
Assignment 4 Solutions

QUESTION 1

Choice B is the best answer because it provides a noun, “reductions,” yielding a grammatically complete and coherent sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each provides a verb or gerund, while the underlined portion calls for a noun.

QUESTION 2

Choice B is the best answer because it offers a transitional adverb, “Consequently,” that communicates a cause-effect relationship between the funding reduction identified in the previous sentence and the staffing decrease described in this sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each misidentifies the relationship between the preceding sentence and the sentence of which it is a part.

QUESTION 3

Choice A is the best answer because the singular verb “has” agrees with the singular noun “trend” that appears earlier in the sentence.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because the plural verb “have” does not agree with the singular subject “trend,” and the relative pronoun “which” unnecessarily interrupts the direct relationship between “trend” and the verb.

QUESTION 4

Choice A is the best answer because it states accurately why the proposed clause should be added to the sentence. Without these specific examples, readers have only a vague sense of what “nonprint” formats might be.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each represents a misinterpretation of the relationship between the proposed clause to be added and the surrounding text in the passage.

QUESTION 5

Choice D is the best answer because it includes only the preposition and noun that the sentence requires.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each includes an unnecessary pronoun, either “them” or “their.” The sentence contains no referents that would circulate e-books.

QUESTION 6

Choice D is the best answer because the verb form “cataloging” parallels the other verbs in the series.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each interrupts the parallel structure in the verb series, either through an incorrect verb form or with an unnecessary subject.

QUESTION 7

Choice B is the best answer because it consolidates references to the subject, “librarians,” by placing the relative pronoun “whose” immediately following “librarians.” This results in a logical flow of information within the sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each fails to place “librarians” as the main subject of the sentence without redundancy, resulting in a convoluted sentence whose relevance to the preceding and subsequent sentences is unclear.

QUESTION 8

Choice D is the best answer because no conjunction is necessary to communicate the relationship between the clauses in the sentence. The conjunction “While” at the beginning of the sentence already creates a comparison.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each provides an unnecessary coordinating conjunction.

QUESTION 9

Choice B is the best answer because it mentions time periods when the free services described later in the sentence are particularly useful to library patrons.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each creates redundancy or awkwardness in the remainder of the sentence.

QUESTION 10

Choice B is the best answer because it is concise; it is also consistent with the formal language in the rest of the sentence and the passage overall.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each is either unnecessarily wordy or uses colloquial language that does not correspond with the tone of the passage.

QUESTION 11

Choice C is the best answer because it restates the writer's primary argument, which may be found at the end of the first paragraph: "As public libraries adapt to rapid technological advances in information distribution, librarians' roles are actually expanding."

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because they do not paraphrase the writer's primary claim.

QUESTION 12

Choice D is the best answer because without the underlined portion, the sentence contains an appropriate parallel contrast between the phrases "organically grown crops" and "conventionally grown counterparts," each of which describes crops.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each creates an illogical comparison: crops to "people," crops to "purchase," and crops to "purchasing."

QUESTION 13

Choice B is the best answer because it provides the subject "consumers," creating a complete sentence and providing a referent for the pronoun "they" that appears later in the sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each lacks the subject that the sentence requires and none provide a referent for "they."

QUESTION 14

Choice D is the best answer because it efficiently creates a contrast with "organically grown."

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because they are unnecessarily wordy and repeat information given in previous sentences.

QUESTION 15

Choice C is the best answer because it sets up the contrast between the added expense of organic food and the evidence that suggests a lack of benefits from eating organic food.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each fails to acknowledge the contrast between the last sentence in the paragraph and the previous sentences.

QUESTION 16

Choice C is the best answer because “maintain” is commonly used to describe advocating a position in an argument.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none is appropriate in the context of describing an opinion advocated by a group of people.

QUESTION 17

Choice A is the best answer because the transitional phrase “For instance” sets up an example supporting the point, made in the previous sentence, that organic food may not contain more vitamins and minerals than conventionally grown food.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none indicates that the sentence is providing an example supporting the point made in the previous sentence.

QUESTION 18

Choice C is the best answer because it accurately identifies the reason that the writer should not add the proposed sentence: the paragraph is about evidence of nutritional content, not the availability of organic food.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each provides an inaccurate interpretation of the proposed sentence’s relationship to the passage.

QUESTION 19

Choice A is the best answer because the plural verb “have” is consistent with the plural subject “amounts.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each is a singular verb, which is inconsistent with the plural subject “amounts.”

QUESTION 20

Choice C is the best answer because the example it supplies, that pesticides can be minimized by washing or peeling produce, supports the claim that nonorganic food is safe.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none supports the paragraph’s claim about the safety of nonorganic food.

QUESTION 21

Choice B is the best answer because the plural noun phrase “numerous other reasons” must be preceded by a plural verb and a pronoun that does not indicate possession: “there are.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains the singular verb “is,” the possessive pronoun “their,” or both.

QUESTION 22

Choice D is the best answer because a nonrestrictive clause must be preceded by a comma; in addition, “such as” is never followed by a comma. In this case, the list of reasons supporting the claim that there are benefits to buying organic food is nonrestrictive; the list tells the reader something about organic food but does not restrict or place limits on organic food.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each places erroneous punctuation after the phrase “such as.” Choices B and C also lack the necessary comma preceding “such as.”

QUESTION 23

Choice A is the best answer because it correctly completes the noun phrase that begins with “sea otters,” and directly follows the noun phrase with the verb “help.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each separates the noun “otters” from the verb “help” in a way that results in a grammatically incomplete sentence.

QUESTION 24

Choice B is the best answer because the data in the chart show lower sea urchin density in areas where sea otters have lived for two years or less than in areas where no otters are present.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none accurately describes the data in the chart.

QUESTION 25

Choice B is the best answer because the conjunctive adverb “however” accurately communicates the contrast between an environment shaped by the presence of sea otters, described in the preceding sentence, and an environment shaped by the absence of sea otters, described in this sentence.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each presents a conjunctive adverb that does not accurately depict the relationship between the preceding sentence and the sentence with the underlined word.

QUESTION 26

Choice A is the best answer because the additional information usefully connects the carbon dioxide levels mentioned in this sentence with the global warming mentioned in the previous sentence.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each misinterprets the relationship between the proposed information and the main points of the paragraph and the passage.

QUESTION 27

Choice D is the best answer because it offers the verb “suggests” followed directly by its object, a that-clause, without interruption.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each contains punctuation that unnecessarily separates the study from its findings — that is, separates the verb from its object.

QUESTION 28

Choice A is the best answer because it accurately reflects the fact that sea urchins “graze voraciously on kelp,” as stated in the first paragraph, and it also maintains the tone of the passage.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each offers a term that does not accurately describe the behavior of sea otters.

QUESTION 29

Choice C is the best answer because the possessive singular pronoun “its” corresponds with the referent “kelp,” which appears later in the sentence, and with the possessive relationship between the pronoun and the “terrestrial plant cousins.”

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because none provides a pronoun that is both singular and possessive.

QUESTION 30

Choice C is the best answer because it provides the noun “sea otters” to identify who or what “played a role.”

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each provides a pronoun that makes no sense in the context of the paragraph and the passage, which is about the role sea otters play — not the role scientists play or the role kelp plays.

QUESTION 31

Choice D is the best answer because sentence 5 indicates that sea otters’ importance in decreasing atmospheric carbon dioxide was not known, and the sentence to be added indicates that a surprise will follow. Sentence 6 provides that surprise: sea otters have a large impact on the amount of carbon dioxide kelp can remove from the atmosphere.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each interrupts the logical flow of ideas in the paragraph.

QUESTION 32

Choice B is the best answer because its clear wording and formal tone correspond with the passage’s established style.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each contains vague language that is inconsistent with the passage’s clear wording and formal tone.

QUESTION 33

Choice D is the best answer because it provides punctuation that appropriately identifies “removed” as the definition of “sequestered.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each contains punctuation that obscures the relationship between “sequestered,” “removed,” and the text that follows.

QUESTION 34

Choice C is the best answer because it uses the present tense, which is consistent with the verbs that appear later in the sentence.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because they create awkward shifts in tense.

QUESTION 35

Choice C is the best answer because the em dashes correctly bracket the examples of the types of elements.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each uses either inconsistent or incorrect punctuation to set off the types of elements.

QUESTION 36

Choice B is the best answer because a period is an appropriate way to separate the two independent clauses that meet at the underlined text.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because each either creates a comma splice or lacks necessary punctuation.

QUESTION 37

Choice D is the best answer because the proposed sentence to be added is a paraphrase of the sentence before it, containing the same ideas.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because none fully acknowledges the relationship between the proposed sentence to be added and the other sentences in the paragraph.

QUESTION 38

Choice A is the best answer because it highlights the importance of the game designer’s communication with others, which is the paragraph’s main point.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because none describes communication originating with the game designer, which is the main focus of the paragraph.

QUESTION 39

Choice C is the best answer because the importance of communication is established in the previous sentences. The transition “consequently” best captures the fact that the designer must be skilled in this area.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect because each contains a transition that either repeats information or creates an illogical relationship between this sentence and the previous sentences.

QUESTION 40

Choice B is the best answer because it provides the singular nouns “writer” and “speaker” to agree with the singular pronoun “anyone.”

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none creates pronoun-referent agreement.

QUESTION 41

Choice D is the best answer because it expresses in the clearest, simplest way the idea that many game designers start out as programmers.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because each is unnecessarily wordy and obscures meaning.

QUESTION 42

Choice D is the best answer because it logically and appropriately modifies the phrase “collaboration skills.”

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect because none appropriately describes the value of collaboration skills.

QUESTION 43

Choice A is the best answer because it provides a logical subject for the modifying phrase “demanding and deadline driven.”

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect because each creates a dangling modifier.

QUESTION 44

Choice B is the best answer because sentence 5 expresses the main point upon which the paragraph elaborates.

Choices A, C, and D are incorrect because none places sentence 5 in the appropriate position to set up the details contained in the paragraph.