

WRITING CENTER PRACTICE TEST - FALL CONVENTIONS 3

Part 1

Read each of the sentences below and find the error in standard written English in each. There is no more than one error in each sentence.

Remember that standard written English is the kind of English you are usually asked to write in class and that there is a difference between the way we write something and the way we say the same thing.

1. If students make diction errors, then you need to find ways of paying more attention to language when reading.
2. Famous buildings such as the Lincoln Memorial and the White House has been added to the list of important sights to see.
3. If your ideas are important to you, you need to find words that can convey it as accurately as possible.
4. Like the Tour de France, the Tour de Spain is another well known cycling stage race, but because it covers over 1,900 miles, it is the shortest of the two.
5. If people exercised more regularly, they will save money on doctor's bills.
6. The teacher returned the test he had sprang on us yesterday.
7. The craftsman who began making better pianos were praised by the public.
8. Some music lovers claim that the sound helps him or her to go to sleep.
9. Because of childhood experiences, many men, in their search for love, seeking an all-approving, affirming woman and neglect the development of other relationships with family and friends.
10. Except for the word "for," the meanings of the coordinating conjunctions don't need no explanation.

Part 2

Select the best version of the underlined part of the sentence. Choice (A) is the same as the original sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose answer (A).

1. Because he left early and George missed the most important part of the lecture.

- (A) early and George
(B) early and was why

- (C) early, George who
- (D) early, George

2. Continued rains will flood the fields, causing damage to the crops.

- (A) causing damage to the crops.
- (B) this causing damage to the crops.
- (C) damage to the crops results.
- (D) which is the reason for crop damage.

3. Students can usually be successful if they buy the assigned books, read them, and they take careful notes.

- (A) read them, and they take careful notes.
- (B) read them, and take careful notes.
- (C) they read them, and take careful notes.
- (D) they read them, and after that take careful notes.

4. If she would realize the time, Nora would not have been late for class.

- (A) If she would realize
- (B) Not realizing
- (C) If she had realized
- (D) In as much as she did not realize

5. The course, which is not required, and it always fills the first day of registration.

- (A) The course, which is not required, and
- (B) Requiring the course, after which
- (C) Despite the not requiring the course,
- (D) Even though the course is not required,

6. The United States and Canada which have traded goods for many years.

- (A) Canada which have traded goods
- (B) Canada have traded goods
- (C) Canada, trading goods
- (D) Canada, their goods traded

7. It is quicker to use a food processor, and it is replacing the blender in many kitchens.

- (A) It is quicker to use a food processor, and it
- (B) It is quicker to use a food processor, but it
- (C) A food processor is quicker to use, because of which it
- (D) A food processor, which is quicker to use,

8. No student cannot be responsible for poor teaching.

- (A) cannot be responsible for
- (B) cannot hardly be responsible for
- (C) can be responsible for
- (D) cannot scarcely be responsible

9. His college degree gave him a new life, and the reason was he got a good paying job, started a savings account, and he regained his confidence.

- (A) life, and the reason was he got a good paying job, started a savings account, and he regained his confidence.
- (B) life, and the reason was he got a good paying job, started a savings account, and thus it made him regain his confidence.
- (C) life, for he got a good paying job, started a savings account, and regained his confidence.
- (D) life because it gave him a good paying job, he started a savings account, and regained his confidence.

10. In 1974, the full-size Chevrolet Impala, as well as the Bel Air, was the best-selling car in the United States.

- (A) Impala, as well as the Bel Air, was the best-selling
- (B) Impala, as well as the Bel Air, were the best-selling
- (C) Impala, as well as the Bel Air, the best-selling
- (D) Impala, as well as the Bel Air, selling the best