

Level D - Form 1 - Language: Paragraph Development

Sample Question A

Choose the sentence that best fills the blank in the paragraph.

_____. Johnny Carson was from Nebraska. Stephen Douglas was a Nebraskan. The leader Black Elk also lived in Nebraska.

- A Have you heard of Stephen Douglas?
- B Many famous people come from Nebraska.
- C Many entertainers have had humble childhoods.
- D Black Elk had a vision that the Sioux would become strong again.

Sample Question B

Choose the answer that best develops the topic sentence.

When mixing cement, you must add the right amount of water.

- A The Romans invented cement. It's cheap and durable.
- B Cement is used for sidewalks, foundations, and walls. Modern cities are built on cement.
- C If you add too much water, the cement will run. If you don't add enough, it won't form correctly.
- D Most cement is made from limestone and clay. Once water is added, the mixture will take almost any shape.

Sample Question C

Choose the sentence that does not belong in the paragraph.

1. Little Carrie has been getting into a lot of trouble lately. 2. She bit someone at daycare last month. 3. She draws the most wonderful pictures. 4. And yesterday she ate an entire tube of toothpaste.

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

Level D - Form 1 - Language: Paragraph Development

For Numbers 1 through 12, read the paragraph. Then choose the sentence that best fills the blank in the paragraph.

1. _____. She has opened better schools for our children. The streets have been cleaner since she's been in office. Because of her efforts, more tourists visit the city now.
 - A Maria Lopez is truly a great friend.
 - B Maria Lopez has been an excellent mayor.
 - C Maria Lopez cares about the education of our children.
 - D Maria Lopez is pleased that more tourists come to the city.

2. First, make sure that the wood floor is perfectly clean. _____. After the first coat has thoroughly dried, buff the floor with steel wool. Finally, apply the second coat.
 - F Borrow a sander and use it on the floor.
 - G Let the second coat dry for twelve hours.
 - H Next, apply an oil-based stain with a brush.
 - J Before you buy the stain, make sure the color fits the room.

3. _____. Any spill is supposed to wipe away. Stains on light-colored slacks are supposed to be a thing of the past. Fabric care will be easy.
 - A Good slacks are expensive and hard to keep clean.
 - B I recently bought a pair of stain-resistant khaki slacks.
 - C Most slacks soak up every kind of liquid you spill on them.
 - D My cousin Martha has a new flowered blouse.

4. A mistake may occur in a gene during cell duplication. _____. A mutation may be passed on to offspring. Two mutations in humans are Down's syndrome, which results in brain damage, and muscular dystrophy, which causes muscles to waste away.
 - F A dominant gene, such as brown eye color, will appear in the offspring.
 - G The X and Y chromosomes determine whether a baby will be male or female.
 - H Gregor Mendel studied genetics by studying reproduction of pea plants.
 - J This change in the genes is called a mutation.

5. After the American Civil War, African Americans had gained their freedom but they still had many rights denied to them. By 1870 the Fourteenth Amendment guaranteed citizenship to blacks, and the Fifteenth Amendment gave them the right to vote. _____.
- A Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862.
 - B The Civil War was the most devastating war our country has ever been involved in.
 - C When General Robert E. Lee surrendered, the war was officially over.
 - D Dispite these gains, racial issues and problems would continue to plague our country for years.
6. _____. It is a way to learn how to survive in such a dry place. It is also a chance to watch many different kinds of animals. Hikers may also find traces of the past on the trails.
- F The Sonora Desert is home to many animals.
 - G Hiking the Sonora Desert is more than just fun.
 - H There are lions and wolves, but hikers rarely see them.
 - J Horses and mules are available for those who cannot walk.
7. Going on vacation can be more fun if you plan it correctly. Be sure to make your reservations well in advance of the date you wish to go. _____. You don't want to waste a few vacation days looking for things you could have brought with you.
- A The hotel staff will make sure your room is ready when you arrive.
 - B Shopping for things you need is a fun thing to do while on vacation.
 - C Coming back from vacation is difficult when you've had so much fun.
 - D The night before you leave, make sure you have all the things you need.
8. _____. Some chefs are simple cooks who follow directions and provide adequate meals. Others are artists who create new flavors and visual delights. Then there are chefs who manage restaurants and make sure that new dishes are worthy of being included in the menu.
- F Artistic chefs are very difficult to work with.
 - G Chefs can be divided into three different groups.
 - H Most chefs are not capable of following orders.
 - J Today's chefs are not equipped to cook foods quickly.

9. Airplanes use air pressure to keep them aloft. The secret of an airplane's flight is the teardrop shape of the craft's wings. _____. This creates more air pressure below, and that lifts up the wing.
- A Early airplanes, called biplanes, had two sets of wings for added lift.
 - B Mile-for-mile, flying on an airplane is the safest available form of travel.
 - C A change in the barometric pressure usually signals a change in the weather.
 - D The shape of an airplane wing forces more air to build up below the wing than above it.
10. Automobile mechanics are perceived as having a bad reputation. Many people complain about how the mechanics charge too much money for fixing cars. _____.
- F Therefore, people still hire mechanics to fix their automobile problems.
 - G Meanwhile, people still hire mechanics to fix their automobile problems.
 - H For instance, people still hire mechanics to fix their automobile problems.
 - J Nevertheless, people still hire mechanics to fix their automobile problems.
11. _____. Children love seeing the circus clowns and trained animals. Even the youngest like the brightly colored lights and sounds. Parents enjoy the tightrope walkers and other feats of skill.
- A Some circuses specialize in animal acts.
 - B There are lots of things to eat at a circus.
 - C Going to the circus is fun for the whole family.
 - D Many people enjoy visiting the circus every year.
12. News reports used to take weeks or even months to reach us. Now cable news networks are able to present an event immediately. Many times, we can even see news events as they happen. _____.
- F This has been the result of advances in the use of satellites in space.
 - G During a war, news reporters who travel with the troops file their reports daily.
 - H Depending on the distance it had to travel, it can take days for news to reach us.
 - J Cable news networks present news very graphically.

For Numbers 13 through 16, choose the answer the best develops the topic sentence.

13. Our country has pursued travel into space in order to collect information without the use of probes.
- A We want to be the first country to land humans on Mars.
 - B I believe our country should spend less on defense and social welfare in order to spend more on space exploration.
 - C Space capsules built to support human life during space travel started with NASA flights to the moon in the 1960s.
 - D We have to do something now that there is no longer any more land on Earth to explore.
14. English settlers came to the American colonies for many different reasons.
- F Pilgrims and Native Americans celebrated the first Thanksgiving in the fall of 1621.
 - G Native Americans taught the colonists how to plant and care for crops such as corn.
 - H Each colony was governed by a council or a governor and owed their allegiance to the King of England.
 - J Settlers came to escape religious persecution, so that they could worship as they wanted. They came to own land and to better themselves economically.

15. One of the most interesting and educational museums in Washington, D. C., is the National Museum of American History.
- A Many museums house the art collections of wealthy contributors. Their displays focus on European paintings and sculpture.
 - B Washington's largest private art museum highlights artwork by great American portraitists John Copley, Gilbert Stuart, and Rembrandt Peale.
 - C This museum explores America's cultural, political, technical, and scientific past. Major exhibits range from General Washington's war tent to Archie Bunker's chair.
 - D The West Wing of the gallery exhibits an interesting Renaissance collection while the East Wing exhibits beautiful 20th century artwork.
16. Barbara Jordan devoted her career to reminding us of the importance of ethics.
- F In 1974 Jordan's speech on the ethical implications of Watergate brought her to national prominence. She went on to teach ethics at the University of Texas and to advise Governor Ann Richards on ethics.
 - G Born February 21, 1936, in Houston, Texas, Jordan became the first African-American congresswoman from the Deep South.
 - H A commanding and articulate speaker, Jordan was best known for her speeches during the Watergate hearings and during the 1976 Democratic National Convention.
 - J Ethics are rules of professional conduct. Although professional codes of ethics exist, for the most part ethics are a matter of unwritten expectations and standards.

For Numbers 17 through 20, read the paragraph. Then choose the sentence that does not belong in the paragraph.

17. 1. Walking is rewarding in many ways. 2. It can also be dangerous. 3. Walking is peaceful and relaxing. 4. Thirty minutes of daily walking can keep a person healthy.

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

18. 1. Skateboards and snowboards are very different. 2. Skateboards are made for riding on concrete or pavement. 3. The popularity of skateboarding has increased over the years. 4. Snowboards can be ridden only in the snow.

- F sentence 1
- G sentence 2
- H sentence 3
- J sentence 4

19. 1. By being a member of a discount club, people can take advantage of low prices for high-quality goods. 2. Shopping for discounts is a hobby for many people. 3. Discount clubs offer goods at wholesale prices. 4. For a small fee, members can buy their household needs inexpensively.

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

20. 1. The Harbor Neighborhood Council is exploring different ways to raise money to clean up Harbor Park. 2. Some members strongly feel that the council should not ask for donations from businesses. 3. Others disagree, pointing out that nearby businesses are the ones causing the problem. 4. People who live near Harbor Park elect the members of the council.

- F sentence 1
- G sentence 2
- H sentence 3
- J sentence 4