Preparing for the TABE

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Dear Adult Student,

Welcome to Florida's Adult and Career and Technical Education Program and congratulations on your decision to further your education. You are joining thousands of other Floridians who are learning new skills and upgrading existing skills. As an initial part of your enrollment in Workforce Education, you will be given the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE). These tests will be used to determine your strengths that will assist you in successfully completing your program. The TABE has three major areas: Reading, Language, and Mathematics (applied and computation). These tests are set up in a multiple-choice format. There are no short answers or writing assignments. Remember, you cannot fail the TABE.

The information collected from your testing session will be used to set up a program of study that will help you progress at the fastest rate possible. The information will also be used for state and national reporting issues. Your specific information is kept confidential and will never be used without your permission.

The following pages provide you with sample questions that are similar to the questions found on the TABE test. This document will help you prepare to take the TABE and help you be more successful. Remember, this is just practice. You cannot fail the TABE. An answer key is provided in the back of this book.

Good luck!

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
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These items are prohibited:

- Electronic devices of any sort

- Cell phones (including pagers and beepers)

- Any device that might be used to scan, record, photograph, copy or otherwise reproduce test content

- Books or papers

- Mechanical pens or highlighters, pens of any kind

- Watches or stop watches with alarm, flashing lights or calculator functions

- Headphones

- Purses, backpacks

- Food or drink

- Loose clothing, including hats, scarves, jackets

- Sunglasses – (Unless medically necessary)

READING

Read the passage. Then answer questions 1 through 5.

Quirky Quicksand

1   Quicksand has a reputation that it does not deserve. In a typical Hollywood movie scene, a character accidentally wanders into quicksand. Sometimes, the terrified character sinks quickly out of sight, leaving only a hat floating on the surface. At other times, a dramatic escape involves grabbing a nearby tree branch or the hand of another character.

2   It is true that you will begin to sink if you step into quicksand. However, you will not be sucked in and swallowed whole. The depth of quicksand ranges from a few inches to four feet. A person of average height probably will sink only waist-deep.

3   Quicksand can form almost any place where water flows beneath a sandy surface. Some common areas for quicksand include river deltas, shores, and sandy creek beds.

4   The best condition for forming quicksand is when water seeps upward from an underground source and saturates an area of sand, silt, or other grainy soil. If you disturb (or step into) the quicksand, a loose layer of fine sand on top of the water changes into a thick, soupy liquid. The mixture settles to the bottom and packs tightly around your feet. The mud-like layer creates a strong suction, especially if you are wearing flat shoes or boots.

5   A person can float on quicksand just as he or she floats on water. The human body has a density of about 62 pounds per cubic foot. Quicksand has a density of about 125 pounds per cubic foot. Because a person is less dense than quicksand, the person will rise to the top when his or her feet are free from the paste-like sand at the bottom. The key is to remain calm and follow a few simple steps to escape.

6   Start by taking several deep breaths and trying to relax. Stretch out your back and lean backward slightly to increase your surface area. Soon, you will be able to move your legs. Rotate one leg at a time in a slow circular motion. Water will flow down the leg into the thick sand on the bottom. Then as the bottom mixture thins, you can begin to free yourself. Move slowly and carefully. The area around you also might be soggy. Thrashing about wildly will cause you to sink deeper.

7   If you wander into an area of quicksand, do not ask another person to pull you out. In fact, pulling you from the thick mixture would require a great deal of strength. The suction that holds you in place is quite strong. Researchers at the University of Amsterdam found that the amount of force required to pull your trapped feet free is equal to the force that is needed to lift a medium-sized car. Your rescuer could be pulled into the heavy mixture, or you could be injured by the extreme stress placed on your arms.

8   Quicksand is not quite the mysterious force of nature that many believe it to be. An experience with quicksand usually is more messy and embarrassing than it is dangerous. In any case, don't panic, and keep your wits about you. Afterward, you will have a most interesting story to share with friends and family!

1. Read this sentence from the passage.

In any case, don't panic, and <u>keep your wits about you</u>.

Which of these <u>best</u> explains the meaning of the phrase "keep your wits about you"?

A. stay quiet

B. remain alert

C. focus on intelligence

D. have a helpful attitude

2. How does paragraph 4 contribute to the development of ideas in the passage?

A. It explains why a person might disturb quicksand.

B. It presents information about the water found in quicksand.

C. It describes what happens when a person steps into quicksand.

D. It states which shoes to wear in areas where quicksand is likely to form.

3. How does the movie scene described in paragraph 1 connect to the information in paragraphs 6 and 7?

    A. The paragraphs demonstrate that the Hollywood movie scenes are accurate.

    B. The Hollywood movie scenes foreshadow the actions discussed in the paragraphs.

    C. The Hollywood movie scenes show what the paragraphs suggest will happen in quicksand.

    D. The paragraphs describe what to do differently from the actions in the Hollywood movie scenes.

4. Which sentence from the passage best expresses the author's attitude toward the threat of quicksand?

    A. "It is true that you will begin to sink if you step into quicksand."

    B. "The depth of quicksand ranges from a few inches to four feet."

    C. "If you wander into an area of quicksand, do not ask another person to pull you out."

    D. "An experience with quicksand usually is more messy and embarrassing than it is dangerous."

5.

Part A

Which statement expresses a claim the author makes about quicksand?

A. Stepping in quicksand is an emergency that requires immediate action.

B. Quicksand is not a threat unless people attempt to float on the surface.

C. Any kind of movement a person makes in quicksand is apt to cause more trouble.

D. Some of the risks associated with stepping in quicksand are caused by people's reactions.

Part B

Which sentence from the passage best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "Sometimes, the terrified character sinks quickly out of sight, leaving only a hat floating on the surface."

B. "A person can float on quicksand just as he or she floats on water."

C. "Water will flow down the leg into the thick sand on the bottom."

D. "Thrashing about wildly will cause you to sink deeper."

ANSWER KEY:

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. Part A—D

   Part B—D

Read the passage. Then answer questions 1 through 7.

Buying Local

1 In many European countries, people typically visit their local merchants on a daily basis. People travel to the local butcher, baker, and seller of fruits and vegetables to buy what they need for their meals that day. In America, however, often the opposite is true. Many Americans do their weekly food shopping at large grocery stores. These stores belong to chains₁ with locations across the country. Many of the stores' products are not produced in the areas where the stores are located. Instead, fruits, vegetables, meats, and dairy products are shipped in from locations around the country and even around the world.

2 In the past, America's towns were filled with locally owned and independent specialty shops, much like the shops in Europe. In the 1920s, chain stores began to take over in America. By the 1950s, large supermarkets and the migration to suburban locations were taking hold in the country. These large stores offered a one-stop shop for all items at a lower cost than the local competition. Additionally, these stores often advertised a wider selection of products for the consumer. Americans were enticed by the convenience and affordability that chain stores were able to provide. In effect, chain stores pushed the local merchants and business owners out because small local businesses could not afford to compete. In recent years, a "buy local" movement has sprung up around the country to shift the attention back to local businesses. Buying local is a way to encourage people to support local businesses rather than large chains.

3 Supporters believe that buying local has several advantages. First, it supports the local economy. Because local small business owners are part of the community, they are interested in the welfare of that community. The money they make goes back into the community rather than to a large corporation. The employees hired by these local businesses often know a lot about the businesses' products and provide great customer service. After all, the people they are helping could be their next-door neighbors!

4 Buying local also creates local jobs and helps to grow local businesses. Workers earn wages from these businesses, which they spend in their communities. In addition, businesses pay taxes, which helps to support local growth and development. Both wages and taxes contribute to the health and welfare of the community as a whole.

5 Buying local produce also has health benefits. Almost as soon as fruits and vegetables are picked, they begin to lose some of their nutrients. Instead of being picked and then shipped for hundreds of miles, locally grown produce goes from the farm to the table quickly, sometimes on the same day. Being able to buy freshly picked produce means that the food we put on our tables is as nutritious as it can be.

6 Shopping at large stores is certainly convenient, but buying local is a way for all of us to support our community and ourselves.

[1]chains: large stores owned by the same corporation

1. Read the sentence from paragraph 4.

Both wages and taxes contribute to the health and welfare of the community as a whole.

Which key idea does the sentence support?

A. Americans shop mostly at large chain grocery stores.

B. Buying locally helps create local jobs and grow local businesses.

C. Large grocery stores offer items at lower costs than local competition.

D. Americans who buy locally are healthier than people who shop at chain stores.

2. Which of these is most likely the author's purpose for writing this article?

A. The author wants the reader to understand how grocery stores have changed since the 1920s.
B. The author wants the reader to understand that European grocery stores are superior to American grocery stores.
C. The author wants the reader to understand that grocery stores stopped selling locally grown products during the 1950s.
D. The author wants the reader to understand that the new trend of buying local produce has many important benefits for Americans.

3.

Part A

How does the author provide effective support for the main idea of the article?

A. The author states that buying local supports the local economy.
B. The author states that there are problems with local chain stores.
C. The author compares the local shopping trends of Americans with Europeans.
D. The author compares American local chain stores with European markets.

Part B

Which detail from the article best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "In many European countries, people typically visit their local merchants on a daily basis."
B. "Many of the stores' products are not produced in the areas where the stores are located."
C. "In the past, America's towns were filled with locally owned and independent specialty shops, much like the shops in Europe."
D. "Buying local is a way to encourage people to support local businesses rather than large chains."

4.

Part A

Which statement explains how paragraphs 3 and 4 develop the author's claim that buying local is a better option?

A. The paragraphs suggest that buying local helps the country.

B. The paragraphs suggest that buying local is more affordable.

C. The paragraphs suggest that buying local helps local economies.

D. The paragraphs suggest that buying local is healthier for people.

Part B

Which sentence from the article best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "Supporters believe that buying local has several advantages."
B. "The money they make goes back into the community rather than to a large corporation."
C. "The employees hired by these local businesses often know a lot about the businesses' products and provide great customer service."
D. "After all, the people they are helping could be their next-door neighbors!"

5.

Part A

How does the author advance his or her point of view in the article?

A. The author focuses on how Americans shop.

B. The author focuses on how products are shipped throughout the world.

C. The author compares the healthier shopping habits of Europeans with the habits of Americans.

D. The author compares the economic benefits of shopping at smaller stores rather than large chain stores.

Part B

Which sentence from the article best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "People travel to the local butcher, baker, and seller of fruits and vegetables to buy what they need for their meals that day."

B. "Many Americans do their weekly food shopping at large grocery stores."

C. "Many of the stores' products are not produced in the areas where the stores are located."

D. "Buying local also creates local jobs and helps to grow local businesses."

6.

Part A

Which statement represents a claim made by the author in paragraph 5?

A. Locally grown produce is organic.

B. Locally grown produce is rarely shipped.

C. Locally grown produce has less chemicals.

D. Locally grown produce has more vitamins.

Part B

Which two details from the article best support the answer to Part A?

A. "Buying local produce also has health benefits."

B. "Almost as soon as fruits and vegetables are picked, they begin to lose some of their nutrients."

C. "Instead of being picked and then shipped for hundreds of miles, locally grown produce goes from the farm to the table quickly, sometimes on the same day."

D. "Being able to buy freshly picked produce means that the food we put on our tables is as nutritious as it can be."

7.
Part A
Which statement describes how the author explains the impact of grocery chain stores on local economies?

A. Chain stores hire workers outside the community.

B. Chain stores provide a larger selection of products.

C. Chain stores take tax dollars from the local community.

D. Chain stores import goods and services from other countries.

Part B
Which sentence from the article best supports the answer to Part A?

A. "Instead, fruits, vegetables, meats, and dairy products are shipped in from locations around the country and even around the world."

B. "The money they make goes back into the community rather than to a large corporation."

C. "After all, the people they are helping could be their next-door neighbors!"

D. "Instead of being picked and then shipped for hundreds of miles, locally grown produce goes from the farm to the table quickly, sometimes on the same day."

ANSWER KEY:

1. B
2. D
3. Part A—A

   Part B—D
4. Part A—C

   Part B—B
5. Part A—D

   Part B—D
6. Part A—D

   Part B—B, D
7. Part A—C

   Part B—D

MATHEMATICS

https://tabetest.com/students-2/tabe-1112/

TABE 11& 12 MATHEMATICS PRACTICE ITEMS

1. The two legs of a right triangle are 6 feet and 8 feet long.

What is the perimeter of the triangle?

A. 10 feet

B. 20 feet

C. 24 feet

D. 28 feet

2. A community athletic club holds an election to select a president and vice president. The nominations for selection include 4 females and 3 males.

What is the probability that a female is elected president and a male is elected vice president?

A. $\dfrac{1}{12}$

B. $\dfrac{12}{49}$

C. $\dfrac{2}{7}$

D. $\dfrac{7}{12}$

3. An escalator moves at a rate of 2 feet per second. At what rate does the escalator move in miles per hour?

5280 feet = 1 mile

A. 0.02 miles per hour

B. 0.34 miles per hour

C. 0.68 miles per hour

D. 1.36 miles per hour

4. Simon plots a cycling route on a map.

Each unit represents one kilometer.

What is the total length, in kilometers, of the route?

A. 6 kilometers

B. 7 kilometers

C. 8 kilometers

D. 12 kilometers
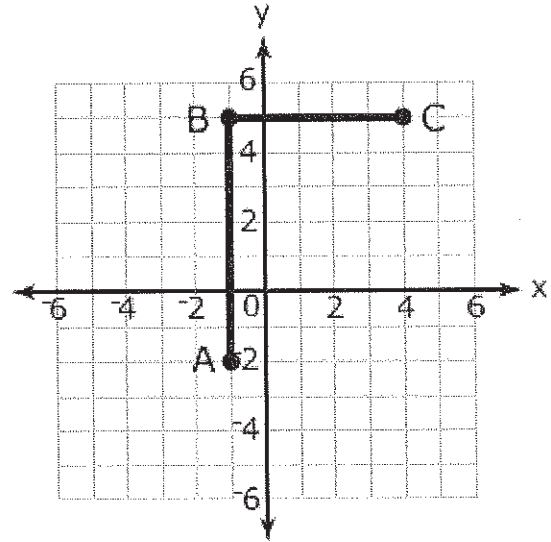
5. Look at the scatter plot.
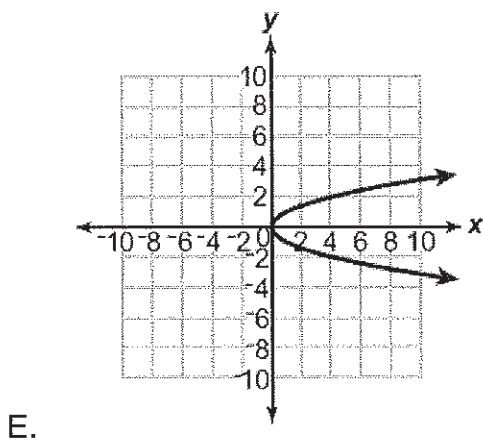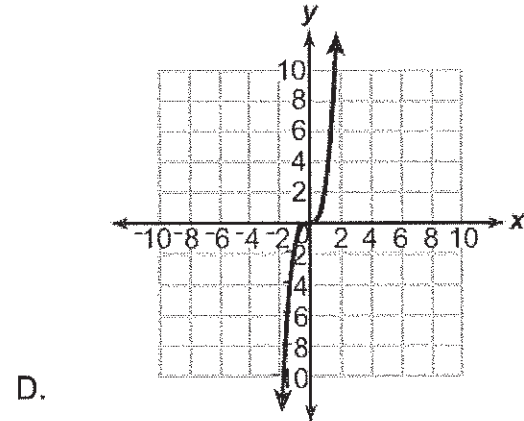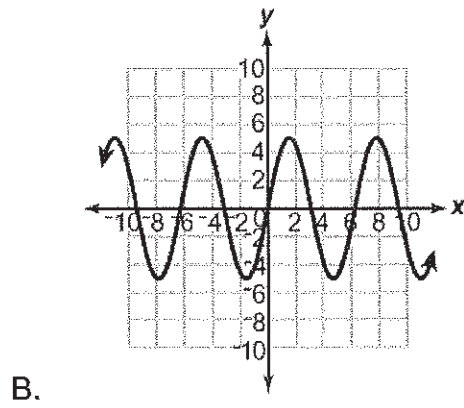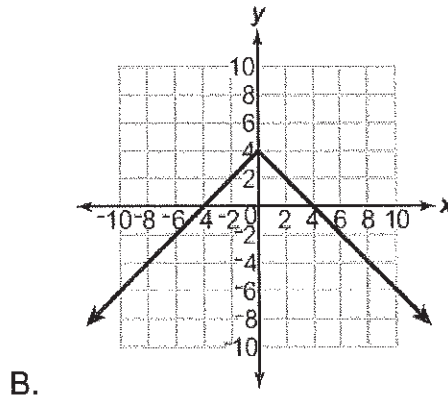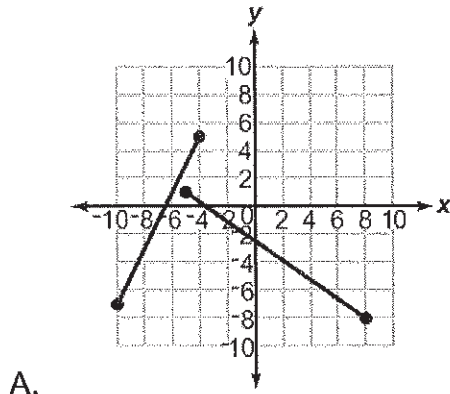

Which type of pattern is displayed in this scatter plot?

A. a linear positive association with outliers

B. a linear negative association with clustering

C. a linear negative association with no outliers

D. a linear positive association with no clustering
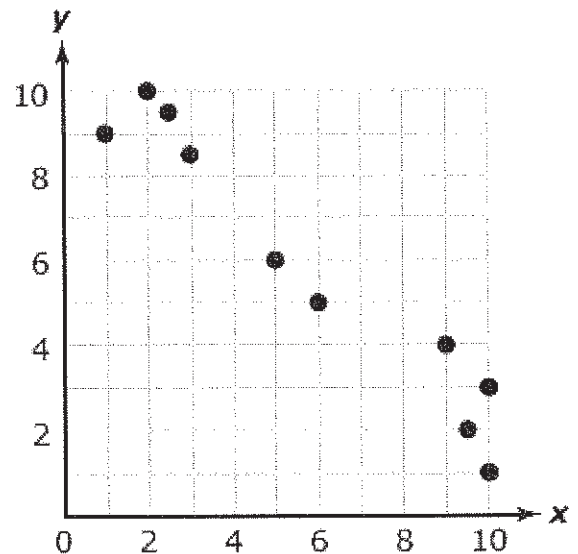
6. Look at the graphs. Which graphs represent a function? Select the three graphs that apply.

A.

B.

B.

D.

E.

F.
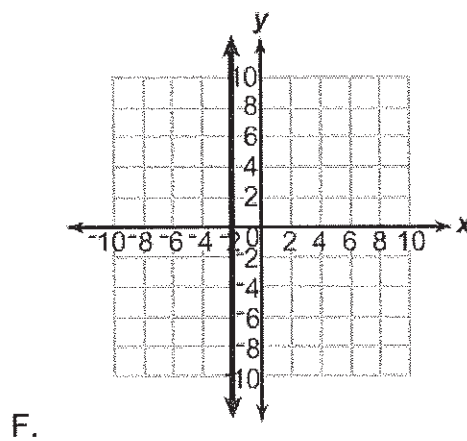
7. Which of these expressions are equivalent to $10x + 11$? Select the three that apply.

    A. $5(2x + 10) + 1$

    B. $7(x + 2) + 3x - 3$

    C. $3(3x + 4) + x - 1$

    D. $2(6x + 4) + 2x + 5$

    E. $2(6x + 5) - 2x + 1$

TABE 11& 12 MATHEMATICS PRACTICE ITEMS

ANSWER KEY:

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. B, C, D
7. B, C, E

1. Which expression is equivalent to $(x^2y)^3 \cdot x^3$?

    A. x^5y^3

    B. x^6y^3

    C. x^9y^3

    D. $x^{18}y^3$

2. The lists show the measured heights, in meters, of trees in two different sections of a forest.

Section A: 4.8, 5.0, 5.3, 5.8, 6.1, 6.5, 6.5

Section B: 3.8, 3.8, 5.8, 6.4, 6.6, 6.8, 9.2

Which statement makes a correct conclusion based on the interquartile range of the two data sets?

    A. The trees in Section B most likely have more consistent heights than the trees in Section A.

    B. The trees in Section A most likely have more consistent heights than the trees in Section B.

    C. A randomly selected tree in Section B will most likely be taller than a randomly selected tree in Section A.

    D. A randomly selected tree in Section A will most likely be taller than a randomly selected tree in Section B.

5. At an aquarium, researchers are preparing a mixture of salt water. The desired ratio is 90 grams of salt per liter of water.

- 1 ounce = 28.35 grams
- 1 gallon = 3.8 liters

What is the ratio in ounces per gallon?

A. 0.8 ounce per gallon

B. 3.2 ounces per gallon

C. 12.1 ounces per gallon

D. 23.7 ounces per gallon

6. Which of these expressions are equivalent to 5^2? Select the four that apply.

A. $\dfrac{5^5}{5^3}$

B. $\dfrac{5^8}{5^4}$

C. $\dfrac{5^8}{5^6}$

D. $5^{-1} \times 5^{-2}$

E. $5^{-1} \times 5^3$

F. $5^{-4} \times 5^6$

7. Joan uses the function $C(x) = 0.11x + 12$ to calculate her monthly cost for electricity.

- $C(x)$ is the total cost (in dollars).
- x is the amount of electricity used (in kilowatt-hours).

Which of these statements are true? Select the three that apply.

A. Joan's fixed monthly cost for electricity use is $0.11.

B. The cost of electricity use increases $0.11 each month.

C. If Joan uses no electricity, her total cost for the month is $12.

D. Joan pays $12 for every kilowatt-hour of electricity that she uses.

E. The initial value represents the maximum cost per month for electricity.

F. A graph of the total cost for $x \geq 0$ kilowatt-hours of energy used is a straight line.

G. The slope of the function $C(x)$ represents the increase in cost for each kilowatt-hour used.

TABE 11 & 12 MATHEMATICS PRACTICE ITEMS

ANSWER KEY:

1. C
2. B
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. A, C, E, F
7. C, F, G

LANGUAGE

https://tabetest.com/students-2/tabe-1112/

1. Read the sentences.

Luke was so proud of _____. He helped his team finish the project at work.

Which word <u>best</u> completes the sentence?

A. itself

B. himself

C. ourselves

D. themselves

2. Which sentence is written correctly?

A. For protection against the midday sun, I wore a faded, denim hat.

B. Bright, colorful butterflies flitted about from one saltbush to another.

C. A heavy, morning fog covered the low-lying areas of the wildlife refuge.

D. The high-pitched, chirping sounds of the frogs were loud and continuous.

3. Which sentence contains a misspelled word?

A. The jury delivered a verdict that acquitted the man of all charges.

B. The editor omitted a few details that were unnecessary to the story.

C. Susan was late to rehersal because her car broke down on the interstate.

D. Megan seeks inspiration for her art from the mythology of ancient cultures.

Read the passage. Then answer questions 4 and 5.

Footwear

1. _____

2. The origin of high-heeled footwear may surprise you. High-heeled shoes were first worn centuries ago by Persian men on horseback. Persian hunting and warfare greatly relied on horsemanship, and footwear with a heel made these activities easier.

3. When a Persian diplomat brought the style to Europe in the seventeenth century, male aristocrats became enamored with the shoes and began wearing them as status symbols.

4. History shows that the modern view of high-heeled shoes is false. The style was first worn by men. It was not until many years later that women would adopt the shoe style for a very particular reason. _____

4. The passage lacks an introductory paragraph. The writer has made a list of possible introductions. Which two sentences would best introduce the passage?

    A. Persian diplomats showed high-heeled shoes to many other cultures interested in new footwear.

    B. Persian soldiers designed the high-heeled shoe because they needed better equipment for warfare.

    C. Historical and political evidence show that the purpose of high-heeled shoes has changed over time.

    D. High-heeled shoes are considered an invention of women's fashion. However, this view ignores hundreds of years of history.

    E. High-heeled shoes were invented centuries ago for practical reasons. However, high-heeled shoes are more important as fashion accessories.

    F. Fashion trends have evolved over the centuries, and the people who wear such things as high-heeled shoes can change within a few generations.

5. The conclusion the writer developed is not an effective end to the information presented in the passage. Which two sentences would be <u>best</u> to add to the concluding paragraph?

    A. Today, high-heeled shoes are very fashionable and come in many different styles.

    B. Today, high-heeled shoes remain an important piece of traditional Persian dress.

    C. By the eighteenth century, the men in many cultures stopped wearing high-heeled shoes completely.

    D. Once women began wearing high-heeled shoes more frequently, they decreased in popularity among men.

    E. Surprisingly, some hunters still wear high-heeled shoes today for the same purpose that Persian men once did.

    F. Some eighteenth century women began wearing high-heeled shoes to make their outfits seem more masculine.

6. Which sentence is written correctly?

    A. We arrived at the beach just in time, to watch the playful, dolphins swimming.

    B. The sun came out after a brief but heavy, shower, so we went hiking during the afternoon.

    C. Lightning flashes kept us from swimming, in the ocean, and playing with the old, beach volleyball.

    D. Our picnic lunch was delayed when dark, menacing clouds gathered on the horizon.

ANSWER KEY:

1. B
2. B
3. C
4. C, D
5. D, E
6. D

1. Read the sentences.

One reason no one recognized her was because she had cut her hair.

Since she was wearing dark glasses, people did not realize it was she.

She did not speak, so no one realized it was she.

Which of these effectively combines the sentences into one sentence using appropriate parallel structure?

A. No one recognized her because of short hair, her dark glasses hid her eyes, and not talking.

B. No one recognized her because her hair was shorter, her dark glasses, and she did not say a word.

C. No one recognized her because she had cut her hair, was wearing dark glasses, and said not a word.

D. No one recognized her because her hair was cut, people did not realize it was she because of her dark glasses, and her silence.

2. Read the sentences.

Because I wanted to adopt a healthier lifestyle, I decided to <u>abstain</u> from fast foods and sugary soft drinks.

I looked and felt better after eliminating those harmful foods from my diet.

What does the word *abstain* mean as used in the first sentence?

A. limit availability

B. follow guidelines

C. give up voluntarily

D. develop a new habit

3. Which sentence correctly uses a colon to introduce quoted words?

    A. "A house full of love has elastic walls": A saying Hank keeps in mind when his five children seem underfoot.

    B. A saying that Hank keeps in mind when his five children seem underfoot is: "A house full of love has elastic walls."

    C. Hank keeps in mind certain sayings when his five children seem underfoot, such as: "A house full of love has elastic walls."

    D. Hank keeps this saying in mind when his five children seem underfoot: "A house full of love has elastic walls."

4. Read the sentence.

Radical opinions often come from all kinds of people about geothermal energy that are unsupported by facts.

Which revision of the sentence is <u>most</u> appropriate and clear?

    A. Radical opinions are what people often have without facts about geothermal energy.

    B. Geothermal energy that people often have radical opinions about is unsupported by facts.

    C. Unsupported facts about geothermal energy often come from people with radical opinions.

    D. People often have radical opinions about geothermal energy that are unsupported by facts.

Read Sean's essay. Then answer question 5.

Another important obligation of a U.S. citizen is jury duty. In the old days, they made this great deal called the Magna Carta. Ever since, folks get to have their very own jury. In the United States, a trial by jury is guaranteed in criminal cases by the Bill of Rights. A jury generally consists of twelve citizens. You select jurors from a group of people who I guess don't really want to be there! These people listen to the case against the accused and decide, based on the evidence, whether that person is guilty or not.

Because the decision is made by a jury of the accused's equals, it is considered fair. If the accused were at the mercy of the government or the individual judge, the process of judgement would be left vulnerable to personal prejudices and corrupt practices, such as bribery and intimidation.

5. Which of these sentences should Sean delete from his essay?

    A. Another important obligation of a U.S. citizen is jury duty.

    B. In the United States, a trial by jury is guaranteed in criminal cases by the Bill of Rights.

    C. You select jurors from a group of people who I guess don't really want to be there!

    D. Because the decision is made by a jury of the accused's equals, it is considered fair.

6. Read the essay.

The market for cars that run on a combination of electricity and gas, called "hybrids," and cars that run only on electricity, called "plug-ins," has become crowded and confusing in the past few years. Several well established hybrid car models have been available for over ten years, and new hybrid versions of popular gas-only cars are in development. Since 2010, no fewer than six new models of plug-in cars have been introduced. What is the best choice for an environmentally conscious consumer?

Plug-in vehicles, which run solely on electricity stored in batteries, are newer to the market and, therefore, less familiar to consumers. These cars are not measured by miles per gallon, since they don't burn gallons of gas (and therefore create no greenhouse gas emissions). The defining statistic for most plug-ins is the range, or the number of miles that can be driven on a full charge. Most plug-ins that are widely available can travel between forty and ninety miles on a charge. In cities of the United States, typical car owners travel less than thirty miles a day—well within the single-charge range of plug-in vehicles. The overall cost of running a plug-in car depends on the cost of electricity, which varies from region to region. Environmentally conscious consumers might also consider whether the electricity that comes to their homes is generated by burning coal or from hydroelectricity.

Since many consumers are concerned about reliability and the long-term performance of new technologies, the ten-year record of success for hybrid cars is important. With the newer plug-in technology, there remains a greater possibility of unforeseen maintenance costs. Additionally, many consumers may prefer the flexibility of hybrids in terms of their unlimited range on gasoline power.

The writer needs to add a concluding paragraph. Which three sentences combine to create an effective conclusion?

A. Gas-powered cars are still more popular than hybrids and plug-ins because they have more powerful engines.

B. Buyers who typically drive less than forty miles a day and have low electricity costs should consider a plug-in vehicle.

C. People prefer hybrids because they look better and have been available longer.

D. On the other hand, people who are most concerned about reliability and range should probably purchase a hybrid.

E. Since environmental and financial responsibility are the two main concerns of car buyers, plug-in cars are the better choice.

F. In conclusion, there are two basic considerations to make before deciding on either of these new automobile technologies.

ANSWER KEY:

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. B, D, F

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