

SAT Writing & Language Practice Questions

1. Subject-Verb Agreement

The collection of rare coins are worth a fortune.

- A) are
- B) is
- C) were
- D) have been

Answer: B) is

Explanation: The subject is 'collection' (singular), not 'coins'. Always match the verb to the subject.

2. Pronoun Ambiguity & Case

Neither James nor his friends remembered to bring their notebook.

- A) their
- B) his
- C) his or their
- D) its

Answer: C) his or their

Explanation: Since the subject is compound, the pronoun must account for both.

3. Modifier Placement

Excited to win the award, the acceptance speech was written by Sarah.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The acceptance speech, excited to win the award, was written by Sarah.
- C) Excited to win the award, Sarah wrote the acceptance speech.
- D) Sarah, the acceptance speech excited to win the award, wrote it.

Answer: C) Excited to win the award, Sarah wrote the acceptance speech.

Explanation: The modifier must describe Sarah, not the speech.

4. Parallelism

The coach emphasized that the team must practice regularly, eat well, and getting enough sleep.

- A) getting
- B) get
- C) got
- D) has gotten

Answer: B) get

Explanation: All verbs must be parallel: practice, eat, get.

5. Punctuation

The movie was engaging, it had stunning visuals.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The movie was engaging it had stunning visuals.
- C) The movie was engaging; it had stunning visuals.
- D) The movie was engaging, and stunning visuals.

Answer: C) The movie was engaging; it had stunning visuals.

Explanation: A semicolon correctly joins two independent clauses.

6. Transitions

The weather forecast predicted heavy rain. Therefore, we decided to have a picnic.

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) However,
- C) For instance,
- D) In addition,

Answer: B) However,

Explanation: A picnic contradicts a forecast of heavy rain. The logical transition is 'However,'.

7. Idioms & Usage

The scientist was responsible to designing the new experiment.

- A) responsible to
- B) responsible on
- C) responsible for
- D) responsible at

Answer: C) responsible for

Explanation: The correct idiom is 'responsible for'.

Final Drill: Spot the Errors

Each of the students in the advanced math class have their own calculator, however, some prefer to work without it.

Correction: Each of the students in the advanced math class has his or her own calculator; however, some prefer to work without it.

- Subject-verb agreement: 'Each' → singular → has
- Pronoun precision: 'his or her' (or pluralize)
- Punctuation: Semicolon before 'however'

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