RISE Placement Test Practice Test

English Tiers 1 and 2

Overview

There are two RISE English placement tests. Students must earn a 70% on each test to advance to the next. That is, if students earn a 70% or higher on Test 1, then they can take Test 2. If students do not earn a 70% or higher on Test 1, then they cannot take Test 2.

Each test takes approximately 60 minutes to complete.

See the lists below of the content areas for each of the tests.

Tier 1/Test 1

- Introduction to College Reading and Writing
- Identifying Main Ideas
- Discovering Implied Meaning
- Interpreting Bias
- Analysis through Definition
- Learning Across Disciplines

Tier 2/Test 2

- Exploring Comparative Elements
- Informed Opinions through Causal Chains
- Applied Critical Analysis
- Using Sources in Critical Reading and Writing

The following pages contain sample test questions and an answer key organized by tier. During the practice test and real test experiences, students should use the RISE English Placement Test Tip Sheet (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SOKTcpa1PtPlyTgZBvTc6N3lj-WXI2yybIc8IAWlTdE/edit).

Tier 1 Practice Test Questions

1. Identify the subject in the following sentence.

   During the storm, many of the trees in our yard fell over or experienced damage.

   a. Trees
   b. Storm
   c. Many
   d. Yard

2. Which of the following sentences uses the correct punctuation by using a comma correctly with the introductory phrase?

   a. Along the path and beyond the stream, several hikers enjoyed their picnic lunch.
   b. Along the path, and beyond the stream, several hikers enjoyed, their picnic lunch.
   c. Along, the path and beyond the stream several hikers enjoyed their picnic lunch.
   d. Along the path and beyond, the stream several hikers enjoyed their picnic lunch.

3. Which of the following is an example of a comma splice?

   a. The moon was situated behind some clouds, but every star was visible and shining with brilliance.
   b. The moon was situated behind some clouds; every star was visible and shining with brilliance.
   c. The moon was situated behind some clouds but every star was visible and shining with brilliance.
   d. The moon was situated behind some clouds, every star was visible and shining with brilliance.

4. Which of the following shows a correct revision of the run-on below?

   The wedding photographer lined up the shot the groom kissed his bride.

   a. The wedding photographer lined up the shot and the groom kissed his bride.
   b. The wedding photographer lined up the shot. And the groom kissed his bride.
   c. The wedding photographer lined up the shot; the groom kissed his bride.
   d. The wedding photographer lined up the shot, the groom kissed his bride.

5. Fill in the blanks with the correct verbs.

   The mother robin _____ on the nest and _____ the eggs until they hatched.

   a. sat, warmed
   b. sits, warming
   c. sitting, warmed
   d. will sit, warmed

6. Which of the following verbs uses the future tense?

   a. Puppies bark constantly until they are fed.
   b. Puppies will bark loudly for their mother.
   c. The puppies barked at the children on the playground.
   d. A puppy barks for attention, and owners respond.

7. Which of the following uses parallel structure?

   a. The setting for the engagement was perfect with flickering candles, playing the soft music, and the sparkling ring.
   b. The setting for the engagement was perfect with lighting the candles, playing soft music, and the sparkling ring.
   c. The setting for the engagement was perfect with flickering candles, soft music, and the sparkling ring.
   d. The setting for the engagement was perfect with flickering candles, soft music to play, and the sparkling ring.

8. Which of the following uses an adverb for extra detail in the sentence?

   a. The neat stacks of textbooks were arranged across the desk.
   b. The stacks of textbooks were arranged neatly across the desk.
   c. The stacks of textbooks were across the floor and under the desk.
   d. The neat stacks of textbooks were on the floor.

9. Which of the following is an appropriate use for the second person pronoun <u>you</u>?

   a. A news article about a football game
   b. An essay for a Psychology class about memory
   c. A personal story about a family vacation
   d. An advice email from an academic adviser to a student

10. Which of the following correctly uses a pronoun in agreement with its antecedent?

    a. The mechanic examined the engine and decided that it needed major repairs.
    b. The mechanic examined the engine and decided that they needed major repairs.
    c. The mechanic examined the engine and decided that I needed major repairs.
    d. The mechanic examined the engine and decided that he needed major repairs.

11. Which of the following uses apostrophes correctly?

    a. The computers keyboard was frozen, so the lab partners decided to move they're experiment to another station.
    b. The computer's keyboard was frozen, so the lab partner's decided to move their experiment to another station.
    c. The computer's keyboard was frozen, so the lab partners' decided to move they're experiment to another station.
    d. The computer's keyboard was frozen, so the lab partners decided to move their experiment to another station.

12. Which of the following statements below would best be characterized as subjective?

    a. This restaurant is open for dine-in or take-out between the hours of 11:00am and 9:00pm.
    b. The manager of this restaurant responded to our concerns after we told our server the chicken was undercooked.
    c. There was a chair in front of one of the fire exits in the restaurant, so the fire inspector noted it in his report.
    d. The music was too loud, and the bartender was not very friendly, so I don't think this restaurant deserves a good review.

13. If you are looking for an objective statement, what should be avoided?

    a. Factual information
    b. Something that can be measured
    c. Information that is historically accurate
    d. Personal feelings and judgments

14. What does the author mean by the word <u>case</u> in the following sentence?

    The doctor was shocked and told the mother the baby had one of the worst <u>cases</u> of chicken pox he had ever seen.

    a. A container for carrying files or important papers
    b. An instance of disease requiring medical attention
    c. A specific event requiring investigation by law enforcement
    d. An argument or viewpoint

15. Which of the following best replaces the word killing in the following sentence?

Scott invited all of his friends to join him for a celebration on Friday night because he had made a killing in the stock market, and he wanted everyone to share in the excitement.

a. Murder
b. Large profit
c. Game from hunting
d. Very funny joke

16. Use the following information to determine the meaning of the underlined word.

Voc – Latin root meaning voice or to call

Children in the foster care system need an advocate to help them find a family.

a. A person who can speak up for another.
b. A person who protects another.
c. A person who provides love and care.
d. A person who does research for another.

17. Use the following information to determine the meaning of the underlined word.

Pseudo – Greek root meaning fake

Due to the actor's fame, he checked into the hotel using a pseudonym, but the tabloids figured out he was there anyway.

a. Credit card with unlimited funds
b. A type of security guard
c. A name used in place of a real name
d. A travel agent

18-19. Read the following passage. Answer the questions below.

As I know that it will afford you pleasure that I have brought my undertaking to a successful result, I have determined to write you this letter to inform you of everything that has been done and discovered in this voyage of mine.

On the thirty-third day after leaving Cadiz I came into the Indian Sea, where I discovered many islands inhabited by numerous people. I took possession of all of them for our fortunate King by making public proclamation and unfurling his standard, no one making any resistance. To the first of them I have given the name of our blessed Saviour, trusting in whose aid I had reached this and all the rest; but the Indians call it Guanahani. To each of the others also I gave a new name, ordering one to be called

Sancta Maria de Concepcion, another Fernandina, another Huysabella, another Johana; and so with all the rest. As soon as we reached the island which I have just said was called Johana, I sailed along its coast some considerable distance towards the West, and found it to be so large, without any apparent end, that I believed it was not an island, but a continent, a province of Cathay. But I saw neither towns nor cities lying on the seaboard, only some villages and country farms, with whose inhabitants I could not get speech, because they fled as soon as they beheld us. I continued on, supposing I should come upon some city, or country-houses.

"Letter of Discovery"
Christopher Columbus
Becoming America: An Exploration of American Literature from Precolonial to Post-Revolution
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18. Which of the following best describes the cultural context of the passage?

a. The author is writing during modern times sharing research about the voyages of Columbus to the east coast of the United States.
b. The author is writing during modern times and reflecting on the marine environments that Columbus experienced as he sailed across the Atlantic Ocean.
c. The author is writing during pre-colonial times (when Columbus was actually alive) and sharing observations and experiences of discovering islands and the people living there.
d. The author is writing during pre-colonial times (when Columbus was actually alive) from a ship during a battle in a war between Spain and France.

19. What specific feature found in the passage indicates it is written in First-Person Point of View?

a. It is a letter from the author to another person
b. He uses the word "I"
c. He shares his personal experiences and observations
d. All of the above

20. Read the following passage. Answer the question below.

The relationship between the performers and audience members is highly dependent on the social setting in which a particular musical event takes place. The rules that govern proper performance will vary from setting to setting, and from culture to culture. ***In the western concert tradition, for example, the performers sit on a raised presidium stage which provides a spatial separation between them and their audience****. Audience members are expected to sit in silent contemplation during the performance (cell phones off please!), clapping only when the conductor walks on stage at the end of a piece and at the end of the concert (not in-between movements or after solos, except at the opera where applause and shouts of bravo, brava, and bravi are customary expressions of approval). At an African American gospel service, in contrast, the singers may leave the stage and walk/run/dance out among audience members who are expected to clap, stamp, and shout encouragement to the*

performers throughout a song. At a jazz club quiet talk is usually permissible, and audience members are expected to clap not only at the end of a piece but also after a particularly moving solo is played by one of the performers.

Music: Its Language, History and Culture
Ray Allen, et al
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Which of the following best describes the highlighted sentence?

a. It is the main idea of the paragraph.
b. It is a major detail.
c. It is a minor detail.
d. It is a purpose sentence.

21. Read the following passage. Answer the question below.

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Which of the following best describes the intended audience?

a. A student in a Music Appreciation class
b. A violinist in a symphony orchestra
c. A conductor of a symphony orchestra
d. A person who is planning to go to a jazz club on Friday night

23. Read the following passage. Answer the question below.

The White House controls whether, when, how, and where While House officials will meet reporters and what information to release. Pictures and video of the president are packaged along with slogans that make a visual case regardless of the angle the reporter advances. Clinton's aids affixed captions to the presidential podium during ceremonies to underscore the theme they wished to communicate. George W. Bush's assistants went one better, crafting twenty different canvasses that could be placed behind him, each emblazoned with a motto of the day, such as "Protecting the Homeland" or "Corporate Responsibility." Dan Bartlett, then Bush's director of communication, defended such branding: "The message should be seen and read and understood on TV. It's a good reinforcement" (Kornblut, 2002).

American Government and Politics in the Information Age
David L. Paletz, Diana Owen, Timothy E. Cook
https://dx.doi.org/10.24926/8668.0101
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Which of the following below best states the main idea for this paragraph?

a. White House officials create slogans to make the President look good.
b. White House officials manage the means by which officials meet with the press and the information or message that will be released.
c. White House officials are trained to use branding.
d. White House officials believe captions on posters and slogans are the best way to communicate a message to the people.

24. Read the following passage. Answer the question below.

From Homer Simpson to Phil Dunphy, sitcom dads have long been known for being bumbling and inept. But it wasn't always this way. Back in the 1950s and 1960s, sitcom dads tended to be serious, calm and wise, if a bit detached. *In a shift that media scholars have documented, only in later decades did fathers start to become foolish and incompetent. And yet the real-world roles and expectations of fathers have changed in recent years. Today's dads are putting more time into caring for their children and see that role as more central to their identity.* ***Have today's sitcoms kept up?*** *I study gender and the media, and I specialize in depictions of masculinity. In a new study, my coauthors and I systematically look at the ways in which portrayals of sitcom fathers have and haven't changed.*

"Why are sitcom dads still so inept?"
Erica Sharrer
https://theconversation.com/why-are-sitcom-dads-still-so-inept-139737

Which of the following is the function of the marked sentences?

a. They state the main idea.
b. They summarize the paragraph.
c. They hook the reader.
d. They interpret the purpose.

25. Read the following passage. Answer the question below.

From Homer Simpson to Phil Dunphy, sitcom dads have long been known for being bumbling and inept. But it wasn't always this way. Back in the 1950s and 1960s, sitcom dads tended to be serious, calm and wise, if a bit detached. In a shift that media scholars have documented, only in later decades did fathers start to become foolish and incompetent. And yet the real-world roles and expectations of fathers have changed in recent years. Today's dads are putting more time into caring for their children and see that role as more central to their identity. Have today's sitcoms kept up? I study gender and the media, and I specialize in depictions of masculinity. In a new study, my coauthors and I systematically look at the ways in which portrayals of sitcom fathers have and haven't changed.

"Why are sitcom dads still so inept?"
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Which of the following methods is used by the author to hook the reader?

a. A relevant quote
b. An anecdote
c. A thought-provoking definition
d. A pop culture reference

26. Read the following passage. Answer the questions that follows.

I study gender and the media, and I specialize in depictions of masculinity. In a new study, my coauthors and I systematically look at the ways in which portrayals of sitcom fathers have and haven't changed. Fictional entertainment can shape our views of ourselves and others. To appeal to broad audiences, sitcoms often rely on the shorthand assumptions that form the basis of stereotypes. Whether it's the way they portray gay masculinity in "Will and Grace" or the working class in "Roseanne," sitcoms often mine humor from certain norms and expectations associated with gender, sexual identity and class. When sitcoms stereotype fathers, they seem to suggest that men are somehow inherently ill-suited for parenting. That sells actual fathers short and, in heterosexual, two-parent contexts, it reinforces the idea that mothers should take on the lion's share of parenting responsibilities.

"Why are sitcom dads still so inept?"
Erica Sharrer
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Which of the following best describes the author's purpose for writing?

a. To entertain the reader with funny examples of sitcom fathers
b. To persuade the reader that sitcom fathers are good examples of real fathers
c. To explain to the reader the different ways fathers are presented on sitcoms now and in the past
d. To convince the reader that sitcoms need to focus more on fathers compared to mothers

27. Which transition words best fill in the blanks below to help provide organization and clarity to the sentences?

In many social settings audience members do more than sit and listen. At a wedding or at a dance club, _____, audience members dance in a designated space in front of the ensemble, and the musicians are expected to play an appropriate repertoire for the event and the intended audience. One expects a certain type of music and dancing at a rock or blues club, another at a salsa club, and _____ at a Jewish, Italian, or Greek wedding.

Music: Its Language, History and Culture
Ray Allen, et al
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a. For example, another
b. Secondly, also
c. Then, next
d. Consequently, for example

28. Which of the following choices is the best way to revise the sentence fragment below?

Because the star player was injured and unable to finish the game

a. Because the star player was injured and unable to finish the game.
b. Because the star player was injured, and unable to finish the game.
c. Because the star player was injured and unable to finish the game, the team played harder.
d. The star player, injured and unable to finish the game, played harder.

29. Which of the following is the best example of a fact?

a. Chef Romano demonstrated the cooking technique for the cooking class using a whisk and a stainless steel bowl.
b. Chef Romano is the best in town, so anyone wanting to learn about Italian cooking should attend his class.
c. Chef Romano's fresh pasta was so tender it melted in my mouth.
d. Chef Romano's excitement was evident as he presented the lasagna to the Mayor, but it didn't look like the Mayor enjoyed his meal very much.

30. Which of the following is a preposition in the sentence below?

Monica gathered her rod and casting net quickly and left her prime fishing location beside the pier.

a. Gathered
b. Quickly
c. Beside
d. Prime

Tier 1 Answers and Explanations

Question Number	Correct Answer	Explanation

1	c	*During the storm*, many *of the trees in our yard* fell over or experienced damage.
		• A subject tells what the sentence is about.
		• Don't rush to choose just any noun as the subject.
		• Nouns can also be objects in prepositional phrases.
		• In this sentence, storm, trees, and yard are all part of prepositional phrases.
		• Extra Practice:
		  ○ https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/grammar/parts-of-speech-the-preposition-and-the-conjunction/types-of-prepositions-and-phrases/e/prepositional-phrases
		  ○ https://arts.uottawa.ca/writingcentre/en/hypergrammar/the-parts-of-speech/review-parts-of-speech

2	a	*Along the path and beyond the stream*, several hikers enjoyed their picnic lunch. • Introductory phrases are little extra pieces of information. • Commas should separate introductory pieces and a complete sentence. • Read the sentence without the introductory phrase, and it should be complete. • Don't assume every "and" needs a comma. • More information: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/punctuation/commas/index.html
3	d	The **moon** was situated behind some clouds, every **star** was visible and shining with brilliance. • A comma splice is a mistake with 2 complete sentences put together incorrectly. A comma will be in the middle, and the FANBOY will be missing. • Look for 2 complete sentences with subjects and verbs. Look at how the sentences are put together. • There shouldn't be a semicolon or period in the middle if it is a comma splice. Sentences joined with a semicolon are correct. Sentences broken into two smaller sentences with a period are correct. • Extra Practice: https://chompchomp.com/csfs01/

4	c	The wedding photographer lined up the shot; the groom kissed his bride. • Run-ons or fused sentences can be fixed with a semicolon. • Run-ons or fused sentences can be fixed with a period. • Run-ons or fused sentences can be fixed with a comma and FANBOY (cannot use one without the other). • Extra Practice: ○ https://chompchomp.com/csfs04/csfs04.htm ○ https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/grammar/syntax-conventions-of-standard-english/fragments-and-run-ons/e/recognizing-run-ons-and-comma-splices
5	a	The mother robin sat on the nest and warmed the eggs until they hatched • Both verbs should be in same tense or voice (past tense and past tense). • Sat and warmed both mean happened "yesterday or before". • Other choices in this question don't match each other in tense. • Extra Practice: ○ https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/grammar/parts-of-speech-the-verb/the-tenses/e/intro-to-verb-tense ○ https://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbs29practicetest.htm
6	b	• Future tense means hasn't happened yet. • Future tense usually uses "will" as part of the verb. • Past tense means happened before (might use -ed). • Present tense means happening today (might use -s). • More information: ○ https://www.helpingwithverbs.com/lessons/VerbTense.htm
7	c	The setting for the engagement was perfect with *flickering candles, soft music, and the sparkling ring.* • Parallel structure means using the same pattern in a list. • Each of the items in this list is adjective with noun. • More information: ○ https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/parallel_structure.html
8	b	The stacks of textbooks were arranged neatly across the desk. • Adverbs go with verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. • Some adverbs end with -ly. • Some adverbs tell "how" about verb. • Details in sentences come from adjectives (go with nouns), adverbs (go with verbs primarily), and prepositional phrases. • Extra Practice:

		○ https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/grammar/parts-of-speech-the-modifier/introduction-to-adverbs/e/meet-the-adverb
9	d	• Pronouns can be first person (I), second person (you, your), and third person (he, she, it, they). • Third person is the most formal, and it us used for academic writing or professional tasks. • First person is for personal things or telling about self. • Second person is for giving advice and directions.
10	a	• Pronouns have to match with the word it refers to (antecedent). • The pronoun and antecedent have to match in number (singular or plural). • Engine and it go together. Both are singular, and an engine is a thing. • More information: ○ https://webapps.towson.edu/ows/pro_antagree.htm
11	d	• Use apostrophes to show ownership. • Don't use apostrophes to show plural (more than one). • Don't try to figure out apostrophe use by "how it sounds". Plural and ownership words "sound" the same (ex. cats vs. cat's) but have very different meanings. • Objects can "own" things (ex. car's engine, table's legs). • Extra Practice: ○ https://chompchomp.com/hotpotatoes/apostrophes02.htm
12	d	• Subjective means the statement contains a personal opinion or perspective. • Look for things that are debatable (ex. one person likes loud music but another person does not). • Statements that contain straightforward information without personal perspective are not subjective (ex. hours of a restaurant are the hours, nothing to debate about).
13	d	A statement that is objective is not influenced by personal opinions and only contains facts.
14	b	• Some words have multiple definitions. On a multiple-choice test, it is important to not rush and choose a definition from the list after just looking at the word. Make sure the answer choice/definition actually matches the sentence.

		• This sentence refers to a medical situation and sickness. There is nothing in the sentence that fits with files, an investigation, or an argument.
		• Extra Practice:
		  ○ https://www.mdc.edu/kendall/collegeprep/documents2/context%20cluesrev8192.pdf
		  ○ http://www.tv411.org/reading/understanding-what-you-read/using-context-clues/activity/1/1

15	b	• Some words have multiple-definitions. On a multiple-choice test, it is important to not rush and choose a definition from the list after just looking at the word. Make sure the answer choice/definition actually matches the sentence. • This sentence refers to profits and celebrating. There is nothing in the sentences that fits with murder, hunting, or joking.
16	a	• Note the additional information about part of the word – voc means voice or to call. This piece of information has to connect somehow to the answer choice/definition. • The answer choice/definition should also fit with how the word is used in the sentence. • Extra Practice: ○ https://quizizz.com/admin/quiz/58a2e6dbf0b089151010d2f2/roots-and-affixes
17	c	• Note the additional information about part of the word – pseudo means fake. This piece of information has to connect somehow to the answer choice/definition. • The answer choice/definition should also fit with how the word is used in the sentence.
18	c	• Cultural context means considering when the passage was written; also this involves thinking about the ideas and trends that would have influenced the writer. • The use of "I" throughout the passage indicates this was written by Columbus himself, so this also provides the time period. Additionally, the older more formal word choices (ex. "afford you", "for our most fortunate King", "seaboard") point to the time period as well. • The passage clearly references the discovery and naming of islands as well as brief encounters with the island inhabitants.

19	d	• Passages in first-person use “I”. • Passages in first-person tell us directly what someone saw, experienced, or thought about.
20	b	• A main idea expresses the one focused point for the entire paragraph. • A major detail directly explains or names something about the main idea. • A minor detail is a very specific piece of information about one of the major details. • This sentence names a culture and setting (Western concert) as the first detail of the paragraph.
21	c	• A main idea expresses the one focused point for the entire paragraph. • A major detail directly explains or names something about the main idea. • A minor detail is a very specific piece of information about one of the major details. • This sentence gives more specific information or further explains the major detail that comes directly before it.
22	a	• An intended audience is who the author expects to read the passage or who the author is writing for (even though a passage can be read by anyone who chooses to read it). An author will make deliberate choices throughout the writing process to attempt to connect with their audience. Also, an intended audience tends to be the group who will most likely learn from, benefit from, or be most interested in a passage. • A student in a Music Appreciate Class is the only answer choice that fits the above definition. The other answer choices are specific musicians or people who enjoy music, but they wouldn’t necessarily benefit or learn from everything in the passage. • More Information: ○ https://literarydevices.net/audience/
23	b	• A main idea expresses the one focused point for the entire paragraph. • A major detail directly explains or names something about the main idea. • A minor detail is a very specific piece of information about one of the major details. • This sentence gives more specific information or further explains the major detail that comes directly before it. • Note how the other sentences in the paragraph explain this one idea. • You might also see main idea referred to as a topic sentence.

24	c	• A hook is something specific an author does in an introduction to attract the reader or make them want to read the entire passage. • There are a number of strategies for hooking the reader: telling a story (anecdote), sharing a quote, asking a rhetorical question, sharing a surprising fact, or using an example from pop culture. • The reference to sitcoms is a pop culture reference. The other example in bold is a rhetorical question (question that makes you think or reflect). • A summary is a shortened retelling of something. • More Information: ○ https://www.academicwritingsuccess.com/7-sensational-essay-hooks/
25	d	• A hook is something specific an author does in an introduction to attract the reader or make them want to read the entire passage. • There are a number of strategies for hooking the reader: telling a story (anecdote), sharing a quote, asking a rhetorical question, sharing a surprising fact, or using an example from pop culture. • More Information: ○ https://www.academicwritingsuccess.com/7-sensational-essay-hooks/
26	c	• The purpose for writing is the author's goal or reason for writing. • The basic purposes for writing include to inform, to persuade, and to entertain. • Writing to inform means giving information or explaining something. • Writing to persuade means making an argument and supporting the argument with evidence. • Writing to entertain means providing a passage that tells a story or maybe even uses humor. A passage that entertains generally is something people read for fun (just because they want to read it – not because they have to read it). • Based on the author's wording, the passage will be explaining (or providing information) about what the authors learned or discovered rather than taking a position or making an argument.

27	a	• Transition words are used to organize a paragraph or a passage. This organization helps the reader follow the author's ideas and shows how ideas connect to each other. Some transition words help the reader navigate from idea to another.
		• *For example* indicates the author wants to show the reader a specific way that audience members might do more than sit and listen. The word *another* shows the reader the author is providing a list.
		• More information
		  ○ https://www.smart-words.org/linking-words/transition-words.html
		• Extra Practice
		  ○ https://www.englishhints.com/transition-words.html

28	c	• A fragment is an incomplete sentence. Something is missing (ex. the subject or verb). Sometimes the thought is just incomplete. • Certain words can easily produce a fragment. Use of these words produces what is called a dependent clause (not a complete sentence). When this happens, the dependent clause has to be attached to a complete sentence, or the dependent word has to be deleted. • Because the star player was injured and unable to finish the game…is an example of this kind of situation. In order to fix this fragment correctly it was attached to a complete sentence. The other alternative would be to drop the word because. • More Information ○ https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/punctuation/independent_and_dependent_clauses/index.html
29	a	• A fact is a statement that can be proved. They can be proved through observation, measurement, scholarly research, or scientific research. Facts do not contain personal judgments, ideas, or perspectives. • Choice B used the word should (what someone thinks you should do), Choice C described a personal perspective, and Choice C described a personal judgment. • Extra Practice ○ https://www.mdc.edu/kendall/collegeprep/documents2/FACT%20AND%20OPINIONrevised819.pdf
30	c	• A preposition begins a prepositional phrase (preposition + noun). These phrases usually add detail to a sentence about time or space/location (ex. under the bed, after the concert). • Sentences can contain any number of prepositional phrases. Some sentences will have two or three prepositional phrases in a row. • beside the pier (location information) • More information ○ https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/prepositions-list.htm

Tier 2 Practice Test Questions

1. Which of the following words best fits in the sentence?

   The _____ for the new office building was too small, so the company decided to ask the realtor to find another location.

   a. Sight
   b. Cite
   c. Site
   d. Cight

2. Which of the following words best fits in the sentence?

   The mother gently explained to the children that _____ dreams would not hurt them, so they could all go back to bed.

   a. Their
   b. They're
   c. There
   d. None of the above

3. What does the author mean by malady in the following sentence?

   No one wanted the dog in the last pen because she had a visible malady that made owners fear the medical bills would be extensive.

   a. Unwelcoming behavior
   b. Warm and friendly disposition
   c. Loud bark
   d. Chronic disease or disorder

4. In the following sentence, which word signifies a cause and effect relationship?

   Previously the number of students on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill on Halloween night has been immense; consequently, local law enforcement has increased its presence to monitor the situation.

   a. Immense
   b. Increased
   c. Consequently
   d. Previously

5. Which of the following sentences is written in a passive voice?

    a. The cookies were eaten by the toddler while her mother was busy.
    b. The toddler ate the cookies while her mother was busy.
    c. The mother bought the cookies at the bakery and took them home.
    d. The mother put the cookies in the pantry, so the toddler could not reach them.

6. Which of the following sentences is written in an active voice?

    a. The victim was taken to the hospital by the paramedics.
    b. The paramedics were escorted to the hospital by the police officer.
    c. The nurse was called to the Emergency Room by the doctor.
    d. The doctor called the technicians for X-Rays.

7. Which of the following quotes correctly demonstrates the use of an attributive phrase?

    a. “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.” – John Lennon
    b. The reporter asked Lennon about life and making plans.
    c. John Lennon specified, “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.”
    d. “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.”

8. Which of the following correctly shows proper format for an in-text citation if the quote came from page 45 of a source written by John Lennon?

    a. Lennon characterized life as “happening when you’re busy making other plans.” (45)
    b. “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.” – John Lennon
    c. According to John Lennon, “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.” (Lennon, 45)
    d. “Life is what happens when you’re busy making other plans.” (JL 45)

9. Which of the following is actually an opinion disguised as a fact?

    a. The President replied with, “The situation is uncertain at this time” when the reporter asked him for a comment.
    b. The President sarcastically replied with, “The situation is uncertain at this time” when the reporter asked him for a comment.
    c. “The situation is uncertain at this time,” said the President.
    d. The reporter asked, “What do you think Mr. President?”, and the President replied, “The situation is uncertain at this time.”

10. Which of the following describes or names a credible source?

    a. an article from aspca.org (website for organization known as American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)
    b. an article called "A Study of Student Responses to Online Learning" from the *Journal of Distance Learning and Education*
    c. an article that researched undiagnosed cases of posttraumatic stress disorder in veterans of World War II that listed 10 cited sources
    d. All of the above

11. Which of the following is a reason to use a direct quote instead of paraphrasing?

    a. Because the source is listed on the Works Cited page
    b. Because the quote will better show the meaningful language of the quote's author
    c. Because the author requires that only direct quotes be used
    d. Because a professor doesn't like paraphrasing

12. Which of the following examples below is the best paraphrase of the original sentence?

    Deon shared highlights from his trip to Europe by passing around pictures, telling stories, and displaying souvenirs.

    a. Deon's anecdotes, photographs, and trinkets told us about his European trip.
    b. Deon told us he went to Europe.
    c. It is important to take pictures and buy souvenirs when you take a trip to Europe.
    d. Deon wanted all of us to listen while he talked about his trip to Europe, and he was upset when we didn't look at all of his pictures.

13. Which sentence uses capitalization correctly?

    a. Erin's assignment for interior design 101 required that she go to the ikea store just south of Main Street and pick out office furniture for the local Red Cross office.
    b. Erin's assignment for interior design 101 required that She go to the Ikea store just south of Main Street and pick out Office furniture for the local Red Cross office.
    c. Erin's Assignment for Interior Design 101 required that She go to the Ikea store just South of main Street and pick out office furniture for the local red cross office.
    d. Erin's assignment for Interior Design 101 required that she go to the Ikea store just South of Main Street and pick out office furniture for the local Red Cross office.

14. Which sentence punctuates the titles correctly?

    a. I found good material for my "Psychology Paper" in *Voices from Inside: A Study of International Feminism*; I plan to use excerpts from Shelia Cook's essay *Mighty Woman* that I found in *Chapter 14 (Women Speak Out)* of that book.
    b. I found good material for my psychology paper in *Voices from Inside: A Study of International Feminism*; I plan to use excerpts from Shelia Cook's essay "Mighty Woman" that I found in Chapter 14 – "Women Speak Out" - of that book.
    c. I found good material for my psychology paper in "Voices from Inside: A Study of International Feminism"; I plan to use excerpts from Shelia Cook's essay "Mighty Woman" that I found in *Chapter 14 (Women Speak Out)* of that book.
    d. I found good material for my psychology paper in Voices from Inside: A Study of International Feminism; I plan to use excerpts from Shelia cook's essay "Mighty Woman" that I found in "Chapter 14 - Women Speak Out - of that book.

15. Which of the following is the best example of an explanatory thesis statement?

    a. While both formula and breast milk both offer nutritional benefits to infants, breast milk is safer for babies.
    b. While the use of formula and breast milk both present challenges when feeding infants, both options provide nutritional benefits to babies.
    c. New mothers should only use formula from reputable companies when feeding their infants.
    d. Breast feeding an infant is a very natural process with lasting benefits, and mothers should not consider formula for several reasons.

16. Which of the following is the best example of an evaluative thesis statement?

    a. Although ice cream and frozen custard are both enjoyable treats, ice cream pairs better with other desserts such as cakes, pies, and cookies.
    b. Ice cream and frozen custard are enjoyable treats and easily used with other desserts such as cakes, pies, and cookies.
    c. While ice cream and frozen custard are both enjoyable treats, both have a sugar content unfavorable for healthy eating.
    d. Desserts are more pleasing to the eye when paired with ice cream for several reasons.

17. Alecia is writing a paper for her Human Development class detailing the similarities and differences in Infant Care and Elder Care. She is trying to decide how she should organize her paper. Presently her outline is as follows:

    I. Introduction
    II. Feelings of caregiver
        A. Caring for infant
        B. Caring for elder
    III. Caring for physical needs

A. Caring for infant
B. Caring for elder

IV. Supplemental care outside the home
A. Caring for infant
B. Caring for elder

V. Conclusion

Based on this outline, what kind of organizational method has Alecia chosen?

a. Analytical
b. Summarizing
c. Subject-by-Subject
d. Point-by-Point

18. Alecia is writing a paper for her Human Development class detailing the similarities and differences in Infant Care and Elder Care. She is trying to decide how she should organize her paper. She has written a rough body paragraph about caring for an infant. In the paragraph she discusses how caring for an infant makes a person feel, the physical needs infants typically have, and the types of supplemental care available outside of the home. She is fairly happy with the paragraph. She decides to write another body paragraph about caring for elders covering the same subtopics. Based on this information, what kind of organizational method has Alecia chosen?

a. Analytical
b. Summarizing
c. Subject-by-Subject
d. Point-by-Point

19. Which of the following sentences uses a parenthetical expression?

a. The students and professors used their break from classes to volunteer in the community, and many lives were changed.
b. The students from Durham and professors from Greenville used their break from classes to volunteer in the community, and many lives were changed.
c. The students, not the professors, used their break from classes to volunteer in the community, and many lives were changed.
d. Students and professors should use their breaks from classes to volunteer in the community.

20. Read the passages below. Answer the question that follows.

#1: *Because insects are small and readily available and can easily be kept in the classroom or at home, as insect researchers we believe they are ideal for teaching children about nature – which can in turn get them excited about science…..Although many people are afraid of insects, they are a great teaching tool for many reasons. For example, insects are useful for an extraordinary range of lessons, from metamorphosis to diversity. They also tend to be inexpensive and easy to care for. One reason we*

encourage teachers to use insects in their classrooms is that we've observed that interacting with insects can help children appreciate nature. Rearing butterflies and moths in classrooms, or simply observing these insects outside, gives students the opportunity for a hands-on learning experience. More often than not, observing these insects leads to further inquiry and curiosity about the natural environment in which they're found. We believe that by keeping insects in the classroom, young children have a chance to learn more about these animals. Insects are often feared or dismissed because of stigma in popular culture and general disgust. As entomologists, we believe that introducing insects in the classroom, paired with teaching students about insect behavior and environmental roles, will give students a safe place to observe and appreciate these organisms.

"Want to teach kids about nature? Insects can help"
Akito Y. Kawahara and Megan Ennes
https://theconversation.com/want-to-teach-kids-about-nature-insects-can-help-145160

#2 *Many educators, caregivers and students have been struggling with remote learning during the pandemic, especially the lack of hand-on learning experiences. We developed and are trying out a hybrid approach – with on-screen and off-screen time – that helps children learn about engineering design practices at home. Engineering design practices are the steps engineers take to design a solution to a problem. Our program encourages families to work on the activities together using household items like recyclables. For example, one family created a dog food dispenser using cardboard boxes and plastic bottles. We developed and tested the new program with five families with children in grades 3-6. The activities relied on basic tools and materials – like cereal boxes and water bottles – that families already had in their homes…..there's a deficit of engineering content within elementary school STEM curriculum. Content at this level tends to focus on mastering math and science concepts. When engineering content is included, it is often part of an after-school program, a family night that happens once a year at school or a fun Friday activity.*

"Getting kids – and their caregivers – to practice STEM at home"
Amber M. Simpson and Peter Knox
https://theconversation.com/getting-kids-and-their-caregivers-to-practice-stem-at-home-146886

Which of the following best describes the common theme in these two readings?

a. It is difficult to teach science or STEM to children.
b. Teachers and caregivers can make use of insects and household items to teach children science or STEM concepts.
c. Children are generally not very interested in science or STEM concepts, so teachers or caregivers might have to look for newer programs that are creative.
d. Children need a lot more exposure to science or STEM content, and schools should increase the amount of instruction currently provided.

Tier 2 Answers and Explanations

Question Number	Correct Answer	Explanation

1	c	• A homophone is two words that sound very similar but have very different meanings.
		• Sight has to do with vision or the eyes.
		• Cite involves giving credit to a source when writing (another person's work).
		• Site is the location for building something, or it can also be a website.
		• Cight is not a word.
		• Focusing on the context of the sentence is always important for choosing the correct word.
		• More information:
		  ○ https://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-homophones.html
		  ○ http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/conford.html

2	a	• A homophone is two words that sound very similar but have very different meanings.
		• Their refers to ownership.
		• They're is a contraction for they are.
		• There refers to location.
		• Focusing on the context of the sentence is always important for choosing the correct word.
		• More information:
		  ○ https://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-homophones.html
		  ○ http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/wweb/conford.html

3	d	• Some words have multiple definitions. On a multiple-choice test, it is important to not rush and choose a definition from the list after just looking at the word. Make sure the answer choice/definition actually matches the sentence. • Medical bills were referred to in this sentence, so this connects to the correct answer of "chronic disease or disorder".
4	c	• A cause and effect relationship describes one thing leading to another. "X" happens, and this leads to "Y". • Words that signal a cause and effect relationship include: consequently, because, as a result, thus, and therefore.

5	a	• Passive voice means the subject is acted upon in the sentence (the toddler acted upon the cookies and ate them). • In the other choices, the subject is directly taking an action, and this is considered active voice. • More information: ○ https://www.grammarly.com/blog/active-vs-passive-voice/
6	d	• Active voice means the subject is taking direct action in the sentence (versus being acted upon). • In the other choices, the subject is being acted upon, and this is considered passive voice. • More information: ○ https://www.grammarly.com/blog/active-vs-passive-voice/
7	c	• An attributive phrase is used to signal or give credit to the speaker or original author. • "Specified" gives credit to the speaker, Lennon, with an active verb. • The other answer choices don't have a phrase that gives credit to an author using an active verb. • More Information: ○ https://pressbooks.ulib.csuohio.edu/csu-fyw-rhetoric/chapter/apa-signal-phrases/
8	a	• An in-text citation is the brief information inside a paper that gives credit to the original source on the Works Cited page. • The in-text citation should include the name of the author and a page number in parentheses. If the author's name is used as part of an attributive phrase, only the page number needs to be listed. • Choice C duplicates the author's name, so it is not correct. • More information: ○ https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_in_text_citations_the_basics.html
9	b	• An opinion disguised as a fact feels or seems like a fact. Careful reading will reveal the statement is an opinion. • In this case the adverb sarcastically describes how the President answered. This shows a personal perspective and characterizes the manner in which the answer was presented. • The other answer choices are straightforward without further characterization or perspective.

10	d	• When using sources for academic tasks, it is important to choose things that are credible or worthy of trust. • A source is considered credible or believable by academic standards based on where it was published, the sources cited, its scholarly purpose, or the website domain (.org, .edu, .gov).
11	b	• Paraphrasing means to express something with different words or your own words. The original intent and message of the author are maintained. • A writer might choose to paraphrase versus quoting directly to make something shorter, to demonstrate the researcher's authority, or to use and keep the original language. • More Information: ○ https://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/evidence/paraphrase/examples
12	a	• Paraphrasing means to express something with different words or your own words. The original intent and message of the author are maintained. • The other choices don't fully capture the author's original content, or they change the author's original message. • More Information: https://academicguides.waldenu.edu/writingcenter/evidence/paraphrase/examples

13	d	• The Rules of English require capitalization for proper nouns (ex. names, titles) and specific instances including: the name of a building, the name of an organization, directional positions, the name of a company, a brand name, an academic course, and a religion.
		• Extra Practice:
		  ○ https://virtualwritingtutor.com/practice/capitalization_correct.htm
		• More Information:
		  ○ https://webapps.towson.edu/ows/capitalization_rules.htm

14	b	• Some titles are punctuated with italics. These include the title of a magazine, a play, and a newspaper. • Some titles are punctuated with quotation marks. These include the title of an essay, a chapter, an article, and a song.

15	b	• An explanatory thesis compares two things focusing on their similarities and differences without expressing an opinion. This kind of thesis is generally used in expository writing (essay that gives information or explains). • Choices A, C, and D all take a side or express an opinion
16	a	• An evaluative thesis takes a side or makes a judgment that one thing is better than another. An evaluative thesis requires some comparing but also a claim of which thing is better than the other. • Choice A is the only choice that makes a choice or states one thing is better than another.
17	d	• A point-by-point comparison is one way to compare and contrast two things. Point-by-point allows a writer to discuss aspects about the two things one at a time. Each aspect is discussed for each subject, and it is explained what is similar or different between the two subjects about that particular aspect. • In the outline example the two things or subjects are infant care and elder care. These two things are compared and contrasted using different points or aspects (ex. feelings of caregiver, caring for physical needs, and supplemental care outside the home)
18	c	• A subject-by-subject comparison is one way to compare and contrast two things. Subject-by-subject means a writer has chosen to focus on one subject at a time per paragraph or section of the paper. In one section the first subject will be discussed thoroughly covering and explaining each aspect or point that will also be discussed in the next paragraph or section about the second subject. • In the rough draft example described the writer talks about one subject (infant care) by covering all of the aspects or points that will also be discussed in the next paragraph on elder care.
19	c	• A parenthetical expression is a word or phrase that adds a little something extra to a sentence. The sentence can exist without the expression, and sometimes the expression will even "interrupt" the sentence. • Choice C is the only sentence that has an element that "interrupts", and the piece of information isn't essential for the sentence. • More information: ○ https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/sentence/parenthetical-expression.htm

20	b	• The theme of a text is the overall basic meaning behind the text. When reading multiple passages for a research project, it is important to be able to find the common themes, so sources can be used together as part of the overall research project. • When looking for common themes, look for what the different texts have in common. Look for common language. • Each answer choice here says something about teaching science or STEM, but only choice B captures both passages accurately. • Choice A is too broad. Choices C and D make claims that aren't covered by the two passages.