TSI Assessment-Sample Questions
Writing

Page 1 and 2-Sample Questions
Page 3-Solutions

Multiple Choice-5 Questions

Select the best version of the underlined part of the sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose the first answer.

1. The microwave’s buzzer sounded dinner was ready.
   a. The microwave sounded dinner was ready
   b. The microwave sounded, dinner was ready.
   c. The microwave sounded since dinner was ready.
   d. The microwave sounded, since dinner was ready.

2. By setting aside time to study everyday, a grade point average is sure to improve.
   a. By setting aside time to study everyday, a grade point average is sure to improve.
   b. By setting aside time to study everyday, grades are sure to improve.
   c. By setting aside time to study everyday, improvement of grade point average is sure.
   d. By setting aside time to study everyday, a student can improve his or her grade point average.

3. Neither of the brothers has seen their children in ten years.
   a. Neither of the brothers has seen their children in ten years.
   b. Neither of the brothers have seen their children in ten years.
   c. Neither of the brothers has seen his children in ten years.
   d. Neither of the brothers have seen his children in ten years.

4. Inviting the whole campus. The Faculty of Temple College hosted a reception.
   a. Inviting the whole campus. The Faculty of Temple College hosted a reception.
   b. Inviting the whole campus, the faculty of Temple College hosted a reception.
   c. Inviting the whole campus, the Faculty of Temple College hosted a reception.
   d. Inviting the whole campus; The Faculty of Temple College hosted a reception.
Think about how you would rewrite the following sentence according to the directions given, and then choose the best answer. Keep in mind that your revision should not change the meaning of the original sentence.

5. Unsaturated fats, which come from plants and include most oils, are generally liquid at room temperature.

Rewrite, beginning with the appropriate word

Generally liquid at room temperature.

a. plants come from…
b. oils come from…
c. liquids come from…
d. unsaturated fats come from…

WritePlacer Sample Prompt

“If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap; if you want happiness for a day, go fishing; if you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune, but if you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody.” Chinese Proverb

Assignment Question

Are we in control of our own happiness? Explain why or why not.
Solutions

1. C Choice (C) is correct. By using the subordinate conjunction since to create a subordinate clause for the second part, a complex sentence is created. Choice (A) is incorrect. The sample sentence is a run-on or fused sentence. Two independent clauses are fused or run together. Choice (B) is incorrect. Using a comma without a coordinating conjunction creates a comma splice. Choice (D) is incorrect. When the dependent clause comes second in a complex sentence, do not use a comma.

2. D Choice (D) is correct. The subject should be “student. Student is a subject who can set aside time to study. That singular subject, student, agrees with the singular pronoun, his or her. Choice (A) is incorrect. The sample sentence begins with a dangling modifier and also has an error in pronoun and antecedent agreement. “grade point average” cannot be the subject because it cannot set aside time to study. Choice (B) is incorrect. The subject, grades, cannot set aside time to study. Choice (C) is incorrect. The subject, improvement, cannot set aside time to study.

3. C Choice (C) is correct. The subject, neither, is singular and needs a singular verb, has. The singular pronoun, his, agrees with the singular subject, neither. Choice (A) is incorrect. The sample sentence has an error in pronoun and antecedent agreement. Singular subject, neither, does not agree with plural pronoun, their. Choice (B) is incorrect. Singular subject, neither, does not agree with plural verb, have, and does not agree with plural pronoun, their. Choice (D) is not correct. Singular subject, neither, does not agree with plural verb, have.

4. B Choice (B) is correct. The introductory participle phrase is set off with a comma and the common noun subject, faculty, is not capitalized. Choice (A) is incorrect. The first group of words is a verbal fragment, and Faculty should not be capitalized. Choice (C) is incorrect. Faculty should not be capitalized. Choice (D) is incorrect. A semi-colon is used to connect two independent clauses. A semi-colon as the same value as a period. Also, do not capitalize The and Faculty.

5. Choice (D) is correct. Unsaturated fats are what become liquid at room temperature. Choices (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect because none of these restate the original statement correctly.