

## Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs Level: Elementary School

*Some tests check your editing skills by asking you to find errors in a story that is already written. To tackle this task, start by reading the questions to get an idea of what to look for. Then, read the story, keeping in mind the questions you will have to answer. Be sure to read all possible answer choices before selecting one.*

The story below is a first draft Sammi wrote for her English language arts course. The story contains mistakes. Read the story to answer the questions.

(1) Jenny walked slowly around the square, her eyes glued to the ground. (2) She knew she had dropped it but she didn't know where. (3) The blue and red necklace from Mom. (4) Where could it be? (5) Big huge sad tears welled in her eyes. (6) The day was bright and sunny.

(7) She felt like she had walked miles. (8) She still did not see the necklace. (9) Mom always said, Retrace your steps. (10) So that is what she was doing, but it wasn't working. (11) Not at all.

(12) She was about to give up and go home. (13) A police officer stopped her. The officer said, "Have you lost something?"

(14) Jenny dried her tears. (15) She described the necklace to the officer. (16) She explained that the blue and red pendant was made in Italy. (17) Her mother had brought it home from a business trip there. (18) Her mother would go to France tomorrow.

(19) The police officer opened his hand and showed Jenny a necklace. (20) "A woman found this by the fountain," he said. (21) "When I saw you looking for something, I thought it might be yours."

(22) "Oh, thank you!" exclaimed Jenny. (23) She was so happy that she gave the officer a hug.

## Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs (continued)

Refer to the preceding story to answer the following questions.

1. Which sentence in the first paragraph is a fragment?
  - a. sentence 2
  - b. sentence 3
  - c. sentence 5
  - d. sentence 6
  
2. The author wants to add the following sentence: Jenny wished she had another strategy. Where could this sentence be added to help us understand how Jenny was feeling?
  - a. after sentence 1
  - b. after sentence 11
  - c. after sentence 14
  - d. after sentence 23
  
3. Which sentence contains a detail that is unimportant to the story?
  - a. sentence 2
  - b. sentence 13
  - c. sentence 18
  - d. sentence 20
  
4. Which transition could be added to the beginning of sentence 15 to help connect the ideas in the the third paragraph?
  - a. Unfortunately
  - b. While
  - c. Also
  - d. Then
  
5. Which of these sentences has a punctuation error?
  - a. sentence 9
  - b. sentence 12
  - c. sentence 14
  - d. sentence 20



## Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs Answer Sheet

1. b
2. b
3. c
4. d
5. a