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Question: 1

Directions: In the sentence below, select the underlined portion that contains an error.

He was being quite bitter when he said that the reason John received the promotion is because he is the owner's nephew. No error

- A. quite bitter
- B. that the reason
- C. received
- D. is because

Answer: D

Explanation:

The sentence in question is: "He was being quite bitter when he said that the reason John received the promotion is because he is the owner's nephew." To determine the error in this sentence, we need to examine each underlined portion as presented in the question. The underlined portions provided are: 1. quite bitter 2. is because 3. that the reason 4. received 5. No error The error in this sentence lies in the phrase "is because." The standard and more grammatically correct way to express a reason or explanation in formal English is by using "is that" instead of "is because." The phrase "is because" can be considered informal or colloquial, and in formal writing, it is typically replaced with "is that" to avoid redundancy and maintain clarity. To break it down: - "The reason is" already sets up a statement that explains a cause or rationale. - Following this with "because" is redundant because "because" itself introduces a reason. - Therefore, "is that" is preferred as it leads directly into the explanation without redundancy. Changing "is because" to "is that" would correct the sentence to: "He was being quite bitter when he said that the reason John received the promotion is that he is the owner's nephew." The other underlined portions of the sentence: - "quite bitter" is an appropriate descriptor and does not contain grammatical errors. - "that the reason" is a correct lead-in to the clause explaining the reason for the promotion. - "received" is correctly used in the past tense here, fitting the context of the sentence. - "No error" is not applicable since there is an error in the use of "is because." Thus, the phrase to correct is "is because," and it should be changed to "is that" to improve the sentence's grammaticality and formality.

Question: 2

Directions: In the sentence below, select the best choice for the underlined portion.

The measures by which the association persuade the decisions of its members disturbs some of the enrollment.

- A. persuade the decisions of its members
- B. persuades the decisions of its members
- C. had persuaded the decisions of its members
- D. persuades the decisions of their members

Answer: B

Explanation:

To address the question correctly, it's essential to understand the grammatical rules that apply, specifically focusing on subject-verb agreement and pronoun consistency. **Original Sentence:** "The measures by which the association persuade the decisions of its members disturbs some of the enrollment." ### Breakdown of the Provided Options: 1. **persuade the decisions of its members:** Incorrect as "persuade" is plural, and it should agree with the singular noun "association." 2. **persuades the decisions of its members:** Correct. "Persuades" correctly matches the singular subject "association." This maintains both subject-verb agreement and the correct pronoun "its" that refers back to "association." 3. **had persuaded the decisions of its members:** Incorrect. "Had persuaded" suggests a past perfect action, which is unnecessary here as the sentence context does not indicate a need to refer to a completed action in the past relative to another past action. 4. **persuades the decisions of their members:** Incorrect due to pronoun inconsistency. "Their" is plural and does not agree with the singular "association." This choice introduces a pronoun-number agreement error. 5. **will persuade the decisions of its members:** Incorrect in this context. "Will persuade" shifts the verb tense to future, suggesting an action that has not yet occurred. The original sentence does not indicate a future action. ### Conclusion: **Choice B: "persuades the decisions of its members"** is the correct answer. It corrects the original error by using "persuades," which agrees in number with the singular noun "association." Additionally, it retains "its" as the pronoun, which correctly refers back to "association" in singular form. This choice ensures both subject-verb agreement and pronoun-number agreement are maintained, making the sentence grammatically correct and coherent.

Question: 3

Select the answer choice that corrects an error in the underlined portion. If there is no error, choose D indicating that no change is necessary.

I don't know (A) weather we are going to the zoo or to the park, but I have (B) already packed our lunches along with (C) two umbrellas in case it rains.

- A. whether
- B. all ready
- C. too
- D. No change is necessary.

Answer: A

Explanation:

In the sentence provided, the error occurs in the underlined portion (A) with the word "weather." The correct word to be used here should be "whether."

The distinction between "weather" and "whether" is a common source of confusion in English. "Weather" is a noun referring to the atmospheric conditions, such as rain, sunshine, wind, and temperature. For example, "The weather today is sunny and warm."

On the other hand, "whether" is a conjunction used to introduce alternatives or choices in a sentence. In the sentence in question, "whether" is the appropriate choice because it introduces the two possibilities

of going to the zoo or the park. The correct sentence should read: "I don't know whether we are going to the zoo or to the park, but I have already packed our lunches along with two umbrellas in case it rains."

This correction is important for clarity and accuracy in communication. Using "weather" instead of "whether" in this context could lead to confusion, as "weather" does not grammatically fit the structure of indicating a choice or alternative. The corrected word "whether" ensures that the sentence clearly conveys a decision between two options, enhancing the overall readability and understanding of the sentence.

Question: 4

Directions: In the sentence below, select the underlined portion that contains an error.

Leading health experts contend that proper rest is not only beneficial but also a requirement for all age groups.

- A. contend that
- B. not only
- C. a requirement
- D. all age groups

Answer: C

Explanation:

The error in the sentence relates to a lack of parallelism in the construction of a correlative conjunction. Correlative conjunctions are pairs of conjunctions used in a sentence to link balanced phrases or clauses. The common pairs include "either...or," "neither...nor," "not only...but also," among others. When using correlative conjunctions, the grammatical structures that follow each part of the conjunction should be parallel, or similar in form. In the sentence provided: "Leading health experts contend that proper rest is not only beneficial but also a requirement for all age groups." The correlative conjunction used is "not only...but also." To maintain parallelism, the structure that follows "not only" should mirror the structure that follows "but also." Here's a breakdown: - Following "not only": the adjective "beneficial" - Following "but also": the noun phrase "a requirement" These two structures are not parallel — an adjective is used in the first part, and a noun phrase in the second. To correct this and achieve parallelism, you can change the noun phrase "a requirement" to the adjective "required." This maintains the adjective form after both parts of the correlative conjunction. The corrected sentence would read: "Leading health experts contend that proper rest is not only beneficial but also required for all age groups." Now, both structures following "not only" and "but also" are adjectives, which aligns with the rule of parallel structure in grammar. This correction ensures that the sentence is grammatically correct and stylistically clear.

Question: 5

Directions: In the sentence below, select the best choice for the underlined portion.

The best idea for this project is the one what will meet the needs of the entire group.

- A. who

- B. whom
- C. which
- D. what

Answer: C

Explanation:

In the given sentence, "The best idea for this project is the one what will meet the needs of the entire group," the underlined word "what" must be replaced for the sentence to be grammatically correct. The choices given are "who," "whom," "which," and "what." Let's analyze these options: 1. **Who**: This pronoun is used to refer to people, not objects or ideas. For example, "She is the person who won the award." It is inappropriate in this context because the subject is "the one" referring to "idea," which is not a person. 2. **Whom**: Like "who," "whom" is also used to refer to people and is the object form of "who." It is used in sentences where the pronoun is the object of the verb, such as in "To whom did you speak?" Again, it is not suitable here as the reference is to an idea. 3. **Which**: This pronoun is used to refer to things or animals and is appropriate for non-human references in defining or non-defining relative clauses. For example, "The book, which I bought yesterday, is excellent." In the sentence in question, "which" correctly links the clause "will meet the needs of the entire group" to "the one" (idea), thus providing additional information about the idea. 4. **What**: This word can function as a pronoun or determiner, but it is typically used in exclamatory or interrogative contexts, e.g., "What a great idea!" or "What are you doing?" In the sentence provided, "what" is incorrectly used as a relative pronoun. Correct Choice: C. "which" - This is the suitable choice as it correctly relates the subordinate clause to the main idea of the sentence, specifying which idea is being referred to. It maintains the grammatical structure and clarity of the sentence, linking the description of the idea directly and correctly. To summarize, the correct answer is "which" because it appropriately connects the relative clause to the noun "idea," thereby providing necessary information about the idea in a grammatically correct way.

Question: 6

Choose the sentence that exemplifies the correct parallel expressions.

- A. The performance was both long and it was really bad.
- B. Portia's share of the cake was much smaller than her friend.
- C. Two things that are important to success are hard work and persistence.
- D. Mr. Sanders thought more of being right than of courtesy.

Answer: C

Explanation:

In the context of choosing the sentence that exemplifies correct parallel expressions, parallelism in writing means using similar structures in a sentence to improve clarity and style. This helps ensure that each part of the sentence balances with the others in terms of grammar and style, making the sentence easier to read and understand. Let's examine each sentence provided and discuss why the correct answer is the one that uses parallel structure effectively.

"The performance was both long and it was really bad." In this sentence, the structure is not parallel because "long" and "it was really bad" are constructed differently. To make this sentence parallel, it should be rephrased to "The performance was both long and bad."

"Portia's share of the cake was much smaller than her friend." This sentence fails in parallelism and clarity because it incorrectly compares Portia's share of the cake to her friend, instead of her friend's share of the cake. It should be corrected to "Portia's share of the cake was much smaller than her friend's."

"Mr. Sanders thought more of being right than of courtesy." This sentence lacks parallelism because "being right" is not parallel with "courtesy." To correct this, the sentence should be rephrased as "Mr. Sanders thought more of being right than of being courteous." This maintains the parallel structure by using two gerunds ("being right" and "being courteous").

"Two things that are important to success are hard work and persistence." This sentence correctly demonstrates parallelism. It uses two nouns, "hard work" and "persistence," which are grammatically similar, thus providing a clear and balanced structure. Each element complements the other in form and function, enhancing the readability and impact of the sentence.

In conclusion, the sentence "Two things that are important to success are hard work and persistence" exemplifies correct parallel expressions. It maintains a consistent grammatical structure that aligns with the rules of parallelism, thereby making the sentence concise and effective. The clarity achieved through parallel structure helps convey the message in a straightforward and engaging manner.

Question: 7

Choose the most appropriate opening statement for the following situation.

You are having a meeting with the new principal of your school whom you have never met before. You will be discussing your course material and method of teaching.

- A. Hey, Mrs. Sprance. What's up? How do you like your new digs? You probably see this as a step up from your last position.
- B. Hello Mrs. Sprance. Welcome to our school. I'll bet you never thought that you would be the principal of such a well-thought-of school so soon in your career!
- C. Hello Mrs. Sprance. It's a pleasure to meet you and have this chance to share my course materials with you and to get your opinion on my methods of presenting this material to my students.
- D. Hello Mrs. Sprance. You look so young to be the principal of a school this size. Did you start teaching when you were a toddler?

Answer: C

Explanation:

Choosing the most appropriate opening statement in a professional setting, especially when meeting someone for the first time, is crucial in setting the right tone for the interaction. This scenario involves a meeting with the new principal of your school, Mrs. Sprance, to discuss course material and teaching methods. The correct approach is to be formal and respectful, given the professional context and the fact that there has been no prior personal acquaintance with the principal.

The correct answer, "Hello Mrs. Sprance. It's a pleasure to meet you and have this chance to share my course materials with you and to get your opinion on my methods of presenting this material to my students," is ideal because it accomplishes several key objectives for a first meeting: 1. **Politeness and Respect**: The greeting "Hello Mrs. Sprance" is suitably formal and shows respect, which is important in

a professional educational environment. 2. ****Pleasant Introduction****: The phrase "It's a pleasure to meet you" is a friendly introduction that helps set a positive tone for the meeting. 3. ****Purpose of the Meeting****: It clearly states the purpose of the meeting - to share course materials and discuss teaching methods. This shows preparedness and a focused approach to the meeting. 4. ****Seeking Feedback****: The statement expresses a desire to receive feedback ("to get your opinion"), demonstrating openness to constructive criticism and a collaborative attitude.

The other alternatives provided are inappropriate for several reasons: - "Hey, Mrs. Sprance. What's up? How do you like your new digs? You probably see this as a step up from your last position." This approach is too casual and somewhat presumptive. Using colloquial language like "What's up?" and "digs" in a first formal meeting can come across as unprofessional. Additionally, making assumptions about her previous job position can be seen as disrespectful or intrusive. - "Hello Mrs. Sprance. Welcome to our school. I'll bet you never thought that you would be the principal of such a well-thought-of school so soon in your career!" This statement can be perceived as patronizing, implying surprise at her rapid career advancement, which might not be welcome or appropriate. - "Hello Mrs. Sprance. You look so young to be the principal of a school this size. Did you start teaching when you were a toddler?" This comment is clearly inappropriate as it focuses on her appearance and age, which are irrelevant to her professional capabilities and could be considered offensive.

In any professional setting, especially in education, maintaining a respectful and formal tone in communication is key, particularly when establishing new professional relationships. The chosen opening statement should always reflect professionalism, clear communication of intent, and respect for the position and person you are addressing.

Question: 8

Read the entire passage carefully and then answer the question.

(1) The recent developments with the correlation with global warming and carbon emissions from cars, has prompted large car companies to rethink their strategies and technologies when it comes to selling cars. (2) With people's choices tending towards environmentally friendly vehicles there is overwhelming evidence that the most popular cars are no longer the big V8's or V6's but the smaller 4 cylinder cars and especially diesel 4WD's due to their excellent fuel efficiency. (3) However, hybrid vehicles are also becoming a popular choice for those serious about saving money on fuel. (4) Fewer and fewer "big 6" cars are being bought and those car companies specializing in this area are putting more and more resources into increasing the technology within these bigger engines. (5) Pretty soon we will see big engine cars that have the same fuel economy as the 4 cylinder vehicles we see now. (6) With fuel prices always increasing and burning a huge hole in our pockets, now is the time to convert to the more convenient 4 cylinder vehicles and save thousands of dollars each year. (7) The price of fuel is always a factor when making a decision on the purchase of a new car. (8) This is evident in our changing tastes in cars. (9) People can be fickle.

Which numbered sentence is least relevant to the passage?

- A. sentence 6
- B. sentence 7
- C. sentence 8
- D. sentence 9

Answer: D

Explanation:

To determine which sentence is least relevant to the passage, it's important to focus on how well each sentence contributes to the main topic or argument being presented. The passage is described as discussing consumers' shift towards more fuel-efficient cars, motivated by environmental concerns and financial savings. The relevance of each sentence to this topic should be assessed based on whether it supports, elaborates on, or diverges from this main theme. Sentence 9 mentions that "whether people are fickle or not really has nothing to do with the message of the passage." This sentence appears to address the stability or variability of consumer preferences. The focus here is on the nature of consumer behavior—whether it is consistent or changeable—which does not directly contribute to the discussion about the reasons for preferring fuel-efficient cars (environmental and cost-saving benefits). Instead, it seems to touch on an aspect of consumer psychology that is not central to the core motivations covered in the passage. Here's a more detailed analysis: - If the passage primarily discusses why consumers are increasingly choosing fuel-efficient cars (environmental benefit and cost savings), then any sentence that deals with these motivations directly would be highly relevant. - A sentence focusing on the fickleness of consumers does not add value to the understanding of their motivations for choosing fuel-efficient cars. Instead, it introduces a general comment on consumer behavior that could be seen as tangential unless the passage specifically aims to discuss the consistency of consumer choices over time or in different contexts. Therefore, based on the description of the passage and the content of Sentence 9, it can be concluded that Sentence 9 is least relevant. It diverges from the main discussion about why consumers prefer fuel-efficient cars and instead comments on the general nature of consumer behavior, which is not essential to the primary focus of the passage.

Question: 9

Directions: In the sentence below, select the underlined portion that contains an error.

When you come to the party, make sure you take a gift for the guest of honor.

- A. come
- B. ,
- C. take
- D. honor

Answer: C

Explanation:

The sentence under review contains a subtle error in the use of the word "take" when it should be "bring." The sentence reads: "When you come to the party, make sure you take a gift for the guest of honor." The error lies in the directional implication of the verb used. In English, the verbs "bring" and "take" are both used to describe the action of moving something from one location to another, but they are used differently based on the speaker's perspective and the direction of the movement relative to the speaker: - **Bring** is used when the movement of the object is towards the location of the speaker or the reference point in the conversation. It suggests carrying something to the place where the speaker will be or where the conversation is contextually centered. - **Take**, on the other hand, implies moving something away from the speaker or the reference point of the discussion, towards a different location. In the context of the sentence provided, the speaker is referring to the action of someone attending a party and carrying a gift to that party. Since the party is the destination and the context involves moving toward it (the speaker likely being at the party or considering the party as the

reference point), the correct word to use would be "bring." The corrected sentence should read: "When you come to the party, make sure you bring a gift for the guest of honor." This correction aligns with the typical use of "bring" for movements directed towards the point of interest in the discourse, which in this case is the party. Conversely, "take" would be appropriate if the context involved moving the gift away from the party to another location, which is not the case here. Thus, using "take" in the original sentence disrupts the natural directional flow of the action relative to the speaker's perspective and the focal point of the event—the party.

Question: 10

Choose the option that corrects an error in the underlined portion(s). If no error exists, choose "No change is necessary."

It's really important not to (A) mispell a word when you are writing a cover letter for your resume. If you do, you risk (B) alienating the reader and losing an (C) opportunity.

- A. misspell
- B. aleinating
- C. oportunity
- D. No change is necessary.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The underlined portion in question here is the spelling of the word "mispell" in segment (A). The correct spelling of the word is "misspell." Accordingly, the correct option to choose is:

misspell misspell It would be embarrassing to misspell this word! It is easy to remember if you just see it as mis + spell. This option indicates that an error exists in the underlined portion (A) and provides the correct spelling of the word. The explanation provided also gives a mnemonic to help remember the correct spelling: by breaking it down into "mis" + "spell." The other options provided do not correctly address the error within the text: - "aleinating" is not a word under consideration in the sentence. - "oportunity" is also not in the sentence. - "No change is necessary" is incorrect because there is an error in the spelling of "mispell." Therefore, the only appropriate and accurate correction is to select the option that corrects the spelling to "misspell."

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