubbing the tile grout with bleach and an old toothbrush, the mildew stains began to fade.
3. To finish by the 3 p.m. deadline, the computer keyboard sang with Sylvia's flying fingers.
4. Sheila watched Desmond stuff his mouth with a cupcake frosted with vanilla icing.
5. Perched on the curtain rod, the parakeet watched Rocky the cat slink behind the living room sofa.
6. Groaning on rusty springs, the trampoline tossed the children like clothes in a dryer.
7. Rapping the pencil on the edge of the desk, the fourth cause of the French Revolution would not come to mind.
8. Slathering the popcorn with melted butter, the calorie count skyrocketed.
9. Attached to the email, Charlotte sent her boyfriend Byron another photographic self-portrait with eerie red eyes.

10. Hungry for dinner, the surface is where Gert the goldfish waited in anticipation of food flakes.
11. After the rainstorm, Jeremy walked his dachshund on a sidewalk covered in wet leaves.
12. Lying under the dining room table, Noodle the poodle waited for bites of roast beef that Rosie sneaked off her plate.
13. Tonya made the mistake of walking her boisterous bulldog Billy in high heels.
14. Too hungry to wait for Brenda's return from the restroom, the bowl of egg drop soup quickly disappeared.
15. Struggling with the tight jeans, the zipper would not budge.
16. Closing the hotel room door and pulling the heavy suitcase to the elevator, the relaxing beach vacation came to an end.
17. Whispering into Valerie's ear, Rafael shared the gossip which had shocked and dismayed everyone in the cafeteria.
18. Starving but broke, Rhonda called Aunt Martha, whose generous nature and well-stocked cupboards would provide Rhonda with enough food until payday.
19. Eric's foot indicated his nervousness during the interview, which jiggled wildly.
20. Sneezing from the high pollen count, a clean handkerchief would come in handy.



MISPLACED AND DANGLING MODIFIERS – EXERCISE 2

Directions: Read the passage that follows. Find and fix the [misplaced](#) and [dangling modifiers](#). Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

⁽¹⁾ Dangling his legs over the water, Tommy sat on the pier and cried. ⁽²⁾ Infused with his great sadness, the tears hit the waves and attracted Marina, a beautiful mermaid.

⁽³⁾ Popping out of the ocean as sleek as a seal, Tommy gasped at the sight. ⁽⁴⁾ While Marina's tail flopped against the wood, which was long, scaly, and metallic blue, she asked poor Tommy the reason for his pain. ⁽⁵⁾ Tommy explained that he had lost the surfing championship, which included a scholarship to college. ⁽⁶⁾ Assessing his set as clumsy and inelegant, not a single compliment was received from the judges. ⁽⁷⁾ After Tommy bemoaned his ineptitude on a surfboard, Marina made a proposal: She would turn him into a merman with the grace and athleticism of a dolphin! ⁽⁸⁾ Wielding ancient ocean secrets with a snap of her fingers, a metallic green tail replaced Tommy's legs! ⁽⁹⁾ Diving into the waves, the tail propelled Tommy through the strong surf.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Ecstatic about his new abilities, the training and advice Marina offered went unheeded. ⁽¹¹⁾ Refusing to use conditioner, for example, the sun and salt water soon damaged Tommy's hair, which became dry and brittle. ⁽¹²⁾ A dangerous and foolhardy activity, Tommy also insisted on head bumping the Great White sharks that he encountered. ⁽¹³⁾ Putting straws up his nose and barking like a walrus did not make Tommy popular when he had dinner with Neptune, Marina's father. ⁽¹⁴⁾ After thoughtlessly

scrambling endangered sea turtle eggs for breakfast, an apology had to be made not only to Marina but also to the grieving mother reptile.

⁽¹⁵⁾ One day out on a swim, Tommy drank a root beer and tossed the empty plastic bottle in the water. ⁽¹⁶⁾ Polluting the ocean so carelessly was the last clam shell for Marina. ⁽¹⁷⁾ With an angry snap of her fingers, she replaced Tommy's tail with two human legs. ⁽¹⁸⁾ Sinking under the waves, Tommy's legs finally kicked him to the surface where he gulped a much needed breath of air. ⁽¹⁹⁾ Saying a curt goodbye, Marina's tail slapped the surface dismissively as she dove into the ocean depths. ⁽²⁰⁾ While swimming the mile back to shore as a regular human being, Tommy regretted the gift that he had squandered.



MISPLACED AND DANGLING MODIFIERS – EXERCISE 3

Directions: Choose the option that has no misplaced or dangling modifier. Check your answers with the interactive version of the exercise.

1.

- A. Drooling in anticipation of the treat, Gizmo waited for Sylvia to reward him with a dog cookie.
- B. Drooling in anticipation of the treat, Sylvia rewarded Gizmo with a dog cookie.
- C. Drooling in anticipation of the treat, a dog cookie was given to Gizmo.

2.

- A. Digging fingernails into his palms, Jerry's speech caused sweatiness and nervousness.
- B. Digging fingernails into his palms, sweatiness and nervousness about the speech were what Jerry experienced.
- C. Digging fingernails into his palms, Jerry got sweaty and nervous during the speech.

3.

- A. Gasping after the five-mile run in the summer sun, the bottle of cool water quenched Donovan's thirst.
- B. Gasping after the five-mile run in the summer sun, Donovan quenched his thirst with a bottle of cool water.
- C. Gasping after the five-mile run in the summer sun, Donovan's thirst was quenched with a bottle of cool water.

4.

- A. Seated around the dining room table, the Thanksgiving turkey made everyone's mouth water.
- B. Seated around the dining room table, everyone salivated at the sight of the Thanksgiving turkey.
- C. Seated around the dining room table, the sight of the Thanksgiving turkey made everyone salivate.

5.

- A. Sipping slowly at the diner counter, the hot soup was enjoyed by Timothy.
- B. Sipping slowly, the diner counter was where Timothy enjoyed the hot soup.
- C. Sipping slowly, Timothy enjoyed the hot soup at the diner counter.

6.

- A. Tucked into a secret purse pocket, Larissa used her last five-dollar bill to buy a slice of pepperoni pizza and large iced tea.
- B. To buy a slice of pepperoni pizza and large iced tea, Larissa used her last five-dollar bill, which was tucked into a secret purse pocket.
- C. Tucked into a secret purse pocket, a slice of pepperoni pizza and large iced tea were purchased with Larissa's last five-dollar bill.

7.

- A. Eric broke the lamp while he was bouncing on the bed.
- B. Bouncing on the bed, the lamp was broken by Eric.
- C. Breaking the lamp, Eric's bed should not have been bounced on.

8.

- A. The repairman fixed the kitchen faucet, which leaked in a wasteful manner.
- B. Leaking in a wasteful manner, we called a repairman to fix the kitchen faucet.
- C. Leaking wastefully, the repairman arrived to fix the kitchen faucet.

9.

- A. Whining in a pitiful manner, Rodney waited for a commercial break to let the dog in from the rain.
- B. During a commercial break, Rodney let the dog in from the rain, which was whining in a pitiful manner.
- C. During a commercial break, Rodney let in the dog, who had been whining pitifully out in the rain.

10.

- A. Abdullah gasped as the badly wrapped burrito squirted its contents onto his shirt, which was spicy hot and full of lettuce.
- B. The badly wrapped burrito squirted its contents onto Abdullah's shirt, which was spicy hot and full of lettuce.
- C. The badly wrapped burrito, which was spicy hot and full of lettuce, squirted its contents onto Abdullah's shirt.

11.

- A. Sneezing and coughing, Emily soon covered the computer keyboard with germs.
- B. Sneezing and coughing, the computer keyboard was soon covered with germs from Emily.
- C. Sneezing and coughing, Emily's germs soon covered the computer keyboard.

12.

- A. When Kareem walked into the tree, he ripped his shirt and banged his forehead, which was old and holey.
- B. When Kareem walked into the tree, he ripped his old, holey shirt and banged his forehead.
- C. Walking into a tree, Kareem's old, holey shirt was ripped, and his forehead got banged.

13.

- A. Peeling the banana, this snack satisfied Jackie's hunger.
- B. Peeling the banana, Jackie's hunger was satisfied with this snack.
- C. Peeling the banana, Jackie satisfied her hunger with this snack.

14.

- A. Joshua used his strong hands to massage Kara's shoulders, which were tight with stress.
- B. Joshua used his strong hands, which were tight with stress, to massage Kara's shoulders.
- C. Tight with stress, Joshua used his strong hands to massage Kara's shoulders.

15.

- A. Dotted with clouds, Grandma Ruth watched the birthday balloons escape her fingers and float into the sky.
- B. Floating into the sky dotted with clouds, Grandma Ruth watched the birthday balloons escape her fingers.
- C. Grandma Ruth watched the birthday balloons escape her fingers and float into a sky dotted with clouds.

16.

- A. A dangerous stunt, Franklin flew over the steep staircase, his skateboard landing with a loud clack-clack on the concrete below.
- B. On a skateboard, Franklin flew over the steep staircase and landed with a loud clack-clack on the concrete below. His dangerous stunt amazed the onlookers.
- C. Landing with a loud clack-clack on the concrete below, the staircase was jumped by Franklin on a skateboard, which was a dangerous stunt.

17.

- A. Swinging at the tennis ball, contact with the racket sent a stab of pain through Paul's elbow.
- B. Swinging at the tennis ball, Paul felt a stab of pain in his elbow as the racket made contact.
- C. Swinging at the tennis ball, pain shot through Paul's elbow as the racket made contact.

18.

- A. Madeline admired her nails, which were painted pink with gold sparkles.
- B. Painted pink with gold sparkles, Madeline admired her nails.
- C. The nails were admired by Madeline painted pink with gold sparkles.

19.

- A. Poking his head through the unzipped top, Freddy the Chihuahua rode inside Jodi's book bag.
- B. Poking his head through the unzipped top, Jodi's book bag was Freddy the Chihuahua's taxi.
- C. Poking his head through the unzipped top, store after store was visited by Freddy the Chihuahua as he rode in Jodi's book bag.

20.

- A. Spewing from the open oven door, the kitchen filled with the thick smoke of LaTanya's burnt cookies.
- B. Spewing from the open oven door, LaTanya filled the kitchen with the thick smoke of burnt cookies.
- C. Spewing from the open oven door, the thick smoke of burnt cookies filled LaTanya's kitchen.



Day 7 News Summaries

Summarize two news stories using the template below. When you are finished define 5 difficult words from the stories. You can use TV or Radio if you do not have internet.

Day 2 - News Summaries

Use the provide News summary template to summarize two news stories. These can be from TV broadcasts, newspapers or anything you can find with news.

News Summary Template

Find 2 news stories that would be of interest to you and summarize it using the template below.

Link to news story (write out) This could be from TV or radio

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Link to news story (write out)

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Day 10 - Practice ACT English Test Questions

Answer the ACT test questions below. Use a pen and circle the best answer!



ENGLISH TEST

45 Minutes—75 Questions

DIRECTIONS: In the five passages that follow, certain words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find alternatives for the underlined part. In most cases, you are to choose the one that best expresses the idea, makes the statement appropriate for standard written English, or is worded most consistently with the style and tone of the passage as a whole. If you think the original version is best, choose “NO CHANGE.” In some cases, you will find in the right-hand column a question about the underlined part. You are to choose the best answer to the question.

You will also find questions about a section of the passage, or about the passage as a whole. These questions do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage, but rather are identified by a number or numbers in a box.

For each question, choose the alternative you consider best and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document. Read each passage through once before you begin to answer the questions that accompany it. For many of the questions, you must read several sentences beyond the question to determine the answer. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE I

Mystery Paper Sculptor

Between March and November of 2011, an anonymous donor left intricately¹ crafted paper sculptures at various cultural institutions in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Delighted, each sculpture was left secretly and was later discovered² by staff. The delicate sculptures—streetscapes, plants, and animals—were carved exclusively from the pages and bindings of books. The tiny details in the pieces are awe-inspiring.

The first sculpture discovered—at the Scottish Poetry Library—was a tiny tree formed from a book of verse. Library staff dubbed³ it the “poetree.” The tree sits atop a book. Beneath the tree are the halves of a golden paper egg, each half filled with words clipped from the poem “A Trace of Wings” by Edwin Morgan.

1. Which choice most effectively emphasizes the complexity of the paper sculptures?
 - A. NO CHANGE
 - B. impressively
 - C. terrifically
 - D. superbly
2. F. NO CHANGE
 - G. Each sculpture was left secretly and later discovered by delighted staff.
 - H. Left secretly and later discovered by staff, each sculpture was delighted.
 - J. Secretly delighted, each sculpture was discovered by staff.
3. A. NO CHANGE
 - B. specified
 - C. adorned
 - D. honored

At Edinburgh’s Filmhouse Cinema, a three-
dimensional sculpted scene shows patrons

sitting in a movie theater as horse leaps out of
the screen. At the Scottish Storytelling Centre, a

dragon crafted from the pages of a mystery novel
was found nesting in a window. At the National
Museum of Scotland, a paper tail was spotted emerging
from the spine of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s book
The Lost World. Inside, a dinosaur charges through
shredded pages of the open book. More creations
appeared at more than a few additional places where
literature and artifacts are related to books and writing.

Therefore, a total of ten sculptures were bestowed on
special institutions, whose staff are thrilled by their luck.

The creator of these sculptures are not known
because no one has claimed responsibility. So far, that
is. The last gift came with a note in which the mystery
artist reveals her gender. Whatever: whoever created

the art, your intention is clear. Each gift came with a

note expressing special gratitude for “libraries, books,

words, ideas.” 13

4. F. NO CHANGE
G. Cinema, a three-dimensional sculpted, scene
H. Cinema a three-dimensional sculpted scene,
J. Cinema a three-dimensional, sculpted, scene
5. A. NO CHANGE
B. movie theaters as horse’s leaps
C. a movie theater as horses leap
D. movie theater’s as horse leap
6. F. NO CHANGE
G. dragon—crafted from the pages
H. dragon, crafted from the pages,
J. dragon crafted from the pages,
7. A. NO CHANGE
B. a number of additional cultural institutions support-
ing intellectual endeavors dedicated to promoting
C. quite a lot of other cultural institutions character-
ized by loyalty and dedication to
D. several libraries and museums devoted to
8. F. NO CHANGE
G. Eventually,
H. Of course,
J. However,
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. creators of this sculptures are
C. creator of these sculptures is
D. creators of this sculptures is
10. F. NO CHANGE
G. Disregarding the unknown identity of the person
who
H. Without consideration of or concern about whoever
J. Regardless of who
11. A. NO CHANGE
B. whose
C. her
D. our
12. F. NO CHANGE
G. note of gratitude expressing special gratefulness
and thanks
H. thank-you note on each one expressing special
thanks
J. thankful note expressing special thanks
13. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the
paragraph would primarily lose a statement that:
A. suggests the essay writer knows the identity of the
artist.
B. explains why the artist created the sculptures.
C. proves the artist is a woman.
D. indicates the artist is a librarian.



Ironically, the creator of these exquisite sculptures who destroyed books—cutting them
14

up with refashioning them into elaborate works
15
of art—as “a tiny gesture in support of the special places.” The mystery artist celebrated the magic of those places and, at the same time, made some magic.

14. F. NO CHANGE
G. for whom books were destroyed—
H. as she destroyed books—
J. destroyed books—
15. A. NO CHANGE
B. and
C. nor
D. so

PASSAGE II

Building a Cork Boat

[1]

As a young boy, John Pollack dreamed of building a full-size boat made entirely of bottle corks. [A] At the age of thirty-four, Pollack sailed his dream down the Douro River in Portugal. It all began as Pollack is likely to point out, with
16
a single cork.

[2]

To amass the staggering number of corks needed to construct the boat, 165,231 in all, Pollack convinced the
17
staff, of several restaurants in Washington, DC, to donate
17
discarded corks for his cause. [B] Pollack eventually received cork donations from a cork-importing company
18
based in Portugal.

[3]

Constructing the boat introduced a challenge of another variety. Pollack finally tried gluing the
19
corks together to create stackable logs, but he soon realized that this strategy was too time-consuming. [C]

16. F. NO CHANGE
G. began, as Pollack is likely to point out,
H. began, as Pollack is likely to point out
J. began as Pollack is likely to point out
17. A. NO CHANGE
B. boat (165,231) in all, Pollack convinced the staff of several restaurants,
C. boat—165,231 in all—Pollack convinced the staff of several restaurants
D. boat, 165,231, in all, Pollack convinced the staff of several restaurants
18. F. NO CHANGE
G. donations, from a cork-importing company,
H. donations, from a cork-importing company
J. donations from a cork-importing company,
19. A. NO CHANGE
B. next
C. first
D. also

He calculated that it would have taken him and one other person more than a year's worth of eight-hour days to glue all the corks needed for the boat.

[4]

Piles of corks threatened to take over Pollack's apartment. He used a foam template to assemble a

group of corks into a pretty interesting shape. He then fastened each cluster of corks with multiple rubber bands and encased each cluster in fishnet.

To bind clusters together and shaping them into flexible columns proved to be both efficient and architecturally

sound. Dozens of friends expedited this proper process by volunteering to help with the construction of the boat.

[5]

The completed cork boat, which resembled a Viking ship, was more impressive than Pollack had ever imagined.

[D] In his childhood imagination, he had saw himself floating the boat in his neighbor's swimming pool. But

at a length of twenty-two feet, Pollack's masterpiece

was best suited with a grand voyage. In 2002, the

company that had donated thousands of corks to Pollack's project sponsored the vessel's launch in Portugal. There, during the boat's successful journey on the Douro River, in the country of Portugal, Pollack's dream was fully realized.

20. F. NO CHANGE
G. than a year's
H. than a years'
J. then a years

21. Which choice most effectively introduces the paragraph?
A. NO CHANGE
B. Over the course of many months, Pollack convinced people to help.
C. Pollack was afraid that he would have to put his cork boat dream on hold.
D. After a series of trials, Pollack devised a workable strategy.

22. Which choice provides the most specific description of the assembled groups of corks?
F. NO CHANGE
G. hexagonal
H. certain
J. DELETE the underlined portion.

23. A. NO CHANGE
B. Binding clusters together and to shape
C. Binding clusters together and shaping
D. Binding clusters together and shape

24. Which choice best indicates that constructing the cork boat was challenging?
F. NO CHANGE
G. authentic
H. rigorous
J. grim

25. A. NO CHANGE
B. had seen himself
C. seen himself
D. saw him

26. F. NO CHANGE
G. length, of twenty-two feet,
H. length of twenty-two feet;
J. length of twenty-two feet

27. A. NO CHANGE
B. most well suited to
C. better suited for
D. best suited as

28. F. NO CHANGE
G. company, which
H. company whom
J. company, who

29. A. NO CHANGE
B. River, which is a river in Portugal,
C. River in Portugal,
D. River,



Question 30 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

30. The writer wants to add the following sentence to the essay:

“Remember,” he would say as he made his daily pickups, “every cork counts.”

The sentence would most logically be placed at:

- F. Point A in Paragraph 1.
- G. Point B in Paragraph 2.
- H. Point C in Paragraph 3.
- J. Point D in Paragraph 5.

PASSAGE III

Lightning in the Sand

As my friend Anna and I walked the sand dunes of southeastern New Mexico, she told me that she hoped we’d find a fulgurite, one as translucent white as the southeastern New Mexico sands around us. A fulgurite³¹—whose name stems from the Latin word *fulgur*, which means “thunderbolt”—is a hollow silica glass tube formed when lightning strikes sand. A fulgurite is created in one explosive second by fusion and pressure as sand heated by a lightning blast melts, and becomes glass.³² Commonly called “petrified lightning,” a fulgurite places³³ the shape of a miniature lightning bolt into the earth, often branching deep into the ground.

Anna told me that I had possibly seen a small fragment of a fulgurite before, without realizing I had, on a beach. She explained though that even experts³⁴ are rarely able to locate a fully intact fulgurite.

31. A. NO CHANGE
 B. and nearly transparent to the eye almost as the white sands of these dunes.
 C. as these sands.
 D. DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.
32. F. NO CHANGE
 G. sand heated (by a lightning blast) melts
 H. sand, heated by a lightning blast melts,
 J. sand heated by a lightning blast melts
33. Which choice best builds on the preceding sentence by emphasizing the dramatic nature of the mark a fulgurite leaves on the earth?
 A. NO CHANGE
 B. sketches
 C. burns
 D. sends
34. F. NO CHANGE
 G. explained, though, that even experts
 H. explained though that, even experts,
 J. explained, though that even experts



The thin, brittle glass tubes break easily. Occasionally,
³⁵
 after strong, sustained winds have shifted desert sands,

while an unbroken, previously buried fulgurite will be
³⁶
 revealed, showing as a tube protruding from the ground.

37 I scanned the area, hopeful that I'd see a tube newly

uncovered. Anna made clear that we'd be lucky to come
³⁸
 upon a small piece of fulgurite, just a few inches long.

Anna had shown me fulgurites she had found
 on other trips. Their colors ranged from black to
 brown to green, corresponding to the color of the
 sand in which she had discovered them. I wasn't
 surprised that I'd never recognized fulgurites on
 any beach: no one had ever told me what to look for.
³⁹

35. Given that all the statements are true, which one provides the most relevant information at this point in the essay?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Human-made fulgurites are not any easier to excavate than naturally occurring fulgurites.
 - C. A fulgurite is not a geode (a crystal-lined stone), though the two are often confused.
 - D. Still, pieces of fulgurite can be worked into jewelry.
36. F. NO CHANGE
 G. however
 H. so
 J. DELETE the underlined portion.
37. Which of the following sentences, if added here, best connects the preceding sentence to the information that follows in the paragraph?
- A. Anna told me that there had been a brief rain shower in the area the day before.
 - B. I could see bright pink sand verbenas blooming in the distance.
 - C. Swift winds were moving the white sands that day.
 - D. Dig carefully.
38. F. NO CHANGE
 G. uncovered, I focused my gaze on the sands in the distance.
 H. uncovered, I looked closely.
 J. had it been uncovered.
39. Which choice most effectively concludes this sentence and leads into the information that follows in the paragraph?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. I focus on looking for seashells, sand dollars, and smooth rocks when I'm walking the sands.
 - C. usually, I'm not in the mood for a science project when I'm on vacation.
 - D. on their surface, they look like pieces of tree branches.

1



1

Their interiors, though, are smooth, clear glass stained
40

with tiny bubbles trapped formed by air and moisture
41
during the rapid cooling of the melted sand after the lightning strike.

We continued exploring the dunes.

Anna laughed and said we needed only to stop at the local gift shop to unearth
42

our treasure. 43 But given

our luck finding fulgurites in
44

deserts and on beaches, she wanted to
45
keep searching to find our own piece of bright, white lightning in the sand.

40. Which choice makes clearest the light, sporadic arrangement of the bubbles in the glass?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. pointed
- H. speckled
- J. covered

41. The best placement for the underlined portion would be:

- A. where it is now.
- B. after the word *bubbles*.
- C. after the word *during*.
- D. after the word *cooling*.

42. F. NO CHANGE
G. for having unearthed
H. that would unearth
J. unearthing

43. If the writer deleted the preceding sentence, the essay would primarily lose a:

- A. bluntly critical comment that makes clear Anna's frustration with trying to find a white fulgurite in the sand dunes of New Mexico.
- B. mildly scolding response by Anna to the narrator's impatience with the time and attention it might take for them to find a white fulgurite.
- C. light moment in the form of a good-natured joke by Anna about how easy it could be to find a white fulgurite.
- D. moment of excitement when Anna remembers that they could easily find a white fulgurite at the local gift shop.

44. F. NO CHANGE
G. her
H. my
J. their

45. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would provide the essay with new information?

- A. beaches in Florida, Utah, California, and Nevada,
- B. beaches, but so far not this day in the New Mexico sands,
- C. beaches, in other words, sandy locales,
- D. beaches, even a green fulgurite,



PASSAGE IV

Planet Earth's Windiest Observatory

[1]

Step outside into blowing snow, freezing fog, 45 mph winds with hurricane-force gusts, and a -50° Fahrenheit windchill. Welcome to a typical January day at the Mount Washington Observatory. [A] Weather conditions at this facility, which sits atop its namesake's 6,288-foot peak⁴⁶

in New Hampshire, has earned the location the nickname⁴⁷ "Home of the World's Worst Weather."⁴⁸

[2]

[B] Though somewhat diminutive compared to other mountains, (Colorado's Pikes Peak, for⁴⁸ example, is more than twice its height), Mount Washington is the tallest peak in the Presidential Range. The peak⁴⁹ stands at the confluence of three major storm tracks,

and its steep slopes force rising winds to accelerate.⁵⁰ In fact, scientists in 1934 recorded a surface wind speed (of 231 mph): one of the fastest ever recorded.⁵¹

46. F. NO CHANGE
G. their
H. these
J. it's

47. A. NO CHANGE
B. Hampshire, have earned
C. Hampshire has earned
D. Hampshire, earns

48. F. NO CHANGE
G. mountains (Colorado's Pikes Peak,
H. mountains, (Colorado's Pikes Peak
J. mountains (Colorado's Pikes Peak

49. Given that all the choices are accurate, which one best uses a comparison to emphasize that the weather on Mount Washington can be extreme?
A. NO CHANGE
B. is much colder at the summit than at the base of the mountain.
C. has an average midwinter temperature of 5° Fahrenheit.
D. has weather that rivals that of Antarctica.

50. F. NO CHANGE
G. its steep slopes that force
H. if its steep slopes force
J. its steep slopes forcing

51. A. NO CHANGE
B. speed of 231 mph—
C. speed of 231 mph;
D. speed, of 231 mph,



[3]

In one study, researchers used a laser beam and advanced optical techniques to measure winds. The observatory also keeps detailed weather records that scientists have used to track climate trends and weather patterns. The observatory has also advanced scientists'

52

understanding of clouds, of ice physics, and the atmosphere.

53

[4]

To conduct all this research, staff are on-site year-round. Observers, who work several twelve-hour shifts over the course of a week. To change personnel in winter, though, crews ascend the mountain in a

55

vehicle, gripping the snow using revolving tracks similar to those on a military tank. Observers go outside every hour to gather data, which they send to the National Weather Service. [C]

56

[5]

Though isolated, the Mount Washington Observatory offers weather enthusiasts many ways to get involved. The observatory takes volunteers and accepts interns, who assist with research. The bold can take part in educational trips to the summit in winter. [D] For those who are planning to make a trip to Mount Washington, the observatory has a website with live video feeds of the summit.

57

58

52. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. In addition, the
H. Additionally, the
J. Also, the
53. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. furthered our knowledge of ice physics,
C. as well as ice physics,
D. ice physics,

54. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. Observers who work
H. Observers work
J. Observers, working

55. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. winter, of course,
C. winter, however,
D. winter,

56. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. vehicle while gripping
H. vehicle that grips
J. vehicle and grip

57. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. research and the
C. research but the
D. research, the

58. Which choice contrasts most directly with the other ways to get involved at the observatory that are mentioned in the paragraph?
F. NO CHANGE
G. prefer a warm recliner to an icy peak,
H. conduct weather research,
J. love the outdoors,

Day 11 - ACT Grammar

Today you will complete the parallel structure worksheets below. You completed assignments in NoRedInk for parallel structure earlier in the year. This is to see what you retained.

PARALLEL STRUCTURE – EXERCISE 1

Directions: In the sentences below, fix any errors that you find in [parallel structure](#). Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Monica brewed espresso, steamed milk, and told jokes as she prepared Mike’s latte.
2. Natasha tried holding her breath, chewing a piece of gum, and poking her belly, but she could not quiet her empty stomach, which rumbled during the chemistry exam.
3. In the restroom, Tishena was brushing her hair, freshened her lip-gloss, and took deep breaths, trying to work up the courage to walk to her first speech class.
4. Celine looked behind the toilet, in the laundry basket, and checked under the bed, but she could not find Squeeze, her nine-foot albino python.
5. Not only did Dennis apply an extra layer of deodorant to his armpits, but he also polished each tooth with special care. He did not want to offend Malinda with any unpleasant odors.
6. For his first date with Malinda, Dennis bought not only a dozen roses but he also purchased a box of chocolates.
7. Not only did Malinda squeal at the sight of the beautiful bouquet, but she also was tearing open the box and eating chocolates all the way to the restaurant.
8. Dennis tried to be thoughtful and generous, yet Malinda refused to give him not only a kiss good night but also a single chocolate from the nut and caramel sampler.

9. Chelsea had to paddle past a school of jellyfish, kick a small sand shark in the nose, and untangle seaweed from her surfboard before she reached her favorite point break.
10. Spiders that bite, hissing snakes, and squealing rodents fill the aquariums in Desmond's basement.
11. Class with Dr. Rogers was a nightmare: the clock seemed stuck in place, the air conditioner blew inadequate cool, and a fluorescent bulb buzzed overhead.
12. Ernie is too noisy as a seatmate. Crunching on apple slices, slurping hot coffee, and the rings of his notebook snapped open and shut all contribute to the cacophony.
13. Neither the scowls from her neighbors nor the disapproval of her husband will deter Larissa from painting her house hot pink with orange and white trim.
14. Larissa will either add a flock of plastic pink flamingos, or she will purchase a family of ceramic gnomes for the front lawn.
15. Until the Weavers arrived home at 5 p.m., the clock ticked, the refrigerator hummed, and the dog snoring in the otherwise quiet house.
16. Jessica has found that neither background music nor potato chips make writing her research essay any easier.
17. Mark looked under the bed, in the hamper, and he even searched his brother's closet, but he could not find his favorite University of Florida T-shirt.
18. After you eat tuna salad from the campus cafeteria, not only will your stomach rumble, but you will also sneeze for hours from the generous addition of MSG.
19. Natalia blinked her eyes, she wiped her glasses, and then squinted at the screen, but she could not decipher the small text crammed onto the presentation slide.

20. Neither the unhappy man with the cold soup nor the irate woman with an empty glass of iced tea could get Gloria's attention, for this waitress was too busy flirting with Jose.



PARALLEL STRUCTURE – EXERCISE 2

Directions: In the sentences below, fix any errors that you find in [parallel structure](#). Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Pancakes dripping with syrup, coffee steaming in big mugs, and bacon frying on the stove make breakfast at Grandma’s house a real treat.
2. Le’Ron scowled at Professor Nguyen, was muttering under his breath, and sighed heavily, but in truth he loved taking algebra exams.
3. Skipping the directions, hurrying to finish first, and neglecting to recheck her work have caused Claudia to fail every calculus exam this semester.
4. At the family reunion, we ate Grandma’s barbecued ribs, Aunt Sally’s potato salad, and heaping plates of jiggling banana Jell-O prepared by Cousin Sue.
5. Claude glanced at his watch, took a last sip of coffee, and began his trek to Dr. Grayson’s three-hour snooze fest on the French Revolution.
6. Vacuuming under the furniture, dusting the ceiling fans, and scrubbing the tile grout with a toothbrush, Jerry prepared the house for his ultra-picky mother-in-law.
7. The sky grew pink, seagulls began to cry, and waves rolled onshore as Diane took her morning stroll on the beach.

8. During the exam, Mary sucked the ends of her hair, chewed the top of her pencil, and all the while she was picking at a scab on her elbow, but she could not remember the third cause of the French Revolution.
9. Solita has packed an orange soda not only for herself but also Josh.
10. Josh neglected not only to thank Solita, but he also gave a sip of orange soda to Reva, Solita's rival.
11. Reva not only drank from the bottle of orange soda but also got hot pink lipstick on the rim.
12. Josh thinks Annie is the most beautiful woman in Springfield, so he has no interest in dating either Solita or going out with Reva.
13. Frances searched the car trunk, on the pantry shelves, and the top of the refrigerator, but she could not find the box of cornflakes she remembered buying.
14. Waves that crash against the shore, chanting monks, and chirping birds are the sound files Wendell enjoys on his iPod.
15. Filled with holiday spirit, Ximena bought a Christmas present not only for her boyfriend Andre but also for his obnoxious younger brother Pierre.
16. Eli held the phone on his lap, trying to work up the courage to call the beautiful Leodine. All the while, his foot jiggled, his nostrils flared, and sweat was collecting on his upper lip.
17. On school mornings, Rachel can sleep through anything, even with the alarm clock buzzing or when Mom bangs on the bedroom door.
18. On vacation, Patrick can trust neither his roommates nor the veterinary staff with Squeeze, his 9-foot albino python, so he hides his beloved reptile in a suitcase and sneaks him into hotel rooms.

19. While Patrick is sightseeing, Squeeze will either find a patch of sunlight under a window or he will curl up under a table lamp.
20. Squeeze shocked neither the maid who cleaned the room nor the valet who brought room service.



PARALLEL STRUCTURE – EXERCISE 3

Directions: Choose the option that maintains parallel structure in the sentence. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. When Delores realized that her father had made lima beans and rice for dinner, she _____, claimed to feel nauseous, and excused herself from the table. The bag of stale popcorn in her room would tide her over until breakfast.
 - A. clutched her stomach
 - B. was clutching her stomach
 - C. did clutch her stomach

2. Not only did Hank despise the way June chewed with her mouth open, _____ finding her wet towels all over the bathroom floor.
 - A. but also disliked
 - B. but also disliking
 - C. but he also disliked

3. To protect her delicate hands, Fran will not rake the yard, do the dishes, or _____.
 - A. refuses to scrub the bathtub
 - B. won't scrub the bathtub
 - C. scrub the bathtub

4. When Diane takes her beagle for a walk, Santana enjoys sniffing for edible garbage, _____, and lunging at squirrels.
- A. howls at bicyclists
 - B. howling at bicyclists
 - C. she howls at bicyclists
5. After Amanda cashes her paycheck, the money goes to her savings account, cappuccino fund, and _____.
- A. paying her credit card bill
 - B. toward her credit card balance
 - C. credit card balance
6. In preparation for her run, Alicia _____, applied sunscreen, and increased the volume on her iPod.
- A. tightened her shoelaces
 - B. was tightening her shoelaces
 - C. did tighten her shoelaces
7. We searched the car trunk, _____, and the top of the refrigerator, but we could not find the box of cornflakes that we remember buying.
- A. looked on the pantry shelves
 - B. on the pantry shelves
 - C. the pantry shelves
8. Bonkers, our ninety pound golden retriever, chews on furniture, _____, and snots up the car windows—inconveniences we didn't anticipate when we adopted him.
- A. would drag us around the neighborhood during walks
 - B. he drags us around the neighborhood during walks
 - C. drags us around the neighborhood during walks

9. Belinda saw very little of the horror movie, for she shut her eyes _____, when she heard the monster's footsteps in the dead leaves, and when characters started screaming.
- A. when the violins began to play
 - B. while listening to the violins play
 - C. during the violin music
10. In Mrs. Curall's office, Ruben feigned the flu. He hoped to be excused from class, get an extension on his paper, and _____.
- A. spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
 - B. to spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
 - C. then to spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
11. Carlos not only missed his one-year anniversary with Adrianna _____.
- A. but he also forgot his mother's birthday
 - B. but also forgot his mother's birthday
 - C. but also forgetting his mother's birthday
12. Teresa was expecting a visit from her mother, so she spent the day cleaning the shelves of the refrigerator, scrubbing mold from the bathroom tile grout, and _____.
- A. she removed dog hair from the sofa cushions
 - B. removing dog hair from the sofa cushions
 - C. removed dog hair from the sofa cushions

13. When Noodle the poodle realized that the leash meant a bath, not a walk to the park, he growled, pulled, and _____.
- A. was leaping like a fish on a line
 - B. he was leaping like a fish on a line
 - C. leaped like a fish on a line
14. With the humans out of the house, Skeeter had to decide either to shred a roll of toilet paper or _____.
- A. chew another hole in the sofa arm
 - B. chewing another hole in the sofa arm
 - C. if he wanted to chew another hole in the sofa arm
15. Neither _____ nor the ineffective air conditioner rattling in the window will deter Tiffany from loving the freedom of her first apartment.
- A. when the inconsiderate neighbors played loud music
 - B. the inconsiderate neighbors playing loud music
 - C. playing loud music by the inconsiderate neighbors
16. We looked everywhere for the car keys—under the sofa cushions, _____, and on the counters and tabletops. All along, Andrew had them in the front pocket of his jeans!
- A. our search included the trash can
 - B. searching for them in the trash can
 - C. in the trash can

17. Laura and Diane bang on Boen's door when they need heavy furniture moved, after they have clogged the garbage disposal, and _____.
- A. having discovered a spider in the bathtub
 - B. upon the discovery of a spider in the bathtub
 - C. if they find a spider in the bathtub
18. Bathing Noodle, our poodle, requires four arms to hold him in the tub, towels to mop up the water, and _____.
- A. raincoats which will keep us dry
 - B. raincoats to keep us dry
 - C. raincoats as protection against the oncoming deluge
19. We hate having dinner at Aunt Ida's house because she is a vegan health nut. Baked tofu, _____, and decaffeinated tea do not make a satisfying meal!
- A. vegetables steamed with no oil or seasoning
 - B. steamed vegetables
 - C. vegetables that are flavorless
20. Tonia kicked the back of Vincent's desk, _____, and poked his arm with her sharp pencil, but he would not bend to the side so that she could get a glimpse of his quiz answers.
- A. blew on his neck
 - B. she blew on his neck
 - C. blowing on his neck

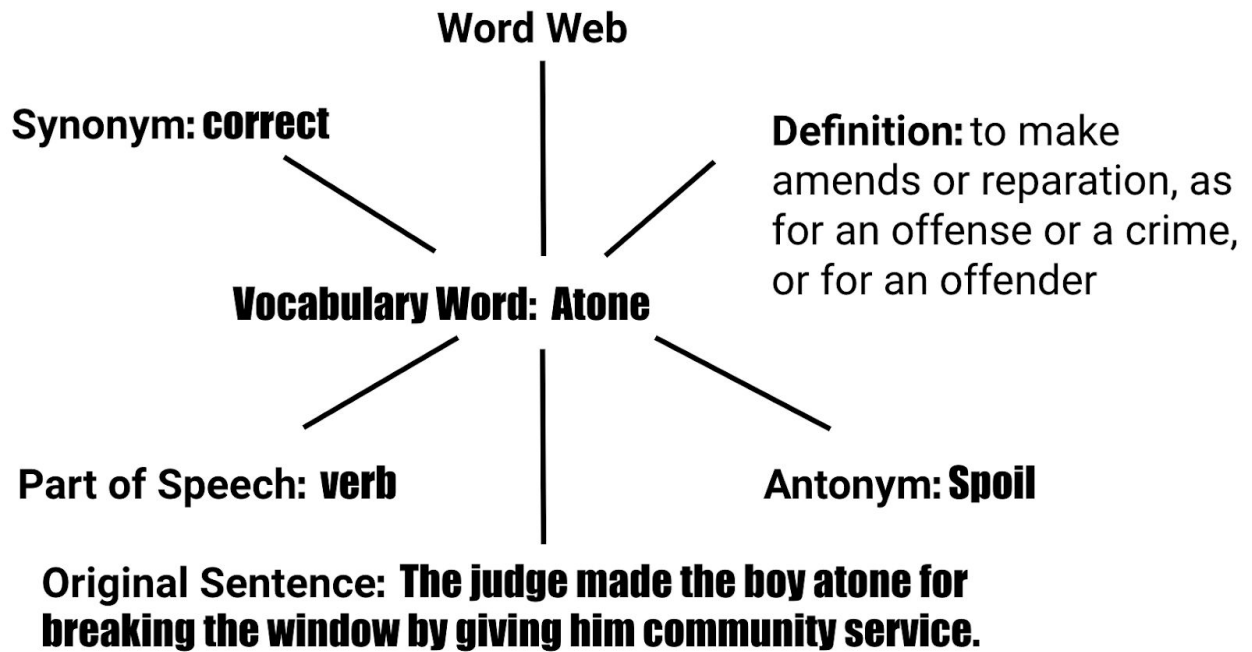


Day 12 Vocabulary - Word Webs

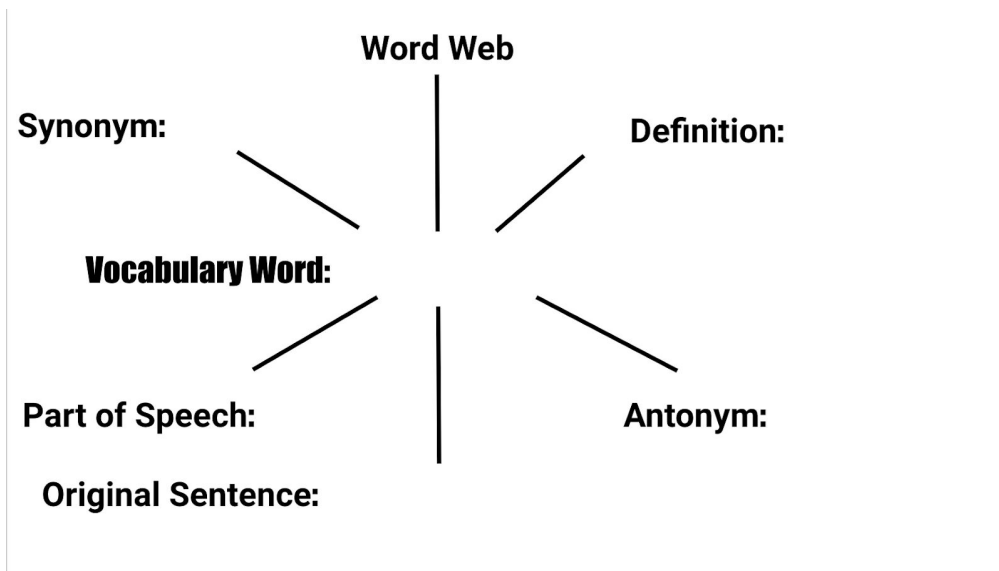
Use a dictionary to complete the word webs for the words below

- justify
- obsolete
- orient
- paradox
- Reflect

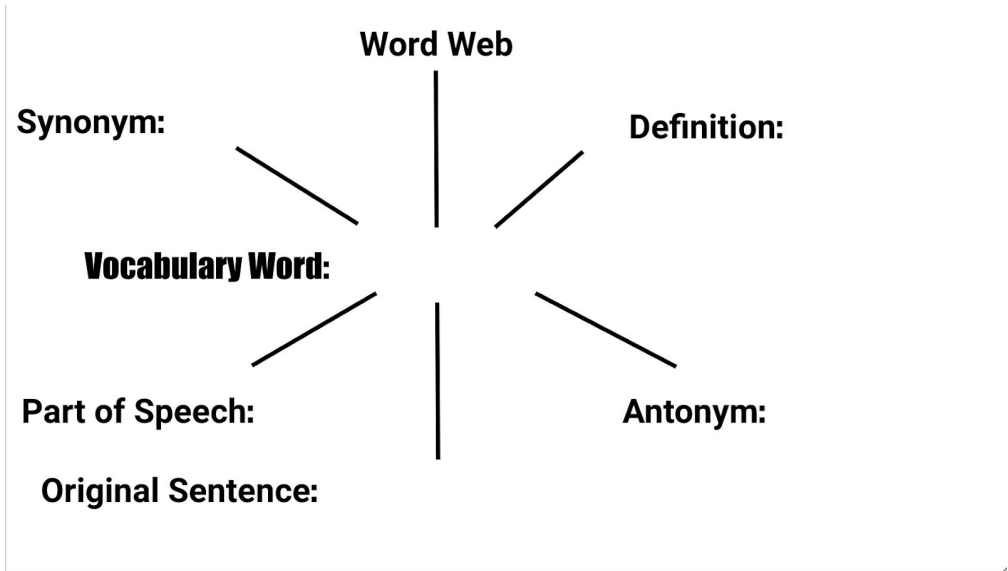
Below is an example of how each word web should be completed.



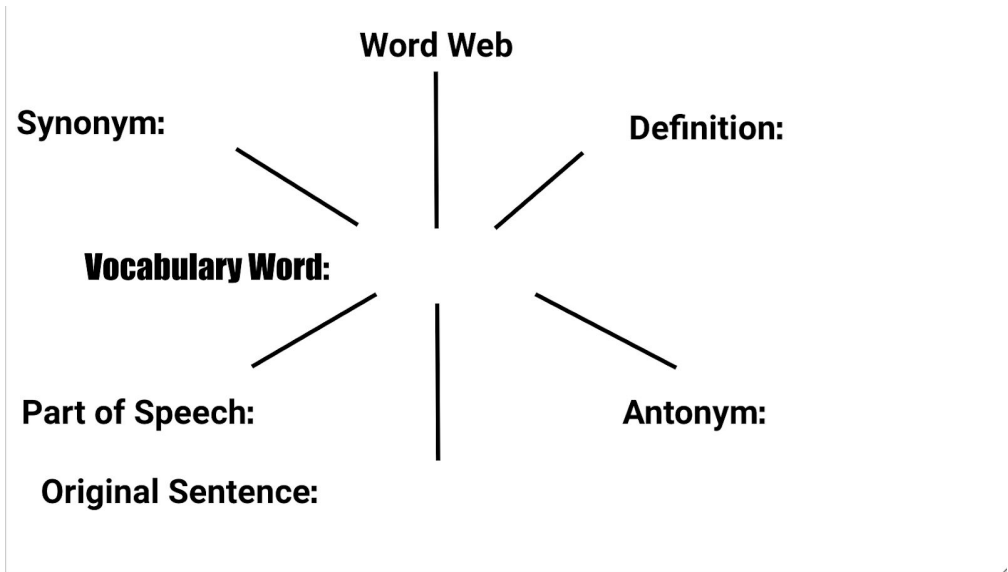
Justify



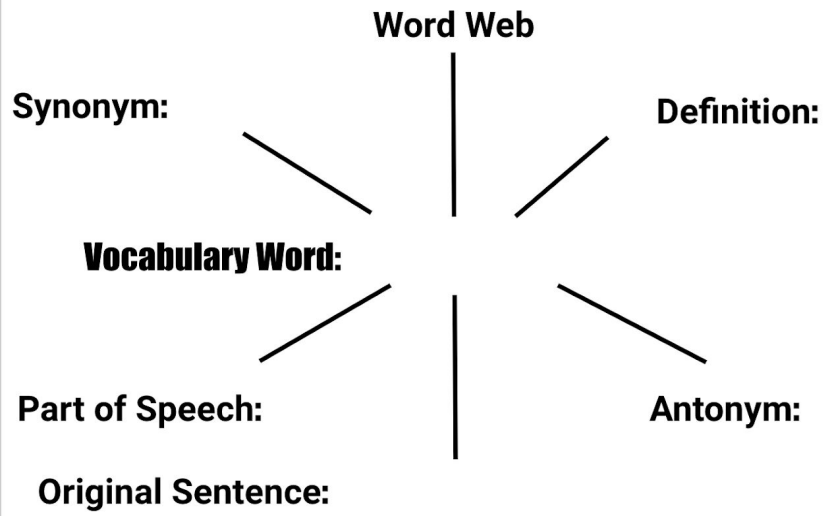
Obsolete



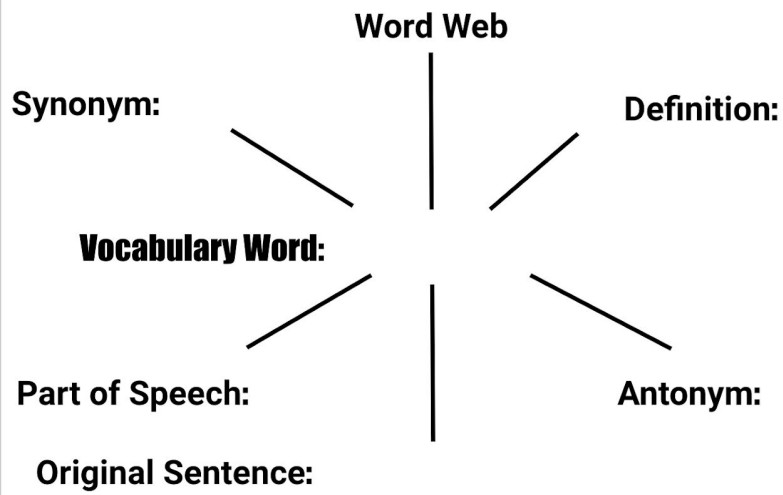
Orient



Paradox



Reflect



Day 13 - ACT Writing

Answer the prompt below:

Arts Funding (Sample Essay Prompt 5)

Government funding for the arts is commonplace in many countries today. In the United States, the government funds writers, musicians and visual artists through a variety of initiatives. Critics of this type of funding argue that the government has no place in the arts. Why should taxpayers, the majority of whom have no interest in the works being supported by such funding, be forced to pay for those works? Others, however, argue that government funding for the arts is critical to the wellness of our society. Given the dismal financial prospects in the arts, many artists would be unable to support themselves without the type of funding that the government provides. Should the government continue to fund the arts?

Read and carefully consider these perspectives. Each suggests a particular way of thinking about the government funding for the arts.

Perspective 1

The government has no place in the arts because the government is not qualified to judge which projects should receive funding and which should not.

Perspective 2

Without financial support from the government, many great works of art would never be created. Government funding is thus essential.

Perspective 3

The free marketplace, not the government, is the best source of arts funding. If an artist can't get any money, the reason is simple—her work is not very good!

Essay Task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on government funding of the arts. In your essay, be sure to:

analyze and evaluate the perspectives given

state and develop your own perspective on the issue

explain the relationship between your perspective and those given

Your perspective may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.

Write your response below

Day 14 ACT Practice Test

Answer the ACT test questions below. Use a pen and circle the best answer!



ENGLISH TEST

45 Minutes—75 Questions

DIRECTIONS: In the five passages that follow, certain words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find alternatives for the underlined part. In most cases, you are to choose the one that best expresses the idea, makes the statement appropriate for standard written English, or is worded most consistently with the style and tone of the passage as a whole. If you think the original version is best, choose “NO CHANGE.” In some cases, you will find in the right-hand column a question about the underlined part. You are to choose the best answer to the question.

You will also find questions about a section of the passage, or about the passage as a whole. These questions do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage, but rather are identified by a number or numbers in a box.

For each question, choose the alternative you consider best and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document. Read each passage through once before you begin to answer the questions that accompany it. For many of the questions, you must read several sentences beyond the question to determine the answer. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE I

The Triangular Snowflake

[1]

Snowflakes form from tiny water droplets, following a specific process of chemical bonding as they freeze, which results in a six-sided figure. The rare “triangular” snowflake, similarly, confounded scientists for years because it apparently defied the basic laws of chemistry. [A] The seemingly triangular shape of those snowflakes suggests that forming through a different process of chemical bonding. [B] By re-creating snowflake formation, a discovery has revealed to scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold the cause of this apparent variation.

[2]

Snowflakes begin to form when water in the atmosphere freezes it causes the water molecules to bond into a hexagonal shape. During the flake’s descent from Earth’s upper atmosphere, other water vapor molecules bumps into the hexagonal structure.

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. form, from tiny, water droplets,
C. form from tiny, water, droplets
D. form, from tiny water droplets
2. F. NO CHANGE
G. for example,
H. additionally,
J. however,
3. A. NO CHANGE
B. the manner in which formation
C. which had formed
D. that they form
4. F. NO CHANGE
G. the discovery of the cause of this apparent variation has been made by scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold.
H. scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold have discovered the cause of this apparent variation.
J. the cause of this apparent variation has been discovered by scientists Kenneth Libbrecht and Hannah Arnold.
5. A. NO CHANGE
B. freezes, causing
C. freezes, it causes
D. freezes, this causes
6. F. NO CHANGE
G. has bumped
H. bumped
J. bump



Bypassing the liquid water phase, those molecules
condense directly onto the established hexagonal pattern.

As a result, the flake grows outward into bigger and more complex hexagonal arrangements surrounding the original hexagonal shape at the center of the flake. [C]

[3]

In 2009, Libbrecht and Arnold's experiments revealed that triangular snowflakes begin with the same process of chemical bonding and forms a hexagonal shape. The triangular shape is an illusion resulting from

one significant addition to the process dust.

[4]

Triangular snowflakes begin to form when a tiny dust particle or other such impurity collides with the flake as it falls, thereby pushing one edge upward. [D] The downward edge of the snowflake encounters more wind resistance than the rest of the flake. The greater the pressure from the wind, causes bonds to form

quick at this edge than in the rest of the snowflake.

[5]

The resulting snowflake has three long sides and three sides that are so short they are difficult to detect. Although these snowflakes appear to have a triangular shape—they actually have a hexagonal pattern. Such snowflakes offer evidence that even when impurities

interfere, the basic laws of chemistry still apply.

7. If the writer were to delete the underlined portion (adjusting the capitalization as needed), the sentence would primarily lose:

- A. an explanation of the process water molecules undergo to change from liquid to vapor to solid.
- B. a detail that mentions a step some water molecules skip in changing from vapor to solid.
- C. a visual description of what water vapor molecules look like.
- D. an explanation of how molecules react to various air temperatures.

8. F. NO CHANGE
G. were they to form
H. if they formed
J. form

9. A. NO CHANGE
B. process is
C. process:
D. process;

10. F. NO CHANGE
G. pressure from the wind, which
H. the pressure, as the wind
J. pressure from the wind

11. A. NO CHANGE
B. more quickly
C. most quickly
D. quickest

12. F. NO CHANGE
G. shape,
H. shape;
J. shape:

13. Which choice most effectively concludes the sentence and the essay?

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. scientists can be certain that a solution to even the most confusing event will be found.
- C. snowflakes will still fall if atmospheric conditions are favorable.
- D. snowflakes come in many different shapes and sizes.



Questions 14 and 15 ask about the preceding passage as a whole.

14. The writer is considering adding the following sentence to the essay:

This growth can take the form of either branching (which forms stable, symmetrical shapes) or faceting (which forms unstable, complex shapes).

If the writer were to add this sentence, it would most logically be placed at Point:

- F. A in Paragraph 1.
- G. B in Paragraph 1.
- H. C in Paragraph 2.
- J. D in Paragraph 4.

15. Suppose the writer's primary purpose had been to offer an example of a discovery that changed the way scientists viewed the basic laws of chemistry. Would this essay accomplish that purpose?

- A. Yes, because it describes how the observation of triangular snowflakes has led scientists to discover that their understanding of the basic laws of chemistry is flawed.
- B. Yes, because it describes how scientists have applied the knowledge they've gained through studying snowflakes to other areas of chemistry.
- C. No, because it focuses on how scientists are struggling to determine how triangular snowflakes are formed.
- D. No, because it explains that triangular snowflakes appeared to, but don't actually, violate the basic laws of chemistry.

PASSAGE II

Climbing Mt. Fuji

[1]

Bundled up in wool sweaters and thick coats, and we watched the sun setting on Mt. Fuji
¹⁶
in Japan. It was August and our clothes were stifling,

but we would have needed the warmth from our bodies
¹⁷
sealed around us as we hiked into the high altitudes.

Three friends and I stepped away from the crowd of other hikers and spoke our intention: "Sunset at the base, sunrise at the top." [A]

[2]

As we hiked, a patchwork of clouds swept across the darkening sky, hiding all traces of our surroundings outside our flashlights' beams. The trail gradually changed from compact dirt to a jumble of volcanic rocks. [B]

- 16. F. NO CHANGE
- G. coats while watching
- H. coats, we watched
- J. coats watching
- 17. A. NO CHANGE
- B. would need
- C. will need
- D. need



We tried to steady ourselves with our walking sticks but slipped and stumbled because of the jumbled rocks we were slipping on.

18
[3]

Every thousand feet, we came to a small station constructed of tin and cement, barely able to block the wind. At each one, we noted the roof piled high on fallen rocks and felt both unsettled and reassured by this evidence of the station's protective ability. We rested uneasily for a moment as a clerk burned the station brand into our walking sticks which it was proof of our progress through the darkness.

19
[4]

As we neared the summit, the whole group of hikers—thinly spread across the mountain for most of

the route—condensed, forming an illuminated line along

the trail. [C] Our pace slowed. Progressing along the trail, we reached the summit just five minutes before dawn. [D]

In the half-light of the rising sun: we began to make

out the dark lines of the cliffs' at the crater's edge.

18. F. NO CHANGE
G. even though we used our walking sticks.
H. despite any efforts to remain steady.
J. with each step.

19. A. NO CHANGE
B. piling high with
C. piled high with
D. piling high on

20. F. NO CHANGE
G. sticks, it was proof of
H. sticks, proof of
J. sticks proved

21. A. NO CHANGE
B. the most part
C. majority
D. more

22. F. NO CHANGE
G. they formed
H. there was
J. we saw

23. Which choice emphasizes the slowness of the ascent and supports the idea that the narrator's group of friends did not set their own pace?
A. NO CHANGE
B. Able to advance only a few steps at a time,
C. Moving forward with each step,
D. Climbing higher in altitude,

24. F. NO CHANGE
G. sun—
H. sun,
J. sun;

25. A. NO CHANGE
B. cliff's at the craters'
C. cliffs at the crater's
D. cliffs at the craters



We crouched down on jutting pieces of rock and waited for the shifting clouds to clear. We waited for the sun. 26

[5]

Generally, a sudden gap in the clouds left us blinking

²⁷

as the sunlight squelched out the severe landscape of gray volcanic rock. We leaned against each other, spent.

²⁸

Perhaps there is truth in the old Japanese saying: A wise man climbs Mt. Fuji, but only a fool climbs it twice.

Questions 29 and 30 ask about the preceding passage as a whole.

29. The writer wants to add the following sentence to the essay:

We clipped small flashlights onto our coats, picked up our walking sticks, and started up the trail with the other hikers as the sun dipped below the trees.

The sentence would most logically be placed at Point:

- A. A in Paragraph 1.
- B. B in Paragraph 2.
- C. C in Paragraph 4.
- D. D in Paragraph 4.

26. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the paragraph would primarily lose:

- F. a restatement of an idea that emphasizes the hikers' anticipation when they reached the summit.
- G. a statement that introduces the idea of waiting, which is the focus of the following paragraph.
- H. an unnecessary detail that contradicts information presented earlier in the paragraph.
- J. a clear image that conveys what the hikers saw when they reached the summit.

27. A. NO CHANGE

- B. Furthermore,
- C. Once again,
- D. Finally,

28. Which choice most dramatically emphasizes the ruggedness of the landscape?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. shattered over
- H. smothered
- J. went over

30. Suppose the writer's primary purpose had been to describe the experience of doing something difficult. Would this essay accomplish that purpose?

- F. Yes, because it tells about a variety of challenges the hikers faced along their journey.
- G. Yes, because it focuses primarily on the hikers' need for walking sticks and other tools to make it up the trail.
- H. No, because it focuses on the rewarding nature of the experience but does not describe the hike as challenging.
- J. No, because it focuses mainly on the beauty of the surrounding landscape.

PASSAGE III

The Pottery of Mata Ortiz

In the early 1950s, a twelve-year-old boy named, Juan Quezada, gathered firewood in the mountains near the village of Mata Ortiz in Chihuahua, Mexico. Though he dreamed of becoming an artist, Quezada spent all of his free time selling firewood to help support his family.

³¹

31. A. NO CHANGE

- B. boy named Juan Quezada
- C. boy, named Juan Quezada
- D. boy named Juan Quezada,



In the mountains, Quezada found shards of pots, and an occasional complete pot, painted with intricate red and black designs. These were artifacts from his ancestors, the Paquimé (or Casas Grandes) Indians, who lived in the area from about AD 1000 to AD 1400. Fascinated by the geometric designs, Quezada wondered, if he could make pots like these?

33

34 He dug the clay, soaked it, and tried to shape it into a pot. In time, he figured out how his ancestors had mixed the clay with volcanic ash to keep it from cracking and had used minerals found nearby to create paints. When it was time to paint his pots, Quezada designed his own complex geometric patterns.

As an adult, Quezada found a job with the railroad, but he always made time for his art. By 1976 he was selling pots to travelers and had taught several members of his family how to make pots. Three of Quezada's pots were discovered in a junk shop in New Mexico by anthropologist Spencer MacCallum, who at first thought they were prehistoric. **36**

His search for their creator led him to Mata

37

Ortiz and an eventual partnership with Quezada.

38

- 32.** Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?
- F. pots—along with an occasional complete pot—
 G. pots, along with an occasional complete pot,
 H. pots, (and an occasional complete pot)
 J. pots (and an occasional complete pot)
- 33.** A. NO CHANGE
 B. wondered if he could make pots like these.
 C. wondered, if he could make pots like these.
 D. wondered if he could make pots like these?
- 34.** Which of the following true statements would provide the best transition from the preceding paragraph to this paragraph?
- F. The village of Mata Ortiz is only three streets wide but stretches for a mile between the Casas Grandes River and the railroad tracks.
 G. The patterns on Mata Ortiz pottery that Quezada admired are based on the techniques of the ancient Paquimé.
 H. Quezada began working with clay from the mountains.
 J. Quezada's painted designs became increasingly complex.
- 35.** A. NO CHANGE
 B. a dedication to teaching
 C. a teacher of
 D. has taught
- 36.** In the preceding sentence, the clause “who at first thought they were prehistoric” primarily serves to indicate:
- F. how closely Quezada had created his pots within the Paquimé tradition.
 G. that Quezada's technique as a potter wasn't very well developed yet.
 H. how strikingly simple Quezada's pots were in shape and design.
 J. that the style of Quezada's pots was outmoded.
- 37.** A. NO CHANGE
 B. lead himself
 C. led himself
 D. lead him
- 38.** Which choice most strongly suggests that Quezada's partnership with MacCallum was not formed right away upon MacCallum's arrival in Mata Ortiz?
- F. NO CHANGE
 G. a circumstantial
 H. a momentary
 J. a timely



MacCallum showed Quezada's pots to art dealers in the United States, the places in which art galleries were soon³⁹ offering Quezada thousands of dollars for them.

[1] Quezada helped his village with the money he earned selling pottery, but he wanted to do more so.⁴⁰ [2] So he taught people from Mata Ortiz to make pots. [3] Today

there are more than four hundred potters around,⁴¹ all of

which⁴² make their pots by hand, following the traditions of the Paquimé Indians. [4] The village is thriving, and many museums proudly display the pottery of Mata Ortiz.

[5] Each artist brought something unique to they're⁴³

creations. 44

39. A. NO CHANGE
B. and it would happen there that
C. where
D. DELETE the underlined portion.
40. F. NO CHANGE
G. more than that.
H. more of them.
J. more.
41. A. NO CHANGE
B. people creating art now,
C. potters in Mata Ortiz,
D. DELETE the underlined portion and place a comma after the word *hundred*.
42. F. NO CHANGE
G. whom
H. them
J. who
43. A. NO CHANGE
B. his or herselfs
C. hers or his
D. his or her
44. For the sake of the logic and coherence of this paragraph, Sentence 5 should be placed:
F. where it is now.
G. before Sentence 1.
H. after Sentence 1.
J. after Sentence 2.

Question 45 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

45. Suppose the writer's primary purpose had been to write an essay summarizing the history of pottery making in Mexico. Would this essay accomplish that purpose?
- A. Yes, because it discusses ancient pottery shards and complete pots from the Paquimé Indians and compares that pottery to modern designs.
B. Yes, because it demonstrates the quality of the ancient pottery of the Mata Ortiz area.
C. No, because it focuses instead on how one artist based his creations on ancient pottery techniques and shared those techniques with other artists.
D. No, because it focuses instead on describing the Casas Grandes culture in ancient Mexico.



PASSAGE IV

Beaux Arts Architecture in the Spotlight

On West 45th Street in New York City, wedged between buildings more than twice it's height, stands the Lyceum Theatre. Tourists and New Yorkers

alike regularly filling this theater to its 900-seat capacity. Most are there to attend a performance;

a few, for example, are likely to be architecture buffs

they come to admire the stunning building itself. Built in 1903, the theater exemplifies the Beaux Arts architectural style, which fuses elements of classical Greek and Roman design with Renaissance and Baroque details.

The Beaux Arts revival of classical Greek and Roman architecture is apparent on first view of the theater. The Lyceum's facade—the exterior front, or “face,” of the building—features half a dozen Corinthian columns. Above the columns extends a horizontal stone band called a frieze; carved into it are the classical theatrical

masks that represent comedy and tragedy. 51

46. F. NO CHANGE
G. they're
H. their
J. its

47. A. NO CHANGE
B. alike, regularly filling
C. alike, regularly fill
D. alike regularly fill

48. F. NO CHANGE
G. consequently,
H. however,
J. in fact,

49. A. NO CHANGE
B. there to
C. whom
D. they

50. F. NO CHANGE
G. frieze; into which are carved
H. frieze. Into which are carved
J. frieze, carved into it are

51. The writer is considering adding the following sentence:

Masks figured prominently in classical Greek theater performances, in part due to the fact that one actor would usually play several characters.

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A. Yes, because it connects the paragraph's point about theatrical masks to the larger subject of classical Greek theater.
B. Yes, because it explains the masks' significance to classical Greek theater and architecture.
C. No, because it only addresses classical Greek theater and doesn't include information about Roman theater.
D. No, because it deviates from the paragraph's focus on the Lyceum Theatre's architecture.



Demonstrating the Beaux Arts infusion of Renaissance and Baroque details, tall, arched French windows, symmetrically placed between the columns, lighten the imposing gray limestone structure. [A] Above the windows and frieze, an exterior balcony spans the width of the gray building. [B] The balcony is fenced

52

with a balustrade, a stone railing supported by a row of waist-high, vase-shaped pillars. [C] The ornate interior of the building is consistent with its elaborate exterior. [D] Not just one but two marble-finished grand staircases lead from the foyer to the midlevel seating area, called the mezzanine. Inside the theater itself, elegant chandeliers illuminate rose-colored walls

54

that have gold accents. In keeping with sumptuous Beaux Arts style, curved rows of plush purple chairs

55

embrace the stage. [56] [57]

52. F. NO CHANGE
G. gray limestone
H. limestone
J. DELETE the underlined portion.
53. A. NO CHANGE
B. balustrade. Which is
C. balustrade. It being
D. balustrade, this is
54. F. NO CHANGE
G. elegantly chandelier illuminates
H. elegantly chandelier illuminate
J. elegant chandeliers illuminates
55. Which choice maintains the essay's positive tone and most strongly mimics the elaborate style of decor being described at this point in the essay?
A. NO CHANGE
B. embellished with myriad gold accents.
C. marred with gaudy accents of gold.
D. accented with gold.
56. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the essay would primarily lose details that:
F. illustrate one of the Lyceum Theatre's features that deviates from Beaux Arts architecture.
G. contribute to the description of the Lyceum Theatre's elaborate interior.
H. support the essay's claim that Beaux Arts architecture was most popular in the twentieth century.
J. clarify an unfamiliar architectural term used in the essay.
57. The writer wants to divide this paragraph into two in order to separate details about the building's outdoor features from details about its indoor features. The best place to begin the new paragraph would be at Point:
A. A.
B. B.
C. C.
D. D.

Day 15 - News Summaries

Summarize two news stories using the template below. When you are finished define 5 difficult words from the stories. You can use TV or Radio if you do not have internet.

Day 2 - News Summaries

Use the provide News summary template to summarize two news stories. These can be from TV broadcasts, newspapers or anything you can find with news.

News Summary Template

Find 2 news stories that would be of interest to you and summarize it using the template below.

Link to news story (write out) This could be from TV or radio

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Link to news story (write out)

Who is the news story about?

What is happening in the news story?

Where does the news story take place?

When does the news story take place?

Why is this news story significant?

How did it happen?

Write a short summary in your own words about the event you linked above.(Use the above answers to help you.

How do you feel personally about this story?

Day 16 - ACT Writing

Answer the prompt below:

Corporate Responsibility (Sample Essay Prompt 6)

Large corporations make up some of the wealthiest entities in the world today. Some see these corporations as engines of economic development and progress, bringing better products at better prices to a wider range of people every day. Others, however, criticize corporations for their shortcomings when it comes to social responsibility: failing to assist the less fortunate in our society, including their workers, while focusing too narrowly on profits at the expense of social welfare. Should corporations do more than simply aim to improve their profit margins? Is it important for large corporations to set aside profits from time to time in order to donate to charities and to help the needy?

Read and carefully consider these perspectives. Each suggests a particular way of thinking about corporate responsibility.

Perspective 1

Corporations have only one responsibility: to make the greatest profit they possibly can. It is only by doing so that they can benefit their workers, shareholders, and society.

Perspective 2

Profits often get in the way of doing the right thing. Large corporations should focus less on profits and more on developing meaningful ways of helping the disadvantaged.

Perspective 3

It is important that corporations adhere to any and all laws that pertain to them. Beyond this, however, they are free to do as they please.

Essay Task

Write a unified, coherent essay in which you evaluate multiple perspectives on corporate responsibility. In your essay, be sure to:

- analyze and evaluate the perspectives given
- state and develop your own perspective on the issue
- explain the relationship between your perspective and those given

Your perspective may be in full agreement with any of the others, in partial agreement, or wholly different. Whatever the case, support your ideas with logical reasoning and detailed, persuasive examples.

Write your response below.

Day 17 ACT Practice Test

Answer the ACT test questions below. Use a pen and circle the best answer!



ENGLISH TEST

45 Minutes—75 Questions

DIRECTIONS: In the five passages that follow, certain words and phrases are underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find alternatives for the underlined part. In most cases, you are to choose the one that best expresses the idea, makes the statement appropriate for standard written English, or is worded most consistently with the style and tone of the passage as a whole. If you think the original version is best, choose “NO CHANGE.” In some cases, you will find in the right-hand column a question about the underlined part. You are to choose the best answer to the question.

You will also find questions about a section of the passage, or about the passage as a whole. These questions do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage, but rather are identified by a number or numbers in a box.

For each question, choose the alternative you consider best and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer document. Read each passage through once before you begin to answer the questions that accompany it. For many of the questions, you must read several sentences beyond the question to determine the answer. Be sure that you have read far enough ahead each time you choose an alternative.

PASSAGE I

Dragonfly

The nature trail is six feet wide and seven miles long. It slithers through the forest like a snake curving, and bending along the banks of the river.

The county cleared this path and paved it with packed

gravel, so they would have a peaceful place to hike and bike.

I ride this trail nearly every day—not on a bike, but on “Luigi.” That’s the nickname I gave my

motorized wheelchair. 5 Today, Luigi’s battery

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. snake, curving and bending
C. snake curving and bending,
D. snake, curving, and bending,
2. Which of the following alternatives to the underlined portion would NOT be acceptable?
F. path, paving
G. path and then paved
H. path before paving
J. path paved
3. A. NO CHANGE
B. knowing they
C. that they
D. people
4. F. NO CHANGE
G. day; not on a bike
H. day not on a bike
J. day, not on a bike;
5. If the writer were to delete the preceding sentence, the essay would primarily lose:
A. a reason why the narrator is in the forest.
B. a detail important for understanding the essay.
C. a contrast to the lighthearted tone of the essay.
D. nothing at all; this information is irrelevant to the essay.



is fully charged, I know I can go all the way to the end
⁶
of the trail and back. But I always carry a cell phone on
me just in case.

Luigi's motor moves slowly as we venture along
⁷
the trail. I can hear the gravel quietly crunching beneath

Luigi's rubber wheels. I hear the songs of cardinals in the
⁸
trees and the clamor of crickets in the grasses. I hear the
murmur of water slipping over time-smoothed rocks. It is
⁹
September, and some of the trees are starting to blush red
and orange at their tips. The wind ruffles my hair and
chills my face as I bounce gently, along in my padded
¹⁰
chair.

Bicyclists streak past in a blur of color and a cloud of
¹¹

dust I don't understand their hurry. Luigi can go fast, but I
¹²
like to ride slowly, to see like a hovering dragonfly. I want
to see everything that has changed, grown, bloomed, or
died since yesterday. Today I notice that a spider has
woven a web between some honeysuckle bushes by the
bridge. I see that the bank of vibrant yellow black-eyed
Susans by the barbed wire fence is starting to dry and fade
away. I spend an hour; looking and listening and learning.
¹³

6. F. NO CHANGE
G. charged, because of that,
H. charged, this means that
J. charged, so
7. Which choice would most logically and effectively emphasize the positive, friendly attitude the narrator has toward Luigi?
A. NO CHANGE
B. travels safely
C. proceeds carefully
D. purrs softly
8. F. NO CHANGE
G. You can hear
H. One can even hear
J. While hearing
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. Due to the fact that it is
C. It turns into the month of
D. Because it has turned into
10. F. NO CHANGE
G. gentle, along
H. gently along
J. gentle along,
11. Which choice most effectively leads into the new subject of this paragraph?
A. NO CHANGE
B. The sun begins to set
C. Nature always impresses me
D. Days can go by quickly
12. F. NO CHANGE
G. dust, however,
H. dust.
J. dust,
13. A. NO CHANGE
B. hour, looking,
C. hour looking;
D. hour looking



And now my ride is finished for today. I leave the trail and come out into the open, manicured park at the trails end. There, my older brother helps me out of my chair and into his waiting van. He puts Luigi in the back, and I return to the world of pavement, streetlights, and traffic. But in my mind, I am still gliding through the forest. I am like the water, flowing over ancient stones. Inside, I am still a dragonfly.

14. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. trail's
H. trails'
J. trails's

Question 15 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer's goal had been to write an essay illustrating the pleasure that people can take in nature. Would this essay accomplish that goal?
- A.** Yes, because it focuses on a variety of wildflowers that the narrator enjoys.
B. Yes, because it focuses on the narrator's joy at having access to nature.
C. No, because it describes the world of the city as being more important to the narrator.
D. No, because it focuses primarily on the functioning of the narrator's motorized wheelchair.

PASSAGE II

Beneath the Streets of New York

At 2 p.m., on October 27, 1904; thousands of New York City residents poured into the streets of Manhattan. Their cheers competed with the blare of ferryboat horns and the whistle of power plants. The city was celebrating an incredible engineering feat; the completion of the first section of the New York City

Subway. 18

16. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. 2 p.m. on October 27, 1904, thousands
H. 2 p.m., on October 27, 1904; thousands,
J. 2 p.m. on October 27, 1904, thousands,
17. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. feat, over
C. feat:
D. feat
18. The writer is concerned about the level of detail in the preceding sentence and is considering deleting the phrase "the first section of" from it. If the writer were to make this deletion, the paragraph would primarily lose information that:
- F.** reveals how expansive the New York City Subway would become.
G. clarifies that only part of the subway system had been completed by October 27, 1904.
H. makes clear that by October 27, 1904, construction of the second section of the subway was already underway.
J. provides evidence that New York City residents at this celebration believed the entire subway system was complete.



The original subway line was 9.1 miles long and had twenty-eight stations. [A] The first train took twenty-six minutes to complete the route, which ran from City Hall to West 145th Street in under a half an hour. Tens of thousands of New Yorkers could now avoid traffic jams

by traveling underneath the streets. [B]

As early as 1865, there had been proposals for a New York subway, but that took decades to resolve the many political, financial, and technical challenges. The engineer, William Barclay Parsons accepted responsibility for overseeing this project.

Parsons decided that most of the subway tunnel would be constructed using an innovation engineering method known as “cut and cover.” [C] First, workers used picks and shovels to remove roads and dig a deep trench. After installing wooden braces to hold back the earth, workers built a concrete floor. Tunnel walls were

created: with layers of brick, ceramic blocks, tar-soaked felt for waterproofing, and concrete. The roof was made from arch-shaped wooden molds also covered with concrete. Next, track beds were filled with crushed stone, and rails were secured to wooden ties. Finally, the roof was covered with tar-soaked felt, and the roads were rebuilt.

19. A. NO CHANGE
B. in the completion of its route.
C. in twenty-six minutes.
D. DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.
20. Which choice would most effectively conclude the sentence by indicating clearly how the subway system could address the problem described in the first part of the sentence?
F. NO CHANGE
G. traveling more effectively.
H. trying something new.
J. using a system.
21. A. NO CHANGE
B. it
C. those
D. DELETE the underlined portion.
22. F. NO CHANGE
G. engineer—William Barclay Parsons
H. engineer William Barclay Parsons,
J. engineer William Barclay Parsons
23. A. NO CHANGE
B. innovate engineer
C. innovative engineering
D. innovate engineering
24. F. NO CHANGE
G. into the ground deeply under where the roads had previously been removed by them.
H. a trench far down below since it was necessary to shovel deep into the earth in this method known as “cut and cover.”
J. DELETE the underlined portion and end the sentence with a period.
25. A. NO CHANGE
B. created, with
C. created with
D. created with:



Brightly lit stations welcomed the public, many
of them were skeptical of traveling underground. [D] It
26

didn't take long for New Yorkers to adapt, however. The
day after the subway opened, one newspaper reported that
the riders were emerging from underground "having
finished what will be to them the daily routine of the
rest of their lives." 28

26. **F.** NO CHANGE
G. of whom
H. of who
J. DELETE the underlined portion.
27. **A.** NO CHANGE
B. therefore.
C. for instance.
D. that is.
28. The writer wishes to add a sentence that describes the magnitude and expansiveness of the New York City Subway system today. Given that all the following statements are true, which one, if added here, would most clearly and effectively accomplish the writer's goal?
- F.** Even today, for many New Yorkers that newspaper's account is right!
G. Today, riding a portion of the New York City Subway's 656 miles of mainline track is a daily routine for more than 4 million people.
H. Today, the New York City Transit Authority continuously maintains two separate fleets of subway cars.
J. Now, a typical New York City Subway waiting platform ranges from 400 to 700 feet.

Question 29 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

29. Upon reviewing the essay and finding that some information has been left out, the writer composes the following sentence incorporating that information:
- This technique, also known as "open excavation," became the standard for subway tunneling for nearly sixty years.
- If the writer were to add this sentence to the essay, the sentence would most logically be placed at Point:
- A.** A.
B. B.
C. C.
D. D.

Day 18

BHS Vocabulary Videos

Today you are going to create 5 vocab videos using the words listed below. You only have to choose 5 words. You can use a phone or Chromebook to make the videos. Be prepared to show videos in class. Your videos should be like the vocabulary videos we watch in class. It should start with you saying the word and definition. Then act out a scene for the word.



Academic Vocabulary – 12th Grade – Language Arts

analyze - to study something closely and carefully

compensate - make up for something unwelcome or unpleasant

condescending - having or showing a feeling of superiority; snobbish

correlate - have a mutual relationship or connection

critical - 1 disapproving comments or judgement 2 have the potential to become a disaster

deficit - a lack in quality or quantity

diminish - to make or become less

minute - extremely small

pensive - engaged in, involving, or reflecting deep or serious thought

plagiarize - to steal or pass off as one's own

potent - having great power, influence, or effect

principle - a truth that serves as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior

redundant - no longer needed or useful

rhetoric - persuasive language that is often fake

satire - a kind of writing that ridicules human weakness, vice, or folly to bring about change



Academic Vocabulary 9th Grade - ELA

ambiguity - the meaning of a word, phrase, or sentence is uncertain

anecdote - a short story

assert - to make a statement with confidence

characterize - identifying the actions, words, appearance and personality traits of a character

coherence - writing that is consistent in purpose, tone, and audience throughout

context - using surrounding words and ideas to identify meaning

contradict - two or more arguments that conflict one another

depict - to represent in words

parenthetical citation - credit given to a source using parentheses

plagiarize - claiming words and ideas of others as your own

situational irony - the difference between what you expect to happen and what really does happen

static - in literature, the lack of change/stays the same (character, setting, etc)

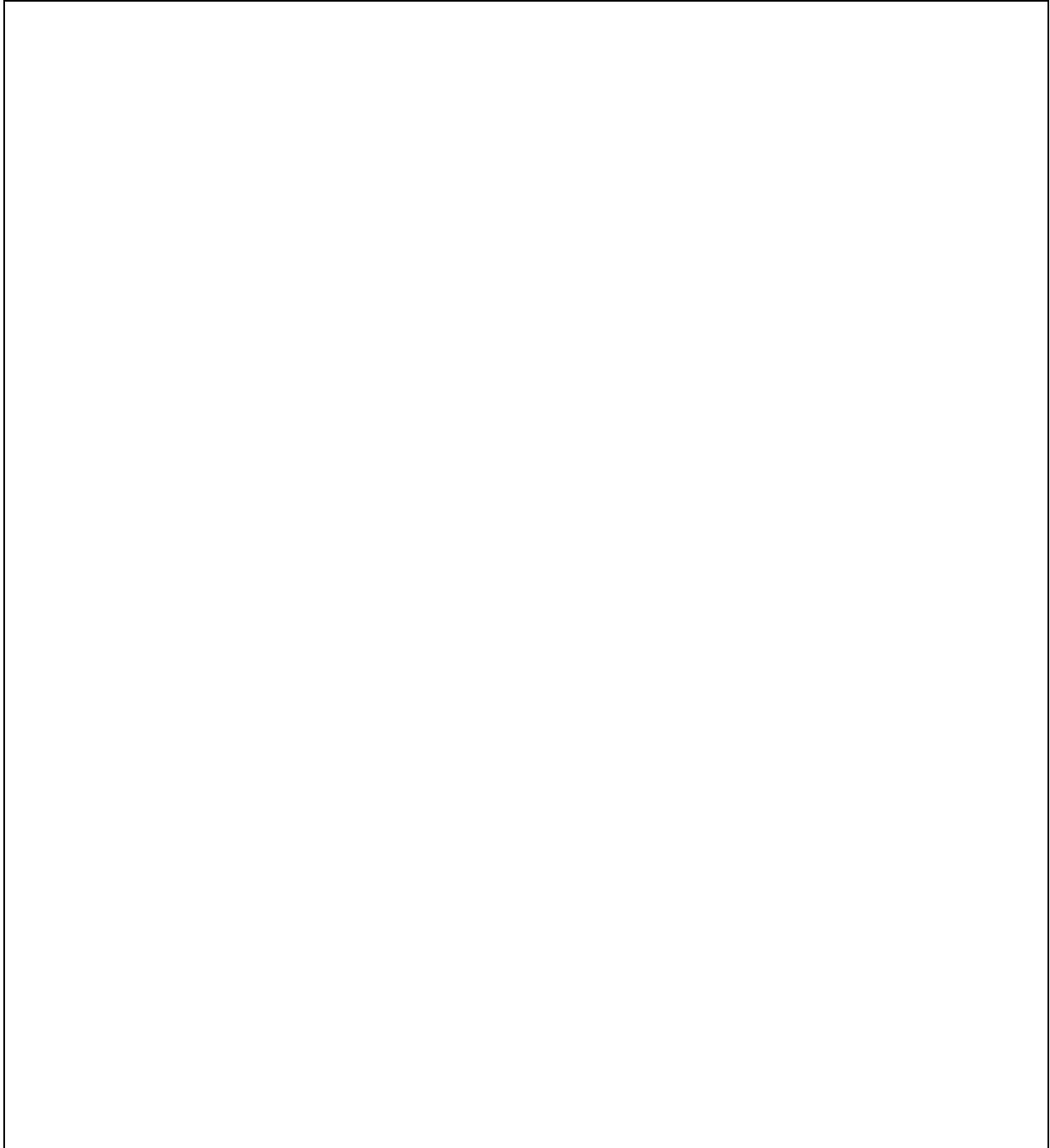
summarize - abbreviating (shortening) the main ideas of a text

synthesize - using information from multiple sources to come to a new understanding

verbal irony - the difference between what is actually said and what is meant

Day 19 - Reviews

I'm sure you are consuming a ton of media over this long break. Today you are going to write a review of something you watched. Try to include strong vocabulary and I want you to persuade the reader as to why you enjoyed or did not enjoy the media that you picked. You can review anything you watched, read, played or listened to over break. TV Shows, Movies, Books, Games etc. Use the space below for your review.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to write their review. It occupies the majority of the page below the instructions.

Day 20 ACT Grammar - Irregular Verbs

Today you will complete the parallel structure worksheets below. Circle the best answer.

IRREGULAR VERBS – EXERCISE 1

Directions: Choose the correct verb for the sentences below. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. When Mom _____ out the kitchen rug, dog hair, bread crumbs, coffee grounds, and spaghetti noodles flew through the air and dusted the sidewalk.

A. shaked
B. shook
C. had shook

2. At the back of the lab, Glenn decorated the margins of his biology textbook with caricatures. When test time arrives, Glenn will wish that he had _____ the different cell types Dr. Shuman was explaining to the class.

A. drawn
B. drawed
C. drew

3. Theodore bought beautiful roses for Glenda, his date. Because he did not have a vase, he rinsed out a peanut butter jar. After Theodore _____ Glenda's reaction to the arrangement, he realized that he had not made a favorable first impression.

A. saw
B. had saw
C. seen

4. Jennifer has discovered that hanging clothes outside to dry has its disadvantages. Recently, a spider crept into a pair of her jeans and _____ a day biting the "intruder"—Jennifer's bare leg—that had invaded the arachnid's new home.
- A. spend
 - B. spended
 - C. spent
5. Ms. Ayer _____ several deep breaths to keep from exploding at Jerry, whose excuse for missing yet another class was that Grandma had died—for the fifth time in one semester!
- A. taked
 - B. took
 - C. tooked
6. Diane always wonders where she will next discover a pair of her husband's dirty socks. Yesterday Mike _____ two in the refrigerator next to a carton of orange juice.
- A. leaved
 - B. leaft
 - C. left
7. When Richie jammed the photocopier for the eighth time, Sharon, the administrative assistant, picked up a heavy stapler and _____ it at his head.
- A. through
 - B. throwed
 - C. threw

8. Because her hands were still slippery from the dishwater, Marilyn dropped the watermelon, which _____ on the floor in an explosion of pulp and seeds.
- A. busted
 - B. bursted
 - C. burst
9. On his way to an interview at the bank, Geraldo stepped in gum. Nervous about the meeting, he failed to notice the candy wrapper and leaves that _____ to his shoe as he walked from the parking garage to the lobby.
- A. sticked
 - B. stuck
 - C. stucked
10. On Christmas Eve, Captain Beane wore a pair of antlers while greeting passengers boarding his 727. The costume _____ little trust in Louise, whose fear of flying required a *serious* pilot.
- A. built
 - B. build
 - C. builded
11. Jim would have _____ the difficult and dirty job of cleaning the slimy gutters if the blue sky, seventy-degree weather, and new titanium graphite driver had not summoned him to the golf course.
- A. began
 - B. begun
 - C. beganned

12. After losing electricity during a hurricane, the Martinez family _____ candles, speared hot dogs on pencils, and roasted the wieners over this makeshift barbecue.
- A. lit
 - B. lited
 - C. litted
13. Because Nigel had _____ to the supermarket with this week's grocery money, Shirley expected him to return with bread, milk, and other essentials. Boy, was she angry when he came home with fifty dollars worth of losing lottery tickets!
- A. gone
 - B. went
 - C. goed
14. When Henry opened the vegetable crisper at the bottom of the refrigerator, the puddle of rotting lettuce that he discovered _____ up the kitchen for the rest of the day.
- A. stinked
 - B. stank
 - C. stanked
15. Whenever Mike _____ his Cessna 152, a small airplane, he worried about running out of fuel, hitting birds, and being abducted by alien spaceships.
- A. flied
 - B. flown
 - C. flew

16. Audrey had just _____ into her first forkful of omelet when she noticed mushrooms in the egg. Because she was highly allergic to this vegetable, she had to spit the mouthful into her napkin, wiping her tongue with a clean corner.
- A. bited
 - B. bitt
 - C. bitten
17. Maria _____ from the cold glass of soda, trying to extinguish the anger that, lava-like, threatened to explode at her husband Darren, who had spent the day watching college football instead of mowing the lawn.
- A. drinked
 - B. drank
 - C. drunk
18. Raphael would have _____ jeans and a T-shirt to the interview if he thought such attire would land him the job. Because he knew better, Raphael struggled into a scratchy suit that made him feel as though ants were crawling over his skin.
- A. wore
 - B. worn
 - C. worned
19. At first, Rose _____ to tolerate Simon's lack of punctuality. His good looks compensated for her having to wait an extra ten or fifteen minutes. But once Simon's tardiness hit half an hour, Rose dumped him for a boyfriend who looked at his watch.
- A. chose
 - B. choose
 - C. choosed

20. One spring Joe _____ tomatoes in the backyard; pollution, insects, and weekend badminton matches did so much damage to the poor plants that Joe went back to buying canned tomatoes at the grocery store.

- A. grew
- B. had grew
- C. grewed



IRREGULAR VERBS – EXERCISE 2

Directions: Choose the correct verb for the sentences below. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. A strong wind _____ through the trees, loosening clumps of moss, dead branches, old kites, and baby squirrels, all of which fell to the wet ground below.

A. had blew
B. blew
C. blowed
2. Charlie believed that he had _____ the best essay of the semester, but when Mrs. Varner returned the paper, the slashes of red ink and caustic comments immediately changed his opinion of the work.

A. wrote
B. wroten
C. written
3. Becky had both an empty wallet and stomach, so she _____ a chocolate bar from the candy rack. The ensuing guilt was harder to tolerate than her growling belly.

A. stole
B. had stole
C. stealed

4. In her dreams that night, Diana had _____ in a pool of warm cocoa; when she awoke, the aroma of chocolate still tickled her nostrils.
- A. swimmmed
 - B. swam
 - C. swum
5. Chauncey would have _____ some of the squid eyeball stew if a long, gray tentacle hadn't dangled over the side of the bowl.
- A. ate
 - B. eaten
 - C. eatten
6. My grandmother doesn't trust banks, so she has _____ money all over the house. Once, I pulled an old *Reader's Digest* off a shelf and found seven \$100 bills stuck between the pages.
- A. hid
 - B. hiden
 - C. hidden
7. George would have _____ to class sooner, but a beautiful woman was listening to him lie about his fat wallet and hot car, and he couldn't tear himself away from the conversation.
- A. came
 - B. come
 - C. commed

8. If Eli hadn't escaped to the kitchen to cool down, he would have _____ a heavy plate over the head of Mrs. Jones, who sent back her chicken for the fourth time.
- A. broken
 - B. breaked
 - C. braked
9. Dashing down the hallway, Tuan slipped in a puddle of soda and crashed into the water fountain. His elbow and nose _____ for the rest of the day.
- A. hurt
 - B. hurted
 - C. had hurted
10. Giselle dreaded attending her US Government class. Whenever Dr. Duncan called on her, Giselle felt as if she had _____ in her chair; she couldn't open her mouth, let alone answer one of his questions.
- A. freezed
 - B. froze
 - C. frozen
11. A thin stray kitten cried outside the back door. Because Rebecca felt sorry for the poor animal, she _____ it some leftover ravioli, the only food she had in the refrigerator.
- A. fed
 - B. fead
 - C. feeded

12. Last week, Hector had _____ his girlfriend Gloria an expensive gold necklace. When he saw her flirting with Omar, Hector knew that he should have purchased new rims for his car instead.
- A. gived
 - B. gave
 - C. given
13. Because Kerri Ann _____ all of her biology homework, she spent the rest of the evening with her friends. The next morning, when Dr. Wright passed out the difficult pop quiz, Kerri Ann realized that her books should have been her only company.
- A. done
 - B. had done
 - C. had did
14. On his way to an interview, Gonzalo _____ a hot dog to quiet his rumbling stomach. While he was wolfing down this quick meal, yellow mustard dripped all over the front of his crisp white shirt.
- A. buyed
 - B. baught
 - C. bought
15. Omar woke up before dawn and drove to Daytona Beach. As the sun _____ over the ocean, he watched the water sparkle like the beautiful diamond earrings he had given his girlfriend Gloria, who then dumped him for a new boyfriend with a higher credit card limit.
- A. rised
 - B. raised
 - C. rose

16. Dan would have _____ his new truck to the grocery store if he hadn't been so worried that a loose can of peas might roll around in the bed and chip the pristine green paint.
- A. drived
 - B. drove
 - C. driven
17. For weeks, Judi searched cookbooks and culinary magazines for the recipe to make squid eyeball stew. Finally, she _____ the instructions at **www.eatmoresquid.com**, a web site dedicated to preparing this sea delicacy.
- A. finded
 - B. found
 - C. founded
18. After cooking all night, Paulette _____ a huge platter of chocolate-broccoli muffins to the meeting. Everyone enjoyed the delicious combination of tastes while getting the daily dose of vitamin C.
- A. braught
 - B. brought
 - C. brang
19. When Mr. Tighe saw Julie using *Moby-Dick* as a coaster for a sweating glass of cold soda, he _____ down his briefcase and lectured the poor woman on showing proper respect for great literature.
- A. throwed
 - B. through
 - C. threw

20. Jim's last temper tantrum _____ \$200. He had thrown an expensive titanium three-wood into the golf course lake, and his wife Nancy insisted that he hire a scuba diver to retrieve it.

- A. cost
- B. coss
- C. costed



IRREGULAR VERBS – EXERCISE 3

Directions: Choose the correct verb for the sentences below. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Sherry should have _____ the truth. Then poor Rebecca would have declined a bowl of soup instead of vomiting in the bathroom once she learned the recipe included half a cup of frog tongues.

A. telled
B. told
C. told

2. While Allison gripped the roof's edge, she no longer resented the many hours that her boyfriend Chris spent in the gym. After all, his strong arms would catch her when she loosened her grip and _____ to the ground below.

A. fell
B. falled
C. fallen

3. Mauricio would have _____ the seven-foot wave into shore if a huge shark had not been patrolling the waters underneath the surfboard, hoping for a dangling arm or leg.

A. rode
B. rided
C. ridden

4. If Carlos had known that hail the size of golf balls would fall later that day, he would have _____ his shoulder pads and football helmet instead of his one good suit.
- A. worn
 - B. wore
 - C. weared
5. Using bites of bologna as bribes, Diane convinced Reliable, her beagle, to lie still, and then she _____ each of his eighteen toenails.
- A. cut
 - B. cutted
 - C. cuted
6. At the beginning of the semester, Joyce anticipated learning about Egyptian archeology. Her interest _____, however, as the monotonous lectures of Dr. Nelson provided facts dustier than mummy wrappings.
- A. shranked
 - B. shrank
 - C. shrunck
7. Without stopping for breath, Mervina, the neighborhood gossip, _____ Kishana up on the neighborhood news, including Sherry's disastrous dinner party, where the frog tongue soup sent five guests to the local emergency room.
- A. cought
 - B. caught
 - C. catched

8. After Mrs. Curall _____ irregular verb forms in her writing class, she discovered that the frequency of *tooked* and *weared* declined in her students' essays.
- A. tought
 - B. taught
 - C. teached
9. While crawling along in rush-hour traffic, Kay cranked up her car stereo and _____ the lyrics to "Back in Black" with AC/DC, oblivious to the scowls of annoyance from the other drivers trapped beside her.
- A. singed
 - B. sung
 - C. sang
10. Because Henry enjoyed impressing his girlfriend Gloria, he _____ for the expensive dinner with his brand new credit card; he would worry about the shocking statement when it arrived in the mail next month.
- A. payed
 - B. had payed
 - C. paid
11. To ensure that the ragged edges of his essay did not inspire Mrs. Varner's rage, Jack carefully _____ the fuzzies from the sheets of paper.
- A. tore
 - B. had torn
 - C. teared

12. If Tyree had _____ how beautiful the substitute teacher was going to be, he would have prepared his math homework—instead of an arsenal of spitballs—to impress her with his intelligence.
- A. knowed
 - B. known
 - C. knew
13. With a hotdog, Dris _____ Butler, her bulldog, to the car but could not get him onto the backseat; Butler sensed a trip to the vet and refused to budge.
- A. lead
 - B. leaded
 - C. led
14. Tikeja _____ Michael's forehead to confirm his fever. When cool skin met her touch, she knew her little brother was faking an illness to get out of helping her rake the big backyard.
- A. feeled
 - B. feld
 - C. felt
15. Thrashing on the surface of the lake, a huge catfish _____ Reggie's fishing pole almost to the point of breaking. Reggie fought on, images of fried fillets making his mouth water.
- A. bended
 - B. had bended
 - C. bent

16. Tiffany _____ through all of Dr. Olefke's 8 a.m. astronomy lectures; like black holes, the low grades on her exams sucked up any hope of passing the class.
- A. slept
 - B. sleapt
 - C. sleeped
17. The telephone _____ twelve times before Pablo would lift the receiver. He prayed the call was from a salesperson and not his psycho ex-girlfriend Maria.
- A. rung
 - B. rang
 - C. ringed
18. While Clive stood on top of the fire ant mound, several of the insects crawled over his shoes and _____ him on the ankles, sending the poor boy dancing around the yard and slapping at his legs.
- A. stinged
 - B. stang
 - C. stung
19. Jeanne _____ her house of twenty years with great misgivings; she worried that the new owners would dig up the bones of her beloved cat, Emmy Lou, to put a pool or rose garden in the backyard.
- A. selled
 - B. sold
 - C. sole

20. Melissa dug in her heels and _____ the leash with both hands; Mellie, her Labrador retriever, saw children playing Frisbee down the street and wanted desperately to chase the flying red disk.

- A. held
- B. healt
- C. holded

