Answer Explanations for Writing Section Test 5

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| 1 | Subject verb/pronoun agreement | We know this is a subject verb agreement question. How do we know?  Was were  Is are  Does do  Has have  We also know that it is a noun agreement question since we have singular and plural nouns in the answer.  The subject was plural here (two people) so the answer would be B –plural subject with the verb were. |
| 2 | Syntax | We know that the question is a syntax question since it is asking the student to combine the two sentences that ae underlined. Rules: find out what the two may have in common, do not change the meaning of the two separate sentences, avoid awkward phrasing, and choose the most concise choice. Answer choice D does not change the meaning to the two separate sentences.  A – modifier error, differences can’t grow into personal animosity  B – awkward  C – changes the meaning, there was no hint of despite in the original two |
| 3 | Pronoun Agreement | Answer choice C is correct. The antecedent is singular so it will involve its.  It’s = it is  Its’ doesn’t exist |
| 4 | Rhetorical | Make sure you choose an answer that umbrellas or covers the entire paragraph  Answer choice A is general and introduces the idea of two artists and their different works.  B, C, and D are all details and do not cover the entire of the entire paragraph |
| 5 | Coordination and subordination | Look at the relationship between the two clauses, two sentences, etc.  Here the discussion is about two artists and their works; therefore the correct answer A NO CHANGE since there is a comparison between these two works. |
| 6 | Sentence boundaries | 1. No need for the word it 2. No need for the word it 3. Correct   Awkward phrasing |
| 7 | Rhetorical | For rhetorical questions, before you decide to delete or add, look at the surrounding sentences and see if they flow together. This one is a perfect example. The following sentence says, “He has been here and fired a gun.” By deleting the portion underlined, this sentence doesn’t make sense. We would have to know that he abruptly left to understand the words *he has been here.* Therefore, A is the correct answer. |
| 8 | Within sentence punctuation | From *Leslie* to *Helovoetsluys* is a complete independent clause. From *At the same time* to *comparison* is a complete independent clause. Two independent clauses must be separated by a period, semicolon, or a comma and a fanboys. Therefore, answer choice D is correct. |
| 9 | Tone and style | Think Goldilocks. One may be too formal, one or two may be too conversational, and one is just right.   1. Too formal 2. CORRECT 3. Too conversational 4. conversational |
| 10 | Possessive nouns | When you see an apostrophe in the answer choice, ask yourself: “What owns what or who owns something?” |
| 11 | Rhetoric | The key to answering rhetoric questions correctly is to make sure that you underline key words in the question. If you were to have underlined the word rivalry in this question, answer choice B is the best choice that addresses such a rivalry. |
| 12 | Sentence boundaries | How to connect clauses…independent and dependent….know the different types of conjunctions.   1. Correct, there is a cause and effect relationship between the two clauses 2. Awkward and confusing – what is the it? 3. Awkward 4. Awkward |
| 13 | Rhetorical | Look at the topic sentences for the rest of the paragraphs. Each paragraph speaks to the light and the effects. D is the correct answer. |
| 14 | Parallel structure | When you have a from you may have a to.  From poodles to mastiffs, there were dogs of all sizes at the show.  Letter D is correct. |
| 15 | Within sentence punctuation | 1. Unnecessary commas 2. Cannot use a colon….there must a complete sentence before a colon 3. Cannot use a semicolon since there has to be a complete sentence or independent clause after a semicolon 4. Correct answer |
| 16 | Within sentence punctuation | 1. Not correct – Following a semicolon you must have a complete statement. 2. Not correct. The second clause is not a complete sentence. 3. Correct 4. Not correct – cannot use a semicolon to introduce a summary statement |
| 17 | Parallel structure | All items should be in noun forms. Answer choice B keeps the list parallel. |
| 18 | Subordination and coordination | We can eliminate both answer choices A and B since they are both contrasting transitions. D is not correct since it is not additional information. C is correct since there is a cause and effect relationship. |
| 19 | Logical comparison | The word *like* in this question signifies that this is a logical comparison question. Now you must make sure that the comparison is logical. Before the *like* it reads *these devices affect our brains,* so on the other side of the word *like* the comparison must be logical and parallel.  Devices (noun) affect (verb) = daylight (noun) does (verb) |
| 20 | Precision and concision | Best word here is suppresses. |
| 21 | Rhetorical | For concluding sentences, you must read the paragraph and keep a tally of what each sentence was about. These sentences deal with the experiment data so answer choice D is correct. |
| 22 | Rhetorical | Example in the sentence speaks about technology. The answer choice should as well. A is the correct answer. |
| 23 | Rhetorical | When looking for a topic sentence for a passage, review the topic sentences of the other paragraphs and then scan the closing paragraph.  Choices B and D are details and unrelated to the body paragraphs. Choice A refers to the careers but the latter part of the sentence does not work. Choice C is the best answer. |
| 24 | Subject verb agreement | We see the has/have combo in the same set of answers so the question must be a subject verb agreement question. The subject here is Uses and it ends with an S so the verb should not end in an S. Therefore, the correct answer is C *have become*. |
| 25 | Sentence boundaries/within sentence punctuation | A and D have to be wrong since if one works, so would the other. Also, C is wrong because if a semicolon and period would not work, nor would a comma and a conjunction.  B is the correct answer. |
| 26 | Sentence boundaries | Sentence boundary questions require a knowledge of how to deal with dependent and independent caluses.   1. *And* does not make sense 2. The colon and the that combined do not work 3. This answer choice is two independent clauses joined by a comma which is a comma splice   Choice D is correct since which at the beginning of the clause makes it dependent |
| 27 | Precision and concision | C generate is the best answer choice. |
| 28 | Pronoun clarity | Usually when you have one or a few answer choices that are specific nouns instead of pronouns, the question may be asking you to correct the vague pronoun.   1. Who is them? unclear 2. Correct 3. He didn’t combine floodplains; he combined the maps 4. What are those? unclear |
| 29 | Precision and concision | D is correct. The other answer choices have redundant information. |
| 30 | Rhetorical | Concluding Sentences – Key – no new details listed, make it general, and usually positive   1. Detail 2. Correct answer 3. Detail 4. Detail (Sounded good with the word therefore, but the listing of other fields makes this also a detail answer. |
| 31 | GRAPH |  |
| 32 | GRAPH |  |
| 33 | Within sentence punctuation | C is correct. You do not separate a verb with a direct object. |
| 34 | Pronoun agreement | Is the antecedent singular or plural? Here the antecedent is journals, which is plural. Therefore, the correct answer is C-them. |
| 35 | Rhetorical | Always make sure the three sentences in a row FLOW.  In this question, the sentence opens with *To rectify the situation…*  Sentence 4 provides a situation that needs to be rectified*...arrangement gives private organizations information that should be available* |
| 36 |  |  |
| 37 | Modifier placement | Recognizing the importance of access to biomedical research for patients, doctors, and others, the NIH’s requirement is that any papers resulting from NIH funding be deposited in the open-access database PubMed Central.  Students should ask themselves who or what is RECOGNIZING.   1. Can a NIH requirement recognize? NO 2. Can the NIH recognize? YES 3. Can a NIH requirement recognize? NO 4. Can a papers recognize? NO |
| 38 |  |  |
| 39 |  |  |
| 40 | Logical comparisons | Make sure you recognize comparison questions: like, unlike, similar, compared to, etc.  Comparisons need to be logical and parallel. Here we need to compare the two types of online and traditional publishing. Answer D is correct. |
| 41 |  |  |
| 42 | Parenthetical and nonessential clauses | Usually these questions are very easy to identify: one of the answer choices will have a dash and another will have a comma.  Look to see what punctuation mark the phrase opens with and make sure it ends with the same punctuation mark.  Here the phrase is the *database arXiv* and it opens with a dash and it closes with a comma. Therefore, you must change the dash to a comma. |
| 43 | Rhetorical | The topic sentence opens with a discussion of cost. Only answer A addresses cost/expense. |
| 44 | Rhetorical | Concluding statements should be general and usually positive. Look at opening paragraph and topic sentences.  One of the main ideas of the passage deals with cost, and both C and D make reference to cost or money. However, answer choice C is the correct answer since it talks about making research available to everyone regardless to the person’s financial status. |

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| 38 | Rhetorical | Answer D is correct. The next paragraph discusses an individual who achieves a great accomplishment through engagement by the public with research. |
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