

## CRITICAL READING

**REMEMBER:** Certain questions are easier and/or faster to answer. Instead of answering the questions sequentially, consider which questions you're more likely to answer quickly and correctly.

### "Friends"

**-Vocabulary in Context** : (in line \_\_, the word "\_\_" most nearly means..) – if you are short on time, these can be answered without reading the whole passage

**-Pinpointable** (gives you the line # where the answer is) – go back and pinpoint your answer to ensure accuracy

**-Fact questions** ("according to the passage" or "according to the author")

**-Main Idea/Author's Purpose** – Read the italics, topic sentences, and last sentence in the passage. This can be done quickly if time is short, so these are "go to" questions.

### "Foes"

**-Inferential** ("suggests," "best illustrates," "most likely")

**-Cross-over questions** that compare Passage 1 with Passage 2 (these are often inferential as well – a double whammy!) – for example, "How would the critics in Passage 1 most likely respond to the students mentioned in Line 4-10 of Passage 2?"

**-Triple Statements** – not as common, but time consuming.

**-LEAST/EXCEPT** – time consuming, but you can still find evidence to rule out the other answers.

DOUBLE PASSAGES:

Your Email  
Parent Email

*Double Passage Strategy*

on back:  
score

- Pre-pinpoint Passage 1
- Read Passage 1
- Do Questions involving Passage 1 only

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- Pre-Pinpoint passage 2
- Read Passage 2
- Answer questions on Passage 2

---

- Answer remaining questions (referring to both)

$$33 = 490 - 550$$

$$\approx 520$$

$$P 869$$

$$+ 871$$

Sect. 3      7      9      #  $\sqrt{36}$

#  $\sqrt{\quad}$       +       $\quad$       +       $\quad$       =       $\frac{12}{4}$

# X  $\quad$        $\quad$        $\quad$        $\quad$       -       $\left( \frac{\#X}{4} \right)$

Raw Score:  $\frac{-3}{33}$

## SENTENCE COMPLETIONS

Sentence completion questions test your vocabulary as well as reading comprehension skills. In this part of the test you are given a sentence from which one or two words have been omitted, and you are asked to fill in the missing word or words from five possible choices. Each sentence will contain enough information so you can find the correct answer without needing information beyond that which is contained in the sentence.

**METHOD FOR SENTENCE COMPLETION QUESTION:**

1. Before looking at the choices, read the sentence and try to supply your own missing words. This will force you to try to grasp the "sense of the sentence" first.
2. Look for possible positive or negative connotations.
3. Use process of elimination (POE). Try each of the given choices, eliminating what you know does not make any sense. If you are able to eliminate two choices – GUESS.
4. Remember, in two blank sentences, if both words do not fit into the context of the sentence, that choice is eliminated.
5. Read it, before you leave it. Read through the complete sentence with the answer choice you have selected.

**SENTENCE CLUES** – The following clues may help you eliminate choices:

**A) Some sentences require words which are similar in meaning, particularly if they are words describing the same situation, person or action.**

**EXAMPLES:**

1. The professor was so \_\_\_\_\_ and opinionated that no student ventured to disagree with him.

(A) astute (B) dogmatic (C) affable (D) provincial (E) corrupt

**The answer should be the word similar in meaning to the word "opinionated".**

2. My nephew is physically \_\_\_\_\_ and intellectually \_\_\_\_\_, thereby causing my sister much consternation.

(A) static ... inanimate (B) pious ... curious (C) aesthetic ... redundant

(D) vicarious ... frivolous (E) indolent ... lazy

**Choose words that are related and which fit the context of the sentence which also calls for words with a negative connotation.**

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ article was so dense with text and steeped in technical jargon that it defied comprehension.

(A) banal (B) articulate (C) primal (D) abstruse (E) persuasive

**The answer requires a negative word because the text "defied comprehension." The answer should also have the connotation of difficult which is similar in meaning to "steeped" and "dense."**

**B) Some sentences require words which are opposite in meaning. Look for key words such as not, although, rather than, but, on the contrary, antithesis of, despite, from ... to. Circle these expressions when you find them.**

EXAMPLES:

1. The teacher's interference in the family's problems may \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_ an already tense situation.

(A) minimize ... exaggerate (B) condemn ... refute (C) exacerbate ... ameliorate  
(D) taunt ... diminish (E) augment ... atrophy

**Choose words which are opposite in meaning.**

2. She seemed \_\_\_\_\_, although the coming festivities should have caused her to feel \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) depressed ... elated (B) morbid ... anxious (C) jocund ... maudlin  
(D) pensive ... sullen (E) pertinacious ... prodigal

**Choose words which are opposite in meaning.**

3. Her mother's \_\_\_\_\_ demeanor contrasted greatly with Jean's \_\_\_\_\_ behavior.

(A) capricious ... errant (B) austere ... bizarre (C) pudgy ... burly  
(D) obsequious ... fulsome (E) pragmatic ... dejected

**Choose words which are opposite in meaning.**

4. Horses, chickens, and goats are often seen by (a, an) \_\_\_\_\_ child, but are rare sights to (a, an) \_\_\_\_\_ child.

(A) city ... suburban (B) nomadic ... native (C) insurgent ... subordinate  
(D) rural ... urban (E) metropolitan ... cosmopolitan

**Choices A and D both contain words which are opposite in meaning, but only one choice has the words in the correct order.**

**C) Words found in a sequence are usually related or very often show an increase in intensity. (ex. good, better, best)**

EXAMPLES:

1. The two sisters exhibited radically different temperaments: the older was subdued, courteous and \_\_\_\_\_; the younger was talkative, \_\_\_\_\_ and slightly flamboyant.

(A) diffident ... gregarious (B) reprehensible ... liberal (C) dramatic ... sincere  
(D) esoteric ... dignified (E) hedonistic ... ascetic

**Choose words which are related to "subdued, courteous" and "talkative ... flamboyant."**



2. At first John's parents became \_\_\_\_\_ when they realized he was not home, as night fell they \_\_\_\_\_ and by morning they were filled with terror.

- (A) angry ... reiterated (B) anxious ... panicked (C) belligerent ... reacted  
(D) lugubrious ... winced (E) distracted ... remonstrated.

Choose words related to "filled with terror."

**D) Sometimes a comparison within the sentence may help ascertain the meaning of a difficult word. Look for similes and metaphors.**

EXAMPLES:

1. His duties were completed as \_\_\_\_\_ as if a robot had performed them.

- (A) perversely (B) vicariously (C) pertinently (D) perfunctorily (E) significantly  
**How would a robot perform?**

2. The burglar's \_\_\_\_\_ movements, as \_\_\_\_\_ as a cat's, went unnoticed by the guards.

- (A) sinuous ... stealthy (B) arduous ... petulant (C) covert ... raucous  
(D) spontaneous ... obvious (E) torpid ... salacious

**How would a cat look and move?**

3. Jessie behaved like a clown at the party; her \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ after a while.

- (A) cliches ... bothersome (B) antics ... annoying (C) maxims ... stagnant  
(D) ideas ... facile (E) anecdotes ... nefarious

**How would you describe a clown's behavior?**

**E) Often the entire sentence is really hinting at the identity of the missing word or words. Try each of the choices given within the context of the sentence. Eliminate those word choices which make no sense. Underline key words or phrases.**

EXAMPLES:

1. One who is \_\_\_\_\_ could never be satisfied living the life of a recluse.

- (A) lethargic (B) phlegmatic (C) altruistic (D) gregarious (E) hermetic

2. As a result of the child's \_\_\_\_\_ ability in math, he was permitted to take more advanced courses.

- (A) ostensible (B) dormant (C) precocious (D) salubrious (E) pretentious

3. His \_\_\_\_\_ nature caused him to be in constant conflict with others.

- (A) pugnacious (B) mundane (C) facetious (D) prudent (E) naive

4. The defense attorney was able to \_\_\_\_\_ the prosecutor's case during his \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) support ... tenure (B) destroy ... recitation (C) discredit ... rebuttal  
(D) analyze ... recapitulation (E) animate ... opacity

**Subject – Verb Agreement/  
Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement**

<b>Singular</b>	<b>Singular OR Plural</b>	<b>Plural</b>
Anyone Anybody No one Nobody One Someone Somebody Everyone Everybody Each  <b>If both subjects are singular connected by:</b> Or Nor Either...or Neither...nor	<b>Some</b> <b>Most</b> <b>All</b> <b>Any</b> <b>None</b> *Depends on the prepositional phrase following the subject ( <b>Some of the <u>cake</u></b> was left. – “cake” is singular) ( <b>Most of the <u>boys</u></b> participate in the game. – “boys” is plural)  <b>Either...or</b> <b>Neither...nor</b> *The verb agrees with the noun closest to the verb ( <b>Neither</b> the teachers <b>nor</b> the <u>student</u> <u>knows</u> where to go) vs. ( <b>Neither</b> the student <b>nor</b> the <u>teachers</u> <u>know</u> where to go)	Both Few Many Others Several

antecedent  
 One must follow their dreams.

Sing. Subj. S-V Agreement

The box (of matches) is/are (on the table.)

↓  
sing. verb

	Singular	Plural
I	walk	We walk
You	walk	You walk
He/She/ It	walks	They walk.

## PREPOSITIONS

\* link nouns, pronouns, and phrases to other words:

\*of      \*to      \*in  
\*on      \*by      \*from

...of the students  
...to the store  
...in the morning  
...on the table

} most common

} prep. phrases  
(always end w/ a noun)

Direction: to, into, across, toward

Location: at, in, on, under, over, beside, among, by, between, through

Time: before, after, during, until, since

Figurative Location: for, against, with



## Pronouns - Replace Nouns

Singular Plural

1st Person	I	run	We	run
2nd Person	you	run	you	run
3rd Person	he/she/it	runs	They	run

Test for: 1. Tense Shifts  
2. Incorrect/Correct use of Verb Tense: **past perfect**

**has + inf.**

**\*Present Perfect:** \*Began in the past and continued into the future  
(ex. *I have taught for over thirty years.*)

or

\*Expresses action that has been completed at an indefinite time.

(ex. *He has finished eating **already**.*)

**had + infinitive**

**\*Past Perfect:** to express action completed before another past action in the sentence.

(ex. *I **had taught** for thirty years when I retired.*)

**Future Perfect:** to express action that is completed before another future action.

(ex. *I **will have finished** painting before you **arrive**.*)

**Infinitive** – (is to + the original form of the verb) to express an action that follows another action.

(ex. *John said that he hoped **to arrive** soon.*)

**Pronoun Case:**

subject  
Singular  
\*  
1. Direct Object  
2. Indirect Obj.  
3. Obj. of Prep.

	<b>Nominative</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Possessive</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> person</b>	I	me	my, mine
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> person</b>	you	you	your, yours
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> person</b>	he, she, it, who	him, her, it, whom	his, hers, its, whose

**Plural**

	<b>Nominative</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Possessive</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> person</b>	We	Us	Our, ours
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> person</b>	You	You	Your, yours
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> person</b>	they, who	them, whom	their, theirs, whose

They gave the award  
subj. to Carlos and me/I.

They gave Carlos and me/I  
the award.  
D.O. Ind.Obj.

Carlos and I/me won the award.  
Subjective case.

### Pronoun Case

Carlos and I/me won the award.

Indirect obj. D. Obj.

They gave Carlos and I/me the award.

D.O.

They gave the award to Carlos and I/me.

Preposition!!

28+  
35

Parallel Structure

p 13

The classroom was filled

Prep    ADJ.    N.    ADJ    N.  
 with an exhausted teacher, screaming kids, and  
 [ N    V    ADJ. ]    a loose hamster.  
 the hamster got loose.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## KINDS OF CLAUSES & CONJUNCTIONS

### Independent Clause:

It has a subject and a verb, completes a thought, and can stand alone as a full sentence.

S        V  
(Shakira dances.)

### Dependent Clause:

It has a subject and a verb, but it is dependent upon (or relies on) the rest of the sentence to be a complete sentence.

conjunction (While Shakira dances), the audience claps.

The way this sentence is now, it is **NOT** complete. It needs to be *preceded* or *followed* by an independent clause. (While Shakira dances, she also sings.)

Dependent        Independent

### Simple Sentence:

1 Independent Clause (Subject and verb that forms a complete thought).

### Compound Sentence:

Independent Clause + Independent Clause  
(connected by a coordinating conjunction - FANBOYS)

EX: Shakira is an entertainer, **and** she travels the world performing.  
Independent Independent

### Complex Sentence:

Independent + Dependent or Dependent + Independent (connected by a subordinating conjunction)

EX: Because she travels the world, it is hard for her to record more albums.  
Dependent Independent

(You can also flip the clauses: *It is hard for her to record more albums because she travels the world.*)

### Coordinating Conjunctions:

A word that joins together **two independent clauses**, which are both equally important and form complete thoughts.

F A N B O Y S  
O N O U R E O  
R D R T T

*\*Coordinating conjunctions are "dropped" when identifying independent clauses; in other words, "they go."*

EX. Shakira sings well, and she's a good entertainer. (Both are independent clauses)  
(Take out "and" to determine what type of sentence it is)

### Subordinating Conjunctions:

*subordinating conjunction* is a word which joins together a dependent clause and an independent clause. Here are some examples:

- |          |             |          |
|----------|-------------|----------|
| After    | Even though | Unless   |
| Although | If          | Until    |
| As       | In order to | When     |
| Because  | Once        | Whenever |
| Before   | Since       | Whether  |
| How      | Though      | While    |

Shakira needs a lot of energy because she dances for hours at a time.  
(Independent Clause) (Dependent Clause)

(Since it's a subordinate conjunction, keep "because" to determine what type of sentence it is.)

*S* I knew you'd be tired I  
got you munchkins comma splice  
conjunction

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Grammar-licious!*

**Grammar Practice**

**Modifiers:**

1. Lecturing at the university, read the poetry of Margaret Atwood was the advice Professor Clark gave her audience.
  - A. Read the poetry of Margaret Atwood was the advice Professor Clark gave her audience
  - B. The poetry of Margaret Atwood was what Professor Clark advised her audience to read
  - C. Her audience was advised by Professor Clark to read the poetry of Margaret Atwood
  - D. Margaret Atwood's poetry, advised Professor Clark, was what her audience should read
  - E. Professor Clark advised her audience to read the poetry of Margaret Atwood (1.10.3)
  
2. Although criticized by a few for her daredevil aviation escapades, most people viewed Amelia Earhart as a skillful pilot.
  - A. Most people viewed Amelia Earhart as a skillful pilot
  - B. Most people viewed Amelia Earhart to be a skillful pilot
  - C. A skillful pilot was what most people viewed Amelia Earhart as
  - D. Amelia Earhart was viewed by most people as a skillful pilot
  - E. Amelia Earhart, a skillful pilot in the view of most people

*↳ fragment ; took risks*
  
3. Of all the states represented at the conference, the governor of Missouri was the only one to present plans for enforcing the new regulations.
  - A. The governor of Missouri was the only one to present
  - B. Making the governor from Missouri the only one to present
  - C. Missouri's governor only presented
  - D. Missouri's governor presented the only
  - E. Missouri was the only one whose governor presented

**Subject-Verb Agreement**

4. The harmful effects of smoking on the vascular system is increasingly well documented.
    - A. is increasingly well documented
    - B. is more and more documented
    - C. are increasingly well documented
    - D. are increasing in better documentation
    - E. has increased in better documentation
- are*

5. The number of awards given this year to biochemists accentuate the significant gains being made in the study of chemistry of living organisms. No error (540)

*singular* (circled around "number")

A B C  
D E

6. Evidence from surveys and interviews show friendships made in high school tend to last longer than those made in college.

A. Show friendships made in high school tend to last  
 B. Show high school friendships that tend to last  
 C. Is showing high school friendships tending to last  
 D. Shows that friendships made in high school tend to last  
 E. Shows friendships in high school tend to last

**Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement**

7. Until it can be replaced by a faster, more efficient, and more economical means of transportation, trucks will carry most of the freight within and through metropolitan areas.

*they* (circled around "it")

A B  
C D

No error.

E

8. The reason first novels are so often their writers' best work is that it draws upon all the experiences of childhood.

*they* (circled around "it")

A. is that it draws upon  
 B. is that these first efforts draw upon  
 C. is because of these first efforts drawing from  
 D. is because of them drawing upon  
 E. is their drawing from

9. Few issues of public policy are as likely to provide widespread interest as that involving possible danger to the health or safety of children. No error.

*those* (circled around "that")

A B  
C

D

E

**Parallel Structure**

10. Walt Disney's first success was his third Mickey Mouse film in which Disney produced a cartoon with sound, and Mickey was made to talk.

- A. sound, and Mickey was made to talk
- B. sound and making Mickey talk
- C. sound, with the result being Mickey talking
- D. sound in where Mickey talks
- E. Sound and made Mickey talk (558)

11. The tornado ripped through the central part of town, toppling small buildings, uprooting trees, and power lines were snapped.

- A. ~~power lines were snapped~~
- B. ~~power lines snapping~~
- C. snapping power lines
- D. ~~snapped power lines~~
- E. ~~power lines snapped~~

**Pronoun Case (Objective vs. Nominative):**

12. For we students, concern about impending tuition hikes was even more acute than

- |  |          |   |
|--|----------|---|
| A                                      | B        | C |
| <u>apprehension about final exams.</u> | No error |   |
| D                                      | E        |   |

US

obj. of prep.

**Key:**

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. E | 5. B | 9. C  |
| 2. D | 6. D | 10. E |
| 3. E | 7. A | 11. C |
| 4. C | 8. B | 12. A |



Grammar Rules

(examples taken from College Board SAT Prep Book)

B. VERB TENSES - He has finished writing his paper an hour ago.(X)

has been

For the past hundred years or more, Yellowstone National Park was a kind of  
 A B  
 Sociological laboratory in which North Americans have been exploring the  
 C  
meaning of the national-park concept. No Error. (7.3.25)  
 D E

G. PARALLEL STRUCTURE- When I am sick, I love sitting by the fire, reading a good mystery and eat chicken soup. (X)

Look for a series in a sentence and check for pattern in parts of speech:

The classroom was filled with an exhausted teacher, screaming kids, and the hamster got loose.

A talented and versatile artist, Twyla Tharp has been a dancer, choreographer,  
 A B C  
and collaborated on various productions. No Error (1.7.18)  
 D E

Not Only...But Also – see page 12

A healthy economy can be measured not only by the growth of business 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 (1.7.5)

**H. ADJECTIVE/ADVERB**

*She ate too quick and then got a stomach ache. (X)*

I ran \_\_\_\_\_ at today's race (good/well).

Because I practice often, I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ runner (good/well).

**I. COMPARISONS ("APPLES TO ORANGES")**

*The juniors at our school scored much higher on the PSAT than your school. (X)*

The novel Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen was once more widely read and was more popular in high schools in the United States than Charlotte Bronte. No error

A Jane Eyre by  
 B  
 C D E

**N. MISPLACED MODIFIER** - *The designer dress was located by the saleswoman with the beaded sash. (X)*

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

(1.7.2)



**A. SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT** - *Neither of the twins want to play football. (X)*

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

A was  
 B C D

(1.7.23)

O. DANGLING MODIFIER - *While eating dinner, the fireworks startled me. (X)*

Lacking good instruction, my mistake in creating a graph to illustrate historical trends were numerous.

- (A) my mistakes in creating a graph to illustrate historical trends were numerous
- (B) I made numerous mistakes in creating a graph to illustrate historical trends**
- (C) There were numerous mistakes in the graph I created to illustrate historical trends
- (D) I created a graph to illustrate historical trends with numerous mistakes
- (E) the graph I made for illustrating historical trends had numerous mistakes

(2.10.10)

R. PRONOUN SHIFT- *If one wishes to be successful in life, you must have a good work ethic. (X)*

F. IDIOMS (see page 36 in *20 Common Writing Errors*) - *He was concerned with his chances of getting admitted to an Ivy League school. (X)*

Quick to take advantage of Melanie Johnson's preoccupation <sup>with</sup> in the history of the Johnson

A      B

**C**

family, the genealogist proposed investigating that history – for a large fee. No error. (1.7.28)

D

E

T. ACTIVE/PASSIVE VOICE - *The ball was hit into the stands by the batter. (X)*

Mr. Chung would like to retire, but retirement is unable to be afforded by him.

- (A) Mr. Chung would like to retire, but retirement is unable to be afforded by him.
- (B) Mr. Chung would like to retire, but he cannot afford to do so.**
- (C) Mr. Chung would like to retire, but he is unable to afford that.
- (D) Retirement is what Mr. Chung would like to do, but he cannot afford it.
- (E) Retirement appeals to Mr. Chung, but he cannot afford stopping working.

(5.4.1)

S. SENTENCE STRUCTURE -Terry Bradshaw was one of the most successful NFL quarterbacks he won three Super Bowls. (X)

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

(1.7.4)

J. AMBIGUITY/INDEFINITE REFERENT

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

(1.7.7)

D. Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement – When Jean and Ellen arrive, tell her I'm ready. (X)

Beatrix Potter completely transformed the traditional animal fable and they had

A B C

been used by other writers simply to illustrate moral lessons. No error. (1.7.12)

D E

they who?

singular plural

it

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Grammar-licious!*

## Grammar Practice

## Modifiers:

1. Lecturing at the university, read the poetry of Margaret Atwood was the advice Professor Clark gave her audience.
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 E. Amelia Earhart, a skillful pilot in the view of most people *fragment*
3. Of all the states represented at the conference, the governor of Missouri was the only one to present plans for enforcing the new regulations.
- A. The governor of Missouri was the only one to present  
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## Subject-Verb Agreement

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- A. is increasingly well documented  
 B. is more and more documented  
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 E. has increased in better documentation



5. The number of awards <sup>SUBJ.</sup> given this year to biochemists <sup>V.</sup> accentuate <sup>S.</sup> the significant gains <sup>C.</sup> being made in the study of chemistry of living organisms. No error. (540)  
 A B D E

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 E

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9. Few issues of public policy are <sup>A.</sup> as likely <sup>B.</sup> to provide widespread interest as that <sup>C.</sup> involving possible danger to the health or safety of children. No error.  
 D E

Parallel Structure

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- E. Sound and made Mickey talk (558)**

11. The tornado ripped through the central part of town, toppling small buildings, uprooting trees, and power lines were snapped.

- A. power lines were snapped
- B. power lines snapping
- C. snapping power lines**
- D. snapped power lines
- E. power lines snapped

prep.

Pronoun Case (Objective vs. Nominative):

12. For we students, concern about impending tuition hikes was even more acute than

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| A   | B | C |
| <u>apprehension about final exams. No error</u> |   |   |
| D   | E |   |

Key:

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. E | 5. B | 9. C  |
| 2. D | 6. D | 10. E |
| 3. E | 7. A | 11. C |
| 4. C | 8. B | 12. A |

Practice Sentences

Appendix 4A – Choose the letter which represents the error in the sentence or “no error.”

1. The most successful athletes, regardless of the sport in which they excel, is always striving to improve their performance. No error

2. Gulliver's Travels, the timeless novel by Jonathan Swift, continue to captivate readers of all ages. No error

3. Pollen and ragweed, abundant in spring and early summer, causes many individuals to suffer allergic reactions. No error

4. No matter when the immigrants came or what their country of origin is, the newcomers were happy to have reached their adopted country. No error

5. Because the storm had made access to the main road impossible, the children seek refuge in the barn of the neighboring farm. No error

6. As the jury entered the packed courtroom with their verdict, the defendant anxiously awaited her fate. No error

7. Each of the contestants secretly hopes he will be selected to advance to the final round. No error

8. Everyone of her friends, except Jane and I, was invited to Susan's graduation party. No error

9. Between you and, Tom is the best candidate for senior class president. No error

10. The twins for win the surprise party was given, happily greeted their friends and relatives. No error

Handwritten notes and corrections:

- are (circled)
- subj. (circled)
- s-v (written vertically)
- was (circled)
- tense shift (written)
- sought (circled)
- its (circled)
- me (circled)
- prep. (written vertically)
- one (circled)
- whom (obj. of prep.) (written diagonally)

Agreement of nouns  
Idioms  
Parallel

Appendix 4B

11. Both Laura and Ashley, best friends since childhood, received a scholarship from Columbia University based on their academic excellence. No error
12. Chad and Derrick, avid baseball fans, waited on line for two days to purchase a tickets to the first game of the World Series. No error
13. Much of the success of Peyton Manning and Tom Brady as a quarterback in the NFL can be attributed to their offensive linemen. No error
14. The boss was angry at many of his employees for both their lack of initiative and their frequent tardiness. No error
15. The students' views differ than those of the administration concerning a dress code. No error
16. The class project was to compare the sitcoms of the fifties with the sitcoms of today. No error
17. The award winning swimmer attributed her success to an exercise regimen, a twice daily practice schedule, and maintaining a positive attitude. No error
18. The water enthusiast not only enjoyed water skiing but also speed boat racing.
- a) not only enjoyed water skiing but also speed boat racing.
  - b) enjoyed not only water skiing but also speed boat racing.
  - c) not only enjoyed water skiing and also speed boat racing.
  - d) not only enjoyed water skiing but racing speed boats.
19. The hurricane tore through the village, flooding streets, washing away trees and roads were made impassable.
- a) washing away trees and roads were made impassable.
  - b) washed away the trees and made the roads impassable.
  - c) washed away the trees, making the roads impassable.
  - d) washing away trees and making roads impassable.

Adj. Adverbs

20. The distraught mother anxiously watched as her young child sat calmly allowing  
the doctor to stitch his badly cut finger. No error  
A B C D E
21. The lovely young woman approached the hassled clerk and quietly asked for a  
refund.  
A B C D E  
No error

ly  
ly

Appendix 4C

22. The evening news commentator is much more formal than the morning news.

- a) The evening news commentator is much more formal than the morning news.
- b) The commentator for the evening news is much more formal than the morning news.
- c) The evening news commentator is much more formal than the morning news commentator.
- d) The commentator of the evening news is more formal than the morning news.

23. My friend Mark is taller than any of the players on his basketball team.

- a) My friend Mark is taller than any of the players on his basketball team.
- b) My friend Mark is taller than any of the other players on his basketball team.
- c) My friend Mark tallest of the players on his basketball team.
- d) Mark my friend is taller than any of the players on his basketball team.

24. My kitten is quicker than my puppy, but my puppy is stronger. No error

A B C D E

25. The new dining room set and rug were delivered, but it was noticeably damaged.

A B C D

No error  
E

26. It was a great day for the beach, so I called my friends, Mary and Jean, but she

A B C

didn't answer. No error  
E

27. The novels of James Patterson are more realistic and more terrifying than

A B C

Mary Higgins Clark. No error  
D E

the rug  
Mary  
The novels

of  
( )



29. The season of spring triggers allergy symptoms in many people. No error  
A B C D E

30. Susan liked to read historical novels of which she found those dealing with the era of the Civil War more interesting than any others.

- a) novels of which she found those dealing with the era of the Civil War more interesting than any others.
- b) novels, about the era of the Civil War was the most interesting.
- c) novels, she found those dealing with the era of the Civil War the most interesting.
- d) novels; she found those dealing with the era of the Civil War the most interesting.

Appendix 4D

31. The term paper is still on my desk that should have been turned in yesterday.
- a) ~~The term paper is still on my desk that should have been turned in yesterday.~~
  - b) The term paper that should have been turned in yesterday is still on my desk.
  - c) The term paper is still on my desk, while it should have been turned in yesterday.
  - d) The term paper is still on my desk, it should have been turned in yesterday
32. My two pit bulls frightened the thief away barking and growling.
- a) My two pit bulls frightened the thief away barking and growling.
  - b) My two pit bulls were barking and growling, the thief was frightened away.
  - c) ~~My two pit bulls, barking and growling, frightened the thief away.~~
  - d) My two pit bulls, barking and growling, frightening the thief away.
33. Slamming on the brakes, the car slid across the icy road and broke through the guard rail.
- a) Slamming on the brakes,
  - b) As the brakes were being slammed on,
  - c) The brakes having been slammed by me,
  - d) When I slammed on the brakes,
34. Recognizing the errors of his ways, that his parents did not accept his sincere change of heart upset the boy.
- a) that his parents did not accept his sincere change of heart upset the boy.
  - b) his sincere change of heart was not accepted by his parents.
  - c) the boy was upset when his parents did not accept his sincere change of heart.
  - d) his parents refusal to accept his sincere change of heart upset him.
35. The counselor gave erroneous advice concerning the requirements for the available position. 

A	B	C	D
No error			
E			
36. We don't never go to a professional football game, except when my grandfather visits us. 

A	B	C
No error		
D	E	



Appendix 4E

37. American students that travel overseas should become familiar with the laws of the country they are visiting. No error

A B  
C D E

who

38. The class which sells the most raffle tickets earns a pizza party.

A B C D  
No error  
E

39. If you want to be successful, one must be willing to learn from your mistakes.

A B C D  
No error  
E

you

sent. structure

40. The scenery along the mountain roads was particularly spectacular at sunset it begged to be photographed.

- a) was particularly spectacular at sunset it begged to be photographed.
- b) was spectacular particular at sunset; it begged to be photographed.
- c) was particularly spectacular at sunset; it begged to be photographed.
- d) were particularly spectacular at sunset; they begged to be photographed.

41. Aided by a group of teachers whom he alternately praised and demeaned.

- a) Aided by a group of teachers whom he alternately praised and demeaned.
- b) He, aided by a group of teachers, whom he alternately praised and demeaned.
- c) He, who was aided by a group of teachers, whom he alternately praised and demeaned.
- d) He was aided by a group of teachers whom he alternately praised and demeaned.

42. Susan would like to tour the British Isles this summer, but she cannot afford to do so.

- a) but she cannot afford to do so.
- b) and she could not afford to do so.
- c) but this trip was not affordable by her.
- d) but she could not afford the expenses of such a trip.

43. The homes in most of the village were destroyed by the powerful earthquake.

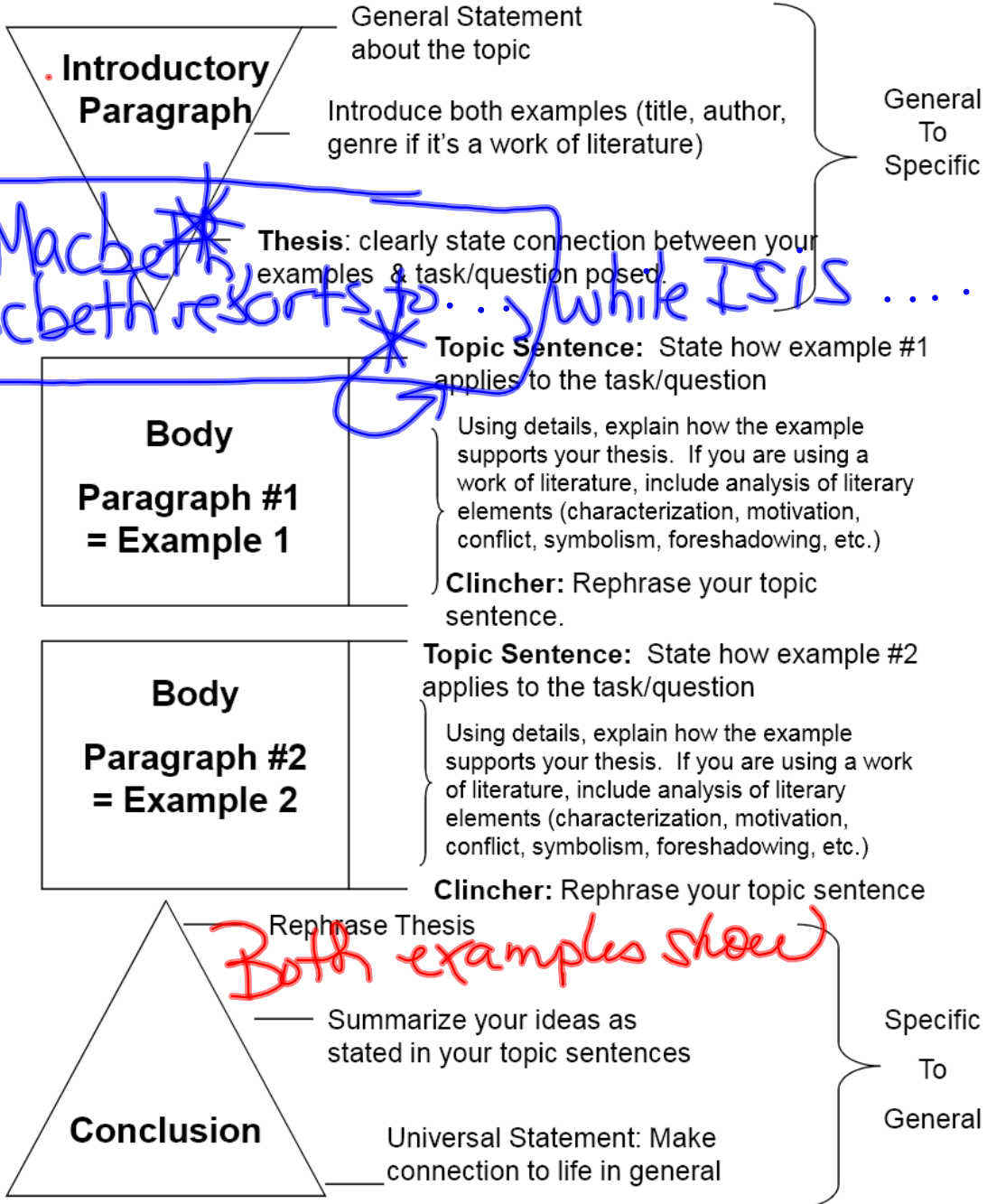
- a) The homes in most of the village were destroyed by the powerful earthquake.
- b) The homes in most of the village was destroyed by the powerful earthquake.
- c) The powerful earthquake destroyed most of the homes in the village.
- d) Most of the village homes were destroyed by the powerful earthquake.

Answer Key-Practice Sentences

# THE ESSAY

### SAT Essay Outline

3 minutes – plan
20 minutes – write
2 minutes – review/edit



Conscience more powerful?

No

Lit

Gatsby  
Macbeth

History

Hitler  
Napoleon

Current Events

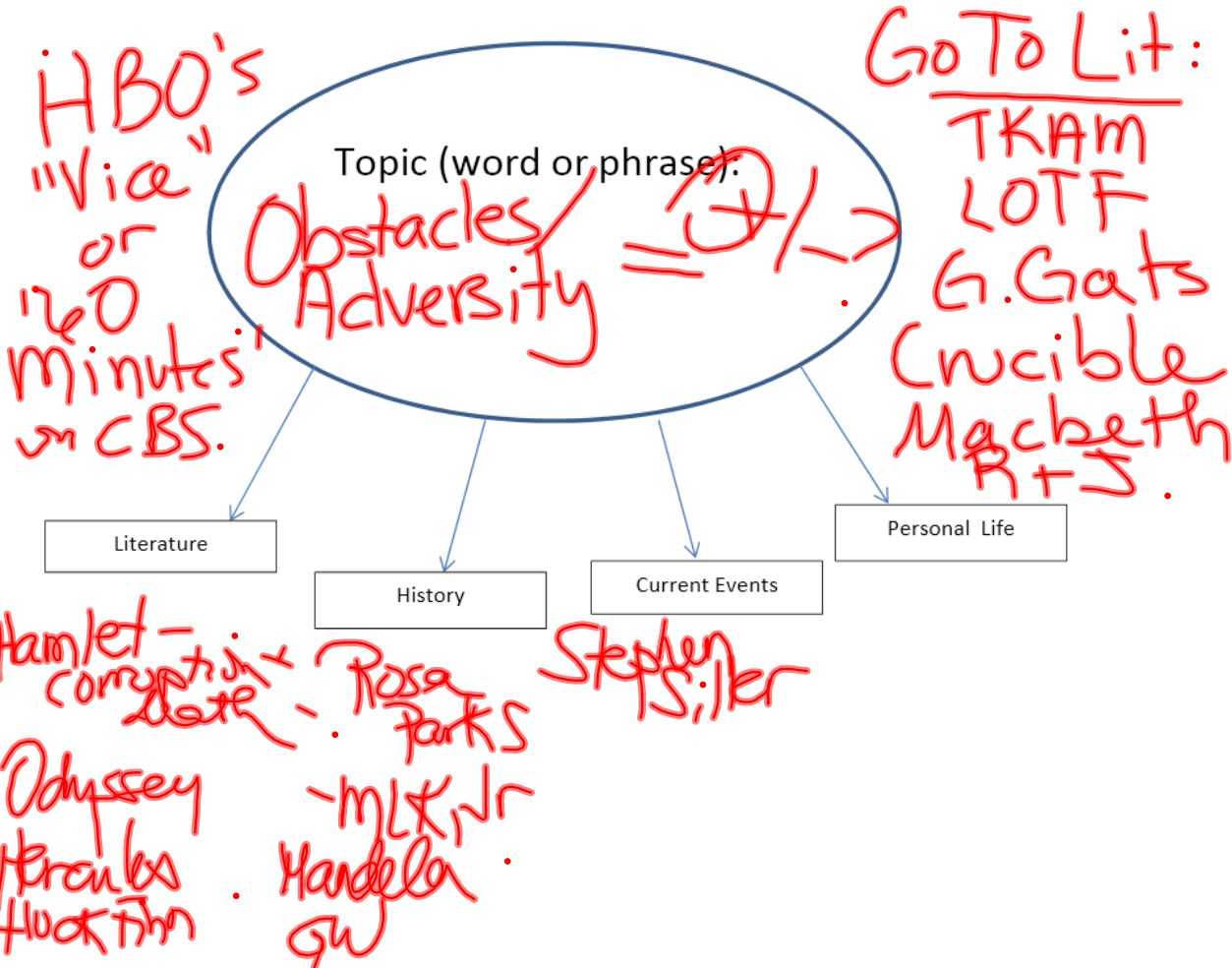
Trump  
Lance Armstrong  
ISIS

Personal

**TIPS FOR ESSAY:**

- Give yourself 2-3 minutes to brainstorm - it yields better, more thoughtful examples and a more organized essay. (Even though you'll feel compelled to put pen to paper immediately and race to the finish, take 2 minutes to think!)
- Answer the question/task firmly – if it's a yes/no, take a stance one way or the other. Even if you're ambivalent about the topic, don't give a wishy-washy answer in which you seem to contradict yourself.
- Use two examples!
- Avoid using two personal examples – it doesn't show a wide enough breadth of knowledge.
- Make direct connections to the task especially in your thesis and topic sentences.
- When writing about literature, include analysis of literary elements.
- Use high-level vocabulary APPROPRIATELY – don't throw in big words if you don't "own" them.
- Have A conclusion – if you are running out of time, at least include a concluding statement as your 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph.
- Proofread your work.

Question/Task: \_\_\_\_\_



**Prompt/Task:** Do people have to be highly competitive in order to succeed?

**Sample Introduction:**

**General Statement:** It has been said that “only the fittest may survive” calling into the question the role and worthiness of competition in our society. While competition may drive humans to succeed, it can also lead to poor decisions and tragedy. When people become too competitive and lose their focus, they are less likely to act fairly in an attempt to gain success regardless of what it takes. Ironically, what they usually find is failure instead. **Introduce Examples:** This is proven in William Golding’s novel, Lord of the Flies, and in the recent case of Long Island students who cheated on their SATs to get ahead. **Thesis (answer the question):** In Golding’s novel, competition proves to be deadly among the island’s boys whose society turns savage, while on Long Island, several competitive students faced serious repercussions as a result of their decision to cheat.

**Topic Sentence – Body Paragraph #1:**

In William Golding’s novel, some of the boys become so desperate for power that their competitiveness actually leads to several deaths and their failure to survive while stranded on an island. (*When writing about literature, try to include analysis of literary elements. For example: While on the island, the boys initially act civilly as symbolized by the fire and the conch...*)

**Topic Sentence – Body Paragraph #2:**

Recently in Long Island, the competition to score well on SATs led several students to make the poor decision to cheat and, when they were ultimately caught, they faced disgrace, failure, and negative consequences.

## Overview of SAT Strategies

**Guessing – if you can eliminate 2-3 answers, guess!!**

### Reading Passages:

- ❖ Pre-pinpoint questions, then read and annotate the text

**TIP:** If time is running short, answer the pinpointable questions first (especially vocabulary in context!)

### Double Passages:

- ❖ Pre-pinpoint Passage 1
- ❖ Read Passage 1
- ❖ Do Q.s for Passage 1 only
- ❖ Pre-pinpoint Passage 2
- ❖ Read Passage 2
- ❖ Answer questions on Passage 2
- ❖ Answer remaining questions (those that refer to both passages)

### Sentence Completion:

- ❖ Fill in missing words without looking at choices
- ❖ Look for positive/negative connotations.
- ❖ Look for context clues
- ❖ Use Process of Elimination (POE)

**TIP:** Questions go from easiest to hardest – don't spend more than 30 seconds/question

### Test Day Tips:

- ❖ Eat protein for breakfast to put off hunger (eggs)
- ❖ Limit fluid intake in morning, but bring water (bathroom breaks are on *their* schedule)
- ❖ Bring snacks (it's a LONG test) – try trail mix ☺
- ❖ Dress in layers (could be air-conditioned/could be hot)
- ❖ Bring your own watch – set to noon to avoid trying to calculate how much time you have left OR use stopwatch setting
- ❖ Bring highlighters, pens, pencils





I wanted to make sure you knew that **THE ESSAY has to be done IN PENCIL!** The proctor will likely tell you that, but just in case he/she doesn't.

It's best to leave cell phones in the car – if you have one on you, turn it off and keep it off until AFTER the test.

**Practical Test Day Tips:**

- Get a good night's sleep the night before!
- Bring healthy snacks so you can focus on the test and not your stomach – fruit, granola bars, trail mix.
- When you're given breaks, take advantage – use the bathroom, stretch your legs, and move around. This will help get the blood flowing to your very tired brain!
- Dress in layers so you're not too hot or cold
- Bring your own watch and set it to noon at the beginning of each section
- Bring #2 pencils, pens and highlighters
- Plan to get to the test location a bit early so you're not frazzled or stressed about being late