

## Improving Paragraphs Set A

(1) My uncle Stew has an amazing ability; he can read people by looking at them. (2) Too many people are in too much of a hurry to really watch anyone else. (3) In truth, Stew believes observing people is an essential part of learning what it is to be human.

(4) When I have a secret that I don't want to share, I know to avoid Stew. (5) He will act as if he has no idea what is going on, and simply chat with me, and then I am asked if I feel like sharing. (7) At times I have joined him at social events. (8) He focuses on people and studies them when talking to them. (9) My uncle ends up learning so much more than just what the people have said.

(10) Much of his talent he has had since a boy. (11) There is no aspect of his life that is not effected by my uncles ability to read people. (12) He can connect with people in deeper ways than most. (13) He could use this ability to gain power over people. (14) My uncle is a good man. (15) He uses his ability to connect with them.

30. In sentence 3 the phrase “*In truth*” can best be replaced with which of the following

- (A) In fairness
- (B) Without a doubt
- (C) Without fail
- (D) On the other hand
- (E) As a matter of fact

31. The purpose of the second paragraph is to

- (A) add details about the ideas expressed previously
- (B) provide a humorous tangent to the main point
- (C) give another example to demonstrate the point of the first paragraph
- (D) introduce traits explained in the following paragraph
- (E) Argue to influence the thinking of the reader

32. Which of the following would be the best way to revise sentence 5 (reproduced below)?

*He will act as if he has no idea what is going on, and simply chat with me, and then I am asked if I feel like sharing.*

- (A) As it is now
- (B) He acts as if he has no idea what is going on, chats with me, and then asks if I feel like sharing.
- (C) While acting as if he has no idea what is going on, and while chatting with me, he will ask if I feel like sharing.
- (D) Acting as though he has no idea what is going on, he will chat with me and ask me if I feel like sharing
- (E) He will act as if he has no idea what is going on, and then will chat with me and then will ask me if I feel like sharing.

33. Which of the following is the best revision of the underlined portion of sentence xxx (reproduced below)?

*My uncle ends up learning so much more than just what the people have said.*

- (A) (As it is now)
- (B) the said things
- (C) that which he is told
- (D) said things
- (E) the said things

34. Which of the following sentences should be omitted to improve the coherence of paragraphs 3?

- (A) sentence 10
- (B) sentence 11
- (C) sentence 12
- (D) sentence 13
- (E) sentence 14

35. Which of the following is the best way to combine and revise sentences xxx and xxx (reproduced below)

*My uncle is a good man. He uses his ability to connect with them.*

- (A) My uncle is a good man and he uses his ability to connect with them.
- (B) My uncle is a good man which includes his using his ability to connect with them.
- (C) My uncle is a good man, which mean he is a man who uses his ability to connect with them.
- (D) My uncle is a good man to use his ability to connect with them.
- (E) My uncle is a good man, so he uses his ability to connect with them.

## **Answer Key**

- 30. D
- 31. C
- 32. B
- 33. C
- 34. A
- 35. E