



SECTION 3  
Time — 25 minutes  
35 Questions

"SS" = sentence structure

Turn to Section 3 (page 4) of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

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) ● (C) (D) (E)

1. Although several groups strongly opposed the new hiring policies of the city council, other groups being enthusiastic in their support of the new rules.

- (A) being enthusiastic in their support of
- (B) were enthusiastic and supportive of
- (C) enthusiastically supported
- (D) enthusiastically supporting
- (E) are enthusiastically supportive of

1) glance at answer choices & question 1st to identify the major differences & grammar topics.

2. The problem of water pollution, frequently compounded in certain areas because the treatment and release of industrial wastes are not adequately regulated.

- (A) pollution, frequently compounded in certain areas because
- (B) pollution, frequently compounded in certain areas and
- (C) pollution, frequently compounded in certain areas when
- (D) pollution is frequently compounded in certain areas where
- (E) pollution is frequently compounded in certain areas and

Different punctuation is red flag for sentence structure

SS - beware of fragments

Look for S/V

3. Having been a victim of malicious rumors, Helen purposely avoided gossips.

- (A) Having been a victim of malicious rumors,
- (B) Her being a victim of malicious rumors,
- (C) Her having been victimized by malicious rumors,
- (D) Because being a victim of malicious rumors,
- (E) Because having been a victim of malicious rumors,

Modifier so "ing" rde doesn't apply

4. In many states, they have laws to allow students to vote wherever they choose, either at their homes or at their college residences.

- (A) they have laws to allow students to vote wherever
- (B) they have laws allowing students to vote where
- (C) their laws allowing students to vote wherever
- (D) the laws allow students to vote wherever
- (E) the laws allow students to vote in the place where

Pronoun Ambiguity

this shows that pronouns are an issue

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"SS" stands for sentence structure

BCAC

than = comparison

5. While driving down the road, the house with the large yard and small pond attracted the family's attention.

- (A) the house with the large yard and small pond attracted the family's attention
- (B) the house having the large yard and a small pond attracted the attention of the family
- (C) the house with the yard and small pond was attractive to the family's attention
- (D) the family's attention was attracted by the house with the large yard and small pond
- (E) the family was attracted to the house with the large yard and small pond

6. The chestnut, like the oak, is called an immortal tree. the reason is that the trunk and roots remain alive even after the tree has been felled.

- (A) tree, the reason is that the trunk and roots remain remaining
- (B) tree, which has a trunk and roots that are remaining
- (C) tree, the trunk of which and the roots remain remaining
- (D) tree because its trunk and roots remain remaining
- (E) tree, whose trunk and roots are remaining remaining

7. Both Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ball being widely known for having authored numerous articles in their field.

- (A) Both Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ball being widely known for having authored numerous articles in their field.
- (B) Both Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ball are widely known for having authored numerous articles in their field.
- (C) Widely known for having authored numerous articles in their field being both Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ball.
- (D) Having the numerous authored articles in their field widely known are Dr. Henderson and Dr. Ball.
- (E) Having authored many widely known articles in their field being Henderson and Ball.

8. Scientists are seeking better ways to predict damage from earthquakes, and they are using supersensitive recorders to study how rock breaks and moves in an earthquake.

- (A) Scientists are seeking better ways to predict damage from earthquakes, and they
- (B) Scientists who seek better ways to predict damage from earthquakes, they
- (C) Scientists seeking better ways to predict damage from earthquakes
- (D) Seeking better ways for the prediction of damage from earthquakes, scientists who
- (E) Seeking to better predict damage from earthquakes is why scientists

9. Some doctors believe that the types of injuries sustained in contact sports are no different for children than young adults.

- (A) are no different for children than young adults
- (B) is no different for children than being young adults
- (C) are no different for children than for young adults
- (D) are no different for children than for those who are young adults
- (E) are no different from those for children than young adults

10. The reason for the continued popularity of country-western performers is that it draws on experiences with which almost everyone can identify.

- (A) that it draws on
- (B) that their music draws on
- (C) because the music draws on
- (D) because of them drawing from
- (E) they will draw from

11. Raised in a large and noisy city, it was only when I went away to college that I realized how delightful life in a small town could be.

- (A) it was only when I went away to college that I realized how delightful life in a small town could be
- (B) when I went away to college I then realized how delightful life in a small town could be
- (C) going away to college made me realize how delightful life in a small town could be
- (D) I did not realize how delightful life in a small town could be until I went away to college
- (E) delightful life in a small town was unrealized by me until I went away to college

comma splice error

run-on sentence needs because

All fragments

this is typical of sentence structure questions

the logic of "A" vs. "C" a fragment run-on in #8

Pronouns vary in each answer choice. That is where you should focus.

avoid "is why" "is when" "is because"

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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. At the heart of the program, enthusiastically endorsed  
 A  
 by the city's business association, is plans for  
 B  
 refurbishing neighborhoods and for making low-  
 C  
 interest mortgages available to young families.  
 D  
 No error  
 E

13. The illustrated books by Dr. Seuss have managed  
 A  
to keep youngsters and adults alike entertained for  
 B C D  
 several decades. No error  
 E

2nd verb is the infinitive

14. Introducing (new ideas and replacing old ones) is  
 A B C  
 always a highly controversial matter, especially when  
 D  
 there is already tension between an older and a younger  
 generation. No error  
 E

subject  
verb  
Always match the SV

15. It was fortunate that the inexperienced veterinarian  
 A  
was able to examine the injured horse calm and with  
 B C D  
 confidence. No error  
 E

ly  
adverb modifies verb

16. Although the details of the contract has not yet been  
 A  
 announced, it is likely that union negotiators accepted  
 B  
 the proposed training program for newly hired  
 C D  
 workers. No error  
 E

"trash" have

17. Just when those who were watching from the sidelines  
 A  
feared the worst, the athletes themselves are the  
 B C D  
 most confident. No error  
 E

Past were

18. Though the statistics on their experiment were  
 A B C  
neither precise <sup>n</sup> or significant, the biochemists still  
 D  
 published them. No error  
 E

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19. George Thornton Emmons was one of a handful of ethnographers who committed their life to studying the Tlingit culture of the Northwest Coast. No error

A lives

B → C

20. Before he sprained his back, Morgan spends much of his leisure time engaged in outdoor sports, particularly hiking and canoeing. No error

had spent

A past perfect

older of two events in the past

Idiom in which

21. In a world that the rate of technological and social change accelerates frighteningly, change itself often seems to be the only constant. No error

A

B C

D E objects

22. Ms. Tanaka asked Juan and I whether we would consider joining our school's quiz bowl team. No error

Subject

"us"/me →

A B

23. Something of a phenomenon in the entertainment world, political satirists are admired by conservatives and radicals alike. No error

A B

D E

If you chose A-D, see if you can improve the grammar.

24. In the past, the small nation had been committed to self-managed socialism, a system under which the workers, rather than the state, owns most enterprises. No error

"trash" own B

C D

red flags are commas next to plural words

25. Listening at the first song its lead singer ever wrote, the band members did not foresee that this young man would be responsible for bringing them to the attention of the world. No error

Idiom to → "listening at" is illogical

A

B

C

D

E

change nouns to pronouns to identify subsequent errors

26. The office manager and her coworker, Ms. Andrews, received equal pay from the company until she got a raise for helping to increase productivity. No error

A

B

C

D

No error E

Unclear Ms. Andrews or office manager?

27. Attaining speeds of up to 60 miles per hour, cheetahs are perhaps the fastest of land animals. No error

A

B

C

D

E

28. Whether or not they were successful as a candidate, women such as Geraldine Ferraro and Pat Schroeder have opened the door to the election of a woman as President. No error

B

C

D

E

29. The often conflicting reports of different polling organizations make it difficult to predict which of the two candidates is more likely to win the election next year. No error

A

B

C

D

E

"trash"

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IF student picked on error, ask him or her to improve the grammar.



**Directions:** The following passage is an early draft of an essay. Some parts of the passage need to be rewritten.

Read the passage and select the best answers for the questions that follow. Some questions are about particular sentences or parts of sentences and ask you to improve sentence structure or word choice. Other questions ask you to consider organization and development. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English.

Questions 30-35 are based on the following passage.

(1) Elisha Graves Otis did not invent the elevator, even though his name is most closely associated with it. (2) Elevating mechanisms, usually ropes and pulleys, had been used throughout history. (3) Otis is also not credited with developing an elevator large enough and powerful enough to lift heavy loads. (4) They had actually been in use for half of his lifetime. (5) What Otis managed to do in 1854 was to demonstrate an elevator with a built-in safety device. (6) So that the elevator would not plunge to the bottom if the rope used to raise and lower it broke. (7) What was noteworthy about this was that it was then possible for people to use elevators, not just freight. (8) Prior to this time, hotels and other buildings were a maximum of only four or five stories high. (9) You can imagine why. (10) "Birdcage" elevators were made of open metalwork, just like birdcages. (11) Hotel guests were reluctant to climb many flights of stairs several times daily, rooms on the lower floors were considered premium. (12) In businesses, people as well as desks and other heavy equipment had to be moved up stairs. (13) So when Otis' safe elevator was developed, it meant that buildings could be taller. (14) Before long, hotels and office buildings were nine and ten stories high.

30. In context, what is the best way to deal with sentence 4 (reproduced below) ?

*They had actually been in use for half of his lifetime.*

- (A) Delete it.
- (B) Switch it with sentence 5.
- (C) Change "They" to "Such elevators".
- (D) Change "his" to "Otis'".
- (E) Insert "supposedly" after "lifetime".

31. What is the best way to revise the underlined portion of sentences 5 and 6 (reproduced below) ?

*What Otis managed to do in 1854 was to demonstrate an elevator with a built-in safety device. So that the elevator would not plunge to the bottom if the rope used to raise and lower it broke.*

- (A) device, by which the elevator would not plunge
- (B) device, and the elevator would not plunge
- (C) device because an elevator plunges
- (D) device to prevent the elevator from plunging
- (E) device, it prevented elevators from plunging

parallel to demonstrate to prevent

32. Which of the following is the best version of sentence 7 (reproduced below) ?

*What was noteworthy about this was that it was then possible for people to use elevators, not just freight.*

- (A) As it is now
- (B) Consequently, it was then possible for elevators to be used for people and freight, and this was noteworthy.
- (C) People, not just freight, could use elevators; that this was possible was noteworthy.
- (D) This development was noteworthy because elevators could now be used for people as well as for freight.
- (E) It is noteworthy that both people and freight can use elevators.

Note how awkward this sentence is with you read the paragraph.

33. Which of the following is the best sentence to insert at the beginning of the second paragraph before sentence 8 ?

- (A) Freight had always been a major consideration.
- (B) Otis' improvement had far-reaching consequences.
- (C) So Otis' fame was based entirely in safety.
- (D) If Otis had not invented this device, someone else would have.
- (E) Elevators can move more than 1,500 feet per minute.

Topic Sentence  
↓  
you need to read the whole paragraph 1st

Note: if you skim passage before answering questions, you should highlight anything that is clearly wrong or awkward (e.g. "they" in sentence 4)

Quick POE  
Lame answers



34. Which of the following is the best version of the underlined portion of sentence 11 (reproduced below)?

*Hotel guests were reluctant to climb many flights of stairs several times daily, rooms on the lower floors were considered premium.* (J-O-N)

- (A) (as it is now)  
 (B) stairs several times daily because rooms on the lower floors  
 (C) stairs above the rooms on the lower floors several times daily but they  
 (D) stairs several times daily above the rooms on the lower floors, which  
 (E) stairs several times daily; as a result, rooms on the lower floors

35. Which sentence should be deleted from the essay because it contains unrelated information?

- (A) Sentence 1  
 (B) Sentence 3  
 (C) Sentence 8  
 (D) Sentence 10  
 (E) Sentence 13

If you read the passage before you answered the questions, you should have noted that sentence 10 is awkward & out of context.

Note: quickly POE answers that you KNOW are wrong & skip your "maybes" until you've read each answer choice. On question 34, you would have wasted your time laboring over any answer before you read "E."

**STOP**

If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this section only.  
 Do not turn to any other section in the test.