



PRAXIS-WRITING-SECTION^{Q&As}

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) - Writing Section

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**QUESTION 1**

Identify the error in the following sentence:

The day after the dance: he called her up at her parents\' house and asked her to dinner.

- A. dance:
- B. he called her
- C. parents\'
- D. to dinner.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: A comma should be used rather than a semi-colon.

QUESTION 2

Identify the error in the following sentence:

If only he had listened to the words of his mother, he wouldn\'t be in this silly situation.

- A. If only he had
- B. of his mother
- C. he wouldn\'t be
- D. this silly situation.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: This sentence is correct as written.

QUESTION 3

Identify the error in the following sentence:

She didn\'t answer him; she was concentrating on her paper.

- A. didn\'t
- B. him;



C. was concentrating

D. paper.

E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: The sentence is correct as written.

QUESTION 4

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Because Juan had never been stung before, he had no way to foresee the life-threatening effect the bee sting would have on him.

A. had never been stung

B. he

C. effect

D. him

E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: The correct answer is "No error" because there is no error in this sentence. One commonly misused word found in this example is "effect," which is often confused with "affect." In general, "effect" is a noun and "affect" is a verb. In this sentence "effect" is used correctly as a noun: it is the thing that happened to Juan after he was stung by the bee.

QUESTION 5

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Jewelry is an accessory used by members of all classes including watches, necklaces and earrings.

A. Jewelry is an accessory used by members of all classes including watches, necklaces and earrings.

B. Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, is an accessory used by members of all classes.

C. Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, are an accessory used by members of all classes.

D. Jewelry is accessorized by members of all classes including watches, necklaces and earrings.

E. Jewelry is an accessory used by members of all classes which includes watches, necklaces and wearing earrings.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: The problem with this sentence is the misplacement of the clause that describes jewelry. By placing



"...including watches, necklaces, and earrings." after "classes" the reader gets the impression that the classes involves different types of jewelry. By moving the clause, choice "Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, is an accessory used by members of all classes" and choice "Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, are an accessory used by members of all classes" improve the sentence. However, choice "Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, are an accessory used by members of all classes" commits the error of using a plural form of "to be" (i.e. are) to refer to a collective noun like jewelry that demands a singular verb (i.e. is). Only choice "Jewelry, including watches, necklaces and earrings, is an accessory used by members of all classes" places the clause correctly after "jewelry" and ensures that the verb agrees with the subject.

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