

GED-SECTION-2^{Q&As}

Section Two Language Arts - Writing

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QUESTION 1

Yoga

A

(1)

One of today's hottest fads is also one of the world's oldest practices: the ancient art of yoga.

(2)

Yoga is different from other fitness activities because it is not only physical.

(3)

In the correct form, yoga is a practice of unification: an emotional, spiritual, and physical exercise.

B

(4)

A simple sitting pose such as staff pose, for example, requires that you tighten and lengthen stomach, back, and arm muscles as you stretch your legs out in front of you and place your hands by your side.

(5)

More difficult poses, such as brave warrior, require you to balance on one leg and hold a pose that strengthens leg, back, and stomach muscles.

(6)

Though they may seem easy to those who have never practiced, yoga poses require great concentration, and they are surprisingly effective in stretching and strengthening muscles.

(7)

While yoga tones and strengthens the body, it also tones and strengthens the mind.

(8)

Many poses can be only held if you are completely focused on the task, and full benefit of the poses are coming only through proper breathing.

(9)

Concentrated, deep breathing during yoga helps you extend more fully into the poses.

(10)

Thereby gaining greater benefit from the stretch.

(11)

And the steady circulation of breath through your body both calms and energizes.

D

(12)

I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga.

(13)

I have been practicing yoga for only one year.

(14)

I am addicted to yoga unlike any other physical activity because it is also a spiritual practice.

(15)

Through yoga, I am able to release tensions that lodge in various parts of my body: the tight shoulders, the cramped legs, the belly that is in knots.

(16)

The physical release is also a spiritual release.

(17)

I feel calm after doing yoga, reconnected to my body, and reconnected to my inner self.

C

Sentences 9 and 10: Concentrated, deep breathing during yoga helps you extend more fully into the poses. Thereby gaining greater benefit from the stretch. Which correction should be made to the underlined portion of sentences 9 and 10?

A. Change the period to a comma.

B. Change the period to a semicolon.

C. Change the period to a comma and add so.

D. Delete the period.

E. No correction is necessary

Correct Answer: A

Sentence 10 is an incomplete thought (sentence fragment) and must be connected to sentence 9. A semicolon can only be placed between two independent clauses (complete thoughts), so choice b is incorrect. Choice c is incorrect because so and thereby together create an awkward transition between sentences, and so does not convey the correct relationship between sentences. Choice d is incorrect because sentence 10 is "unnecessary" information and should be set off by commas. Choice e is incorrect because the sentence fragment must be corrected.

QUESTION 2

Refer to the following meeting minutes and answer the question.

Employee Advocate Committee Minutes of Meeting Held:

July 21, 2005 In Attendance:

Dakota Mills, Vice President Rebecca Styles, Committee Chairperson Oliver Perez, Committee Secretary

Brenda Osowski

Michael Wen

Jamal Roberts Absent:

Anthony Wilkins A

1. Employee Lounge.

(1) Brenda reported an increase in complaints about the employee lounge.

(2) The complaints included:

B

(3) Jamal suggested creating a survey to determine how to best redesign the lounge.

(4) Rebecca suggested putting a suggestion box in the lounge.

(5) The committee agreed that a survey would be more systematic and getting more input from employees.

(6) Michael volunteered to create the survey that he will bring a draft of to the next meeting.

(7) Oliver volunteers to research the cost of a new microwave and refrigerator.

(8) The need for more telephones was another complaint about the lounge that was discussed.

C

2. Employee Appreciation Day.

(9) Rebecca reminded the committee that it was time to plan the annual Employee Appreciation Day, we brainstormed several ideas for Appreciation Day activities, including:

D

(10) Brenda noted that the company could best show its appreciation by moving quickly improving the lounge.

(11) The committee have agreed that the survey should be completed before Employee Appreciation Day.

E

(13) The

committee will reconvene next Thursday July 28 at 10 A.M.

Sentence 8: The need for more telephones was another complaint about the lounge that was discussed.

The most effective revision of sentence 8 would involve

A.

moving sentence 8 to follow sentence 4.

B.

revising for parallel structure.

C.

deleting the sentence from the memo.

D.

turning sentence 8 into a bullet point for sentence 2.

E.

starting a new paragraph with sentence 8.

Correct Answer: D

This sentence should be turned into a bullet point, since it is a complaint about the lounge and the other complaints are listed as bullets in sentence 2. Choice a is incorrect because the complaints are discussed in paragraph A, not paragraph

B. Choice b is incorrect because there is no opportunity to use parallel structure in this sentence (however, when the sentence is moved to the bulleted list, it should be revised to fit the parallel structure of the list: insufficient telephones or not enough telephones). Choice c is incorrect because the sentence is important to the memo and should not be deleted. Choice e is incorrect because this sentence belongs in paragraph A; it should not be after paragraph B or its own paragraph.

QUESTION 3

How to Buy a Gift

A

(1)We buy gifts all throughout the year for many different occasions. (2)Including birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries.

(3)A few simple strategies can help you pick a good gift every time.

B

(4)First, decide how much money you will spend on the gift.

(5)This depends upon two things: how much you can afford to spend and how much you want to spend.

(6)You may be able to afford \$100.

(7)You may only want to spend \$25.

(8)A maximum limit should be set so that you do not go over budget.

C

(9) Second, decide what sort of gift you want to give.

(10) Do you want your gift to be something practical, or would you rather give something whimsical.

(11) Do you want a gift that is unique, or would the receiver prefer something ordinary?

(12) Do you need something that's top of the line, or would the receiver appreciate a bargain brand?

(13) Even if you don't know exactly what you want to get, having an idea of the kind of gift you want can help you make the most of your time while you are shopping.

D

(14) Determine where you can purchase the kind of gift you want within your budget.

(15) For example, don't go to an upscale department store if your budget is only \$25.

(16) A little research can help you find the right place for your purchase.

(17) That is making you, your wallet, and your gift recipient happy.

Sentence 14: Determine where you can purchase the kind of gift you want within your budget. The most effective revision to the beginning of sentence 14 would be:

A. At last, determine where you can purchase

B. One of the things to determine is where you can purchase

C. After you determine where to purchase

D. Third, determine where you can purchase

E. Yet, determining where you can purchase

Correct Answer: D

This is the third step, and it should follow the previous steps in using a number transition. Choice a is incorrect because while this is the third and last step in the passage, at last is not the most effective transition given the context. Choice b is wordy and does not indicate the number of the step. Choice c is incorrect because it would create an illogical sentence fragment. Choice e is incorrect because the sentence does not contrast with the ideas in sentence 13.

QUESTION 4

How to Be an Active Listener

A

(1) Effective face to face communication depends upon the ability to listen well.

(2) Many of us hear what others say without really listening to the message they are sending.

(3) We must listen actively to correctly understand what is being said.

B

(4)The first step to active listening is to pay attention.

(5)Dont fidget, doodle, or look off at something else.

(6)Daydreaming is something that you shouldnt do, or look at your watch, or worry about what youre going to make for dinner.

C

(7)You should actively respond to what you hear.

(8)Use nonverbal responses, nod or shake your head, laugh or smile, and make other appropriate gestures. (9)Lean forward and look the speaker in the eye to be shown that you are paying attention.

D

(10)As you listen, respond verbally as well.

(11)Offer affirmations such as "yes" "uh-huh" and "I understand."

(12)Ask questions to get details or examples or to clarify matters.

(13)Paraphrasing what you hear to be sure you are understanding things correctly.

E

(14)The third step is that distractions should be avoided.

(15)If you are going to listen to someone; turn off the television or radio.

(16)Dont look at your computer screen or pick up the phone.

(17)Close the door if possible to avoid interruptions or outside distractions, and you will be a more effective listener.

Sentences 15: If you are going to listen to someone; turn off the television or radio. Which correction should be made to sentence 15?

A. Change the semicolon to a period.

B. Delete if.

C. Replace the semicolon with a comma.

D. Move the semicolon to after going.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: C

Semicolons can be used between two independent clauses but not between an independent and dependent clause. If you are going to listen to someone is a dependent clause and should be followed by a comma. Choice a would create a sentence fragment. Choice b is grammatically correct, but if is necessary for the sentence to be logical (to show the relationship between the two clauses). Choice d is incorrect because there would still be an incomplete thought on one side of the semicolon. Choice e is incorrect because the semicolon must be replaced by a comma.

QUESTION 5

How to Buy a Gift

A

(1) We buy gifts all throughout the year for many different occasions. (2) Including birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries.

(3) A few simple strategies can help you pick a good gift every time.

B

(4) First, decide how much money you will spend on the gift.

(5) This depends upon two things: how much you can afford to spend and how much you want to spend.

(6) You may be able to afford \$100.

(7) You may only want to spend \$25.

(8) A maximum limit should be set so that you do not go over budget.

C

(9) Second, decide what sort of gift you want to give.

(10) Do you want your gift to be something practical, or would you rather give something whimsical.

(11) Do you want a gift that is unique, or would the receiver prefer something ordinary?

(12) Do you need something that's top of the line, or would the receiver appreciate a bargain brand?

(13) Even if you don't know exactly what you want to get, having an idea of the kind of gift you want can help you make the most of your time while you are shopping.

D

(14) Determine where you can purchase the kind of gift you want within your budget.

(15) For example, don't go to an upscale department store if your budget is only \$25.

(16) A little research can help you find the right place for your purchase.

(17) That is making you, your wallet, and your gift recipient happy.

Sentence 2: Including birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries. Which revision should be made to sentence 2?

A. Delete sentence 2.

B. Add for example to the beginning of the sentence.

C. Connect sentence 2 to sentence 1.

D. Move sentence 2 to follow sentence 3.

E. No revision is necessary.

Correct Answer: C

Sentence 2 is a fragment and should be connected to sentence 1. Choice a is incorrect because sentence 2 provides useful examples; there is no reason to delete it. Choice b is incorrect because adding for example would not fix the sentence fragment. Choice d is incorrect because the examples of reasons to buy gifts should immediately follow sentence 1. Choice e is incorrect because the fragment needs to be corrected.

QUESTION 6

Yoga

A

(1)

One of todays hottest fads is also one of the worlds oldest practices the ancient art of yoga.

(2)

Yoga is different from other fitness activities because it is not only physical.

(3)

In the correct form, yoga is a practice of unification: an emotional, spiritual, and physical exercise.

B

(4)

A simple sitting pose such as staff pose, for example, requiring that you to tighten and lengthen stomach, back, and arm muscles as you stretch your legs out in front of you and place your hands by your side.

(5)

More difficult poses, such as brave warrior, require you to balance on one leg and hold a pose that strengthens leg, back, and stomach muscles.

(6)

Though they may seem easy to those who have never practiced, yoga poses require great concentration, and they are surprisingly effective in stretching and strengthening muscles.

C

(7)

While yoga tones and strengthens the body, it also tones and strengthens the mind.

(8)

Many poses can be only held if you are completely focused on the task, and full benefit of the poses are coming only through proper breathing.

(9)

Concentrated, deep breathing during yoga helps you extend more fully into the poses.

(10)

Thereby gaining greater benefit from the stretch.

(11)

And the steady circulation of breath through your body both calms and energizes.

D

(12)

I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga.

(13)

I have been practicing yoga for only one year.

(14)

I am addicted to yoga unlike any other physical activity because it is also a spiritual practice.

(15)

Through yoga, I am able to release tensions that lodge in various parts of my body: the tight shoulders, the cramped legs, the belly that is in knots.

(16)

The physical release is also a spiritual release.

(17)

I feel calm after doing yoga, reconnected to my body, and reconnected to my inner self.

Sentences 11: The steady circulation of breath through your body both calms and energizes. Which correction should be made to sentence 11?

A. Delete both.

B. Change you're to your.

C. Insert a comma after breath and body.

D. Move of breath to follow body.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

Your is a contraction of you are; the sentence requires the possessive your. Both could be deleted, but keeping it in the sentence is not an error, so choice a is incorrect. Choice c is incorrect because through your body is a prepositional phrase necessary for the meaning of the sentence, so it should not be set off by commas. Choice d creates an awkward word order by moving breath farther away from circulation, so it is incorrect. Choice e is incorrect because you're must be corrected.

QUESTION 7

The Gateway Arch

A

(1)The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.

(2)Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument builded to honor St. Louiss role as the gateway to the West.

B

(3)Construction on the 630-foot-high structure began in 1961.

(4)The construction was completed four years later in 1965.

(5)The monument includes an underground visitor center that explores westward expansion threwh galleries and a theater.

(6)Two passenger trams take visitors to the Observation Room and the Museum of Westward Expansion at the top.

C

(7)In 1947, a group of interested citizens held a nationwide competition to select a design for a new monument that will celebrate the growth of the United States.

(8)Other U.S. monuments are spires, statues, or imposing buildings.

(9)The winner of this contest was a plan for a completely unique structure.

(10)The man who submitted the winning design Eero Saarinen later became a famous architect.

(11)In designing the Arch, Saarinen wanted to "create a monument which would have lasting significance and would be a landmark of our time."

D

(12)The Gateway Arch is a masterpiece of engineering.

(13)A monument even taller than the Great Pyramid in Egypt, and in its own way, at least as majestic.

(14)The Gateway is an inverted catenary curve, the same shape that a heavy chain will form if suspended between two points.

(15)Covered with a sleek skin of stainless steel, dazzling bursts of sunlight are often reflected by the Arch.

(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Paragraph C, sentences 7 through 11: In 1947, a group of interested citizens . . . would be a landmark of our time." Which revision should be made to the placement of this paragraph?

A. Move paragraph C to the first sentence of the passage.

- B. Move paragraph C to follow paragraph A.
- C. Move paragraph C to the last paragraph in the essay.
- D. Delete paragraph C.
- E. No revision to placement is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

It is most logical to switch the order of paragraphs B and C so that the passage is in chronological order. Choice a is incorrect because paragraph A introduces us to the Arch and should remain the first paragraph of the passage. Choice c is incorrect because it further disrupts the chronological order, and paragraph D is the logical conclusion to the passage. Choice d is incorrect because the paragraph offers important information and should not be deleted. Choice e is incorrect because the paragraph is best moved above paragraph B.

QUESTION 8

The Gateway Arch

A

- (1)The skyline of St. Louis, Missouri, is fairly unremarkable, with one huge exception: the Gateway Arch that stands on the banks of the Mississippi.
- (2)Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument builded to honor St. Louiss role as the gateway to the West.

B

- (3)Construction on the 630-foot-high structure began in 1961.
- (4)The construction was completed four years later in 1965.
- (5)The monument includes an underground visitor center that explores westward expansion threwh galleries and a theater.
- (6)Two passenger trams take visitors to the Observation Room and the Museum of Westward Expansion at the top.

C

- (7)In 1947, a group of interested citizens held a nationwide competition to select a design for a new monument that will celebrate the growth of the United States.
- (8)Other U.S. monuments are spires, statues, or imposing buildings.
- (9)The winner of this contest was a plan for a completely unique structure.
- (10)The man who submitted the winning design Eero Saarinen later became a famous architect.

(11)In designing the Arch, Saarinen wanted to "create a monument which would have lasting significance and would be a landmark of our time."

D

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(14)The Gateway is an inverted catenary curve, the same shape that a heavy chain will form if suspended between two points.

(15)Covered with a sleek skin of stainless steel, dazzling bursts of sunlight are often reflected by the Arch.

(16)In a beautiful display of symmetry, the height of the arch is the same as the distance between the legs at ground level.

Sentence 2: Part of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, the Arch is a remarkable monument builded to honor St. Louiss role as the gateway to the West. Which correction should be made to sentence 2?

A. Change role to roll.

B. Replace builded with built.

C. Delete the comma after Memorial.

D. Change monument to Monument.

E. No correction is necessary.

Correct Answer: B

The past tense of build is irregular and should be built. Choice a is incorrect because roll has a different meaning. Choice c is incorrect because the comma is necessary after the introductory phrase. Choice d is incorrect because monument is not a specific noun in this context. Choice e is incorrect because the verb needs to be corrected.

QUESTION 9

How to Buy a Gift

A

(1)We buy gifts all throughout the year for many different occasions. (2)Including birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries.

(3)A few simple strategies can help you pick a good gift every time.

B

(4)First, decide how much money you will spend on the gift.

(5)This depend upon two things: how much you can afford to spend and how much you want to spend.

(6)You may be able to afford \$100.

(7)You may only want to spend \$25.

(8)A maximum limit should be set so that you do not go over budget.

C

(9)Second, decide what sort of gift you want to give.

(10)Do you want your gift to be something practical, or would you rather give something whimsical.

(11)Do you want a gift that is unique, or would the receiver prefer something ordinary?

(12)Do you need something thats top of the line, or would the receiver appreciate a bargain brand?

(13)Even if you dont know exactly what you want to get, having an idea of the kind of gift you want can help you make the most of your time while you are shopping.

D

(14)Determine where you can purchase the kind of gift you want within your budget.

(15)For example, dont go to an upscale department store if your budget is only \$25.

(16)A little research can help you find the right place for your purchase.

(17)That

is making you, your wallet, and your gift recipient happy.

A.

of your time while you are shopping

B.

of your shopping time

C.

of your time that is spent shopping

D.

while you are spending your time shopping

E.

of shopping at the time

Sentence 13: Even if you dont know exactly what you want to get, having an idea of the kind of gift you want can help you make the most of your time while you are shopping. Which is the most effective way to write the underlined portion of sentence 13?

Correct Answer: B

This is the most concise and clear version. Choices a, c, and d are incorrect because they are unnecessarily wordy. Choices d and e are also awkward, and e is illogical.

QUESTION 10

Yoga

A

(1)

One of today's hottest fads is also one of the world's oldest practices: the ancient art of yoga.

(2)

Yoga is different from other fitness activities because it is not only physical.

(3)

In the correct form, yoga is a practice of unification: an emotional, spiritual, and physical exercise.

B

(4)

A simple sitting pose such as staff pose, for example, requiring that you to tighten and lengthen stomach, back, and arm muscles as you stretch your legs out in front of you and place your hands by your side. (5) More difficult poses, such as brave warrior, require you to balance on one leg and hold a pose that strengthens leg, back, and stomach muscles.

(6)

Though they may seem easy to those who have never practiced, yoga poses require great concentration, and they are surprisingly effective in stretching and strengthening muscles.

(7)

While yoga tones and strengthens the body, it also tones and strengthens the mind.

(8)

Many poses can be only held if you are completely focused on the task, and full benefit of the poses are coming only through proper breathing.

(9)

Concentrated, deep breathing during yoga helps you extend more fully into the poses.

(10)

Thereby gaining greater benefit from the stretch.

(11)

And the steady circulation of breath through your body both calms and energizes.

D

(12)

I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga.

(13)

I have been practicing yoga for only one year.

(14)

I am addicted to yoga unlike any other physical activity because it is also a spiritual practice.

(15)

Through yoga, I am able to release tensions that lodge in various parts of my body: the tight shoulders, the cramped legs, the belly that is in knots.

(16)

The physical release is also a spiritual release.

(17)

I feel calm after doing yoga, reconnected to my body, and reconnected to my inner self.

C

Sentences 12 and 13: Sentences 12 and 13: I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga. I have been practicing yoga for only one year. Which is the most effective combination of sentences 12 and 13?

- A. I am still relatively new to yoga, the practice of which I have been doing for only one year.
- B. I am still relatively new to the practice of yoga, of which I have only been practicing for one year.
- C. I am still relatively new to yoga, which I have been practicing for only one year.
- D. I have only been practicing yoga for one year, which means I am still relatively new to the practice.
- E. Because I am still relatively new to yoga, I have only been practicing for one year.

Correct Answer: C

This is the most concise and correct choice. Choice a contains an awkward and wordy phrase, the practice of which I have been doing. Choice b is also awkward and wordy, repeating practice and using an unnecessary of before which. Choice d is grammatically correct but reverses the order of ideas, and is also wordy with the repetition of practice. Choice e is incorrect because it is a run-on sentence; because makes the first clause dependent.

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