

WRITING CENTER PRACTICE TEST - SPRING CONVENTIONS 1

Questions 1-10

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. Very few countries produce almost all of the world's illegal drugs, but drug addiction affected many more countries.
2. Hardly no honest lawyers are obsessed with status or money.
3. Fortunately, the rain did not begin until after the wedding because the tent had a slightly tear in it.
4. Eudora Welty grew up in Mississippi, whereas Alice Walker who spent her childhood in Georgia.
5. Sexual harassment, which countless employees in the workplace encounters, was the issue in a locker-room case involving Boston Herald reporter Lisa Olson and the New England Patriots.
6. Some people live in climates where you can't exercise all year round, so they choose a stationary bike for conditioning.
7. Since the beginning of the last Ice Age, the size of human teeth decreased at the rate of one percent every 2,000 years.
8. Oscar Hammerstein II may be our country's most influential lyricist; Richard Rodgers and him wrote America's most popular musical comedies.
9. This car is the most cheapest subcompact on the market, and still we can't afford it.
10. The fire alarm would have rang if the vandals had not damaged it during their last rampage.

Questions 11-20

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).

11. It takes incredible physical stamina to compete in a triathlon successfully, and it is a difficult type of race.

- (A) It takes incredible physical stamina to compete in a triathlon successfully, and it is a difficult type of race.
- (B) To compete successfully in a triathlon, which is a difficult type of race, takes incredible physical stamina.
- (C) The triathlon is a difficult type of race, and it takes incredible physical stamina to compete in it.
- (D) It is a difficult type of race, so it takes incredible physical stamina to compete in a triathlon successfully.

12. Members of the canine family possess four legs, eat meat, and which have acute senses of smell.

- (A) eat meat, and which have
- (B) eat meat, having
- (C) eat meat, they also have
- (D) eat meat, and have

13. Industrial designers are highly trained, with creative ideas, and have knowledge of ergonomics.

- (A) highly trained, with creative ideas, and have knowledge of
- (B) highly trained, have creative ideas, and have knowledge of
- (C) highly trained, creative, and knowledgeable in
- (D) highly trained, creative with ideas, and know a lot about

14. This winter is more warmer than any I've ever encountered.

- (A) more warmer than any
- (B) the warmest one
- (C) the warmer of any
- (D) the warmer than any

15. Last year's ban on smoking on campus was the reason causing many students to think about health issues.

- (A) Last year's ban on smoking on campus was the reason causing
- (B) Last year's ban on smoking which was the reason causing
- (C) Last year's ban on smoking on campus caused
- (D) Last year, a ban on smoking on campus, which was causing

16. No runners ever do not begin a race without warming up.

- (A) No runners ever do not begin
- (B) No runners do not begin
- (C) No runners don't begin
- (D) Runners never begin

17. No food, drink or smoking is allowed in the museum.

- (A) No food, drink, or smoking
- (B) No eating, drinking, or smoking
- (C) No eating, drink, or smoking
- (D) No food, drinking or smoking

18. Although the Queen ordered their executions, the gardeners did not lose their heads.

- (A) Although the Queen ordered their executions, the gardeners
- (B) Despite the Queen orders their executions, the gardeners
- (C) As the order from the Queen for their executions, and the gardeners
- (D) The execution order from the Queen and the gardeners

19. Samuel Johnson was a critic and essayist, and he was the greatest conversationalist of the eighteenth century.

- (A) Samuel Johnson was a critic and essayist, and he was the greatest conversationalist of the eighteenth century.
- (B) Samuel Johnson, a critic, and he was an essayist who was the greatest conversationalist of the eighteenth century.
- (C) Samuel Johnson, a critic and essayist, was the greatest conversationalist of the eighteenth century.
- (D) He was the greatest conversationalist of the eighteenth century, and Samuel Johnson was a critic and essayist.

20. If I had lived in the 60's, I can have made every effort to meet Martin Luther King.

- (A) can have made every
- (B) would have made every
- (C) will have made every
- (D) made every