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**QUESTION 1**

Identify the error in the following sentence:

At long last the doctor – a total stranger; showed up at the house.

- A. At long last
- B. – a
- C. stranger;
- D. at the house.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Another dash, rather than a semi-colon, is appropriate here.

QUESTION 2

Identify the error in the following sentence:

It\\'s not my fault that the car has a dent in its rear bumper: the driver behind me failed to stop at the red light.

- A. It\\'s
- B. that
- C. its
- D. failed to stop
- E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: The correct answer is "No error" because there is no error in this sentence. This sentence does, however, feature the commonly confused "it\\'s" and "its." Remember that "its" is the possessive form of "it" and "it\\'s" is a contraction of "it is." Whenever you\\'re not sure which word is correct, read the sentence aloud and substitute "it is" for "its" and "it\\'s." Would it make sense to say "It is not my fault" or "the car has a dent in it is rear bumper"? Obviously, "it is" works in the first part of the sentence, but not in the second. "It\\'s" and "its," therefore, are used correctly in this example.

QUESTION 3

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

At seventeen he shipped as a cabin boy, bound for Liverpool.



- A. No error
- B. a cabin boy; bound
- C. a cabin boy: bound for
- D. a cabin boy -- bound for
- E. a cabin boy -- for bound

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: Comma is required to separate the clause.

QUESTION 4

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Although the lion\\'s share of oil wells is owned by large oil companies, there are individuals who earn their living by selling the oil from their own, private wells.

- A. is
- B. there
- C. who
- D. their
- E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: The correct answer is "No error" because this sentence contains no errors. Although the phrase "lion\\'s share of oil wells is" may sound strange because "is" doesn\\'t agree with "wells," it is grammatically correct. The true subject of the sentence is not the plural "wells": it\\'s the singular "share." "Of oil wells" is simply a prepositional phrase that modifies "lion\\'s share."

QUESTION 5

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

Sports commentators often provide informative and witty insight during games that enhance the sports-watching experience.

- A. enhance the sports-watching experience.
- B. enhance the experience.
- C. enhances the sports-watching experience.



D. enhances the sports-watching experience for fans.

E. have enhanced the sports-watching experiences for fans.

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The problem with this sentence is that the second action verb (i.e. enhance) needs to be singular (i.e. enhances) because this verb refers to "insight." Some readers may believe that because there are two characteristics to the insight (i.e. informative and witty) there should be a plural form of the verb. Choice "enhances the sports-watching experience" and choice "enhances the sports-watching experience for fans" correct this agreement error of the verb; however, choice "enhances the sports-watching experience for fans" is wordy. Obviously, fans are the ones who watch sports, so why restate this. Choice "enhances the sports-watching experience" therefore is most direct and grammatically sound.

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