

Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs

Level: Middle School

Standardized tests often present a sentence and ask students how they will revise it. All or part of the sentence will be underlined. Students must choose the sentence or phrase which best improves the sentence or part of the sentence presented. Look for proper grammar, strong word choice, a clear message, and correct punctuation.

Choose the answer choice which is the best version of the underlined sentence portions below.

1. Poignant means to be something powerfully touching.

- a. Poignant means to be something powerfully touching.
- b. Something that is poignant affects your feelings powerfully.
- c. Poignant means something that feels powerfully.
- d. Meaning poignant is powerfully touching in emotional terms.

2. Joe my stepmother's brother said he'd give me a ride.

- a. Joe my stepmother's brother said he'd give me a ride.
- b. My stepmother's brother joe said he'd give me a ride.
- c. Joe: the brother of my stepmother, said he'd give me a ride.
- d. Joe, my stepmother's brother, said he'd give me a ride.

3. "I think I'd better get going now." He said.

- a. "I think I'd better get going now." He said.
- b. He said he needed to get going.
- c. "I think I'd better get going now," he said.
- d. "I think, I'd better get going now." He said.

4. Many Americans celebrate Flag Day, the anniversary of the official adoption of the United States flag on June 14, 1777.

- a. Flag Day, the anniversary of the official adoption of the United States flag on June 14, 1777.
- b. Flag day, the anniversary of the official adoption of the United States Flag, on June 14, 1777.
- c. Flag Day, the anniversary of the adoption of the Flag of the United States on June 14, 1777.
- d. Flag Day the anniversary of the official adoption of the flag, of the United States on June 14, 1777.

Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs (continued)

5. **Please pack the following necessities: a toothbrush, a washcloth, and books for free time.**
- Please pack the following necessities: a toothbrush, a washcloth, and books for free time.
 - Please pack the following necessities: a toothbrush, a washcloth, and books.
 - The following necessities pack: a toothbrush, a washcloth, and books for free time.
 - Please pack the following necessities: a toothbrush for brushing your teeth, a washcloth for washing your face, and books for free time.
6. **She cried and cried she was so sad then she dried her eyes and went out.**
- She cried and cried she was so sad then she dried her eyes and went out.
 - She cried and cried because she was so sad. Then, she dried her eyes and went out.
 - She cried of sadness, then she dried her eyes and went out.
 - She howled, dried her eyes and left.
7. **She had been in the dessert a long time, she needed water.**
- in the dessert a long time, she needed water.
 - in the desert a long time, she needed water.
 - in the dessert a long time; she needed water.
 - in the desert a long time; she needed water.
8. **After blowing for hours with 80 mph winds, their roof blew off.**
- After blowing for hours with 80 mph winds, their roof blew off.
 - After surviving hours of 80 mph winds, the roof finally blew off.
 - After blowing for hours with eighty mile-per-hour winds, the roof.
 - Sustaining 80 mph winds in gusts, the roof blew off.



Standardized Tests: Editing and Revising Paragraphs Answer Sheet

1. b
2. d
3. c
4. a
5. d
6. b
7. d
8. b