

DIRECTIONS: Read and answer each of the following questions. You will be asked to recognize and correct errors in sentences or short paragraphs. Mark the **best** answer for each question.

1. Read this sentence.

Which edit should be made to correct this sentence?

Pam, who brings extra notebooks, pens and pencils to class lent a pencil to Jim.

- A. insert a comma after **extra**
- B. insert a comma after **pencils**
- C. insert a comma after **class**
- D. insert a comma after **pencil**

2. Read this sentence.

When their father and their mutual friend started competing businesses, Mona Lisa and Jean Ralphio's loyalties were torn between the two.

Which edit should be made to correct this sentence?

- A. change **their mutual** to **mutual**
- B. change **Lisa** to **Lisa's**
- C. change **loyalties were** to **loyalty was**
- D. insert a comma after **torn**

3. Read this sentence.

The variety of shrub assemblages in Joshua Tree National Park are noted as being among the most diverse vegetation types in North America.

Which edit should be made to correct this sentence?

- A. change **most diverse** to **diversest**
- B. change **are noted** to **is noted**
- C. change **among** to **between**
- D. insert a comma after **assemblages**

4. Read this paragraph.

1 South Africa, a multiethnic society, encompassing a wide variety of cultures, languages, and religions. **2** Its pluralistic makeup is reflected in the constitution's recognition of 11 official languages, which is among the highest number of any country in the world. **3** South Africa is the 25th-largest country in the world by land area, and with close to 56 million people, is the world's 24th-most populous nation. **4** South Africa contains some of the oldest archaeological and human fossil sites in the world.

Which sentence should be revised to correct an incomplete sentence?

- A. sentence 1
- B. sentence 2
- C. sentence 3
- D. sentence 4

5. Read this paragraph

1 Many professional competitive eaters undergo rigorous personal training in order to increase their stomach capacity and eating speed with various foods. **2** Since stomach elasticity is usually considered the key to eating success, competitors commonly train by drinking large amounts of water over a short time to stretch out the stomach. **3** Others combine the consumption of water with large quantities of low calorie foods such as vegetables or salads. **4** Though retired competitive eater Ed "Cookie" Jarvis trained by consuming entire heads of boiled cabbage followed by drinking up to two gallons of water every day for two weeks before a contest.

Which sentence should be revised to correct an incomplete sentence?

- A. sentence 1
- B. sentence 2
- C. sentence 3
- D. sentence 4

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage below and answer the questions following it. You will be asked to improve the writing quality of the passage and to correct errors so that the passage follows the conventions of standard written English. You may reread the passage if you need to. Mark the **best** answer for each question.

1 Human spaceflight is almost as old as space exploration itself. **2** Astronaut training describes the complex process of preparing astronauts for their space missions before, during and after the flight.

3 After an applicant is accepted into the astronaut program, he or she becomes an astronaut candidate. **4** Astronaut candidates train at NASA's Johnson Space Center (JSC). **5** The astronaut candidates attend classes on shuttle systems at JSC. **6** They also study basic science and technology, including the mathematics of space flight, geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy and physics. **7** Astronaut candidates are also trained in both land and sea survival techniques. **8** Astronaut candidates are required to be certified on scuba gear because some of the training takes place in a large tank of water at the JSC.

9 The first experiences with free-fall (NASA prefers the term microgravity) can be disconcerting and sometimes provoke extreme nausea. **10** The physiologic mechanism of nausea is a complex process that has yet to be fully elucidated. **11** Astronaut candidates receive intensive training in a specially designed and equipped military KC-135 jet cargo plane (nicknamed the "Vomit Comet"). **12** By launching itself into a parabolic arc, the aircraft can create free-fall conditions in its padded cargo bay for about 20 seconds. **13** This maneuver can be repeated as many as 40 times during a training flight.

14 Candidates begin with the single systems trainer where astronauts learn about the shuttle systems. **15** After completing this, the candidates then move to the more complex Shuttle Mission Simulators and there they get training in all aspects of shuttle vehicle systems and tasks. **16** Several other simulators and mock-ups can be used to train the candidates in operating the remote arm; getting into or out of the orbiter hatches including emergency exits, launches, and landings; and working with mission control.

17 All the training is geared to the special conditions and environments astronauts were confronted with during launch, in space, and during landing. **18** All phases of the flight are taken into account during training to ensure safety and functionality of the astronauts, as well as to ensure a successful completion of the mission.

6. What is the best way to combine sentences 5 and 6 to clarify the relationship between ideas?
- A. At JSC the astronaut candidates attend classes on shuttle systems, basic science and technology, including the mathematics of space flight, geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy and physics.
 - B. While there, the candidates study basic science and technology, including the mathematics of space flight, geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy and physics and they also attend classes on shuttle systems.
 - C. While there, they attend classes on shuttle systems, and also study basic science and technology, including the mathematics of space flight, geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy and physics.
 - D. While at JSC the astronaut candidates, attend classes on shuttle systems, study basic science and technology, including space flight mathematics, geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy and physics.
7. Which sentence would best follow sentence 8 to support the argument presented in the passage?
- A. Unfortunately, a large majority of Astronauts and trainee astronauts lose their lives in the course of their work or training.
 - B. Many diving fatalities are the result of a cascade of incidents overwhelming the diver, who should be able to manage any single reasonably foreseeable incident.
 - C. Unlike other modes of diving, which rely on breath-hold, scuba divers carry their own source of breathing gas.
 - D. The tank provides neutral buoyancy, which simulates the free fall conditions of spaceflight.
8. Which sentence is irrelevant to the argument presented in the passage and should be deleted?
- A. sentence 7
 - B. sentence 10
 - C. sentence 13
 - D. sentence 14
9. Which sentence would best precede and support sentence 14?
- A. Furthermore, because modern space exploration is done by a consortium of different countries and is a very publicly visible area, astronauts received professional and cultural training, as well as language courses (specifically in Russian).
 - B. Astronaut candidates are trained on life-sized models to get a feel of what they will be doing in space.
 - C. The heart of the training program for candidate astronauts is a set of simulators and mock-ups of shuttle systems.
 - D. Virtual reality is also becoming increasingly used as a tool to immerse AsCans into the space environment.

10. Which revision of sentence 15 uses the most precise language?
- A. Then candidates move to the more complex Shuttle Mission Simulators where they receive training in all aspects of shuttle vehicle systems and tasks.
 - B. They finish this and move to harder things like the Shuttle Mission Simulators, which teaches them about shuttle vehicle systems and tasks.
 - C. Then candidates move on to the complexer Shuttle Mission Simulators, they get training in all kinds of shuttle vehicle systems and tasks.
 - D. Candidates advance on to the more complex and intricate Shuttle Mission Simulators and they receive training in all different aspects of shuttle vehicle systems and tasks.
11. Which transition should be added to the beginning of sentence 16?
- A. Plus,
 - B. Actually,
 - C. Additionally,
 - D. Presumably,
12. Which edit is needed to correct sentence 17?
- A. Change **is geared** to **is being geared**
 - B. Change **were confronted** to **will be confronted**
 - C. Remove **with**
 - D. Change **during landing** to **landing**
13. Which concluding sentence should be added after sentence 18 to support the argument presented in the passage?
- A. Training methodologies vary amongst nations, and will continue to evolve in stride with human spaceflight capabilities.
 - B. The Apollo astronauts that walked on the Moon also received training for geology fieldwork on the Lunar surface.
 - C. The selection process for candidates has become more and more detailed and targeted as human spaceflight capabilities has grown.
 - D. Astronauts are trained in preparation for the conditions of launch as well as the harsh environment of space.

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage below and answer the questions following it. You will be asked to improve the writing quality of the passage and to correct errors so that the passage follows the conventions of standard written English. You may reread the passage if you need to. Mark the **best** answer for each question.

1 An uninhabited frozen isle halfway between South Africa and Antarctica, Bouvet Island is the most remote island in the world, and as such, perhaps the most remote landmass in the world. **2** Located 1,404 miles away from the nearest humans—the 271 people who live on the island of Tristan da Cunha, which is incidentally, the most remote inhabited island in the world—Bouvet is not without life, though its vegetation is limited to lichens and mosses, and its only fauna are seals, seabirds, and penguins.

3 For anyone who does end up near Bouvet, it's still incredibly difficult to actually set foot on the island due to the high glacial cliffs that surround it. **4** The best way to get on the island is to fly a helicopter from the deck of a ship and delicately land on the Bouvet's icy surface. **5** Yet it has been an object of national desire, had at least three different names, and is even caught up in a mysterious episode of international intrigue.

6 In 1964, an abandoned boat was discovered on the island, along with various supplies; however, the boat's passengers were never found. **7** The identities of the travelers are still unknown. **8** In 1979, a bright flash of light was seen between Bouvet and Prince Edward Islands by the United States' Vela satellite. **9** Known as the Vela Incident, it has now been believed that the flash was caused by a secret South African-Israeli joint nuclear bomb detonation, though neither country has officially admitted to such.

10 The island was discovered by Jean-Baptiste Charles Bouvet de Lozier on January 1, 1739. **11** But, it wasn't seen by humans again until 1808, when it was re-discovered by James Lindsay, because its spot in the ocean was not properly stated. **12** Lindsay figured it was a different island and (re-)named it—calling it, no surprise, Lindsay Island. **13** In 1825, whaler Captain Norris found it once again, (re-re-)named it Liverpool Island, and claimed it for the British Crown. **14** Additionally, in 1825, George Norris first reported and named Thompson Island, a phantom island in the South Atlantic.

15 On the date of December 1, 1927, denizens from Norway landed on the island, stayed on it for a month, and acclaimed the icy rock for the country of Norway. **16** In this way, the British claim on the island was struck from the record. **17** They renamed it Bouvet after the original discoverer. **18** The island has remained in Norwegian control and is occasionally used by scientific parties for monitoring whale migration.

14. Which sentence would best follow sentence 4 to support the argument presented in the paragraph?

- A. Humpback whales and killer whales are seen in the surrounding waters.
- B. Essentially, Bouvet is an ice-covered, glacier-surrounded, inhospitable lump.
- C. 93 percent of the island is covered by glaciers, giving it a domed shape.
- D. The island figures prominently in the book *A Grue of Ice* based on Bouvet Island and the mythical Thompson Island, by Geoffrey Jenkins.

15. Which sentence would best follow and support sentences 6 and 7?

- A. Since the 1970s, the island has been frequently visited by Norwegian Antarctic expeditions.
- B. Paradoxically, no trade route ran within a thousand miles of Bouvet.
- C. Hitherto, the origin of the boat on Bouvet Island and the identity of its passengers is an enduring, unsolved mystery.
- D. Where did the boat come from and where did the passengers go?

16. Which edit is needed to correct sentence 9?

- A. change **has now been** to **is now**
- B. change **was** to **is**
- C. change **though** to **although**
- D. change **neither** to **either**

17. Which revision of sentence 11 uses the most precise language?

- A. However, its position in the ocean was misstated, and it wasn't until 1808 that the island was seen by human eyes again, when it was re-discovered by James Lindsay.
- B. But its ocean position was wrongly given and it wasn't seen by human eyes again, that is, until 1808 when it was re-discovered by James Lindsay.
- C. However, because of a slip up in recording its position in the ocean, it wasn't until 1808 that the island was seen by human eyes again, at which time it was again discovered by James Lindsay.
- D. But it was only reseen in 1808 by James Lindsey, because initially the location hadn't been recorded right.

18. Which sentence is irrelevant to the argument presented in the passage and should be deleted?

- A. sentence 4
- B. sentence 7
- C. sentence 13
- D. sentence 14

19. What is the best way to combine sentences 15 and 16 to clarify the relationship between ideas?
- A. The British Crown lost the island claim when on December 1, 1927, Norway landed, stayed a month, and reversed the claim against them.
 - B. Captain Norris' claiming of the island for Britain was cancelled out on December 1, 1927, when Norway stayed a month and reversed the claim against everyone else.
 - C. Meanwhile, on December 1, 1927, Norway arrived, lived there for a month, and declared theirs the island and thus the Britishers' claim became quashed.
 - D. The British Crown's claim didn't stick, and on December 1, 1927, Norway landed, stayed on the island for a month, and claimed the icy rock for themselves.
20. Which transition should be added to the beginning of sentence 18?
- A. At the same time,
 - B. From here on,
 - C. Since then,
 - D. In the meantime,
21. Which concluding sentence should be added after sentence 18 to support the argument presented in the passage?
- A. Aside from its unfathomable isolation, at first glance there doesn't seem to be anything all that special about this island.
 - B. Unsurprisingly, many agree that Bouvet Island, with its profound isolation, hostile landscape, bitter climate and unfathomable mysteries, is one of the most forbidding places on earth.
 - C. In 2007, the island was added to Norway's tentative list of nominations as a World Heritage Site as part of the transnational nomination of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge.
 - D. When searching online for "Bouvet Island," it shows, Bouvet Island Military Base, Bouvet Island Hackers, which means, people have been searched for this.