



Game Plan

English



Don't Read the Directions

By the time you get to the test, you'll know what to do when you see the English Test just by the way it looks. Do a quick preview and let the appearance of the items on the page be all the direction you need, and then get started immediately.

Do the Passages in Order

Unlike the Reading Test with passages that fall into categories such as Humanities and Natural Science, the passages on the English Test are not really about any particular subject-area. Of course, the passages do have a topic and some items do ask Reading-type questions, but the English items basically test usage, not reading comprehension. In Reading, there is an advantage to predetermining an order for the passages; in English, however, you should just do them in the order presented.

Start Each Set of Items by Reading the Passage

You really need to read the passage before you start answering questions because some items will not make sense without the proper context. Since the passages are about 300 words in length, you can finish a read-through in a little more than a minute. Read primarily for overall development so that you'll understand the logic in the author's presentation, and don't worry overly much about details. Later, you can study the specific parts of the passage in which the various items appear.

Read Any Items with Underlined Parts, Looking for Errors

When an item asks about rewriting an underlined part, begin by reading the sentence, looking for an error. If you can spot an error, then you're more than halfway home. Later in the English Lesson, you'll cover the important principles of writing and grammar that are tested, and there is a list of these principles provided in the English "Course Concept Outline" (p. 35). You can treat this outline as a checklist of important things to look for in English items.

Work Backwards from the Answer Choices

If you are having difficulty locating the right answer, use the answer choices to help you. Compare each answer choice with the original, and explain to yourself what the important difference is between the two of them. This can help you see an error that you may have overlooked. Additionally, you can compare choices to each other, asking yourself, in what way is this choice better or worse than the other one? Again, this technique can help you uncover a hidden error and make the right choice.

Don't Look for Spelling or Capitalization Errors

These topics are not tested, so don't waste your time looking for errors of this sort. Even if you think you've found a spelling mistake (and you're almost certain to be wrong anyway), there is nothing you can do with the information. The correct response is correct because it "follows the requirements of standard written English."

Make Educated Guesses

You should be able to eliminate some answer choices on most items because they introduce new errors that are not found in the original. Or, a choice may fail to correct an error that you know to be in the underlined part of the sentence. You should always guess, even if you are unable to eliminate any answer choices, because there is no penalty for guessing on the ACT test. However, your chances improve if you are able to eliminate even one answer choice.

Don't Be Afraid to Pick "No Change"

Choose "NO CHANGE," if you think that the original is correct as written. Many students automatically refuse to pick "NO CHANGE" because they figure that there must be something wrong with the original—even if they are unable to say what. But this reasoning is faulty. "NO CHANGE," when it is an option, is statistically as likely to be correct as is one of the other three choices.

75 questions in 60 mins.



LESSON

The items in this section accompany the in-class review of the skills and concepts tested by the ACT English Test. You will work through the items with your instructor in class. Answers are on page 679.

DIRECTIONS: Items #1-114 consist of two types of items: (1) When four separate parts of a sentence are underlined, identify the underlined part that contains an error. Some of these sentences may not contain any errors; in such a case, choose "No change." No sentence contains more than one error, and no sentence contains an error that is not underlined. (2) When a single part of a sentence is underlined or the entire sentence is underlined, identify the re-phrasing that best expresses the meaning of the underlined material. The answer choice "NO CHANGE" indicates that the underlined material is correct as written.

Usage and Mechanics Review

Grammar and Usage

Subject-Verb Agreement

1. The professor were traveling in Europe when she received notice of her promotion. No change
- A B
C D E

Material Inserted Between Subject and Verb

2. The professor voted Teacher of the Year by the students were traveling in Europe when she received notice of her promotion. No change
- F G H
J K
3. Most teachers, unless they have an appointment to a prestigious university, earns relatively less as a teacher than they might in business. No change
- A B C
D E

4. Many nutritionists now believe that a balanced diet and not large doses of vitamins are the best guarantee of health. No change
- F G
H J
K
5. Television comedies in which there is at least one really detestable character captures the interest of viewers. No change
- A B
C D
E
6. The opposition to smoking in public places are prompting many state legislatures to consider banning smoking in such locations.
- F. NO CHANGE
G. is prompting many state legislatures to consider
H. are prompting many state legislatures considering
J. is prompting many state legislatures considering
K. is prompting many state legislatures' consider

7. Diplomats sent to an unstable region or a genuinely hostile territory usually is assigned an aide or chauffeur who function also as a bodyguard.

- A. NO CHANGE
 B. are assigned an aide or chauffeur who function
 C. are assigned an aide or chauffeur who functions
 D. is assigned an aide or chauffeur that function
 E. are assigned an aide or chauffeur which functions

Inverted Sentence Structure

8. Though this is the wealthiest country in the world, within a few blocks of the White House, there is scores of homeless people who live on the streets. No change

9. Just a few miles from the factories and skyscrapers stand a medieval castle which looks exactly as it did in the twelfth century. No change

Compound Subjects

10. John, his wife, and the rest of his family plans to attend the award dinner to be given by the company for the employees with the most seniority. No change
11. Either the governor or one of his close aides prefer not to have the Senator seated at the head table where he would be conspicuous. No change

12. Surrounded by layers of excelsior, none of the crystal goblets were broken when the workers dropped the crate. No change

Pronoun Usage

Pronouns Must Have Antecedents

13. During her rise to fame, she betrayed many of her friends, and because of it, very few people trust her.
- A. NO CHANGE
 B. and in spite of it
 C. and because of her friends
 D. and even though
 E. and because of her behavior

14. In New York City, they are brusque and even rude but quick to come to one another's assistance in a time of crisis. No change

Antecedents Must Be Clear

15. Ten years ago, the United States imported ten times as much French wine as Italian wine, but today Americans are drinking more of it. No change

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

16. Although a police officer used to be a symbol of authority, today they receive little respect from most people. No change



17. The Abbot was an effective administrator
A
who attempted to assign each monk a task
B
particularly suited to their talents and training.
C D
No change
E

18. After three years of college education, a person
should be allowed to apply to graduate school,
F
because by that time you are ready to choose a
G H J
profession. No change
K

19. If one wishes to apply for a scholarship, you
A B C
must submit a completed application by March 1.
D
No change
E

Pronouns Must Have Proper Case

20. The judges were unable to make a final decision
F
on a single winner, so they divided the first prize
G
between John and he. No change
H J K
21. Although Peter had been looking forward to the
A B
debate for weeks, a sore throat prevented him
C
taking part. No change
D E

Adjectives versus Adverbs

Adjectives Modify Nouns; Adverbs Modify Verbs, Adjectives, and Other Adverbs

22. The company's mission statement took into consideration the significant changes that were made in the field of technology.
F. NO CHANGE
G. significantly changes
H. significant changed
J. significantly changed
K. significantly to change
23. When asked about the chance that the defenders might concentrate their forces at the beachhead, the general responded tart that he was fully aware of all the possibilities.
A. NO CHANGE
B. tartly that he was full
C. tart that he was full
D. tart that he fully was
E. tartly that he was fully

Linking Verbs

24. When the door burst open, Kevin looked up angry from his desk.
F. NO CHANGE
G. was looking up angry
H. looked up angrily
J. looks up angrily
K. looked angry up
25. The director explained that the scene required Edmund to look distraughtly on hearing the news of his sister's death.
A. NO CHANGE
B. looking distraughtly
C. to have looked distraughtly
D. to have looked distraught
E. to look distraught

**Watch for Adjectives Posing as Adverbs**

26. Some psychologists maintain that a child who
F
has seen violence on television is more likely to
G H
 react violent in situations of stress. No change
J K

27. The recent created commission has done nothing
A B
 to address the problem except to approve the
C
 color of its stationary. No change
D E

28. The track meet begins at 10:00 a.m., so the
 team needs to depart from the school at a
reasonable early hour.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. at a reasonably early hour
- H. during a reasonable early hour
- J. while a reasonably early hour
- K. at a reasonably hour that is early

Double Negatives

29. Not hardly a sound could be heard in the
A B
 auditorium when the speaker approached the dais
C D
 to announce the result of the contest. No change
E

30. Although she had been hired by the magazine
F
to write book reviews, she knew scarcely nothing
G H J
 about current fiction. No change
K

Nouns and Noun Clauses

31. The reason Harriet fired her secretary is because
A B
 he was frequently late and spent too much time
C D
 on personal phone calls. No change
E

32. The reason the manager changed catchers was
because he hoped that the opposing side
 would put in a left-handed pitcher.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. The reason that catchers were changed by the manager was because
- H. The reason the manager changed catchers which
- J. The manager changed catchers because
- K. The manager changed catchers, the reason being

33. I read in a magazine where scientists believe that
A B
they have discovered a new subatomic particle.
C D
No change
E

Faulty or Illogical Comparisons

34. The company offers a plastic key card
F
 so that employees can carry it in their wallet.
G H J
No change
K

35. The great pianist Vladimir Horowitz played the
A
 music of the Romantic Era better than any pianist
B C D
 in history. No change
E

36. Like Neil Simon, many of Tennessee Williams'
plays reflect a culture familiar to the
 playwright.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Many of Tennessee Williams' plays, like Neil Simon's,
- H. Many of Tennessee Williams' plays, like Neil Simon,
- J. Many of Neil Simon and Tennessee Williams' plays
- K. As with the plays of Neil Simon, many of Tennessee Williams' plays



37. Educators are now expressing their concern that
 American school children prefer watching
 television to books. No change

A B
 C
 D E

38. The novels of Nathaniel Hawthorne contain
 characters who are every bit as sinister and
 frightening as the master of cinematic suspense,
 Alfred Hitchcock. No change

F
 G H
 J
 K

Verb Tense

Principal Parts of Verbs

39. After the broken glass and other debris were cleaned up, we realized that the thief had took not only the necklace but a valuable ring as well.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. had taken
- C. was took
- D. was taken
- E. were took

40. Everyone was very surprised when Sylvia brought her grandfather to music class and asked him to perform several Spanish songs on the guitar.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. because Sylvia bringing
- H. while Sylvia brought
- J. that Sylvia brang
- K. for Sylvia to bring

41. The sheriff called off the search for the escaped convict because he doubted that the convict can successfully cross the river because the current was so swift.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. the convict successfully crossed the river because the current was so swift
- C. the convict successfully crossed the river being that the current was so swift
- D. the convict would have been successful in crossing the river, the current being so swift
- E. a successful attempt to cross the river was made by the convict because the current was so swift

When to Use the Perfect Tenses

42. Elaine is the favorite to win the final event because she had always run well at the 100-meter distance.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. has always run
- H. have always run
- J. always ran
- K. will always run

43. My computer crashed several times before I finally figured out that I had loaded a corrupted copy of the program.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. had finally figured out that I loaded
- C. had finally figured out that I had loaded
- D. finally had figured out that I loaded
- E. figured out finally that I would load

44. At the current rate of consumption, we have exhausted our supply of firewood before the weather turns warm.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. had exhausted
- H. exhausted
- J. will exhaust
- K. will have exhausted

The Subjunctive Mood

45. The will is going to be read at 3:00 p.m., so the lawyer has asked that all family members are present in the office at that time.
- A. NO CHANGE
 B. are presently
 C. are going to be present
 D. be present
 E. being present
46. A dangerous situation could arise if the override switch were left open and the water drops below 50 percent of capacity.
- F. NO CHANGE
 G. dropped
 H. allowed to drop
 J. allowed dropping
 K. allows to drop

Sequence and Verb Tense

47. The teacher began to discuss the homework assignment when he will be interrupted by the sound of the fire alarm. No change
- A
 B C D E
48. The conductor announced that the concert would resume as soon as the soloist replaces the broken string on her violin. No change
- F G H J K
49. Many patients begin to show symptoms again after they stopped taking the drug. No change
- A B C D E
50. The winter was so severe that several of Hillary's prize rose bushes had sustained serious damage from the frost. No change
- F G H J K

Diction

Wrong Preposition

51. In contrast of the prevailing opinion, the editorial lays the blame for the strike on the workers and their representatives. No change
- A B C D E
52. Although ballet and modern dance are both concerned in movement in space to musical accompaniment, the training for ballet is more rigorous than that for modern dance. No change
- F G H J K

Wrong Word Choice

53. By midnight the guests still had not been served anything to eat, so they were ravishing.
- A B C D E
54. The raise in the number of accidents attributable to drunk drivers has prompted a call for stiffer penalties for driving while intoxicated.
- F G H J K

Gerund versus Infinitive

55. The idea of trying completing the term paper by Friday caused Ken to cancel his plans for the weekend. No change
- A B C D E



56. Psychologists think that many people eat ^F
satisfying a need for affection that is not
^G ^H
 otherwise fulfilled. No change
^J ^K

Sentence Structure

Run-On Sentences

57. The armor plating on the new tank protects more vulnerable areas than the armor on the old tank, it costs about three times as much to manufacture and install.
- A. NO CHANGE
 B. areas than the armor on the old tank, because it costs
 C. areas than the armor on the old tank, and it costs
 D. areas than the armor on the old tank which costs
 E. areas than the armor on the old tank, it costs
58. The filibuster continued late into the night some Senators slept sitting upright in the chairs while others slumped over their desks.
- F. NO CHANGE
 G. As the filibuster continued late into the night, some
 H. Because of the filibuster continuing late into the night, some
 J. The filibuster continued late into the night with
 K. The filibuster, which continued late into the night, some

Comma Splices

59. The weather forecast predicted heavy rain, the baseball game was postponed until the following day.
- A. NO CHANGE
 B. rain while the
 C. rain, so the
 D. rain the
 E. rain or the

60. The devastation caused by the flood was so complete, it was impossible to tell that the pile of debris had once been a house.

- F. NO CHANGE
 G. so complete, and it
 H. so complete that it
 J. so completely, it
 K. so that it

Fragments

61. The audience, dazzled by the sequined costumes and brilliant lights and applauded wildly.
- A. NO CHANGE
 B. The audience, dazzled by the sequined costumes and brilliant lights, applauded wildly.
 C. The audience was dazzled by the sequined costumes and brilliant lights applauding wildly.
 D. The audience, applauding wildly and dazzled by the sequined costumes and brilliant lights.
 E. Dazzled by the sequined costumes and brilliant lights, the applauding audience.



62. Most of the delegates, who were from smaller villages and rural areas and so opposed any plans to improve conditions in the large cities.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Most of the delegates from smaller villages and rural areas and so opposed any plans to improve conditions in the large cities.
- H. The delegates, most of whom were from smaller villages and rural areas and so opposed any plans to improve conditions in the large cities.
- J. The delegates who opposed any plans to improve conditions in the large cities and were from smaller villages and rural areas.
- K. Most of the delegates, who were from smaller villages and rural areas, opposed any plans to improve conditions in the large cities.

Problems of Coordination and Subordination

63. Carlos telephoned to say that weather had delayed his plane, but he will not be able to attend the meeting.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. plane, so he will
- C. plane, but he was
- D. plane when he will
- E. plane because he could

64. By the fifth inning, Cindy was showing signs of fatigue and walked three consecutive batters, so the coach refused to take her out of the game.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. batters, when
- H. batters, moreover
- J. batters during
- K. batters, but

65. Because the wetlands were protected by federal law, the owners were not able to build the shopping center that they had planned.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. In fact
- C. However
- D. Moreover
- E. So that

66. Victoria was nominated to the office of club president, or it is doubtful that she would serve even if elected.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. president so
- H. president, though
- J. president, in that
- K. president, even

67. The driving snow made the roadway slippery and reduced visibility to no more than a few feet, and fortunately there were no accidents despite the heavy volume of traffic.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. but fortunately there were no
- C. and fortunately there were some
- D. while fortunately there were no
- E. so fortunately there were no



68. The land surrounding Las Vegas is characterized by parched red dunes and flats with dry ravines, but it is almost entirely lacking in vegetation.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. and they are
- H. and it is
- J. but they are
- K. but are

69. Kari was just about to mail in her deposit for her second-choice school and that was when the letter arrived notifying her of her acceptance at her first choice.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. and then the letter that arrived notified her
- C. when she received notification by letter
- D. and then they told her
- E. when she learned

70. Although the American relay team did not qualify for the finals, the anchor runner dropped the baton shortly after the hand-off.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. When the American relay team did not qualify for the finals, the
- H. The American relay team did not qualify for the finals, and the
- J. The American relay team did not qualify for the finals because the
- K. Not qualifying for the finals, the American relay team's

Faulty Parallelism

71. To abandon their homes, leave behind their families, and traveling across the ocean required great courage on the part of the immigrants who moved to America. No change

72. The review praised the wit, charm, and interpreting of the recitalist but never once mentioned her voice. No change

73. To acknowledge that one has something to learn is taking the first step on the road to true wisdom. No change

Incomplete Split Constructions

74. The students are critical of the dean because he is either unfamiliar or doesn't care about the urgent need for new student housing on campus. No change

75. Baseball has and probably always will be the sport that symbolizes for people in other countries the American way of life. No change

Misplaced Modifiers

76. Letters were received by the editor of the newspaper that complained of its editorial policy.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Letters were received by the editor of the newspaper having complained of its editorial policy.
- H. The editor of the newspaper received letters complaining of the newspaper's editorial policy.
- J. Letters were received by the editor in which there were complaints to the editor of the newspaper about its editorial policy.
- K. Letters were received by the editor complaining of the newspaper's editorial policy by the editor.

77. Riding in a coach and wearing the crown jewels, the crowd cheered the royal couple.
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. cheering for the royal couple was done by the crowd
 - C. the royal couple was cheered by the crowd
 - D. the royal couple's cheering was done by the crowd
 - E. the royal couple, who was being cheered by crowd

78. Wrapped in several thicknesses of newspaper, packed carefully in a strong cardboard carton, and bound securely with tape, the worker made sure that the fragile figurines would not be broken.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Wrapped in several thicknesses of newspaper, packed carefully in a strong cardboard carton, and then binding the carton securely with tape, the worker made sure that the fragile figurines would not be broken.
- H. The figurines, having been securely wrapped in several thicknesses of newspaper, packed carefully in a strong cardboard carton which was then securely bound with tape, the worker made sure would not be broken.
- J. The worker, wrapping the figurines in several thicknesses of newspaper, packing them carefully in a strong cardboard carton, and securely binding the carton with tape, made sure that they would not be broken.
- K. To make sure that the figurines would not be broken, the worker wrapped them in several thicknesses of newspaper, packed them carefully in a strong cardboard carton, and securely bound the carton with tape.

Unintended Meanings

79. Mary Lou was awarded the gold medal because she scored more points than any child participating in the field day.
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. more points than any other child participating
 - C. most points than any child participating
 - D. more points than any child who had participated
 - E. more points as any child participating

80. Appearing in his first American tour, the British singer's album rose to the top of the charts.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. While appearing
- H. While he was appearing
- J. When appearing
- K. Upon appearing

Punctuation

Commas

81. I think that Doré's illustrations of Dante's *Divine Comedy* are excellent; but my favorite drawing is "Don Quixote in His Library."
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. are excellent, but my favorite drawing is "Don Quixote in His Library."
 - C. are excellent and my favorite drawing is "Don Quixote in His Library."
 - D. are excellent in that my favorite drawing is "Don Quixote in His Library."
 - E. are excellent even though "Don Quixote in His Library" is my favorite drawing.
82. Practically all nitrates are crystalline and readily soluble, and they are characterized by marked decrepitation when heated on charcoals by a blowpipe. No change



83. The door was ajar, and the house had been
 A B C
ransacked. No change
 D E
84. Since many diseases and insects cause serious
 damage to crops, special national legislation has
 F
 been passed to provide for the quarantine of
 imported plants; and under provisions of various
 G
acts, inspectors are placed at ports of entry to
 H
 prevent smugglers from bringing in plants
that might be dangerous. No change
 J K
85. A full train crew consists of a motorman, a
 brakeman, a conductor, and two ticket takers.
 A. NO CHANGE
 B. A full train crew consists of a motorman, a
 brakeman, a conductor and two ticket
 takers.
 C. A full train crew consists of a motorman,
 brakeman, conductor, and two ticket
 takers.
 D. A full train crew consists of, a motorman, a
 brakeman, a conductor, and two ticket
 takers.
 E. A full train crew consists of a motorman a
 brakeman a conductor and two ticket
 takers.
86. The procedure requires that you open the outer
 cover plate, remove the thermostat, replace
 F G
 the broken switch, and then replace the
 H J
 thermostat. No change
 K
87. After Peter finished painting the bird feeder he
 A B
and Jack hung it from a limb of the oak tree.
 C D
No change
 E
88. When Pat explained to his mother that ten was
 F
 the highest mark given on the entrance test she
 G H
breathed a sigh of relief. No change
 J K
89. Tim hopes to score well on the exam because
 he plans to go to an Ivy League school.
 A. NO CHANGE
 B. Tim hopes to score well on the exam and
 he plans to go to an Ivy League school.
 C. Tim hopes to score well on the exam,
 because he plans to go to an Ivy League
 school.
 D. Tim hopes to score well on the exam, and
 he plans to go to an Ivy League school.
 E. Tim hopes to score well on the exam he
 plans to go to an Ivy League school.
90. In this impoverished region with its arid soil a
 typical diet may contain only 800 calories per
 day.
 F. NO CHANGE
 G. In this impoverished region with its arid
 soil; a typical diet may contain only 800
 calories per day.
 H. In this impoverished region, with its arid
 soil, a typical diet may contain only 800
 calories per day.
 J. In this impoverished region with its arid
 soil, a typical diet may contain only 800
 calories per day.
 K. In this impoverished region with its arid
 soil: a typical diet may contain only 800
 calories per day.



91. Begun in 1981 and completed in 1985 the bridge
A B
provided the first link between the island and the
C D
mainland. No change
E
92. To slow the bleeding Van tied a pressure bandage around the lower portion of the leg.
F. NO CHANGE
G. To slow the bleeding—Van tied a pressure bandage around the lower portion of the leg.
H. To slow the bleeding, Van tied a pressure bandage around the lower portion of the leg.
J. To slow the bleeding, Van tied a pressure bandage, around the lower portion of the leg.
K. Van tied a pressure bandage, to slow the bleeding, around the lower portion of the leg.
93. Niagara Falls, which forms part of the border
A B
between the United States and Canada, was the
C
site of a saw mill built by the French in 1725.
D
No change
E
94. Secretary of State Acheson, however, made a
F G
reasoned defense of the treaty. No change
H J K
95. Until the end of the eighteenth century, the only
A
musicians in Norway, were simple
B
unsophisticated peasants who traveled about the
C D
countryside. No change
E
96. Prizes will be awarded in each event, and the
F G
participant, who compiles the greatest overall
H
total, will receive a special prize. No change
H J K
97. Since learning of the dangers of caffeine, neither
A B
my wife nor I have consumed any beverage,
C D
containing caffeine. No change
E
98. After months of separation, Gauguin finally joined Van Gogh in Arles in October of 1888.
Gauguin left a few weeks later.
F. NO CHANGE
G. in Arles; Gauguin, however, leaving a few weeks later
H. in Arles, while Gauguin left a few weeks later
J. in Arles, it was three weeks later when Gauguin was gone
K. in Arles, in October of 1888, but left a few weeks later
99. By the middle of June, the foliage on the trees
A
and the underbrush was lush and green and so
B
thick that it was impossible to see very far, into
C D
the woods. No change
E
100. Students who plan to graduate with joint majors must, declare their intention and identify the two areas of study by the end of their junior years.
F. NO CHANGE
G. must declare
H. must, declaring
J. must declaring
K. must declared



Semicolons

101. He grew up on a farm in Nebraska; he is now the captain of a Navy ship.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. He grew up on a farm in Nebraska, he is now the captain of a Navy ship.
- C. He grew up on a farm in Nebraska he is now the captain of a Navy ship.
- D. He grew up on a farm; in Nebraska he is now the captain of a Navy ship.
- E. He grew up on a farm in Nebraska but he is now the captain of a Navy ship.

102. The Smithtown players cheered the referee's decision; the Stonybrook players booed it.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. The Smithtown players cheered the referee's decision the Stonybrook players booed it.
- H. The Smithtown players cheered the referee's decision, the Stonybrook players booed it.
- J. The Smithtown players cheered the referee's decision: the Stonybrook players booed it.
- K. The Smithtown players cheered the referee's decision, but the Stonybrook players booed it.

103. When John entered the room; everyone stood up.

- A. No change
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

104. Clem announced that the prize would be donated to

- F. Harbus House; a well-known charity. No change
- G.
- H.
- J.
- K.

105. The nineteenth-century composers Wagner and Mahler did more than just write music; they conducted their own works.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. music, in that they conducted
- C. music; they conducted
- D. music, with their conducting of
- E. music; as conductors, they did

Colons

106. The seemingly tranquil lane has been the scene of

- F. many crimes including: two assaults, three
- G. robberies, and one murder. No change
- H.
- J.
- K.

107. In addition to test scores, college admissions

- A. officers take into consideration many other
- B. factors such as: grades, extracurricular activities,
- C. and letters of recommendation. No change
- D.
- E.

End-Stop Punctuation

108. Peter notified Elaine. The guidance counselor, that he had been accepted.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Peter notified Elaine the guidance counselor, that he had been accepted.
- H. Peter notified Elaine, the guidance counselor that he had been accepted.
- J. Peter notified Elaine, the guidance counselor, that he had been accepted.
- K. Peter notified Elaine that the guidance counselor had been accepted.

Dashes

109. Peanuts—blanched or lightly roasted, add an interesting texture and taste to garden salads.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. Peanuts—blanched or lightly roasted—add an interesting texture and taste to garden salads.
- C. Peanuts: blanched or lightly roasted, add an interesting texture and taste to garden salads.
- D. Peanuts, blanched or lightly roasted—add an interesting texture and taste to garden salads.
- E. Peanuts blanched or lightly roasted; add an interesting texture and taste to garden salads.

110. The rug gets its striking colors from the weaver's skilled use of dyes—both natural and synthetic to create shades in subtle variations.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. dyes—both natural and synthetic, to create
- H. dyes, both natural and synthetic—to create
- J. dyes—both natural and synthetic—to create
- K. dyes—both natural and—synthetic to create

Quotation Marks

111. The first chapter of *The Scarlet Letter* is "The Custom House."

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. The first chapter of *The Scarlet Letter* is "The Custom House".
- C. The first chapter of *The Scarlet Letter* is The Custom House.
- D. The first chapter of *The Scarlet Letter* is *The Custom House*.
- E. The first chapter of "*The Scarlet Letter*" is "The Custom House."

Apostrophes

112. According to legend, King Arthurs court consisted of twenty-four knights, each of whom was chosen by Arthur for a special talent or virtue.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. King Arthurs' court
- H. King Arthur's court
- J. King's Arthur court
- K. Kings' Arthur court

113. In the turmoil of our modern times, it is important to try to keep in mind the fundamental moral values that structure our society.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. modern times'
- C. modern time's
- D. modern-like times'
- E. modern and time

114. While he addresses the barbell, a weightlifters face has an expression of deep concentration which immediately gives way to one of complete exertion during the lift and to total exhaustion as the bar is allowed to fall to the ground.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. the weightlifters face
- H. the weightlifters faces
- J. the weightlifters' face
- K. a weightlifter's face

Punctuating for Clarity Exercise

DIRECTIONS: Item #115 requires punctuation of the paragraph.

115. On Monday Mark received a letter of acceptance from State College He immediately called his mother herself a graduate of State College to tell her about his acceptance When he told her he had also been awarded a scholarship she was very excited After hanging up Mark's mother decided to throw a surprise party for Mark



She telephoned his brother his sister and several of his friends Because the party was supposed to be a surprise she made them all promise not to say anything to Mark Mark however had a similar idea a party for his mother to celebrate his acceptance at her alma mater He telephoned his brother his sister and several of his parents' friends to invite them to a party at his house on Saturday night and he made them all promise to say nothing to his mother On Saturday night both Mark and his mother were surprised

Rhetorical Skills Review

DIRECTIONS: The following passages are early drafts of essays. Some parts of the passages need to be rewritten. Read each passage and answer the items that follow. Some items are about particular sentences or parts of sentences and ask you to improve sentence structure and word choice. Other items refer to parts of the passage or the entire passage and ask you to consider organization and development. In making your decisions, follow the conventions of standard written English.

Items #116–120 are based on the following essay, which is a response to an assignment to write about an issue that is facing America and what might be done to resolve it.

[1] In my mind, one of the most pressing issues facing America today is healthcare. [2] One aspect of the problem is lack of access to a doctor. [3] Many people just cannot afford to pay for a visit to a doctor. [4] They avoid going to the doctor until they are really sick. [5] If they were treated in the first place, they wouldn't get so sick. [6] This practice not only causes human suffering but is wasteful. [7] Health insurance for surgery is also an issue. [8] Many people do not get adequate health insurance with their jobs and cannot afford to pay for it. [9] The inability to pay for health insurance also creates an unfair distribution of healthcare in America.

[10] An even more important aspect of the healthcare problem in America is the choices that people make for themselves. [11] Take smoking for example. [12] Scientific evidence proves that smoking causes lung cancer and other diseases. [13] Yet, many people continue to smoke, and young people continue to start smoking. [14] There are other health problems such as being overweight and using drugs that may also come from private choices.

[15] Some government assistance is needed for those who cannot afford medical care or health insurance. [16] The most important thing is for people to be concerned with their own health. [17] If we take care of ourselves by eating better, exercising more, and avoiding destructive choices, we will all live longer, healthier, and happier lives.

116. The author considers inserting the following factual statement between sentences 13 and 14:

Nicotine, which is found in tobacco, is one of the most addictive chemicals known to science.

Would this statement add to the development of the paragraph?

- A. Yes, because the paragraph identifies smoking as a serious problem.
- B. Yes, because the sentence explains why young people start to smoke.
- C. No, because scientific evidence is irrelevant to the author's point.
- D. No, because the addictive mechanism behind smoking is not relevant.
- E. No, because essays should emphasize positive points, not negative ones.



117. Which of the following revisions to Sentence 15 best clarifies the author's position?
- F. NO CHANGE
 - G. Some government assistance is needed for those who cannot afford medical care or health insurance and people need to be concerned with their own health.
 - H. The most important thing is for people to be concerned with their own health and for them to ask for government assistance.
 - J. Even though some government assistance is needed for those who cannot afford medical care or health insurance, the most important thing is for people to be concerned with their own health.
 - K. OMIT Sentence 15

118. In context, which of the following best describes the main purpose of the essay?
- A. To expose faulty reasoning
 - B. To evaluate a theory set forth earlier
 - C. To provide specific illustrations
 - D. To propose a solution to a problem
 - E. To persuade the reader to change an opinion

119. In writing this passage, the author was most probably addressing:
- F. a convention of surgeons.
 - G. a group of concerned citizens.
 - H. a meeting of insurance executives.
 - J. a conference of tobacco executives.
 - K. an assembly of noted scientists.

120. What should be done to Sentence 7 to strengthen the organization of the essay?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. Begin a new paragraph
 - C. Switch Sentence 6 with Sentence 7
 - D. Switch Sentence 7 with Sentence 8
 - E. OMIT Sentence 7

Item #121 is based on the following essay, which is a response to an assignment to write about a chore for which you have a responsibility and why you like or dislike doing the chore.

[1]

Each year, my family plants a vegetable garden. Both my parents work, and with this, it is the job of the children to tend the garden.

[2]

Work starts several weeks before the growing season actually begins. We put little pots of soil containing seeds that must sprout before they are planted outdoors on the sun porch. Then, my father prepares the ground with a rototiller. When the danger of frost is past, it is time to plant.

[3]

For the first few weeks, we water the seed beds regularly and pull weeds by hand. Once the plants are established, the leaves of the good plants block the sunlight so weeds can't grow. However, there are other jobs such as staking tomatoes and tending to running vines.

[4]

Then the blossoms appear and are pollinated by bees and other insects. As small vegetables appear, the blossoms drop off. They continue to grow and later in the summer begin to ripen. Up to this point, tending the garden has been a chore, but now it becomes a pleasure. Each afternoon, we pick the ripe ones and wash them so that they are ready for cooking. I suppose that I feel proud that I have helped to feed my family. I have to admit that my greatest enjoyment is the taste of the freshly picked vegetables.



123. Which of the following sequence of paragraphs is most logical?

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. 6, 4, 5
- H. 4, 6, 5
- J. 5, 4, 6
- K. 5, 6, 4

124. The best placement for the final sentence in Paragraph 2 would be:

- A. where it is now.
- B. as the first sentence of Paragraph 2.
- C. in Paragraph 2, following the sentence ending "...weight of gold."
- D. as the first sentence of Paragraph 3.
- E. as the last sentence of Paragraph 4.

125. Is the parenthetical note following the word "rifles" in Paragraph 4 appropriate?

- F. Yes, because it clarifies a technical term for the reader.
- G. Yes, because it presents an idea that is essential to the passage.
- H. No, because it distracts the reader from the directions for panning.
- J. No, because the author does not cite a source for the definition.
- K. No, because technical jargon is out of place in this essay.

126. The best placement for the sentence: "Panning takes practice, patience, and luck, but even a little bit of gold is a big thrill" would be:

- A. where it is now.
- B. at the end of the passage.
- C. at the beginning of Paragraph 2.
- D. at the beginning of Paragraph 6.
- E. at the beginning of the essay.

127. Suppose the author had been assigned to write a brief essay on an interesting travel destination. Assuming that all of the following statements are true, would this essay successfully fulfill the assignment?

- F. Yes, because many gold-seekers came to Porcupine during the nineteenth century.
- G. Yes, because panning for gold would be a fun activity on a trip.
- H. No, because very little remains today of the town of Porcupine.
- J. No, because most people have never before heard of Porcupine.
- K. No, because many people prefer silver jewelry to gold jewelry.

DIRECTIONS: Items #128–135 consist of two types of items: (1) When four separate parts of a sentence are underlined, identify the underlined part that contains an error. Some of these sentences may not contain any errors; in such a case, choose "No change." No sentence contains more than one error, and no sentence contains an error that is not underlined. (2) When a single part of a sentence is underlined or the entire sentence is underlined, identify the re-phrasing that best expresses the meaning of the underlined material. The answer choice "NO CHANGE" indicates that the underlined material is correct as written.

128. Angela is hoping to save enough for a trip to Europe, during which the small village where her grandparents were born will be visited.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. the small village where her grandparents had been born will be visited
- C. she will visit the small village where her grandparents were born
- D. there will be a visit to the small village where her grandparents were born
- E. a visit to the small village where her grandparents were born will be included



129. Finally and at long last the old dog opened his eyes and noticed the intruder.

- F. NO CHANGE
- G. Finally
- H. So finally
- J. Yet at long last
- K. Finally and long lastingly

130. The speaker declared that alternative ways of utilizing waterfront land ought to be explored.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. alternatives of use for
- C. alternative utilizations of
- D. alternative ways of utilization of
- E. alternate uses of

131. Since only the ruling party is allowed to vote, its members are able to maintain the existing status quo. No change

- F
- G
- H
- J
- K

132. Each year, the geese make their annual migration from Northern Canada to their winter habitats in the United States. No change

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E

133. Although the committee met for over two weeks and issued a 50-page report, its findings were of little importance or consequence. No change

- F
- G
- H
- J
- K

134. Along with an end to featherbedding and no-show jobs, the new head of the Transit Authority has eliminated many other inefficient employment practices.

- A. NO CHANGE
- B. In addition to eliminating featherbedding and no-show jobs
- C. Not only did he end featherbedding and no-shows jobs,
- D. Besides featherbedding and no-show jobs coming to an end
- E. Together with the ending of featherbedding and no-show jobs

135. Being that the hour was late, we agreed to adjourn the meeting and reconvene at nine o'clock the following morning. No change

- F
- G
- H
- J
- K

General Strategies

DIRECTIONS: Items #136-145 are based on the passage below. In the passage, certain parts of the sentences have been underlined and numbered. In the right-hand column, you will find different ways of writing each underlined part; the original version is indicated by the "NO CHANGE" option. For each item, select the choice that best expresses the intended idea, is most acceptable in standard written English, or is most consistent with the overall tone and style of the passage.

There are also items that ask about a section of the passage or the passage as a whole. These items do not refer to an underlined portion of the passage; these items are preceded by statements that are enclosed in boxes.

Read the passage through once before you begin to answer the accompanying items. Finding the answers to certain items may depend on looking at material that appears several sentences beyond the item. So, be sure that you have read far enough ahead before you select your answer choice.

Appalachia's European Settlers

The first Europeans who adopted Appalachia as

home, followed the trails pounded out by those earliest
136

mountain engineers: the buffalo, elk, deer, and other
137

136. A. NO CHANGE
B. home followed
C. home: followed
D. home; followed

137. F. NO CHANGE
G. engineers, the
H. engineers the
J. engineers. The



barrel assured greater accuracy and precision than

144

could be achieved with the old muskets, and its smaller

bore required less powder and lead for each shot

(precious commodities). Such rifles were highly prized

145

possessions, and their manufacture was one of the

central industries of pioneer Appalachia.

144. A. NO CHANGE

B. accuracy as well as precision

C. accuracy plus precision

D. accuracy

145. The most appropriate placement of the underlined phrase in this sentence would be:

F. where it is now.

G. after the word *powder*.H. after the word *lead*.J. after the word *each*.