**1/ SC01506**

Researchers now regard interferon as not a single substance, but it is rather a biological family of complex molecules that play an important, though not entirely defined, role in the immune system.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. as not a single substance, but it is rather a biological family of complex molecules that play |
|  | B. as not a single substance but as a biological family of complex molecules playing |
|  | **C**. not as a single substance but as a biological family of complex molecules that play |
|  | D. not to be a single substance but rather a biological family of complex molecules playing |
|  | E. not as a single substance but instead as being a biological family of complex molecules that play |

**Parallelism; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence draws a contrast between how interferon is and is not regarded by researchers. However, the two parts of the contrast are not expressed in parallel form since the first is a prepositional phrase (*as not a single substance*), and the second is a clause (*it is rather a biological family*). Furthermore, the wording *regard interferon as not* is awkward and confusing. For clarity and proper parallelism, the contrast should be constructed using the expression *not as X but as Y*, where *X* and *Y* are both noun phrases.

**Correct**. The contrast is expressed using the parallel structure *not as a single substance but as a biological family.*

2/ **SC08083**

Positing an enormous volcanic explosion at the end of the Permian period would explain the presence of a buried *crater*, account for the presence of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the presence of quartz having been shattered by high-impact shock waves.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. account for the presence of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the presence of quartz having been |
|  | **B**. of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and of quartz |
|  | C. the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and explain the presence of quartz having been |
|  | D. the presence of the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and explain the presence of quartz |
|  | E. explain the element iridium (originating deep within the earth), and the presence of quartz |

**Parallelism; Rhetorical construction**

The sentence indicates that a volcanic explosion would explain the presence of three features, but those features are not expressed using parallel grammatical structures. The first two items in the list are verb phrases that involve needless repetition—*explain the presence of and account for the presence of*—while the third is an awkwardly worded noun phrase—*the presence of quartz having been shattered*. The three features can be identified more concisely with a list of prepositional phrases following *explain the presence: of a buried crater, of the element iridium, and of quartz*.

**Correct**. The three features are identified with parallel prepositional phrases.

3/ **SC01975**

Unlike the nests of leaf cutters and most other ants, situated underground or in pieces of wood, raider ants make a portable nest by entwining their long legs to form “curtains” of ants that hang from logs or boulders, providing protection for the queen and the colony larvae and pupae.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. the nests of leaf cutters and most other ants, |
|  | B. the nests of leaf cutters and most other ants, which are |
|  | **C**. leaf cutters and most other ants, whose nests are |
|  | D. leaf cutters and most other ants in having nests |
|  | E. those of leaf cutters and most other ants with nests |

**Logical predication**

As worded, this sentence draws a contrast between raider ants and the nests of leaf cutters and most other ants. The appropriate contrast would be with leaf cutters and most other ants themselves, not their nests.

**Correct**. This version correctly draws the contrast between raider ants and other kinds of ants. Furthermore, unlike in (B) and (D), it is clear here that *situated underground or in pieces of wood* applies to the nests of leaf cutters and most other ants.

4/ **SC01761**

She was less successful after she had emigrated to New York compared to her native Germany, photographer Lotte Jacobi nevertheless earned a small group of discerning admirers, and her photographs were eventually exhibited in prestigious galleries across the United States.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. She was less successful after she had emigrated to New York compared to |
|  | B. Being less successful after she had emigrated to New York as compared to |
|  | **C**. Less successful after she emigrated to New York than she had been in |
|  | D. Although she was less successful after emigrating to New York when compared to |
|  | E. She had been less successful after emigrating to New York than in |

**Idiom; Grammatical construction; Logical predication**

This sentence compares the success Jacobi experienced after moving to New York to the success she had previously experienced in Germany. The phrase *less successful* anticipates the conclusion of the comparison with the phrase *than.* … The main subject of the sentence is *photographer Lotte Jacobi*, and the main verb is *earned*. The opening clause *She was less successful* … therefore creates a comma splice if the comma is not followed by a conjunction. The most efficient way to incorporate the information about Jacobi's comparative successes in Germany and in New York is to turn this clause into an adjectival phrase describing Jacobi.

**Correct**. The idiomatic construction *less successful* … *than* is incorporated into an introductory adjectival phrase modifying *Lotte Jacobi*.

5/ **SC06740**

According to recent studies comparing the nutritional value of meat from wild animals and meat from domesticated animals, wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is good for cardiac health.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. wild animals have less total fat than do livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat they think is |
|  | **B**. wild animals have less total fat than livestock fed on grain and more of a kind of fat thought to be |
|  | C. wild animals have less total fat than that of livestock fed on grain and have more fat of a kind thought to be |
|  | D. total fat of wild animals is less than livestock fed on grain and they have more fat of a kind thought to be |
|  | E. total fat is less in wild animals than that of livestock fed on grain and more of their fat is of a kind they think is |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The sentence reports research findings on the comparison between the fat content of wild animals and that of domestic livestock. The most significant error in the sentence is in the phrase *they think*: the pronoun *they* either lacks a referent or is meant to refer back to *wild animals*, which would be nonsensical.

**Correct**. The phrase *thought to be* eliminates the most significant error in the original sentence. Note that while the phrase *less total fat than livestock* differs from the phrase *less total fat than do livestock* in the original, either would be correct here.

6/ **SC01957**

Most efforts to combat such mosquito-borne diseases like malaria and dengue have focused either on the vaccination of humans or on exterminating mosquitoes with pesticides.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. like malaria and dengue have focused either on the vaccination of humans or on exterminating |
|  | B. like malaria and dengue have focused either on vaccinating of humans or on the extermination of |
|  | C. as malaria and dengue have focused on either vaccinating humans or on exterminating |
|  | D. as malaria and dengue have focused on either vaccinating of humans or on extermination of |
|  | **E**. as malaria and dengue have focused on either vaccinating humans or exterminating |

**Diction; Parallelism**

The phrase *such … diseases like malaria and dengue* is not a correct way in English to indicate that the two diseases mentioned are examples of a larger category; the correct expression is *such … as. …*

**Correct**. This version uses *either … or …* correctly and appropriately uses the parallel forms *vaccinating* and *exterminating*.

7/ **SC01033**

Because many of Australia's marsupials, such as the koala, are cute and cuddly, as well as being biologically different than North American marsupials, they have attracted a lot of attention after their discovery in the 1700s.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. being biologically different than North American marsupials, they have attracted a lot of attention after |
|  | B. being biologically different from North American marsupials, they attracted a lot of attention since |
|  | C. biologically different than North American marsupials, they attracted a lot of attention since |
|  | D. biologically different than North American marsupials, they have attracted a lot of attention after |
|  | **E**. biologically different from North American marsupials, they have attracted a lot of attention since |

**Verb Form; Parallelism**

In seeking to explain why Australian marsupials have attracted much attention in North America, the sentence ascribes two attributes to them: they differ biologically from North American marsupials and seem friendly and appealing. The structure *are … as well as …* is used to coordinate the description of the two properties—but incorrectly, because the insertion of *being* impairs the required parallelism: *are cute and cuddly* is not parallel to *[are] being biologically different.* Also, there is a lack of fit between the verb form *have attracted* and the preposition *after.*

**Correct.** The superfluous word *being* is omitted, preserving the parallelism between the two adjectival phrases in the description of the attribute following *as well as*. The preposition *since* is the appropriate usage with the verb form *have attracted*.

8/ **SC04836**

Rock samples taken from the remains of an asteroid about twice the size of the 6-mile-wide asteroid that eradicated the dinosaurs has been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus is evidence of the earliest known asteroid impact on Earth.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. has been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus is |
|  | B. has been dated at 3.47 billion years old and thus |
|  | C. have been dated to be 3.47 billion years old and thus are |
|  | D. have been dated as being 3.47 billion years old and thus |
|  | **E.** have been dated at 3.47 billion years old and thus are |

**Agreement; Idiom**

The plural subject of this sentence, *Rock samples*, requires plural verb phrases—*have been dated* and *are* rather than *has been dated* and *is.* The idiomatic way of expressing estimation of age is with the phrase *dated at.*

**Correct**. The plural verbs match the plural subject, and the wording of the sentence is idiomatic.

9/ **SC05201**

Cost cutting and restructuring has allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses for the second quarter, and they are forecasting a profit before the end of the year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. has allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses for the second quarter, and they are forecasting |
|  | B. has allowed for the manufacturing company to lower its projected losses in the second quarter and to forecast |
|  | C. have allowed that the manufacturing company can lower the projected losses for the second quarter, and to forecast |
|  | **D**. have allowed the manufacturing company to lower its projected second-quarter losses and to forecast |
|  | E. have allowed for the manufacturing company to lower the projected losses in the second quarter, as well as forecasting |

**Agreement; Idiom; Verb form**

The point of the sentence is to explain the two main effects of the changes made by the company. However, the singular verb *has allowed* does not agree with the compound subject *cost cutting and restructuring*, which are far more plausibly understood as two actions rather than as two facets of a single action. In principle, *the manufacturing company* could be construed as plural (referring collectively to the decision makers and spokespeople who are projecting losses and forecasting a profit), but the plural pronoun *they* does not agree with the earlier *its*, which treats the antecedent as singular.

**Correct**. The sentence uses the correct subject–verb combination *cost cutting and restructuring have allowed*; the two occurrences of the pronoun *its* agree with each other in treating their antecedent *company* as singular; and the two effects *to lower* and *to forecast* are parallel and idiomatic.

10/ **SC01739**

Unlike the virginal, whose single set of strings runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are placed at right angles to its front edge.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. whose single set of strings runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are |
|  | B. with a single set of strings running parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the several sets of strings of the harpsichord are |
|  | C. which has a single set of strings that runs parallel to the front edge of the instrument, in the case of the harpsichord, several sets of strings are |
|  | **D**. which has a single set of strings that run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord has several sets of strings |
|  | E. in which a single set of strings run parallel to the front edge of the instrument, the harpsichord's several sets of strings are |

**Parallelism; Agreement**

The point of the sentence is to contrast two instruments, but the sentence has been written to contrast the *virginal* with the *sets of strings* on the harpsichord. The proper contrast is between the *virginal* and the *harpsichord*.

**Correct**. The contrast is properly drawn between *the virginal* and *the harpsichord*.

**11/ SC01455**

In a speech before the Senate Banking Committee, the chairman of the Federal Reserve painted an optimistic picture of the economy, suggesting to investors the central bank in the near future is not lowering interest rates.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. suggesting to investors the central bank in the near future is not lowering interest rates |
|  | **B**. suggesting to investors that the central bank would not lower interest rates in the near future |
|  | C. which suggests that to investors in the near future interest rates will not be lowered by the central bank |
|  | D. with the suggestion to investors in the near future that interest rates would not be lowered by the central bank |
|  | E. with the suggestion to investors of interest rates not being lowered in the near future by the central bank |

**Grammatical Construction; Verb Form**

The sentence seeks to report, in indirect-speech form (i.e., using a *that*-clause), a thought expressed by the chairman of the United States Federal Reserve (the central bank) concerning the central bank's intentions. For example, the chairman might have said: “The central bank will not lower interest rates in the near future.” In simplified form, the report of that past speech would have been correct as follows: “The chairman said that the central bank would not lower interest rates in the near future.” Notice how *will not lower* has to morph into *would not lower* in the indirect-speech transformation of the past direct speech. However, in the indirect-speech report that is given, the sequence of the verb forms is incorrect.

**Correct.** This clearly and correctly reports the chairman's past speech about what the central bank intended at that time.

12/ **SC01470**

Thomas Mann's novel Doctor Faustus offers an examination not only of how difficult it is to reconcile reason, will, and passion together in any art form, but also a skillfully navigated exploration of the major concerns of modernism.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. an examination not only of how difficult it is to reconcile reason, will, and passion together in any art form, but |
|  | B. an examination not only about the difficulty of reconciling reason, will, and passion in any art form, and |
|  | C. not only an examination of how difficult it is to reconcile reason, will, and passion in any art form, and |
|  | D. not only an examination about the difficulty with reconciling reason, will, and passion together in any art form, but  **E**. not only an examination of the difficulty of reconciling reason, will, and passion in any art form, but |

**Grammatical Construction; Idiom**

The sentence, in its most correct form, would use the structure *not only … but also …* to coordinate parallel references to an “examination” and to an “exploration.” However, the given sentence errs in placing the phrase *not only* after the first of the items meant to be coordinated. This impairs the required parallelism and the grammatical structure of the sentence as a whole—as if the “examination” referred to was not only an examination of the difficulty of a certain reconciliation but was also an examination of a skillfully navigated exploration. This does not seem to be the intended meaning, and if it were, the latter *of*, not included, would be required.

**Correct.** The coordination of the parallel reference to an examination and an exploration is successfully executed here using the structure *not only … but also*.

13/ **SC01493**

Through experimenting designed to provide information that will ultimately prove useful in the treatment of hereditary diseases, mice have received bone marrow transplants that give them a new gene.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Through experimenting designed to provide information that will ultimately prove |
|  | B. Through experiments designed to provide information ultimately proving |
|  | C. In experimentation designed to provide information that ultimately proves |
|  | D. In experimenting designed to provide information ultimately proving |
|  | **E**. In experiments designed to provide information that will ultimately prove |

**Rhetorical Construction; Diction**

The sentence reports that mice received a new gene by means of a bone-marrow transplant, in the context of experiments aimed at improving treatment of hereditary disease. Issues arise concerning use of the preposition *through*, use of the verb form *experimenting*, and use of certain forms of the verb *prove*. The hoped-for result is more clearly expressed by the future tense *will … prove* than by other forms of the verb.

**Correct.** The use of the preposition *in*, the word *experiments*, and the future *will … prove* create a sentence that avoids some of the potential problems identified.

14/ **SC06611**

The first trenches that were cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, have yielded strong evidence for centrally administered complex societies in northern regions of the Middle East that were arising simultaneously with but independently of the more celebrated city-states of southern Mesopotamia, in what is now southern Iraq.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. that were cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, have yielded   strong evidence for centrally administered complex societies in northern  regions of the Middle East that were arising simultaneously with but |
|  | 1. that were cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, yields strong   evidence that centrally administered complex societies in northern regions  of the Middle East were arising simultaneously with but also |
|  | 1. having been cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, have yielded   strong evidence that centrally administered complex societies in northern  regions of the Middle East were arising simultaneously but |
|  | 1. cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, yields strong evidence of   centrally administered complex societies in northern regions of the Middle East  arising simultaneously but also |
|  | 1. cut into a 500-acre site at Tell Hamoukar, Syria, have yielded strong   evidence that centrally administered complex societies in northern regions  of the Middle East arose simultaneously with but |

**Rhetorical construction; Agreement; Grammatical construction**

This sentence, explaining interconnections among a number of events, needs to be streamlined as much as possible in order to become understandable. To this end, unnecessary words and structures should be eliminated. Prominent among these are the relative clauses beginning with *that.* Additionally, the subject of this sentence is the plural *trenches*, which requires a plural verb.

**Correct**. Unnecessary clauses and phrases are avoided, and the subject and verb of the main clause agree in number.

15/ **SC01561**

The 19-year-old pianist and composer performed his most recent work all over Europe, Asia, and North America last year, winning prestigious awards in both London as well as Tokyo for his achievement at so young an age, and he is hoping to continue composing now that he has returned to Chicago.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. winning prestigious awards in both London as well as Tokyo for his achievement at so young an age, and he is hoping |
|  | B. winning prestigious awards both in London and Tokyo for his achievement at such a young age, and hoping |
|  | C. having won prestigious awards both in London and Tokyo for his achievement at so young an age, hoping |
|  | **D**. winning prestigious awards in both London and Tokyo for his achievement at such a young age, and he hopes |
|  | E. having won prestigious awards both in London as well as Tokyo for his achievement at so young an age, and he hopes |

**Idiom; Grammatical construction**

This sentence is about the past accomplishments and the future ambitions of a musician who recently won awards on a world tour. In some of the versions of the sentence, the phrase *as well as* is redundant with the word *both* before *London* and *Tokyo*. Idiomatically, the simple conjunction *and* completes the phrase beginning with *both*.

**Correct**. This version of the sentence uses the correct idiomatic formula (*both X and Y*).

16/ **SC05393**

Similar to other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, the music of Robert Johnson arose from an oral tradition beginning with a mixture of chants, fiddle tunes, and religious music and only gradually evolved into the blues.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Similar to other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, the music of Robert   Johnson arose from an oral tradition beginning with |
|  | 1. Similar to that of other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, Robert Johnson   made music that arose from an oral tradition that began with |
|  | 1. As with other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, Robert Johnson made   music that arose from an oral tradition beginning as |
|  | 1. Like other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, Robert Johnson's music   arose from an oral tradition beginning with |
|  | 1. Like the music of other early Mississippi Delta blues singers, the music of   Robert Johnson arose from an oral tradition that began as |

**Logical predication; Verb form**

The sentence aims to compare the music of early Mississippi Delta Blues singers with the music of Robert Johnson. But what it does is illogically compare singers themselves with the music of Johnson. The second half of the sentence describes two stages of the oral tradition from which blues developed.

**Correct**. The resulting sentence compares like with like. It uses a relative clause to describe the oral tradition from which blues developed, indicating the two stages of development with two verbs in parallel.

17/ **SC01714**

Mauritius was a British colony for almost 200 years, excepting for the domains of administration and teaching, the English language was never really spoken on the island.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. excepting for |
|  | B. except in |
|  | **C**. but except in |
|  | D. but excepting for |
|  | E. with the exception of |

**Idiom; Grammatical construction**

This two-clause sentence describes an apparent incompatibility: as a British colony, Mauritius might be expected to be English-speaking, but in fact it was not. To describe this apparent contradiction and to avoid a comma splice, the clauses should be joined by the conjunction *but. Domains* describes places *in* which English is spoken; *for* is the incorrect preposition. *Excepting* is not idiomatic English in this case.

**Correct**. The two independent clauses are separated by *but*, and *except in* is an appropriate idiom.

18/ **SC01521**

Employing many different techniques throughout his career, Michelangelo produced a great variety of art works, including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, for example, the statue of David.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, for example, |
|  | B. including paintings, for example, in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, like |
|  | C. including paintings, such as those in the Sistine Chapel, and sculpture, as |
|  | **D**. ranging from paintings, such as those in the Sistine Chapel, to sculpture, such as |
|  | E. ranging from paintings, such as in the Sistine Chapel, and sculpture, such as |

**Parallelism; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence names painting and sculpture as two of the many kinds of art created by Michelangelo and provides examples of his work in those two art forms. Although the two sets of examples are expressed in parallel form, the position of the phrase *for example* that introduces them creates a choppy and awkward sentence since it must be surrounded by commas. A more concise way to construct parallel sets of examples is to express each using a phrase introduced by *such as.*

**Correct**. The examples of art are in parallel form, each introduced with the words *such as.*

19/ **SC02078**

While Noble Sissle may be best known for his collaboration with Eubie Blake, as both a vaudeville performer and as a lyricist for songs and Broadway musicals, also enjoying an independent career as a singer with such groups as Hahn's Jubilee Singers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. and as a lyricist for songs and Broadway musicals, also enjoying |
|  | B. and writing lyrics for songs and Broadway musicals, also enjoying |
|  | **C**. and a lyricist for songs and Broadway musicals, he also enjoyed |
|  | D. as well as writing lyrics for songs and Broadway musicals, he also enjoyed |
|  | E. as well as a lyricist for songs and Broadway musicals, he had also enjoyed |

**Grammatical construction; Idiom; Parallelism**

As worded, this sentence opens with a dependent clause (a clause that cannot stand on its own), which requires a main clause (also known as an independent clause) to complete the sentence; however, there is no main clause. Also, given the placement of *as* before *both*, the *as* before *a lyricist* is incorrect. It would be acceptable to write *as both a vaudeville performer and a lyricist* or to write *both as a vaudeville performer and as a lyricist*; it is not acceptable to mix the two forms, as is done here.

**Correct**. Unlike (A) and (B), this version has a main clause. Also, unlike the other version, it correctly uses the *both x and y* form.

20/ **SC07758**

Next month, state wildlife officials are scheduled to take over the job of increasing the wolf population in the federally designated recovery area, the number of which will however ultimately be dictated by the number of prey in the area.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. area, the number of which will however |
|  | B. area; the size of the population, however, will |
|  | C. area, however the number of wolves will |
|  | D. area; the number of which will, however, |
|  | E. area, when the size of the population will, however, |

**Grammatical construction; Diction**

The point of the sentence is that the ultimate size of the wolf population will be determined according to the number of prey in the area. However, the phrase *the number of which* has no referent since it cannot logically refer to the noncount noun *population* or to the singular *wolf,* which is used adjectivally here to modify *population.* The idea can be expressed clearly by making the *size of the population* the subject of a new independent clause: *the size of the population will be dictated by the number of prey.*

**Correct**. The idea is expressed clearly with an independent clause: *the size of the population* will *be dictated by the number of prey.*

21/ **SC01527**

According to some critics, watching television not only undermines one's ability to think critically but also impairs one's overall ability to perceive.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. not only undermines one's ability to think critically but also impairs one's |
|  | B. not only undermines one's ability of critical thinking but also impairs the |
|  | C. undermines not only one's ability to think critically but also impairs one's |
|  | D. undermines not only one's ability of critical thinking but also impairs the |
|  | E. undermines one's ability not only to think critically but also impairs one's |

**Grammatical Construction; Parallelism**

The sentence correctly uses the structure *not only … but also …* to convey two points about the effects that critics believe result from watching television. The phrases placed in the blanks must be in parallel form.

**Correct.** Two verbal phrases *undermines …* and *impairs …* are coordinated and placed in the correct positions, in parallel form. Also, *ability to think* (where *to think* is the infinitive form of the verb) is the idiomatically correct usage, parallel with *ability to perceive*.

22/ **SC04422**

According to a recent study of consumer spending on prescription medications, increases in the sales of the 50 drugs that were advertised most heavily accounts for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year, the remainder of which came from sales of the 9,850 prescription medicines that companies did not advertise or advertised very little.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. heavily accounts for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year, the remainder of which came |
|  | B. heavily were what accounted for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year; the remainder of the increase coming |
|  | **C**. heavily accounted for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year, the remainder of the increase coming |
|  | D. heavily, accounting for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year, while the remainder of the increase came |
|  | E. heavily, which accounted for almost half of the $20.8 billion increase in drug spending last year, with the remainder of it coming |

**Grammatical construction; Verb form**

The sentence indicates that according to research, increases in sales of the relatively small number of the most heavily advertised drugs accounted for nearly half of last year's total increase in drug spending. The sentence is flawed because of subject-verb disagreement, and an ambiguity in the referent of *which*.

**Correct**. The sentence is clear and grammatically correct. The subject and verb agree.

23/ **SC02135**

To map Earth's interior, geologists use a network of seismometers to chart seismic waves that originate in the earth's crust and ricochet around its interior, most rapidly traveling through cold, dense regions and slower through hotter rocks.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. interior, most rapidly traveling through cold, dense regions and slower |
|  | B. interior, which travel most rapidly through cold, dense regions, and more slowly |
|  | **C**. interior, traveling most rapidly through cold, dense regions and more slowly |
|  | D. interior and most rapidly travel through cold, dense regions, and slower |
|  | E. interior and that travel most rapidly through cold, dense regions and slower |

**Grammatical construction; Parallelism**

This sentence explains in detail an activity of geologists (using seismometers to chart waves), focusing primarily on the object, seismic waves. A description of these waves is developed in a relative clause (*that originate . . . hotter rocks*) that contains a compound verb phrase (*originate . . . ricochet . . .*). The action, *ricochet*, is further described in a participial phrase in which *traveling* . . . is then further described in a comparison of travel speeds in cold and hot regions of Earth's crust.

**Correct**. The modifiers are parallel and correctly positioned in relation to the verb.

24/ **SC01068**

A mutual fund having billions of dollars in assets will typically invest that money in hundreds of companies, rarely holding more than one percent of the shares of any particular corporation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. companies, rarely holding more than one percent |
|  | B. companies, and it is rare to hold at least one percent or more |
|  | C. companies and rarely do they hold more than one percent |
|  | D. companies, so that they rarely hold more than one percent |
|  | E. companies; rarely do they hold one percent or more |

**Agreement; Logical predication**

The participial phrase starting with *rarely holding* is predicated of the main subject *a mutual fund*. It elaborates on the effect of the main clause verb: since a mutual fund invests in hundreds of companies, it rarely holds more than one percent in any particular corporation.

**Correct**. The participle *holding* in the embedded clause correctly refers to *a mutual fund.* It also correctly expresses the cause-and-effect relationship between investing in many companies and holding little in each company.

25/ **SC08719**

Although a number of excellent studies narrate the development of domestic technology and its impact on housewifery, these works do not discuss the contributions of the women employed by manufacturers and utility companies as product demonstrators and publicists, who initially promoted new and unfamiliar technology to female consumers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. by manufacturers and utility companies as product demonstrators and publicists, |
|  | B. to be product demonstrators and publicists by manufacturers and utility companies, |
|  | C. to demonstrate and publicize their products by manufacturers and utility companies |
|  | D. by manufacturers and utility companies to be demonstrators and publicists of their products |
|  | E. by manufacturers and utility companies to demonstrate and publicize their products |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The point of the sentence is that studies do not include the contributions of women who promoted new domestic technology. The sentence indicates clearly that the women were *employed by manufacturers and utility companies,* worked as *product demonstrators and publicists,* and promoted new technology *to female consumers.*

**Correct**. The sentence clearly describes the women's employment and contributions.

26/ **SC01583**

Many of the earliest known images of Hindu deities in India date from the time of the Kushan Empire, fashioned either from the spotted sandstone of Mathura or Gandharan grey schist.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Empire, fashioned either from the spotted sandstone of Mathura or |
|  | B. Empire, fashioned from either the spotted sandstone of Mathura or from |
|  | C. Empire, either fashioned from the spotted sandstone of Mathura or |
|  | D. Empire and either fashioned from the spotted sandstone of Mathura or from |
|  | **E**. Empire and were fashioned either from the spotted sandstone of Mathura or from |

**Logical predication; Parallelism**

The sentence makes two claims about the earliest known images of Hindu deities in India: They date from the Kushan Empire, and they are made from sandstone or schist. The clearest, most effective way to incorporate these two claims into a single sentence is to provide two parallel predicates for the single subject, *the earliest known images of Hindu deities in India.* The two options of media, presented as either/or choices, must also be given in parallel structure: *either from … or from* … or *from either … or. …*

**Correct**. Two verbs, *date* and *were fashioned*, introduce parallel predicates for the subject, *earliest known images*; the choices of media are correctly presented with the structure *either from … or from.*

27/ **SC04452**

Turtles, like other reptiles, can endure long fasts, in their ability to survive on weekly or even monthly feedings; however, when food is readily available, they may eat frequently and grow very fat.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. fasts, in their ability to survive |
|  | B. fasts, having their ability to survive |
|  | C. fasts, due to having the ability of surviving |
|  | **D**. fasts because they are able to survive |
|  | E. fasts because of having the ability of surviving |

**Idiom; Diction**

To express why turtles can endure long fasts—their ability to survive on only occasional feedings—it is clearer and more idiomatic to use *because* than to use *in* or *having*. Also, the noun *ability* here requires *to* introducing a noun phrase denoting the nature of the ability.

**Correct**. This option uses *because* to express the causal relation and uses *to* after *ability*.

28/ **SC01077**

Many utilities obtain most of their electric power from large coal and nuclear operations at costs that are sometimes two to three times higher as that of power from smaller, more efficient plants that can both make use of waste heat and take advantage of the current abundance of natural gas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. two to three times higher as that of power from smaller, more efficient plants that can both |
|  | B. higher by two to three times as that from smaller, more efficient plants that both can |
|  | **C**. two to three times higher than those for power from smaller, more efficient plants that can both |
|  | D. between two to three times higher as those for power from smaller, more efficient plants that both can |
|  | E. between two to three times higher than from smaller, more efficient plants that they can both |

**Grammatical Construction; Diction**

The sentence compares utilities’ high costs of power obtained from large producers with the costs of power obtained from smaller, more economic producers. The comparative form *higher* must be followed by the preposition *than*, not by *as.* The sentence uses the plural *costs*; therefore, the singular pronoun *that*in the phrase *as that of power from …* incorrectly refers to a plural antecedent *costs*. An issue that arises in some of the five choices concerns the placing of *both* in a *both … and …* construction that is meant to indicate parallelism between the clauses *that make use of* … and *[that] take advantage of …*.

**Correct.** The comparative *higher* is correctly followed by *than*. The plural pronoun *those* is correctly used to refer back to *costs*. The placement of *both* indicates correctly the parallel clauses.

29/ **SC02448**

Having been named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, the asteroid named Ida, in the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter, was discovered in 1884.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Having been named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant   Jupiter, the asteroid named Ida, in the middle of the belt of asteroids that  orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter, was discovered in 1884. |
|  | 1. Discovered in 1884, the asteroid Ida, named for a mythological nymph   who cared for the infant Jupiter, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids that  orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter. |
|  | 1. In the middle of the belt of asteroids that orbit the Sun between Mars and   Jupiter, the asteroid Ida, discovered in 1884 and named for a mythological  nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter. |
|  | 1. The asteroid Ida, named for a mythological nymph who cared for the infant   Jupiter and discovered in 1884, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids to orbit  the Sun between Mars and Jupiter. |
|  | 1. Ida, an asteroid discovered in 1884 and which was named for a mythological   nymph who cared for the infant Jupiter, is in the middle of the belt of asteroids  to orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter |

**Rhetorical construction; Logical predication; Grammatical construction**

This sentence describes a discovery that occurred in 1884 and provides some additional information about the object that was discovered. The most effectively worded answer choice opens with a past-participial phrase (*discovered . . .*) describing the subject of the sentence, *the asteroid Ida*. Ida's discovery is logically prior to its naming, described in a second past, following the subject (*named . . .)*. The sentence is then completed with a present tense linking verb *is* + prepositional phrase to explain Ida's location.

**Correct**. This version is clear, logically coherent, and grammatically correct.

30/ **SC03752**

A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicated in its eastward orientation and by its overall plan, as well as artifacts, such as glass oil-lamp fragments, found at the site.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicated in its eastward orientation and by its overall plan, as well as |
|  | B. A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, once probably being a church, was indicated by its eastward orientation, overall plan, and |
|  | C. Indicating that a ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church were its eastward orientation and overall plan, but also the |
|  | D. A ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church, as indicates its eastward orientation and overall plan, as well as the |
|  | **E**. That a ruined structure found at Aqaba, Jordan, was probably a church is indicated by its eastward orientation and overall plan, as well as by the |

**Logical predication; Parallelism**

This sentence explains why a currently ruined structure probably used to be a church. In the best-worded answer choice, the abstract subject (the probability that a certain hypothesis is true) is explained abstractly in a relative clause (*That a ruined structure was probably . . .*) followed by a passive verb (*is indicated*), followed by the prepositional phrase (*by . . .*), which is completed by a parallel listing of forms of evidence, all presented as noun phrases in the expression, (*by*) *(its)* A + B, as well as (*by*) C.

**Correct**. The relationships among the parts of the sentence are clear and logical.

31/ **SC14796**

In some types of pine tree, a thick layer of needles protects the buds from which new growth proceeds; consequently they are able to withstand forest fires relatively well.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. a thick layer of needles protects the buds from which new growth proceeds; consequently they are able to withstand forest fires relatively well |
|  | B. a thick needle layer protects buds from where new growth proceeds, so that they can withstand forest fires relatively well |
|  | C. a thick layer of needles protect the buds from which new growth proceeds; thus, they are able to withstand relatively well any forest fires |
|  | D. since the buds from which new growth proceeds are protected by a thick needle layer, consequently they can therefore withstand forest fires relatively well |
|  | E. because the buds where new growth happens are protected by a thick layer of needles, they are able to withstand forest fires relatively easily as a result |

**Grammatical construction; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence is fine as written. It uses the correct *from which* to introduce the relative clause modifying *buds* and avoids redundant expressions of causation, such as *~~consequently~~*~~. . .~~*~~therefore~~,* or *~~because . . . as a result~~*~~.~~

**Correct**. The relative clause starting with *from which* is in the correct form, and the causality is expressed efficiently and clearly with one word, *consequently*.

32/ **SC01498**

Using study groups managed by the principal popular organizations and political parties, the Swedish public was informed by the government about energy and nuclear power.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. the Swedish public was informed by the government about energy and nuclear power |
|  | **B**. the government informed the Swedish public about energy and nuclear power |
|  | C. energy and nuclear power information was given to the Swedish public by the government |
|  | D. information about energy and nuclear power was given to the Swedish public by the government |
|  | E. the public of Sweden was given energy and nuclear power information by the government |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence tries to describe a situation in which the government used study groups to inform the Swedish public. Therefore, it is incorrect to use *the Swedish public* as the subject of *inform* in this sentence, because doing so in this case illogically makes *the Swedish public* the subject of *using* as well. Additionally, *inform* is a more concise and direct way to express the idea in *give information*.

**Correct**. Using *the government* as the main subject correctly allows it to count as the subject of using; inform is a concise phrasing for the main action of the sentence.

33/ **SC01680**

From an experiment using special extrasensory perception cards, each bearing one of a set of symbols, parapsychologist Joseph Banks Rhine claimed statistical proof for subjects who could use thought transference to identify a card in the dealer's hand.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. for subjects who could use thought transference to identify a card in the dealer's hand |
|  | B. for a card in the dealer's hand to be identified by subjects with thought transference |
|  | C. of subjects able to identify with thought transference a card in the dealer's hand |
|  | **D**. that subjects could identify a card in the dealer's hand by using thought transference |
|  | E. that subjects are capable to use thought transference for identifying a card in the dealer's hand |

**Idiom; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence is meant to indicate that Joseph Banks Rhine claimed that a certain experiment statistically proved that subjects could identify what symbol was on a card in a dealer's hand by using thought transference. The present version of the sentence does not convey the intended meaning well, however. What should follow *proof* is a statement of the assertion that Rhine claims the experiment has statistically proved, linked to the word *proof* by the word *that*. Instead *proof* is followed by a prepositional phrase *for subjects who. . . .*

**Correct**. This version correctly uses the idiom *proof that* followed by an assertion.

34/ **SC02539**

Before 1988, insurance companies in California were free to charge whatever rates the market would bear, needing no approval from regulators before raising rates.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. needing no approval from regulators before raising |
|  | B. and it needed no approval by regulators before raising |
|  | C. and needing no approval from regulators before they raised |
|  | D. with approval not needed by regulators before they raised |
|  | E. with no approval needed from regulators before the raising of |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The sentence explains that, prior to 1988, insurance companies in California could raise rates without regulators' approval. This idea is expressed concisely using a participial phrase and two prepositional phrases: *needing no approval from regulators before raising rates*. Unlike some of the answer choices that contain errors involving antecedents, this construction uses no pronouns and contains no such errors.

**Correct**. The combination of a participial phrase and two prepositional phrases expresses the idea clearly with no errors involving pronouns or antecedents.

35/ **SC02470**

Prices at the producer level are only 1.3 percent higher now than a year ago and are going down, even though floods in the Midwest and drought in the South are hurting crops and therefore raised corn and soybean prices.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. than a year ago and are going down, even though floods in the Midwest and drought in the South are hurting crops and therefore raised |
|  | **B**. than those of a year ago and are going down, even though floods in the Midwest and drought in the South are hurting crops and therefore raising |
|  | C. than a year ago and are going down, despite floods in the Midwest and drought in the South, and are hurting crops and therefore raising |
|  | D. as those of a year ago and are going down, even though floods in the Midwest and drought in the South hurt crops and therefore raise |
|  | E. as they were a year ago and are going down, despite floods in the Midwest and drought in the South, and are hurting crops and therefore raising |

**Logical predication; Verb form**

The sentence as written makes an illogical comparison between *prices at the producer level* and a time period (*a year ago*); surely the intended comparison is between such prices now and those of a year ago. The clause at the end of the sentence states that flooding and a drought *are hurting* crops, and as a result of this, they have *raised* prices of certain crops. *Are hurting* is in the present progressive tense, indicating an ongoing process; *raised* is in the simple past tense, indicating a completed action. It would be more appropriate to use the present progressive tense here as well, *[are] raising*.

**Correct**. This version of the sentence makes an appropriate comparison (between prices now and those of a year ago), and uses tenses in an appropriate way.

36/ **SC04249**

In 2000, a mere two dozen products accounted for half the increase in spending on prescription drugs, a phenomenon that is explained not just because of more expensive drugs but by the fact that doctors are writing many more prescriptions for higher-cost drugs.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. a phenomenon that is explained not just because of more expensive drugs but by the fact that doctors are writing |
|  | **B**. a phenomenon that is explained not just by the fact that drugs are becoming more expensive but also by the fact that doctors are writing |
|  | C. a phenomenon occurring not just because of drugs that are becoming more expensive but because of doctors having also written |
|  | D. which occurred not just because drugs are becoming more expensive but doctors are also writing |
|  | E. which occurred not just because of more expensive drugs but because doctors have also written |

**Rhetorical construction; Idiom**

This sentence explains that a few high-cost products account for increased spending for two reasons—rising drug prices and more prescriptions for high-priced drugs. To present these two causes, the sentence employs a formula that requires parallel elements: *not just because of x, but because of y*, with *x* and *y* assuming the same grammatical form. One way to create this parallelism is to phrase both contributing causes as noun clauses beginning with *the fact that*. To streamline the sentence, unnecessary words and redundancies should be eliminated. One such redundancy is the repetition of meaning in *explained* and *because of.*

**Correct**. This sentence correctly uses parallel structure.

37/ **SC00970**

Because it regarded the environmentalists as members of an out-of-state organization, the city council voted that they are denied permission for participating in the parade.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. that they are denied permission for participating |
|  | B. that they be denied permission for participating |
|  | C. denying them permission for participation |
|  | D. the denial of permission that they participate |
|  | **E**. to deny them permission to participate |

**Verb Form; Logical Predication**

The sentence describes a vote that has been taken by a city council and suggests an explanation as to why the city council voted the particular way it did. The underlined portion, together with the three words that follow it, serves to describe the particular way the council voted and begins immediately after the verb *voted*. The word *that* at the beginning of the underlined portion introduces a subordinate clause that introduces the particular way the city council voted.

**Correct**. This option has none of the flaws discussed in connection with options A through D.

38/ **SC02138**

Heating-oil prices are expected to be higher this year than last because refiners are paying about $5 a barrel more for crude oil than they were last year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Heating-oil prices are expected to be higher this year than last because   refiners are paying about $5 a barrel **more** for crude oil **than** they were |
|  | 1. Heating-oil prices are expected to rise higher this year over last because   refiners pay about $5 a barrel for crude oil more than they did |
|  | 1. Expectations are for heating-oil prices to be higher this year than last year's   because refiners are paying about $5 a barrel for crude oil more than they did |
|  | 1. It is the expectation that heating-oil prices will be higher for this year over last   because refiners are paying about $5 a barrel more for crude oil now than what they were |
|  | 1. It is expected that heating-oil prices will rise higher this year than last year's   because refiners pay about $5 a barrel for crude oil more than they did |

**Rhetorical construction; Idiom**

The sentence connects a comparison between this year's and last year's heating-oil prices with a comparison between this year's and last year's crude-oil prices. The most efficient, parallel expression of those comparisons is to use two comparative expressions, *higher than* and *more than.*

**Correct**. This sentence expresses the comparison in succinct, parallel phrases.

39/ **SC03292**

Yellow jackets number among the 900 or so species of the world's social wasps, wasps living in a highly cooperative and organized society where they consist almost entirely of females—the queen and her sterile female workers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. wasps living in a highly cooperative and organized society where they consist almost entirely of |
|  | **B**. wasps that live in a highly cooperative and organized society consisting almost entirely of |
|  | C. which means they live in a highly cooperative and organized society, almost all |
|  | D. which means that their society is highly cooperative, organized, and it is almost entirely |
|  | E. living in a society that is highly cooperative, organized, and it consists of almost all |

**Idiom; Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence identifies yellow jackets as one of 900 types of social wasps and provides an explanation of the term *social wasps.* In this explanation, the society or population—not the individual wasps themselves—consists almost entirely of females. The three descriptors of social wasps (*cooperative, organized,* and *consisting almost entirely of females*) are most effectively expressed in parallel structures.

**Correct**. The three descriptors of the wasp society are in parallel form, and *consisting* properly modifies *society*.

40/ **SC00994**

Digging in sediments in northern China, evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had previously thought.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. evidence has been gathered by scientists suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than they had |
|  | B. evidence gathered by scientists suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than had been |
|  | **C**. scientists have gathered evidence suggesting that complex life-forms emerged much earlier than |
|  | D. scientists have gathered evidence that suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that which was |
|  | E. scientists have gathered evidence which suggests a much earlier emergence of complex life-forms than that |

**Logical predication; Modification**

In principle, the relationship described in the first part of the underlined portion could be expressed with *scientists* as the subject (*scientists gathered evidence*) or with *evidence* as the subject (*evidence was gathered by scientists*). The latter construction could be effective in some contexts, but here its relationship to the rest of the sentence appears to commit the writer to the claim that the evidence was digging in China.

**Correct**. Choosing *scientists* as the subject of *gathered*, this version corrects the dangling participle. It also uses a parallel active form of the verb *emerge*, and does not use redundant material.

41/ **SC01007**

In the 1940s popular magazines in the United States began to report on the private lives of persons from the entertainment industry, in despite of the fact that they previously had featured individuals in business and politics.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. in despite of the fact that they previously had featured individuals |
|  | B. in spite of the fact previously that these publications featured articles on those |
|  | C. whereas previously there were those individuals featured in articles |
|  | D. whereas previously those individuals they featured were |
|  | **E**. whereas previously these publications had featured articles on individuals |

**Idiom; Parallelism; Logical Predication**

The sentence compares the reporting by popular magazines in the 1940s to the reporting by these magazines before the 1940s. Whereas previously the publications featured articles on people in business and politics, in the 1940s the magazines began to report on the private lives of persons in the entertainment industry. The two elements being compared should be described clearly and in a parallel fashion.

**Correct.** This sentence is clear and relatively easy to read.

42/ **SC01051**

Tides typically range from three to six feet, but while some places show no tides at all, some others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of at least thirty feet and more.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. some others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of at least thirty feet and more |
|  | B. the others, such as the Bay of Fundy, that have tides of more than thirty feet |
|  | **C**. others, such as the Bay of Fundy, have tides of more than thirty feet |
|  | D. those at the Bay of Fundy, which has tides of more than thirty feet |
|  | E. the ones at the Bay of Fundy have tides of at least thirty feet and more |

**Idiom; Grammatical construction**

This sentence defines typical tides and then draws a contrast between locations with tides lower than that norm and locations with tides higher than the norm. The proper idiom for drawing this contrast is *some places* and *others*—not *some places* and *some others* as written. The height of tides in places such as the Bay of Fundy is expressed in a confusing manner since *at least thirty feet* sets a lower limit on the height. This wording is pointlessly redundant with the phrase *and more*, which follows it. *At least* would normally be used to indicate that the writer does not know, or prefers not to say, whether the tides are sometimes higher. *And more* rhetorically conflicts with this by signaling a definite commitment to the claim that they are (at least sometimes) higher. A charitable reading suggests that *tides of more than thirty feet* is the intended meaning*.*

**Correct**. A contrast is drawn between places with low tides and places with high tides using the expression *some places* and *others*, and the height of the high tides is expressed clearly and without redundancy.

43/ **SC07117**

Fossils of the arm of a sloth found in Puerto Rico in 1991, and dated at 34 million years old, made it the earliest known mammal of the Greater Antilles Islands.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. sloth found in Puerto Rico in 1991, and dated at 34 million years old, made it the earliest known mammal of |
|  | B. sloth, that they found in Puerto Rico in 1991, has been dated at 34 million years old, thus making it the earliest mammal known on |
|  | C. sloth that was found in Puerto Rico in 1991, was dated at 34 million years old, making this the earliest known mammal of |
|  | **D**. sloth, found in Puerto Rico in 1991, have been dated at 34 million years old, making the sloth the earliest known mammal on |
|  | E. sloth which, found in Puerto Rico in 1991, was dated at 34 million years old, made the sloth the earliest known mammal of |

**Agreement; Logical predication**

The subject of the sentence is the plural *fossils*, not *sloth*, and therefore requires a plural verb. *It* therefore does not have a singular antecedent. To clarify the identification of the oldest known mammal, the noun *the sloth* must be explicitly identified.

**Correct**. The plural verb agrees with its plural subject, and *the sloth* is explicitly identified as *the earliest known mammal.*

44/ **SC13010**

The Life and Casualty Company hopes that by increasing its environmental fund reserves to $1.2 billion, that it has set aside enough to pay for environmental claims and no longer has to use its profits and capital to pay those claims bit by bit, year by year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. that it has set aside enough to pay for environmental claims and no longer has |
|  | B. enough has been set aside with which environmental claims can be paid and it will have no longer |
|  | C. it has set aside enough for payment of environmental claims and thus no longer having |
|  | D. enough has been set aside to pay for environmental claims, thus no longer having |
|  | **E**. it has set aside enough to pay for environmental claims and will no longer have |

**Grammatical construction; Logical predication**

All predicates need a proper logical subject. Here, the relevant predicates are the verbs *increase*, *set aside*, and *have.* With *it* as the subject for *set aside*—referring back to the Life and Casualty Company*—*all three verbs should have this as their understood subject. With a different subject for *set aside*, at least one of the other verbs lacks a proper logical subject. Also, this sentence uses the word *that* after *hope* to start the subordinate clause, but then incorrectly repeats the *that* after the initial adverbial phrase (*by increasing . . . billion*). Only the first *that* is grammatically correct.

**Correct**. There is only one *that*, and *will no longer have to use* has its proper logical subject (*it*) from the clause preceding it.

45/ **SC02611**

Because there are provisions of the new maritime code that provide that even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas, they have already stimulatedinternational disputes over uninhabited islands.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Because there are provisions of the new maritime code that provide that even   tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea  areas, they have already stimulated |
|  | 1. Because the new maritime code provides that even tiny islets can be the basis   for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large sea areas, it has already stimulated |
|  | 1. Even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields of large   sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, already stimulating |
|  | 1. Because even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields   of large sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, this has already stimulated |
|  | 1. Because even tiny islets can be the basis for claims to the fisheries and oil fields   of large sea areas under provisions of the new maritime code, which is already stimulating |

**Logical predication; Grammatical construction**

In this sentence, the *there are* … *that* … construction contributes nothing more than unnecessary words. The sentence needs to make clear whether *provisions* or *code* is the subject of the main verb *stimulated*.

**Correct**. In this sentence, *the new maritime code* is clearly the antecedent of *it* in the main clause and thus the subject of *has already stimulated*.

46/ **SC07446**

The use of the bar code, or Universal Product Code, which was created in part to enable supermarkets to process customers at a faster rate, has expanded beyond supermarkets to other retail outlets and have become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when it was first introduced in 1974.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. have become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when it was first introduced in 1974 |
|  | B. has become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when they were first introduced in 1974 |
|  | C. have become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when first introduced in 1974 |
|  | **D**. has become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when the bar code was first introduced in 1974 |
|  | E. bar codes have become readily accepted despite some initial opposition when it was first introduced in 1974 |

**Agreement; Rhetorical construction**

The subject of this sentence is *the use of the bar code*, the main noun of which is the singular *use*; thus, the corresponding main verb should be in the singular form *has*, not the plural *have*. The actual subject for this verb is merely understood, but when it is present, any pronoun that refers back to it must agree with it in number.

**Correct**. The verb is in the correct form *has*, and using *bar code* as the last clause's subject avoids an agreement problem.

47/ **SC15382**

Recent interdisciplinary studies advance the argument that emotions, including those deemed personal or private is a social phenomenon, though one inseparable from bodily response.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. private is a social phenomenon, though one inseparable |
|  | **B**. private, are social phenomena that are inseparable |
|  | C. private are a social phenomenon but are not those separable |
|  | D. private—are social phenomena but not separable |
|  | E. also as private emotions, are social phenomena not inseparable |

**Agreement; Rhetorical Construction**

The main problem is one of agreement: in the subordinate clause starting with *that*, the subject is the plural *emotions*, which demands the verb *are*, not *is*. Also, the phrase starting with *including* is a parenthetical expression that needs to be set off from the rest of the clause, with some punctuation to indicate a pause at its end (after *private*).

**Correct**. *Are* is the correct agreeing verb form, and the comma after *private* correctly sets off the parenthetical expression.

48/ **SC01607**

A new study suggests that the conversational pace of everyday life may be so brisk it hampers the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words and, the result is, to make sense of speech.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. it hampers the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words and, the result is, to make |
|  | **B**. that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words and, as a result, to make |
|  | C. that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words and, the result of this, they are unable to make |
|  | D. that it hampers the ability of some children to distinguish discrete sounds and words, and results in not making |
|  | E. as to hamper the ability of some children for distinguishing discrete sounds and words, resulting in being unable to make |

**Rhetorical construction; Parallelism; Diction**

The sentence describes a hypothesized causal series: The fast conversational pace impairs children's ability to distinguish individual sounds and words, and this, in turn, impairs their ability to make sense of speech. These two consequences, both impaired abilities, are most clearly and efficiently expressed in parallel infinitive phrases (*to distinguish* and *to make*). The explanatory phrase *as a result* before the second infinitive clarifies the sequence. The term *ability* should be followed by the preposition *to*, not *for.*

**Correct**. The two abilities hampered by the fast pace of conversation are described with the parallel infinitive phrases *to distinguish* and *to make*.

49/ **SC02344**

Among the Tsonga, a Bantu-speaking group of tribes in southeastern Africa, dance teams represent their own chief at the court of each other, providing entertainment in return for food, drink, and lodging.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. the court of each other, providing entertainment in return for |
|  | **B**. the court of another and provide entertainment in return for |
|  | C. the court of the other, so as to provide entertainment as a return on |
|  | D. each other's court, entertainment being provided in return for |
|  | E. another's court and provide entertainment as a return on |

**Diction; Idiom**

The point of the sentence is that dancers representing one chief perform at the court of another chief *in return for gifts*. *The court of each other* is unidiomatic and unclear. It could be intended to indicate, somewhat implausibly, that each team has a court that the other teams visit, but *represent their own chief* strongly suggests that the court referred to is the court of another chief. The correct pronoun to refer to a different chief is *another*.

**Correct**. The sentence clearly explains the idea, using the correct pronoun *another* and the correct idiom *in return for*.

50/ **SC14066**

Making things even more difficult has been general market inactivity lately, if not paralysis, which has ­provided little in the way of pricing guidance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. has been general market inactivity lately, if not paralysis, which has provided |
|  | B. there is general market inactivity, if not paralysis, lately it has provided |
|  | C. general market inactivity, if not paralysis, has lately provided |
|  | **D**. lately, general market inactivity, if not paralysis, has provided |
|  | E. is that lately general market inactivity, if not paralysis, which provides |

**Grammatical construction; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence uses a special inverted structure, putting the predicate (*Making things even more difficult*) before the verb (*has been*) and the subject. In this construction, the subject (*general market inactivity*) can be directly compared with *paralysis*. Such contrasts are best made using phrases that are adjacent, not separated by other material (here, the adverb *lately*). If a more normal clause structure is used, *making things even more difficult* becomes a modifier, not the main predicate, so it should be clearly set off from the rest of the clause with a comma.

**Correct**. The topic phrase (*Making things even more difficult*) is properly separated from the subject by a comma, and *inactivity* and *if not paralysis* are adjacent for the clearest connection between them.

51/ **SC02346**

The use of lie detectors is based on the assumption that lying produces emotional reactions in an individual that, in turn, create unconscious physiological ­responses.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. that, in turn, create unconscious physiological responses |
|  | B. that creates unconscious physiological responses in turn |
|  | C. creating, in turn, unconscious physiological responses |
|  | D. to create, in turn, physiological responses that are unconscious |
|  | E. who creates unconscious physiological responses in turn |

**Agreement; Rhetorical construction; Logical predication**

This sentence describes a cause-and-effect sequence; in the underlined portion of the sentence, the relative pronoun *that* refers to the plural noun *reactions.* The verb in the relative clause must therefore be a plural verb. The causal sequence is most clearly expressed by a relative clause that turns the object *emotional reactions* (from the clause *lying causes emotional reactions in an individual*) into the subject (*that*) of a new clause (*that in turn create unconscious physiological responses*)*. In turn* is best placed before the verb of the second relative clause, *create*, to clarify that a chain of events is being described.

**Correct**. This construction clearly indicates the causal sequence.

52/ **SC02008**

With the patience of its customers and with its network strained to the breaking point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives trying to relieve the congestion that has led to at least four class-action lawsuits and thousands of complaints from frustrated customers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. the patience of its customers and with its network strained to the breaking   point, the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives trying to relieve |
|  | 1. the patience of its customers and its network strained to the breaking point,   the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives that try to relieve |
|  | 1. its network and the patience of its customers strained to the breaking point,   the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives to try to relieve |
|  | 1. its network and with the patience of its customers strained to the breaking point,   the on-line service company announced a series of initiatives to try relieving |
|  | 1. its network and its customers' patience strained to the breaking point,   the on-line service company announced a series of new initiatives to try relieving |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The sentence explains the online service provider's efforts to relieve congestion, but it has been written with confusing ambiguities. Because *the patience of its customers* is in a separate prepositional phrase from *its network*, it is not clear whether both or only the latter is *strained to the breaking point.* The phrase *trying to relieve* is probably meant to explain the purpose of the initiatives, but does not do so unambiguously (for example, *trying* could modify either *the company* or *initiatives*, and it is not clear which is intended). An unambiguous wording of the sentence would clarify that both *the patience of its customers* and *its network* are *strained to the breaking point* and that the purpose of the initiatives is *to try to relieve* the congestion.

**Correct**. The sentence indicates clearly that both *the patience of its customers* and *its network* are *strained to the breaking point* and that the company introduced initiatives aimed at relieving the congestion.

53/ **SC02025**

Thai village crafts, as with other cultures, have developed through the principle that form follows function and incorporate readily available materials fashioned using traditional skills.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. as with |
|  | B. as did those of |
|  | C. as they have in |
|  | D. like in |
|  | **E**. like those of |

**Logical predication; Diction; Verb form**

The phrase *as with other cultures* is initially confusing given that no culture has been specifically mentioned; Thai village culture is indirectly referenced by the mention of *Thai village crafts*, so perhaps that is what is meant. But then, looking at the phrase in context, it becomes clear that the sentence is intended to indicate that the *crafts* of other cultures are similar in certain ways to Thai village crafts. Thus, the sentence should say *those of other cultures*. Furthermore, the use here of *as with* is questionable. To do the job it is supposed to do here (to indicate that the crafts of Thai villages are like the crafts of other cultures in a particular way), *as with* should be at the beginning of the sentence: *As with the crafts of other cultures, Thai village crafts have developed. . . .* Alternatively, *like* could be used here instead of *as with*.

**Correct**. [*T*]*hose of other cultures* clearly refers to the crafts of other cultures; *like* is appropriate for making a comparison between two sorts of things (*crafts*).

54/ **SC04330**

As sources of electrical power, windmills now account for only about 2,500 megawatts nationwide, but production is almost expected to double by the end of the year, which would provideenough electricity for 1.3 million households.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. almost expected to double by the end of the year, which would provide |
|  | B. almost expected that it will double by the end of the year, thus providing |
|  | C. expected that it will almost double by the end of the year to provide |
|  | **D**. expected almost to double by the end of the year and thus to provide |
|  | E. expected almost to double by the end of the year, which would thus be providing |

**Rhetorical construction; Idiom**

The intended meaning of the sentence seems to be that the electricity production of windmills is expected to approximately double by year's end. But instead of saying *almost double*, we have *almost expected*, which is an unclear idea. Also unclear is what the relative pronoun *which* refers to.

**Correct**. This sentence clearly conveys the expectations of production: *almost to double* and *thus to provide*. There is no ambiguity as to what will be providing *enough electricity*.

55/ **SC01603**

The United Parcel Service plans to convert its more than 2,000 gasoline-powered trucks in the Los Angeles area to run on cleaner-burning natural gas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. to convert its more than 2,000 gasoline-powered trucks in the Los Angeles area to |
|  | B. to convert its more than 2,000 trucks in the Los Angeles area that are powered by gasoline to |
|  | C. on converting its more than 2,000 gasoline-powered trucks in the Los Angeles area that will |
|  | D. for its more than 2,000 gasoline-powered trucks in the Los Angeles area to convert to |
|  | E. that its more than 2,000 trucks in the Los Angeles area that are powered by gasoline will convert to |

**Verb Form; Logical Predication**

The sentence reports a company's plan to convert certain of its trucks to run on natural gas. Issues to note include: what construction should follow the verb *plan* and how the class of trucks that are to be converted is described.

**Correct.** The planned action is described by the infinitive form *to convert*. Of the company's trucks, those in question are specified by the adjective *gasoline-powered* and by the adjectival phrase *in the Los Angeles area*. The goal of the conversion is given by the infinitive verbal phrase *to run* … *gas*.

56/ **SC01618**

In no other historical sighting did Halley's Comet cause such a worldwide sensation as did its return in 1910–1911.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. did its return in 1910–1911 |
|  | B. had its 1910–1911 return |
|  | **C**. in its return of 1910–1911 |
|  | D. its return of 1910–1911 did |
|  | E. its return in 1910–1911 |

**Parallelism; Verb form; Logical predication**

The single subject of this sentence is *Halley's Comet*, and its single verb phrase is *did cause.* The comparison presented by the sentence is between adverbial phrases describing times when the comet was seen. Grammatically, the items being compared are parallel prepositional phrases beginning with the preposition *in: in no other sighting* and *in its return in 1910–1911*. This is the clearest, most economical way of presenting the information. The options that introduce a second verb (*did* or *had*) violate the parallelism and introduce a comparison between the comet itself (subject of the verb *did cause*) and the comet's return (subject of the verb *did* or *had*).

**Correct**. The parallel prepositional phrases in this sentence correctly compare times when the comet was sighted.

57/ **SC04798**

Outlining his strategy for nursing the troubled conglomerate back to health, the chief executive's plans were announced on Wednesday for cutting the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. executive's plans were announced on Wednesday for cutting the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months |
|  | B. executive's plans, which are to cut the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months, were announced on Wednesday |
|  | C. executive's plans for cutting the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months were announced on Wednesday |
|  | **D**. executive announced plans Wednesday to cut the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months |
|  | E. executive announced plans Wednesday that are to cut the company's huge debt by selling nearly $12 billion in assets over the next 18 months |

**Logical predication; Verb form**

In this sentence, the opening dependent clause beginning *Outlining his strategy* is a dangling modifier. Furthermore, the verb form for *announce* should make it clear that the chief executive is doing the announcing. In addition, *to cut* is a clearer phrase than *for cutting* in this sentence.

**Correct**. The opening clause properly modifies *chief executive* and the verb form *announced* makes it clear that the chief executive is doing the announcing.

58/ **SC04093**

Discussion of greenhouse effects have usually had as a focus the possibility of Earth growing warmer and to what extent it might, but climatologists have indicated all along that precipitation, storminess, and temperature extremes are likely to have the greatest impact on people.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Discussion of greenhouse effects have usually had as a focus the possibility of Earth growing warmer and to what extent it might, |
|  | B. Discussion of greenhouse effects has usually had as its focus whether Earth would get warmer and what the extent would be, |
|  | **C**. Discussion of greenhouse effects has usually focused on whether Earth would grow warmer and to what extent, |
|  | D. The discussion of greenhouse effects have usually focused on the possibility of Earth getting warmer and to what extent it might, |
|  | E. The discussion of greenhouse effects has usually focused on whether Earth would grow warmer and the extent that is, |

**Agreement; Parallelism**

The sentence contrasts climatologists' views concerning greenhouse effects with other views that emphasize global warming. The main subject of the sentence is *discussion . . .,* which is singular, so the main verb should be singular. The two things that are said to be the focus of discussion should be in parallel form.

**Correct**. This has correct subject-verb agreement, eliminates the wordiness of the original sentence, and the phrases *whether . . .* *warmer* and *to what extent* are parallel.

59/ **SC03154**

While most of the earliest known ball courts in Mesoamerica date to 900–400 B.C., waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attest to the fact that the Mesoamerican ballgame was well established by the mid-thirteenth century B.C.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attest |
|  | B. waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and the painting of representations of ballplayers on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attests |
|  | C. waterlogged latex balls found at El Manati and ceramics painted with representations of ballplayers found at San Lorenzo attests |
|  | D. the finding of waterlogged latex balls at El Manati and the painting of representations of ballplayers on ceramics found at San Lorenzo attests |
|  | E. the finding of waterlogged latex balls at El Manati and of representations of ballplayers painted on ceramics at San Lorenzo attest |

**Logical predication; Agreement**

The sentence points out two pieces of evidence that prove the early existence of ballgames in Mesoamerica: *waterlogged latex balls* and *representations of ballplayers.* The two noun phrases together serve as subjects for the verb *attest*, creating a sentence that logically and correctly expresses its main idea.

**Correct**. *Waterlogged latex balls* and *representations of ballplayers* together serve as subjects for the verb *attest*.

60/ **SC01487**

The English physician Edward Jenner found that if experimental subjects were deliberately infected with cowpox, which caused only a mild illness, they are immune from smallpox.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. which caused only a mild illness, they are immune from |
|  | B. causing only a mild illness, they become immune from |
|  | C. which causes only a mild illness, they are immune to |
|  | D. causing only a mild illness, they became immune from |
|  | **E**. which caused only a mild illness, they would become immune to |

**Verb form**

This sentence describes the result of infecting volunteers with cowpox. A conditional verb form is used to describe the cowpox infection: *if experimental subjects were deliberately infected.* The sentence then incorrectly uses simple present tense for the effects of that infection: *they are immune.* However, since the effects are dependent on an action that may or may not occur, the correct way to express those effects is by using another conditional verb form: *they would become immune.*

**Correct**. The effects of a conditional situation are correctly expressed using the conditional verb *would become.* The preposition *to* (rather than *from*) is correct with *immune.*

61/ **SC01490**

Between 14,000 and 8,000 b.c. the ice cap that covered northern Asia, Europe, and America began to melt, uncovering vast new areas that were to be occupied by migrating peoples moving northward.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. began to melt, uncovering vast new areas that were to be occupied |
|  | B. began melting, to uncover vast new areas to be occupied |
|  | C. began, by melting, to uncover vast new areas for occupation |
|  | D. began, after melting, uncovering vast new areas which are to be occupied |
|  | E. would begin to uncover, through melting, vast new areas for occupation |

**Verb form; Logical predication**

The sentence explains what happened when an ice cap *began to melt.* The participial phrase *uncovering vast new areas* succinctly describes the immediate effects of the melting. The verb form *were to be occupied* is used to indicate that occupation would take place at a time in the future from the time of the melting.

**Correct**. The sentence succinctly expresses immediate and future effects of the melting of an ice cap.

62/ **SC01550**

Recently physicians have determined that stomach ulcers are not caused by stress, alcohol, or rich foods, but a bacterium that dwells in the mucous lining of the stomach.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. not caused by stress, alcohol, or rich foods, but |
|  | B. not caused by stress, alcohol, or rich foods, but are by |
|  | **C**. caused not by stress, alcohol, or rich foods, but by |
|  | D. caused not by stress, alcohol, and rich foods, but |
|  | E. caused not by stress, alcohol, and rich foods, but are by |

**Parallelism; Diction**

The formula used in this sentence *not this but that* requires parallel elements following *not* and *but.* This means that *not by stress, alcohol, or rich foods* must be balanced by *but by a bacterium. …* There is no need to repeat the verb *are caused*, or even the auxiliary verb *are*, because the verb precedes the *not by* … *but by* … formula. The substitution of the conjunction *and* for the conjunction *or* changes the meaning of the sentence: *Stress, alcohol and rich foods* identifies the combination of these three factors as a suggested cause of stomach ulcers, whereas *stress, alcohol, or rich foods* offers three individual possibilities. There is no way to tell which one of these is the intended meaning of the sentence.

**Correct**. This sentence correctly uses the *not by* … *but by* … formula.

63/ **SC02443**

Foraging at all times of the day and night, but interspersing their feeding with periods of rest that last between one and eight hours, a sperm whale could eat so much as a ton of squid a day.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. between one and eight hours, a sperm whale could eat so |
|  | **B**. between one and eight hours, sperm whales can eat as |
|  | C. between one to eight hours, sperm whales could eat as |
|  | D. from one to eight hours, sperm whales could eat so |
|  | E. from one to eight hours, a sperm whale can eat so |

**Agreement; Diction**

Although this sentence, as presented, uses the conditional or past verb form *could*, it is more plausibly intended to make a general statement about the actual behavior of a species, a statement that holds in the present day. For that purpose, the present indicative *can* is preferable. *So much as* is not the correct wording to express the upper level of a variable amount; *as much as* should be used instead. Also, although the singular *a sperm whale* can be used to refer to sperm whales generally, the plural *their* needs to refer to the plural *sperm whales*.

**Correct**. Both *can* and *as* are used; also, *sperm whales* agrees with the plural *their*.

64/ **SC03207**

The 32 species that make up the dolphin family are closely related to whales and in fact include the animal known as the killer whale, which can grow to be 30 feet long and is famous for its aggressive hunting pods.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. include the animal known as the killer whale, which can grow to be 30 feet long and is |
|  | B. include the animal known as the killer whale, growing as big as 30 feet long and |
|  | C. include the animal known as the killer whale, growing up to 30 feet long and being |
|  | D. includes the animal known as the killer whale, which can grow as big as 30 feet long and is |
|  | E. includes the animal known as the killer whale, which can grow to be 30 feet long and it is |

**Rhetorical construction; Agreement**

The subject of the sentence is *the 32 species that make up the dolphin family*, and the sentence makes two claims about them: They are closely related, and they include the killer whale. The relative pronoun *which* restates the object of the second verb, reintroducing *the animal known as the killer whale* as the subject of a relative clause followed by two parallel verbs: *can grow* and *is famous.*

**Correct**. In this concise sentence, verbs agree in number with their subjects and the relative pronoun *which* indicates clearly that *the animal known as the killer whale* is the subject of the verbs in the dependent clause.

65/ **SC01070**

Covering 71 percent of Earth's surface, the oceans play an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, moderating temperature by the absorption of heat and carbon dioxide, and giving pure water back to the atmosphere through evaporation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. Covering 71 percent of Earth's surface, the oceans play an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, moderating |
|  | B. Covering 71 percent of Earth's surface and playing an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, the oceans moderate |
|  | C. The oceans cover 71 percent of Earth's surface and play an essential role in maintaining conditions for human existence on land, and by moderating |
|  | D. The oceans cover 71 percent of Earth's surface, play an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, and moderate |
|  | E. The oceans cover 71 percent of Earth's surface, playing an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, and they moderate |

**Parallelism; Rhetorical construction; Grammatical construction**

This sentence about the essential role oceans play in maintaining conditions for human existence on land begins with a participial phrase describing the vastness of the oceans, followed by the main clause (*oceans play an essential role . . .*). The object, *role*, is modified by a prepositional phrase that indicates what kind of role the oceans play (it plays a role *in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land*). This statement about the ocean's role in maintaining terrestrial conditions is elucidated by two parallel participial phrases that describe the oceans, explaining how they maintain conditions essential for human existence on land (*moderating . . . and giving . . .*).

**Correct**. This version of the sentence effectively conveys the means by which the ocean plays an essential role in maintaining the conditions for human existence on land, using parallel verb forms.

66/ **SC02102**

In the seventh century B.C., the Roman alphabet was adapted from the Etruscan alphabet, which in turn had been adapted in the previous century from a western Greek alphabet, which itself had been adapted earlier in the same century from the Phoenician alphabet.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. which itself had been adapted earlier |
|  | B. adapting itself earlier |
|  | C. itself being adapted earlier |
|  | D. having been earlier adapted itself |
|  | E. earlier itself having been adapted |

**Rhetorical construction; Verb form; Logical predication**

This sentence describes a string of adaptations of the alphabet, tracing back from the seventh century BC through two points in the eighth century BC. Because the latest of the three adaptations is temporally located in past tense, earlier adaptations should be located in the past perfect tense.

**Correct**. This sentence is properly constructed and uses the appropriate verb forms for the relationships among the events that it describes.

67/ Rivaling the pyramids of Egypt or even the ancient cities of the Maya as an achievement, the army of terra-cotta warriors created to protect Qin Shi Huang, China's first emperor, in his afterlife is more than 2,000 years old and took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to complete.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. the army of terra-cotta warriors created to protect Qin Shi Huang, China's first   emperor, in his afterlife is more than 2,000 years old and took 700,000 artisans  more than 36 years to complete |
|  | 1. Qin Shi Huang, China's first emperor, was protected in his afterlife by an army   of terra-cotta warriors that was created more than 2,000 years ago by 700,000  artisans who took more than 36 years to complete it |
|  | 1. it took 700,000 artisans more than 36 years to create an army of terra-cotta   warriors more than 2,000 years ago that would protect Qin Shi Huang, China's  first emperor, in his afterlife |
|  | 1. more than 2,000 years ago, 700,000 artisans worked more than 36 years to   create an army of terra-cotta warriors to protect Qin Shi Huang, China's first emperor,  in his afterlife |
|  | 1. more than 36 years were needed to complete the army of terra-cotta warriors   that 700,000 artisans created 2,000 years ago to protect Qin Shi Huang, China's  first emperor, in his afterlife |

**Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The opening modifier, *Rivaling the pyramids* … describes *the army of terra-cotta warriors*, which must immediately follow the modifier. The placement of the predicates that follow is important; they must clarify two things about the army of terra-cotta warriors: how old it is and how long it took to complete. The clearest and most effective way to express these two assertions is as parallel verb phrases, *is more than 2,000 years old* and *took* … *more than 36 years to complete.*

**Correct**. The opening phrase correctly modifies the subject, *the army of terra-cotta warriors*; the placement of modifiers and predicates in the main clause makes the meaning of the sentence clear.

68/ **SC05760**

Most of the country's biggest daily newspapers had lower circulation in the six months from October 1995 through March 1996 than a similar period a year earlier.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. a similar period |
|  | B. a similar period's |
|  | **C**. in a similar period |
|  | D. that in a similar period |
|  | E. that of a similar period |

**Logical Predication; Parallelism**

The sentence compares newspaper circulation during two separate periods, but the comparison is not parallel because it has been drawn using a prepositional phrase, *in the six months*, and a noun phrase, *a similar period*. Both phrases compared by *than* should be prepositional phrases: *lower in the six months . . . than in a similar period.*

**Correct**. *In the six months* and *in a similar period* are both prepositional phrases, making the comparison clear and properly idiomatic.

69/ **SC01018**

The remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region can, in part, be explained as a very rapid movement of people from one end of North America to the other.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. The remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region can, in part, be explained as |
|  | B. Thule artifacts being remarkably similar throughout a vast region, one explanation is |
|  | C. That Thule artifacts are remarkably similar throughout a vast region is, in part, explainable as |
|  | **D**. One explanation for the remarkable similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region is that there was |
|  | E. Throughout a vast region Thule artifacts are remarkably similar, with one explanation for this being |

**Logical predication; Grammatical construction; Rhetorical construction**

The intended meaning of the sentence is that the rapid movement of people across North America is one explanation of the *similarity of Thule artifacts throughout a vast region*. As worded, however, the sentence is illogical: The sentence indicates that the similarity in artifacts was a rapid movement of people, which makes no sense. Instead of equating similarity with movement, the sentence needs to identify this movement of people as a cause of similarity among artifacts.

**Correct**. This version adequately expresses the intended causal connection.

70/ **SC05785**

Last week local shrimpers held a news conference to take some credit for the resurgence of the rare Kemp's ridley turtle, saying that their compliance with laws requiring that turtle-excluder devices be on shrimp nets protect adult sea turtles.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. requiring that turtle-excluder devices be on shrimp nets protect |
|  | **B**. requiring turtle-excluder devices on shrimp nets is protecting |
|  | C. that require turtle-excluder devices on shrimp nets protect |
|  | D. to require turtle-excluder devices on shrimp nets are protecting |
|  | E. to require turtle-excluder devices on shrimp nets is protecting |

**Rhetorical construction; Agreement**

The subject of the clause introduced by *saying that* is the singular noun *compliance*. This subject requires the singular form of the verb *protect.* The clearest, most economical way to describe the laws in question is to follow the word *laws* with a present participle *requiring*. To use an infinitive, *to require*, seems to indicate that requiring these devices is the objective of the laws, when in fact the objective is to protect the sea turtles.

**Correct**. The singular verb *is protecting* agrees with the singular subject *compliance*, and the participial phrase beginning with *requiring* concisely and accurately describes the laws.

71/ To attract the most talented workers, some companies are offering a wider range of benefits, letting employees pick those most important to them.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. benefits, letting employees pick those most important to them |
|  | B. benefits, letting employees pick the most important of them to themselves |
|  | C. benefits and letting employees pick the most important to themselves |
|  | D. benefits and let employees pick the most important to them |
|  | E. benefits and let employees pick those that are most important to themselves |

**Diction; Parallelism; Verb form**

The sentence describes the benefit options offered by some companies, which allow employees to *pick those most important to them. Letting* maintains the progressive sense of *are offering; those* refers clearly and concisely to *benefits;* and *them* is the correct pronoun to serve as the object of the preposition *to*.

**Correct**. The sentence clearly and concisely explains benefit options that allow employees to *pick those most important to them.*

72/ **SC01523**

When viewed from the window of a speeding train, the speed with which nearby objects move seems faster than that of more **distant objects**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. the speed with which nearby objects move seems faster than that of |
|  | B. the speed that nearby objects move seems faster than for |
|  | C. the speed of nearby objects seems faster than |
|  | D. nearby objects' speeds seem to be faster than those of |
|  | **E**. **nearby objects** seem to move at a faster speed than do |

**Logical Predication; Parallelism**

The intended meaning of the sentence is easily discerned: objects viewed from a speeding train seem to move faster than more distant objects. However, the sentence is defective in structure. One problem is that the participle *viewed* seems to apply to the subject of the main clause, the noun phrase *the speed with which nearby objects move.* Since this produces nonsense, the sentence needs to be reshaped. Comparing the speed of nearby objects with the speed of more distant objects would ideally be done with parallelism in phrasing, but that is lacking in the given sentence.

**Correct.** The phrase *nearby objects* is correctly made the subject of the verb *seem*, and this fits with the participle in the *when*-clause. Additionally, there is a strict parallelism between *nearby objects* and *more distant objects,* which are being compared with respect to their apparent speed.

73/ **SC01554**

To estimate the expansion rate of the universe is a notoriously difficult problem because there is a lack of a single yardstick that all distances can be measured by.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. To estimate the expansion rate of the universe is a notoriously difficult problem   because there is a lack of a single yardstick that all distances can be measured by. |
|  | 1. Estimating the expansion rate of the universe is a notoriously difficult problem   because there is no single yardstick by which all distances can be measured. |
|  | 1. Because there is a lack of a single yardstick to measure all distances by,   estimating the expansion rate of the universe is a notoriously difficult problem. |
|  | 1. A notoriously difficult problem is to estimate the expansion rate of the universe   because a single yardstick is lacking by which all distances can be measured. |
|  | 1. It is a notoriously difficult problem to estimate the expansion rate of the   universe because by no single yardstick can all distances be measured. |

**Rhetorical Construction; Logical Predication**

The sentence seeks to explain the difficulty of estimating the expansion rate of the universe and uses a *because*-clause to present the explanation. Issues in the given sentence include the following: is the infinitive verb form *to estimate* best here? And is there a more straightforward and more readable way to express the explanation?

**Correct.** Use of the verbal noun *estimating* is acceptable here. The phrase *there is no single yardstick* is much more direct and readable than *there is a lack of a single yardstick*. The preposition *by* is adjacent to *which*, the relative pronoun that it governs.

74/ **SC05848**

The eyes of the elephant seal adapt to darkness more quickly than any other animal yet tested, thus allowing it to hunt efficiently under the gloomy conditions at its feeding depth of between 300 and 700 meters.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. The eyes of the elephant seal adapt to darkness more quickly than any other animal yet tested, thus allowing it |
|  | B. The eyes of the elephant seal adapt to darkness more quickly than does any other animal yet tested, allowing them |
|  | **C**. The eyes of the elephant seal adapt to darkness more quickly than do those of any other animal yet tested, allowing it |
|  | D. Because they adapt to darkness more quickly than any other animal yet tested, the eyes of the elephant seal allow it |
|  | E. Because the eyes of the elephant seal adapt to darkness more quickly than do those of any other animal yet tested, it allows them |

**Logical predication; Agreement**

Logically, the eyes of the elephant seal should be contrasted with the eyes of other animals, not with the animals themselves. The sentence must make this comparison directly and precisely, with each subject interpretable as the subject of *adapt*. Given the correct subject (*those of any other animal yet tested*), which is plural, any reference to it must also be plural.

**Correct**. The subject of the comparative phrase is correctly *those of any other animal yet tested*, the plural verb *do* correctly agrees with this subject (*those*), and the singular pronoun *it* correctly agrees with its antecedent (*elephant seal )*.

75/ **SC08577**

The tourism commission has conducted surveys of hotels in the most popular resorts, with the ultimate goal of reducing the guests who end up expressing overall dissatisfaction with the service in the hotels.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. with the ultimate goal of reducing the guests who end up expressing overall dissatisfaction with the service in the hotels |
|  | B. with the goal to ultimately reduce the number of guests who end up expressing overall dissatisfaction with the hotels' service |
|  | C. ultimately with the goal to reduce expressions of overall dissatisfaction by the guests with the hotel service |
|  | D. in an ultimate attempt to reduce the number of guests that ends up expressing overall dissatisfaction with the hotels' service |
|  | **E**. with the ultimate goal of reducing the number of guests who express overall dissatisfaction with the hotels' service |

**Verb form; Rhetorical construction**

This sentence seems to be saying something absurd: that the goal is to reduce the guests themselves, instead of to reduce the **number** of guests or the expressions of dissatisfaction. It is also awkward in introducing the superfluous *end up*; but at least, if it does so, the correct form to agree with the subject *guests* is *end up*, not *ends up*, which is used in answer choice D. In general, direct modifiers (such as *with the (hotel) service*) should not be separated from the word they modify (such as *dissatisfaction*) if possible.

**Correct**. The *with* phrase is concise, and it is the number of guests, not the guests themselves, that is to be reduced. *With the hotel's service* is adjacent to *dissatisfaction*. Also, in the relative clause starting with *who*, the implicit subject of *express* is *guests*, so this verb correctly agrees with its subject.

76/ **SC03881**

Air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or three planes a day, but it was found by a joint Canadian–Russian study to be both feasible as well as desirable if those routes are opened to thousands more commercial planes a year.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or three   planes a day, but it was found by a joint Canadian–Russian study to be both  feasible as well as desirable if those routes are opened to thousands more  commercial planes a year. |
|  | 1. Currently used by only two or three planes a day, a joint Canadian–Russian   study has found that if air traffic routes over the North Pole are opened to  thousands more commercial planes a year, it would be both feasible and desirable. |
|  | 1. A joint Canadian–Russian study, finding it to be both feasible as well as desirable   to open air traffic routes over the North Pole, which are currently used by only two or  three planes a day, to thousands more commercial planes a year. |
|  | 1. Although air traffic routes over the North Pole are currently used by only two or   three planes a day, a joint Canadian–Russian study has found that opening those  routes to thousands more commercial planes a year is both feasible and desirable. |
|  | 1. With air traffic routes over the North Pole currently used by only two or three   planes a day, opening those routes to thousands more commercial planes a year  has been found by a joint Canadian—Russian study as both feasible and desirable. |

**Rhetorical construction; Verb form; Logical predication**

The point of the sentence is to share the results of a study about air routes over the North Pole, but the wording is confusing and verbose. The passive construction *it was found by a joint Canadian–Russian study to be* could be expressed more directly and clearly in active voice: *a joint Canadian–Russian study has found*.

**Correct**. The sentence uses correctly placed modifiers and the active voice to explain clearly what a *joint Canadian–Russian study has found*.

77/ **SC01474**

Starfish, with anywhere from five to eight arms, have a strong regenerative ability, and if one arm is lost it quickly replaces it, sometimes by the animal overcompensating and growing an extra one or two.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. one arm is lost it quickly replaces it, sometimes by the animal overcompensating and |
|  | **B**. one arm is lost it is quickly replaced, with the animal sometimes overcompensating and |
|  | C. they lose one arm they quickly replace it, sometimes by the animal overcompensating, |
|  | D. they lose one arm they are quickly replaced, with the animal sometimes overcompensating, |
|  | E. they lose one arm it is quickly replaced, ­sometimes with the animal overcompensating, |

**Agreement; Idiom**

In a conditional sentence *if X, (then) Y*, rhetorical flow is enhanced by the two clauses sharing the same structure. If one clause is passive, the other should be passive; if one clause is active, the other should be active, too.

**Correct**. The conditional structure is clear and correct.

78/ **SC03083**

Travelers from Earth to Mars would have to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, avoiding large doses of radiation, plus contending with the chemically reactive Martian soil, and perhaps even ward off contamination by Martian life-forms.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Mars would have to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, avoiding large doses of radiation, plus contending |
|  | **B**. Mars would have to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, avoid large doses of radiation, contend |
|  | C. Mars, having to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, would also have to avoid large doses of radiation, plus contending |
|  | D. Mars, having to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, avoid large doses of radiation, plus contend |
|  | E. Mars, who would have to endure low levels of gravity for long periods of time, avoid large doses of radiation, contend with |

**Grammatical Construction; Parallelism**

The sentence lists a series of things that travelers from Earth to Mars would have to do in order to successfully handle challenging conditions. Listing elements in a series requires parallelism in wording for each element, together with the use of a conjunction immediately preceding the final element.

**Correct.** The parallelism requirement is fulfilled, with the following elements: *endure …, avoid …, contend …, and perhaps even ward off.*

79/ **SC01059**

The Commerce Department reported that the nation's economy grew at a brisk annual pace of 3.7 percent in the second quarter, but that while businesses were expanding their production, unsold goods piled up on store shelves as consumer spending is slowed sharply.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. unsold goods piled up on store shelves as consumer spending is slowed sharply |
|  | **B**. unsold goods were piling up on store shelves as consumer spending slowed sharply |
|  | C. unsold goods had piled up on store shelves with a sharp slowing of consumer spending |
|  | D. consumer spending was slowing sharply, with the piling up of unsold goods on store shelves |
|  | E. consumer spending has slowed sharply, with unsold goods piling up on store shelves |

**Verb Form; Rhetorical Construction**

The sentence summarizes a government report about four business and economic processes occurring over a single quarter: economic growth, increasing production, unsold goods accumulating in retail stores, and a sharp slowing in consumer spending. A problem in the verb *is slowed* is use of the passive form, which in this context is awkward and unidiomatic. It is also present tense, whereas *piled up* is simple-past tense—a breach of proper tense sequence.

**Correct.** The verb *were piling up* correctly indicates a process as opposed to a single event; with the *as-*clause, the verb *slowed* indicates a process simultaneous with another process (and, implicitly, contributing to it).

80/ **SC03014**

As with ants, the elaborate social structure of termites includes a few individuals reproducing and the rest serve the colony by tending juveniles, gathering food, building the nest, or battling intruders.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. As with ants, the elaborate social structure of termites includes a few individuals reproducing |
|  | B. As do ants, termites have an elaborate social structure, which includes a few individuals to reproduce |
|  | C. Just as with ants, termite social structure is elaborate, including a few individuals for reproducing |
|  | **D**. Like ants, termites have an elaborate social structure in which a few individuals reproduce |
|  | E. Like that of ants, the termite social structure is elaborate, including a few individuals that reproduce |

**Grammatical Construction; Parallelism**

The sentence describes the organization of reproduction and labor among termites. As written, the sentence seems, illogically, to compare a social structure with ants, not with another social structure. Overall, the sentence structure is unnecessarily awkward.

**Correct.** The sentence concisely notes that termites resemble ants in having an elaborate social structure. The complex relative clause *in which … and …* has two coordinated elements correctly parallel in structure: *a few individuals reproduce* and *the rest serve … intruders*.

81/ **SC01445**

While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes it more expensive for them to generate electricity.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. While it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as other types of power   plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that makes  it more expensive for them to generate electricity. |
|  | 1. While the cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as for other types   of power plants, the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants make  the electricity they generate more expensive. |
|  | 1. Even though it costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types   of power plants, it is the fixed costs that stem from building nuclear plants that  makes the electricity they generate more expensive. |
|  | 1. It costs about the same to run nuclear plants as for other types of power   plants, whereas the electricity they generate is more expensive, stemming  from the fixed costs of building nuclear plants. |
|  | 1. The cost of running nuclear plants is about the same as other types of power   plants, but the electricity they generate is made more expensive because of  the fixed costs stemming from building nuclear plants. |

**Agreement; Logical predication**

The emphatic construction *it is X that does Y* (as in the phrase *it is Jane who knows the answer*) should be used only when there is a compelling reason to emphasize the doer of the action. In this sentence, the emphatic construction is used without good reason.

**Correct**. This answer choice clearly and succinctly compares the two types of costs.

82/ **SC04416**

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had long been expected to announce a reduction in output to bolster sagging oil prices, but officials of the organization just recently announced that the group will pare daily production by 1.5 million barrels by the beginning of next year, but only if non-OPEC nations, including Norway, Mexico, and Russia, were to trim output by a total of 500,000 barrels a day.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. year, but only if non-OPEC nations, including Norway, Mexico, and Russia, were to trim output |
|  | B. year, but only if the output of non-OPEC nations, which includes Norway, Mexico, and Russia, is trimmed |
|  | C. year only if the output of non-OPEC nations, including Norway, Mexico, and Russia, would be trimmed |
|  | D. year only if non-OPEC nations, which includes Norway, Mexico, and Russia, were trimming output |
|  | **E**. year only if non-OPEC nations, including Norway, Mexico, and Russia, trim output |

**Rhetorical construction; Logical predication**

The underlined part of this sentence deals with the conditions under which OPEC members will lower their own oil production by 1.5 million barrels by the beginning of next year. The important thing to notice here is the following logical relation: *X will do something only if Y does something else*.

**Correct**. This version uses the correct and most concise conditional structure, without redundancies.

83/ **SC12999**

In her presentation, the head of the Better Business Bureau emphasized that companies should think of the cost of conventions and other similar gatherings as not an expense, but as an investment in networking that will pay dividends.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. as not an expense, but as |
|  | B. as not expense but |
|  | C. not an expense, rather |
|  | **D**. not as an expense, but as |
|  | E. not in terms of expense, but |

**Parallelism; Idiom**

This sentence is constructed around *not as X, but as Y*, which must start with the word *not* in accordance with this idiomatic pattern, and express both parts in a parallel way.

**Correct**. The idiom has all of its parts and expresses the two opposed concepts in parallel terms.

84/ **SC03181**

It is called a sea, but the landlocked Caspian is actually the largest lake on Earth, which covers more than four times the surface area of its closest rival in size, North America's Lake Superior.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. It is called a sea, but the landlocked Caspian is actually the largest lake on Earth, which covers |
|  | B. Although it is called a sea, actually the landlocked Caspian is the largest lake on Earth, which covers |
|  | **C**. Though called a sea, the landlocked Caspian is actually the largest lake on Earth, covering |
|  | D. Though called a sea but it actually is the largest lake on Earth, the landlocked Caspian covers |
|  | E. Despite being called a sea, the largest lake on Earth is actually the landlocked Caspian, covering |

**Logical predication; Grammatical construction**

The topic of this sentence is a single large body of water, the Caspian Sea. The wording needs to make it clear that being *the largest lake on Earth* and *covering more than four times the surface area of … Lake Superior* are both predicated of this one subject.

**Correct**. The wording is direct, unambiguous, and grammatically correct.

85/ **SC07232**

At the end of 2001, motion picture industry representatives said that there were about a million copies of Hollywood movies available online and expected piracy to increase with high-speed Internet connections that become more widely available.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. online and expected piracy to increase with high-speed Internet connections that become more widely available |
|  | B. online and expect the increase of piracy with the wider availability of high-speed Internet connections |
|  | C. online, and they expect more piracy to increase with the wider availability of high-speed Internet connections |
|  | D. online, and that they expected the increase of piracy as high-speed Internet connections would become more widely available |
|  | **E**. online, and that they expected piracy to increase as high-speed Internet connections became more widely available |

**Rhetorical construction; Grammatical construction**

Every clause needs a subject, either an overt subject or an understood subject (whose interpretation can come from a coordinated clause or some other nearby clause). In this sentence, the clause containing *expected* lacks a clear subject. The intended subject is *motion picture industry representatives*, but to clearly indicate that, the subject should either be repeated or be replaced with the pronoun *they*. Furthermore, *piracy to increase with high-speed Internet connections that become more widely available* is awkward, and it fails to clearly communicate the idea that piracy will increase as a result of high-speed Internet connections becoming available.

**Correct**. In this version the verb *expect* has an overt subject, and the following phrasing clearly indicates that the expected increase in piracy is the result of high-speed Internet connections becoming more widely available.

86/ **SC06633**

Almost like clones in their similarity to one another, the cheetah species' homogeneity makes them especially vulnerable to disease.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. the cheetah species' homogeneity makes them especially vulnerable to disease |
|  | B. the cheetah species is especially vulnerable to disease because of its homogeneity |
|  | C. the homogeneity of the cheetah species makes it especially vulnerable to disease |
|  | D. homogeneity makes members of the cheetah species especially vulnerable to disease |
|  | **E**. members of the cheetah species are especially vulnerable to disease because of their homogeneity |

**Agreement; Logical predication**

Genetic homogeneity is presented as a cause of cheetahs' vulnerability to disease. The opening adjectival phrase refers to the fact that individual cheetahs are almost like clones of one another because of how genetically similar they are. This adjectival phrase should be followed by what it describes, individual cheetahs. But the structure of the sentence makes it seem that this adjectival phrase is meant—illogically—to describe *the cheetah species' homogeneity*. The sentence structure also fails to make clear that the intended reference is to just one (the only) cheetah species.

**Correct**. The sentence is clear and the opening phrase correctly modifies *members of the cheetah species*.

87/ **SC02317**

Companies are relying more and more on networked computers for such critical tasks as inventory management, electronic funds transfer, and electronic data interchange, in which standard business transactions are handled via computer rather than on paper.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. in which standard business transactions are handled via computer rather than on paper |
|  | B. where computers handle standard business transactions rather than on paper |
|  | C. in which computers handle standard business transactions instead of on paper |
|  | D. where standard business transactions are handled, not with paper, but instead via computer |
|  | E. in which standard business transactions are being handled via computer, in place of on paper |

**Idiom; Logical predication; Rhetorical construction**

The concluding comparison in this sentence uses the idiom *rather than*, which requires parallel structures. In this sentence the prepositional phrase *via computer* parallels *on paper*. Substituting *where* for *in which* creates a nonstandard idiom.

**Correct**. This sentence uses standard idiomatic constructions and avoids the problems that are found in the other versions.

88/ **SC01022**

Marconi's conception of the radio was as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation; instead, it is precisely the opposite, a tool for communicating with a large, public audience.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Marconi's conception of the radio was as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation; instead, it is |
|  | B. Marconi conceived of the radio as a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation, but which is |
|  | **C**. Marconi conceived of the radio as a tool for private conversation that could substitute for the telephone; instead, it has become |
|  | D. Marconi conceived of the radio to be a tool for private conversation, a substitute for the telephone, which has become |
|  | E. Marconi conceived of the radio to be a substitute for the telephone, a tool for private conversation, other than what it is, |

**Rhetorical construction; Logical predication**

The main point of this sentence is to explain that while Marconi felt the radio would substitute for the phone as an instrument of private communication, in fact it has become an instrument of mass communication. It is less wordy to use *Marconi* as the subject of the active verb *conceived* than to use the subject *conception* with the static verb *was.* The pronoun *it* positioned as the subject of the final verb *has become* refers back to *radio.* Versions of the sentence that use the relative pronoun *which* indicate that the telephone has become a mass medium.

**Correct**. An active verb makes the first clause more concise; *it* in the second clause clearly refers to *the radio*.

89/ **SC01647**

Although she was considered among her contemporaries to be the better poet than her husband, later Elizabeth Barrett Browning was overshadowed by his success.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Although she was considered among her contemporaries to be the better   poet than her husband, later Elizabeth Barrett Browning was overshadowed  by his success. |
|  | 1. Although Elizabeth Barrett Browning was considered among her   contemporaries as a better poet than her husband, she was later overshadowed  by his success. |
|  | 1. Later overshadowed by the success of her husband, Elizabeth Barrett   Browning's poetry had been considered among her contemporaries to be  better than that of her husband. |
|  | 1. Although Elizabeth Barrett Browning's success was later overshadowed   by that of her husband, among her contemporaries she was considered the better poet. |
|  | 1. Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poetry was considered among her   contemporaries as better than her husband, but her success was later  overshadowed by his. |

**Idiom; Verb form; Logical predication**

The sentence misuses the locution *the better poet*. It is acceptable to say *a better poet than* but not *the better poet than*. If you have already mentioned two poets *X* and *Y*, and you want to say that *X* is better than *Y*, you can either say *X is a better poet than Y*, or simply*, X is the better poet.*

**Correct**. This version avoids the problems of the other versions.

90/ **SC03675**

In California, a lack of genetic variation in the Argentine ant has allowed the species to spread widely; due to their being so genetically similar to one another, the ants consider all their fellows to be a close relative and thus do not engage in the kind of fierce intercolony struggles that limits the spread of this species in its native Argentina.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. due to their being so genetically similar to one another, the ants consider   all their fellows to be a close relative and thus do not engage in the kind  of fierce intercolony struggles that limits |
|  | 1. due to its being so genetically similar, the ant considers all its fellows to   be a close relative and thus does not engage in the kind of fierce intercolony  struggles that limit |
|  | 1. because it is so genetically similar, the ant considers all its fellows to be   close relatives and thus does not engage in the kind of fierce intercolony  struggles that limits |
|  | 1. because they are so genetically similar to one another, the ants consider all   their fellows to be close relatives and thus do not engage in the kind of fierce  intercolony struggles that limit |
|  | 1. because of being so genetically similar to one another, the ants consider all   their fellows to be a close relative and thus do not engage in the kind of fierce  intercolony struggles that limits |

**Diction; Agreement**

Words that express comparisons, such as *similar*, require either a plural object, with an optional expression of the entities being compared, or a singular object, in which case this explicit comparison is required. Thus *its being so genetically similar*, without this explicit comparison, is incorrect. Also, the two sides of the construction *consider . . . to be* must agree in number (*fellows . . . close relatives*, not *fellows . . . a close relative*).

**Correct**. The clause with *similar* uses the plural they and an explicit *to* *one another*, and agreement is respected between *ants* and *fellows*.

**91/ SC01612**

Despite its covering the entire planet, Earth has a crust that is not seamless or stationary, rather it is fragmented into mobile semirigid plates.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Despite its covering the entire planet, Earth has a crust that is not seamless or stationary, rather it is |
|  | B. Despite the fact that it covers the entire planet, Earth's crust is neither seamless nor is it stationary, but is |
|  | C. Despite covering the entire planet, Earth's crust is neither seamless nor is it stationary, but rather |
|  | **D**. Although it covers the entire planet, Earth's crust is neither seamless nor stationary, but rather |
|  | E. Although covering the entire planet, Earth has a crust that is not seamless or stationary, but |

**Idiom; Parallelism; Logical predication**

A dangling modifier is an error in sentence structure whereby a participle is associated with a word other than the one intended or with no particular word at all. In this sentence, *Earth* is the closest word to the participial clause, and so the latter means that Earth is covering the entire planet (itself), which is a contradiction.

**Correct**. *Despite* and *although* are very close in meaning. However, *despite* is a preposition and needs to be followed by a noun or noun phrase, while *although* is a conjunction and should be followed by a finite clause. This version uses *although* correctly. The parallel structure is also clear and correct.

92/ **SC03288**

Some anthropologists believe that the genetic homogeneity evident in the world's people is the result of a “population bottleneck”—at some time in the past our ancestors suffered an event, greatly reducing their numbers and thus our genetic variation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. at some time in the past our ancestors suffered an event, greatly reducing their numbers |
|  | **B**. that at some time in the past our ancestors suffered an event that greatly reduced their numbers |
|  | C. that some time in the past our ancestors suffered an event so that their numbers were greatly reduced, |
|  | D. some time in the past our ancestors suffered an event from which their numbers were greatly reduced |
|  | E. some time in the past, that our ancestors suffered an event so as to reduce their numbers greatly, |

**Grammatical construction; Parallelism**

The underlined part of this sentence is an explanatory rewording of the clause that follows *believe*. *Scientists believe that X*—[in other words,] *that Y*. In this construction, X and Y are parallel clauses.

**Correct**. Repetition of *that* effectively signals the paraphrasing of the belief.

93/ **SC02096**

Hurricanes *at first ~~begin~~* traveling from east to west, because that direction is the way the prevailing winds in the tropics blow, but they then veer off toward higher latitudes, in many cases changing direction toward the east before dissipating over the colder, more northerly waters or over land.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. Hurricanes at first begin traveling from east to west, because that direction is the way the prevailing winds in the tropics blow, but |
|  | B. At first, hurricanes travel from east to west, because that is the direction of the prevailing winds in the tropics, but |
|  | C. While hurricanes travel from east to west at first, the direction of the prevailing winds blowing in the tropics, and |
|  | D. Because hurricanes at first travel from east to west, since it is the direction of the prevailing winds in the tropics, |
|  | E. Hurricanes, beginning by traveling from east to west, because this is the direction of the prevailing winds in the tropics, |

**Rhetorical construction; Grammatical construction**

*Hurricanes at first begin traveling* is redundant. The sentence could start with *At first, hurricanes travel* or with *Hurricanes begin traveling*; there is no need to have both *at first* and *begin*. A concise version of the sentence would also avoid *that direction is the way the prevailing winds in the tropics blow*. The meaning of *way* here is already conveyed by *direction*.

**Correct**. This version of the sentence is grammatically correct and lacks redundancy.

94/ **SC01595**

Normally a bone becomes fossilized through the action of groundwater, which permeates the bone, washes away its organic components, and replaces them with minerals.

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| --- | --- |
|  | **A**. which permeates the bone, washes away its organic components, and replaces them |
|  | B. which permeates the bone, washes away its organic components, and those are replaced |
|  | C. which permeates the bone, washing away its organic components, to be replaced |
|  | D. permeating the bone, washing away its organic components, to be replaced |
|  | E. permeating the bone, washing away its organic components and replacing them |

**Logical Predication; Grammatical Construction**

The sentence explains the process by which groundwater produces fossilization of bones. The grammatically correct sentence describes a series of three stages in the process.

**Correct.** Three parallel verbal phrases—*permeates …, washes …, and replaces …—*are correctly coordinated within a relative clause that has *which* as its subject referring to *groundwater*.

95/ **SC02000**

Although Alice Walker published a number of essays, poetry collections, and stories during the 1970s, her third novel, *The Color Purple*, which was published in 1982, brought her the widest acclaim in that it won both the National Book Award as well as the Pulitzer Prize.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | A. which was published in 1982, brought her the widest acclaim in that it won both the National Book Award as well as the Pulitzer Prize |
|  | B. published in 1982, bringing her the widest acclaim by winning both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize |
|  | **C**. published in 1982, brought her the widest acclaim, winning both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize |
|  | D. was published in 1982 and which, winning both the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize, brought her the widest acclaim |
|  | E. was published in 1982, winning both the National Book Award as well as the Pulitzer Prize, and bringing her the widest acclaim |

**Idiom; Grammatical construction**

This sentence claims that the 1982 novel *The Color Purple* brought Alice Walker more acclaim than her many publications in the 1970s.

**Correct**. This version correctly uses the form *both x and y* and is grammatically correct.