

Post-Test

Main Idea, Support, and Coherence

Read the two paragraphs below and answer the questions that follow.

1. Depending on how you look at it, the day after Thanksgiving is either one of the best or one of the worst shopping days of the year. 2. To encourage consumers to start their holiday shopping early, stores traditionally hold amazing sales on this day, commonly known as “Black Friday.” 3. The name “Black Friday” is not related to “Black Monday,” the day that the stock market crashed in 1929. 4. Lucky shoppers might be able to purchase a laptop computer for \$200 or a flat-screen television for 50 percent off the regular price. 5. One drawback to shopping on Black Friday, however, is the crowds. 6. A shopper who arrives at a store at 4:00 a.m. on Friday morning might find hundreds of people already waiting in line. 7. Sleepy and impatient for the doors to open, these early shoppers can be a grumpy group. 8. Another problem with Black Friday is that stores offer just a limited number of each product on sale. 9. Shoppers might wait in line for hours only to find that the digital camera they had come for flew off the shelves in less than ten minutes. 10. Sometimes, fights even break out among shoppers trying to grab the last item on a shelf. 11. These drawbacks, _____, don’t stop millions of people from participating in the biggest shopping day of the year.

1. Which sentence from the paragraph is the topic sentence?
A. Sentence 1 B. Sentence 2 C. Sentence 4 D. Sentence 7
2. Which of the following sentences provides primary support?
A. Sentence 3 B. Sentence 6 C. Sentence 8 D. Sentence 11
3. Which of the following sentences is a supporting detail?
A. Sentence 2 B. Sentence 5 C. Sentence 10 D. Sentence 11

4. Which of the following sentences does not provide primary or secondary support for the topic sentence?
 - A. Sentence 3
 - B. Sentence 4
 - C. Sentence 5
 - D. Sentence 9
5. Which of the following sentences is a good alternative topic sentence for the paragraph?
 - A. Shopping on the day after Thanksgiving would be more enjoyable if the crowds were more polite.
 - B. There are both advantages and drawbacks to shopping on the day after Thanksgiving.
 - C. People should do everything they can to avoid shopping on the day after Thanksgiving.
 - D. Stores should keep more sale items in stock to make their customers happy.
6. Which transition, if inserted in the blank at sentence 11, would aid coherence?
 - A. nevertheless
 - B. in addition
 - C. for example
 - D. then

1. Most people don't want to work while they are on vacation. 2. However, volunteer vacations can be a rewarding experience. 3. On these vacations, people travel to interesting places to donate their time and efforts to help others. 4. For example, a construction worker from San Francisco spent his vacation rebuilding homes for flood victims in Sri Lanka. 5. A New York investment banker helped remodel a women's art cooperative in Costa Rica. 6. An English teacher from Connecticut says he is just too busy to help others. 7. Volunteers must cover their travel expenses and a program fee, but the cost can be much less than that of a typical vacation. 8. A trip spent rebuilding trails in Great Smoky Mountains National Park can cost as little as \$100 for food and accommodations in a basic cabin. 9. Another benefit of a volunteer vacation is the opportunity to make new friends. 10. Volunteer groups are usually limited to ten or fifteen people, so the travelers become a tight-knit group. 11. Often, volunteers also make lifelong connections with people in the communities that they are helping. 12. _____, volunteer vacations

offer travelers the satisfaction of knowing that they have made a difference in the lives of others.

7. Which sentence from the paragraph is the topic sentence?
A. Sentence 1 B. Sentence 2 C. Sentence 3 D. Sentence 7
8. Which of the following sentences provides primary support?
A. Sentence 2 B. Sentence 5 C. Sentence 6 D. Sentence 9
9. Which of the following sentences is a supporting detail?
A. Sentence 1 B. Sentence 4 C. Sentence 6 D. Sentence 7
10. Which of the following sentences does not provide primary or secondary support for the topic sentence?
A. Sentence 6 B. Sentence 8 C. Sentence 9 D. Sentence 11
11. Which of the following sentences is a good alternative topic sentence for the paragraph?
 - A. Some people would never even consider working on vacation.
 - B. Rebuilding trails in a national park can be a fun way to spend a vacation.
 - C. Volunteer vacations are not for everyone.
 - D. A volunteer vacation can be a unique and rewarding way to help others.
12. Which transition, if inserted in the blank at sentence 12, would aid coherence?
A. Above all B. As a result C. For instance D. Instead

Other Topics

Part I

For each question, choose the correct word or words to fill in the blank.

13. I do not like snakes, _____ do I like spiders.
A. and B. but C. so D. nor
14. Everyone who participates in the Olympics _____ to win a gold medal.
A. hope B. hopes C. hoping D. hoped
15. Chewing gum and mumbling, _____.
A. the presentation was not effective B. an effective presentation was not made C. the speaker did not make an effective presentation D. an effective presentation was not made by the speaker
16. My cat caught two _____ last week.
A. mouse B. mouses C. mice D. mices
17. Dana and Ashley _____ my twin nieces.
A. be B. is C. being D. are
18. Nigel practiced his violin _____ to prepare for the concert.
A. constantly B. constant C. more constant D. most constantly
19. Renée spells her name with two _____.
A. es B. e's C. “e”s D. ‘es
20. I get all my news from the Internet _____ my computer is not working.
A. if B. so that C. where D. unless
21. This may be a _____ car, but it runs beautifully.
A. twenty-year old B. twenty-year-old C. twenty year old D. twenty year-old
22. Roland is great with _____ he is my daughter’s favorite babysitter.
A. (children) B. children; C. children D. children,
23. Maryland _____ one of the thirteen original American colonies.
A. being B. be C. were D. was
24. Sean _____ a funny impression of the governor.
A. does B. do C. doing D. done

25. All of _____ pizza we ordered last night is gone.
 A. a B. some C. an D. the

26. I just moved, so my apartment is filled with _____.
 A. box B. boxs C. boxeses D. boxes

27. I was not _____ by the new tax laws.
 A. effected B. affected C. effectted D. affectted

28. Don't tell Manny about the party; it's a _____.
 A. suprise B. suprize C. surprize D. surprise

29. Everyone in the neighborhood must clean up after _____. dog.
 A. his or her B. their C. theirs D. him or her

30. By the time the fire trucks arrived, the flames had _____. down.
 A. went B. go C. goed D. gone

31. I'm sorry that you missed the party; you _____ it.
 A. would enjoyed B. would have enjoyed C. will have enjoyed D. would have to enjoyed

Part II

Each of the following sentences has three boldfaced sections labeled **A**, **B**, and **C**. If you find an error in any of the sections, circle the letter of the correct answer. If there is no error, choose **D**.

A **B** **C**
 32. **She**'s driving extra carefully because the car **isn't her's**.
 A. Shes B. is'nt C. hers D. No error

A **B** **C**
 33. **An** funny instructor can **make** it fun **to learn**.
 A. A B. makes C. learning D. No error

A **B** **C**
 34. Jamie hates her school's **strict** dress **code** **she prefers to** look unique.
 A. strictly B. code because she C. prefers. To D. No error

A **B** **C**
 35. The city **recently put** up new traffic **signals**. **To** make this intersection
 safer.
 A. recent B. putted C. signals to D. No error

A **B** **C**
 36. Edwina **can't** drive this **car** **she does** not have a driver's license!
 A. cant B. car—she C. do D. No error

37. My favorite classes this **semester** are **ballroom dance** 101 and **Spanish**.
A. Semester B. Ballroom Dance C. spanish D. No error

38. Nicole has **been** my best **friend** since **childhood**, I know all of her
secrets.
A. be B. freind C. childhood, so I D. No error

39. The children **forget** **their** lunch as **they** ran out the door.
A. forgot B. thier C. he or she D. No error

40. Bobby and **me** **are** **planning** a trip to Niagara Falls this summer.
A. I B. is C. planing D. No error

41. Evan **took** only six pictures when his camera **ran** out of **batteries**.
A. had taken B. has run C. batteryrs D. No error

42. Although the toddler **rolled** the bowling ball as hard as he **would**, it **got**
stuck in the middle of the lane.
A. rolls B. could C. gets D. No error

43. Connor **saving** every penny he can, for he **would** like **to** **buy** a house
soon.
A. is saving B. will C. buying D. No error

44. My new job is **wonderful**: I love the work, **make** **a** **decent** **salary**, and
my **coworkers** **are** **great**.
A. wonderful, B. make enough dough C. get along well with my coworkers D. No error

45. The candles for the cake **is** on one of the top **shelves** of **the** pantry.
A. are B. shelfs C. a D. No error

46. As we **waited** in line for the **play** I saw **Mr. Kerkering**, **my** **biology**
instructor, **in** front of us.
A. wait B. play, I C. Mr. Kerkering my biology instructor in D. No
error

47. I am **hopeing** to **receive** a **lot** of money for my old Superman comic

books.

A. hoping B. recieve C. alot D. No error

48. Joelle **just bought** a new **car**, and she's **as happy as a clam**.

A. recently purchased and acquired B. Set of wheels C. delighted D. No error

49. It **is** one of the **coldest** days of the year, so everyone should put on **your**

jacket.

A. were B. most cold C. his or her D. No error

50. Kim and Ian **have** a pet tortoise that lives in their **backyard** Kim says

C **it's** growing so large that they might donate it to the zoo.

A. has B. backyard. Kim C. its D. No error

Part III

Circle the letter of the grammatically correct (or most effectively worded) sentence in each of the following groups.

51.

A. If you lose your cell phone. You should let your phone company know right away.
B. If you lose your cell phone; you should let your phone company know right away.
C. If you lose your cell phone, you should let your phone company know right away.

52.

A. Kim cooked a delicious breakfast for her guests blueberry pancakes and a hash brown casserole.
B. Kim cooked a delicious breakfast for her guests; blueberry pancakes and a hash brown casserole.
C. Kim cooked a delicious breakfast for her guests: blueberry pancakes and a hash brown casserole.

53.

- A. Please order five printer cartridges, twenty legal pads, and fifty boxes each of small, medium, and large paper clips.
- B. Please order five printer cartridges; twenty legal pads; and fifty boxes each of small; medium; and large paper clips.
- C. Please order five printer cartridges; twenty legal pads; and fifty boxes each of small, medium, and large paper clips.

54.

- A. The tree that fell on my car caused a lot of damage.
- B. The tree, that fell on my car, caused a lot of damage.
- C. The tree, that fell on my car caused a lot of damage.

55.

- A. Demitri loves to cook. Is no surprise that he wants to be a chef.
- B. Demitri loves to cook, so is no surprise that he wants to be a chef.
- C. Demitri loves to cook, so it is no surprise that he wants to be a chef.

56.

- A. My brother has lived in Spain for three years.
- B. My brother she has lived in Spain for three years.
- C. My brother he has lived in Spain for three years.

57.

- A. The old book that I found in the attic is worth almost \$500.
- B. The old book is worth almost \$500 that I found in the attic.
- C. The old book that I found in the attic is almost worth \$500.

58.

- A. Stephen, who is very wealthy (he's a millionaire), gives a lot of money to charity.
- B. Stephen, who is very wealthy; he's a millionaire; gives a lot of money to charity.
- C. Stephen, who is very wealthy: he's a millionaire: gives a lot of money to charity.

59.

- A. As soon as you set on that comfortable chair, I know you'll want to buy it.
- B. As soon as you sit on that comfortable chair, I know you'll want to buy it.
- C. As soon as you sit on that comfortable chair, I know you'll want to by it.

60.

- A. Keisha, thank you for managing the meeting so well.
- B. Keisha, thank you for managing the meeting so good.
- C. Keisha, thank you for managing the meeting so best.

61.

- A. Harry has a great number of job offers, but none of them sound very interesting to him.
- B. Harry has many job offers, but none of them sound very interesting to him.
- C. Harry has many job offers, but he's not crazy about any of them.

62.

- A. I had to give away the kitten because I was allergic to it.
- B. I had to give away the kitten, because I was allergic to it.
- C. I had to give away the kitten even though I was allergic to it.

63.

- A. I followed your directions perfectly; why am I at the wrong house?
- B. I followed your directions perfectly why am I at the wrong house?
- C. I followed your directions perfectly, why am I at the wrong house?

64.

- A. I am neither in need of food nor sleepy.
- B. I am neither hungry nor needing to get some sleep.
- C. I am neither hungry nor sleepy.

65.

- A. My Cousin just finished reading *The Red and the Black*.
- B. My cousin just finished reading *The Red And The Black*.
- C. My cousin just finished reading *The Red and the Black*.

66.

- A. I decided to train my cat after reading an article in the “New York Times” called “Cats That Obey.”
- B. I decided to train my cat after reading an article in the *New York Times* called “Cats That Obey.”
- C. I decided to train my cat after reading an article in the *New York Times* called Cats That Obey.

67.

- A. Jon is a bigger football fan than I.
- B. Jon is a more big football fan than me.
- C. Jon is a bigger football fan than me.

68.

- A. She has many talents, including a beautiful singing voice.
- B. She has many talents; including a beautiful singing voice.
- C. She has many talents. Including a beautiful singing voice.

69.

- A. Mr. Harmon said “Please turn in this assignment by e-mail.”
- B. Mr. Harmon said, “Please turn in this assignment by e-mail.”
- C. Mr. Harmon said, “Please turn in this assignment by e-mail”.

70.

- A. Dodger Stadium is located at 1000 Elysian Park Avenue, Los Angeles, California.
- B. Dodger Stadium is located at 1000 Elysian Park Avenue, Los Angeles California.
- C. Dodger Stadium is located at, 1000 Elysian Park Avenue, Los Angeles, California.