

Ucama Dain

Anees Hussain's Way IBA English

Sentence Completion and Sentence Correction Exercise 1

Section 1 – Sentence Completions 19 Questions, 12 Minutes

Each sentence below has one or two blanks, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Beneath the sentence are five words or sets of words labeled A through E. Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted in the sentence, best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

Example:

Hoping to ----- the dispute, negotiators proposed a compromise that they felt would be ----- to both labor and management.

- (A) enforce . . useful
- (B) end . . divisive
- (C) overcome . . unattractive
- (D) extend . . satisfactory
- (E) resolve . . acceptable

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

1. The ----- of Maria Irene Fornes' play *Mud*—a realistic room perched on a dirt pile—challenges conventional interpretations of stage scenery.

(A) appeal (B) plot (C) mood
(D) setting (E) rehearsal

2. Ironically, an affluent society that purchases much more food than it actually needs suffers because of that -----, since in conditions of affluence diseases related to overeating and poor nutrition seem to -----.

(A) lavishness . . adapt
(B) overabundance . . thrive
(C) corpulence . . vex
(D) practicality . . awaken
(E) commonness . . abound

Because of the ----- effects of the hot springs, tourists suffering from various ailments flocked to the village's thermal pools.

- (A) succulent (B) redolent (C) cerebral
(D) mandatory (E) therapeutic

4. More valuable and comprehensive than any previously proposed theory of the phenomenon, Salazar's research has ----- the basis for all subsequent ----- in her field.

- (A) undermined . . advancements
- (B) prepared . . debacles
- (C) provided . . investigations
- (D) dissolved . . experiments
- (E) reinforced . . misconceptions

5. Dangerously high winds ----- attempts to begin the space shuttle mission on schedule, delaying the launch by nearly a week.

- (A) thwarted (B) forfeited (C) implemented
(D) discharged (E) redoubled

6. The guest speaker on Oprah Winfrey's talk show offended the audience by first ----- them and then refusing to moderate these ----- remarks.

- (A) flattering . . commendable
- (B) haranguing . . intemperate
- (C) praising . . radical
- (D) enraging . . conciliatory
- (E) accommodating . . indulgent

7. By the end of the long, arduous hike, Chris was walking with a ----- gait, limping slowly back to the campsite.

- (A) halting (B) robust (C) constant
(D) prompt (E) facile

8. Actors in melodramas often emphasized tense moments by being -----, for example, raising their voices and pretending to swoon.

- (A) imperious (B) inscrutable (C) convivial
(D) histrionic (E) solicitous

9. Soon after the first visitors arrived, increasing numbers of the residents of the remote island thought it possible that the outside world, instead of being -----, could be ----- and worth exploring.
- (A) insular . . unlimited
(B) friendly . . wicked
(C) amiable . . cooperative
(D) threatening . . fascinating
(E) forbidding . . harmful
10. Her dislike of ----- made her regard people who tried to win her approval through praise as -----.
- (A) autocrats . . dictators
(B) defiance . . toadies
(C) tyrants . . connoisseurs
(D) adulation . . superiors
(E) flattery . . sycophants
11. Some scientists speculate that a small pterosaur of the Jurassic period known as *Sordes pilosus* had ----- wings that were thin, pliable, and somewhat transparent.
- (A) callous (B) arable (C) inflexible
(D) membranous (E) viscous
12. To reflect the ----- of that nation's spoken languages, its writers often make use of a mixture of dialects.
- (A) articulation (B) intonation (C) spontaneity
(D) profundity (E) heterogeneity
13. She apologized profusely, only to discover that her self-serving excuses failed to have a ----- effect.
- (A) reprehensible (B) palliative
(C) depreciatory (D) litigious
(E) compendious

14. A swindler's ----- is usually ----- who is unable to resist the swindler's trap.
- (A) peer (B) ally (C) prey
(D) nemesis (E) superior
15. Improvements in refrigeration and transportation in the nineteenth century ----- the ----- of available goods for many families in the United States.
- (A) slowed . . distribution
(B) accelerated . . perishability
(C) expanded . . variety
(D) lowered . . amount
(E) created . . dearth
16. Although Eudora Welty and William Faulkner wrote in distinctively different styles, ----- between the two is ----- because they both lived in and wrote about Mississippi.
- (A) comparison . . inevitable
(B) cooperation . . destructive
(C) discord . . legendary
(D) similarity . . unlikely
(E) rivalry . . redundant
17. Cito Gaston, one of the least ----- baseball managers, surprised reporters by weeping openly after his team won the play-offs.
- (A) somber (B) demonstrative (C) insufferable
(D) bountiful (E) wistful
18. That critic's writing is so obscure and dense that upon first reading, one finds its ----- hard to penetrate.
- (A) brevity (B) rigidity (C) floridity
(D) harmony (E) opacity
19. Oil companies seeking permission to drill in Alaskan wildlife refuge areas argued that, for animals, the effects of previous drilling in comparable areas have been -----.
- (A) irrepressible (B) counterproductive
(C) negligible (D) momentous
(E) magnanimous

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Section 2 – Sentence Corrections
29 Questions, 18 Minutes

Directions: For each question in this section, select the best answer from among the choices given and fill in the corresponding circle on the answer sheet.

The following sentences test correctness and effectiveness of expression. Part of each sentence or the entire sentence is underlined; beneath each sentence are five ways of phrasing the underlined material. Choice A repeats the original phrasing; the other four choices are different. If you think the original phrasing produces a better sentence than any of the alternatives, select choice A; if not, select one of the other choices.

In making your selection, follow the requirements of standard written English; that is, pay attention to grammar, choice of words, sentence construction, and punctuation. Your selection should result in the most effective sentence—clear and precise, without awkwardness or ambiguity.

EXAMPLE:

Laura Ingalls Wilder published her first book and she was sixty-five years old then.

- (A) and she was sixty-five years old then
- (B) when she was sixty-five
- (C) at age sixty-five years old
- (D) upon the reaching of sixty-five years
- (E) at the time when she was sixty-five

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

1. Roger had just walked into his office and that was when he was told that his plan had finally been approved.

- (A) and that was when he was told
- (B) and then he learned
- (C) when it was learned by him
- (D) and then they told him
- (E) when he learned

2. Burdened with three pieces of luggage and a pair of skis, Sarah's search for a baggage cart was desperate.

- (A) Sarah's search for a baggage cart was desperate
- (B) Sarah's desperate search was for a baggage cart
- (C) a baggage cart was what Sarah desperately searched for
- (D) a baggage cart for which Sarah desperately searched
- (E) Sarah searched desperately for a baggage cart

3. Karen, James, and Sam were hiking when, stumbling over a rock, he fell down a steep embankment.

- (A) when, stumbling over a rock, he fell down a steep embankment
- (B) and then he fell down a steep embankment after he stumbled over a rock
- (C) when Sam fell down a steep embankment after stumbling over a rock
- (D) when Sam fell down a steep embankment, since he stumbled over a rock
- (E) and, since Sam has stumbled over a rock, he fell down a steep embankment

4. By attracting new industry when the old factory closed, the council kept the economy of the town from collapsing, this was a disaster many workers had feared.

- (A) this was a disaster many workers had feared
- (B) because many workers had feared a disaster
- (C) the fear many workers had would be a disaster
- (D) a disaster that many workers had feared
- (E) it was feared by many workers as a disaster

5. A healthy economy can be measured not only by the growth of businesses but it has a psychological effect on people.

- (A) it has a
- (B) as well in the
- (C) also by the
- (D) also the
- (E) in the way of having a

6. Today's political candidates may reach wide audiences by appearing on television, but old-fashioned barnstorming still has value because it allows the electorate to meet candidates face to face.
- (A) television, but old-fashioned barnstorming still has value because it allows
 - (B) television, but old-fashioned barnstorming still would have value because of allowing
 - (C) television; however, there is still value in old-fashioned barnstorming by allowing
 - (D) television, old-fashioned barnstorming still having value because it allows
 - (E) television, when old-fashioned barnstorming still has value in allowing
7. Linguistic research often requires fieldwork where they can study and record the spoken dialects of a region.
- (A) where they
 - (B) through which they
 - (C) and the linguist
 - (D) during which the linguist
 - (E) which they
8. The primatologist has argued that sustained observation of a few animals provides better behavioral data than does intermittent observation of many animals.
- (A) provides better behavioral data than does intermittent observation of many animals
 - (B) provides better behavioral data than many animals are observed intermittently
 - (C) providing better behavioral data than does intermittent observation of many animals
 - (D) do provide better behavioral data than intermittent observation of many animals do
 - (E) in contrast to intermittent observation of many animals, provides better behavioral data
9. George Orwell's term "doublethink" refers to the intentional use of language to contradict oneself, as when one says "revenue enhancement" and "tax increase."
- (A) referring to the intentional use of language
 - (B) referring to language which is intentionally contradictory
 - (C) which refers to intentionally using language to contradict oneself
 - (D) refers to the intentional use of language to contradict oneself
 - (E) is when it refers to language used intentionally to contradict oneself
10. Scientists predict technological changes in the next century, they will be as dramatic as was the development of the transcontinental railroad in the last century.
- (A) century, they will be as dramatic as was
 - (B) century, these will be as dramatic as
 - (C) century; being as dramatic as was
 - (D) century will be dramatic as is
 - (E) century as dramatic as
11. With billions of tons yet to be mined, some argue that coal conservation measures are unnecessary.
- (A) With billions of tons
 - (B) Because billions of tons of coal are
 - (C) Because of coal in billions of tons
 - (D) By considering that there are billions of tons
 - (E) Aware of the coal in billions of tons

The following sentences test your ability to recognize grammar and usage errors. Each sentence contains either a single error or no error at all. No sentence contains more than one error. The error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. If the sentence contains an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct. If the sentence is correct, select choice E. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English.

EXAMPLE:

The other delegates and him immediately
A B C
accepted the resolution drafted by the
D
neutral states. No error
E
A B C D E

12. Beatrix Potter completely transformed the
A
traditional animal fable, and they had been
B C
used by other writers simply to illustrate
D
moral lessons. No error
E

13. No matter where they came from or what their
A B
previous lifestyle is, the refugees were grateful for
C D
having been granted political asylum in the United
States. No error
E

14. Susan and Peter were inspired to become
A
a professional writer after hearing a famous journalist
B C
speak about the challenges of investigative reporting.
D
No error
E

15. Cocoa was popular with Europeans either tea
and coffee, its consumption gradually from
B C
Spain and Portugal to Italy, Austria, France,
and then across the channel to the British Isles.
D
No error
E

16. To become a world figure-skating champion like
A
Kristi Yamaguchi, one must be so dedicated that you
B C
will practice six hours a day. No error
D E

17. Each time Caroline turns on her computer, she
has to enter a company code, then her initials,
A
and then enters a password before she can
B C
begin working. No error
D E

18. A talented and versatile artist, Twyla Tharp
A
has been a dancer, choreographer, and
B C
collaborated on various productions. No error
D E

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19. The scientific writings of Edward O. Wilson, Stephen Jay Gould, and Richard Dawkins, which has continued the discussion of genetic issues raised by Charles Darwin, are familiar to many high school and college students. No error
20. Conflicts between land developers and conservationists have repeatedly arose, causing Congress to reconsider legislation that prohibits building within habitats of endangered species. No error
21. Surely one of the most far-reaching changes in the nineteenth century will be the change from working at home to working in the factory. No error
22. Howard Gardner, an observer of Chinese elementary education, has questioned the view that requiring young children to copy models prevents them from becoming a creative artist later in life. No error

23. The governor's aides are convinced that the announcement of the investigation, coming just days before the filing deadline, were calculated to discourage the governor from running for reelection. No error
24. Although the new device was the most clever designed bird feeder that Ms. Rodriguez had ever owned, it could not keep squirrels from stealing the birdseed. No error
25. Whatever price the company finally sets for the fuel will probably be determined as much by politics as by a realistic appraisal of the market. No error

26. Air pollution caused by industrial fumes

has been studied for years, but only recently

A B

has the harmful effects of noise pollution

C

become known. No error

D E

27. The historian argued that we ought to learn

A

more about the process by which individuals

B

like Sam Houston were identified by others

C

as leaders. No error

D E

28. Quick to take advantage of Melanie Johnson's

A B

preoccupation in the history of the Johnson family, the

C

genealogist proposed investigating that history — for

D

a large fee. No error

E

29. Contrasting with most other fifteenth-century rulers,

A B

Portuguese kings could count on the support of the

C

aristocracy in any overseas ventures. No error

D E