

WRITING CENTER PRACTICE TEST - SPRING CONVENTIONS 4

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 sometimes a difference between the way we write something and the way we say the same thing.

1. Both George and me were asked to present our proposals in front of the full committee before it made a final decision.
2. Neither my roommate nor my parents plans to vote.
3. Many books on the best-seller list has little literary value, so I do not automatically buy the #1 book.
4. Because Steven had ran so fast to get to school on time, he was sweaty for his school pictures.
5. Whereas Eudora Welty grew up in Mississippi, Alice Walker who spent her childhood in Georgia.
6. If you do not cooperate full, you will be summoned to the principal's office with the other offenders.
7. When the customer demanded that the sales clerk check all of the stock in the back area, the clerk responded unfavorable.
8. Matt and Gretchen both want to be teachers; however, Matt wants to be a teacher more than her.
9. Because his grandparents spoiled him, the little boy thought the earth evolved around his every wish.
10. The teacher used the story to draw an extended analogy between the battlefields of World War II with the battlefields of Vietnam.

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. The managers are not doing nothing to see that the trash is picked up.

- (A) The managers are not doing nothing
- (B) None of the managers are not doing anything
- (C) The managers are not doing anything
- (D) The managers who are not doing a thing

12. Even though many government officials admit that the polygraph is unreliable, and they continue to use it as a security measure.

- (A) unreliable, and they continue
- (B) unreliable, they continue
- (C) unreliable, continuing
- (D) unreliable, who continue

13. The lawyer explained the option to her client and was recommending a plea of guilty.

- (A) and was recommending
- (B) and recommended
- (C) and is recommending
- (D) and recommends

14. Despite the players are being small, the basketball team has the talent to win the tournament.

- (A) Despite the players are being small, the basketball learn
- (B) Being the small players, the basketball team
- (C) Although the players are small, the basketball team
- (D) Smallness not being a problem, the basketball team

15. Jay Hanna Dean was one of baseball's most famous pitchers in the thirties and he is known today as Dizzy Dean.

- (A) Jay Hanna Dean was one of baseball's most famous pitchers in the thirties and he is known today as Dizzy Dean.
- (B) Jay Hanna Dean is known today as Dizzy Dean and was one of baseball's most famous pitchers.
- (C) Dizzy Dean is Jay Hanna Dean and he was one of the most famous pitchers in the thirties.
- (D) Jay Hanna Dean, known today as Dizzy Dean, was one of baseball's most famous pitchers in the thirties.

16. The kudzu plant is a plant that was introduced into America from Japan in order to prevent erosion and has become a problem in some areas because it chokes out other vegetation.

- (A) The kudzu plant is a plant that was introduced into America from Japan in order to prevent erosion and has become
- (B) Introduced into America from Japan to prevent erosion, the kudzu plant has become
- (C) The plant that was introduced into America from Japan to prevent erosion is called kudzu, and has become
- (D) Being the plant, kudzu, that was introduced into America from Japan to prevent erosion, it has become

17. The participation in the tournament was so slight, and the organizers decided not to hold the event ever again.

- (A) so slight, and the organizers decided
- (B) so slight, so that the organizers decided
- (C) so slight and the organizers decided
- (D) so slight that the organizers decided

18. The recently published biography is interesting, detailed, and well-written.

- (A) interesting, detailed, and well-written.
- (B) interesting, details are many, and well-written.
- (C) interesting, detailed, also well-written.
- (D) interesting, it detailed, also well-written.

19. The banquet table in the Baltimore House is longer than any in the world.

- (A) is longer than any in the world.
- (B) is the longest one in the world.
- (C) is the longer of any in the world.
- (D) is in the world longer.

20. Ann is a girl who has executive ability, and she should be elected class president.

- (A) Ann is a girl who has executive ability, and she should be elected class president.
- (B) Ann, a girl who has executive ability, and she should be elected class president.
- (C) Since she has executive ability, Ann should be elected class president.
- (D) Ann should be elected class president and she has executive ability.