

## Standardized Tests → Improving Sentences

### Level: High 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 phrase presented. Look for **proper grammar, strong word choice, a clear message, and correct punctuation.***

**Part of the sentence is underlined. Circle the answer choice which is the best version of the underlined portion. Choice A is unchanged.**

1. His results were credible; but hers seemed particularly incredible almost impossible to believe.
  - a. ; but hers seemed particularly incredible almost impossible to believe.
  - b. , but hers seemed particularly incredible--almost impossible to believe.
  - c. , however, hers seemed particularly incredible and wrong and he found them almost impossible to believe.
  - d. , but hers, however were almost impossible to believe and seemed particularly incredible.
2. After seeing her at the market on Saturday, he asked if she'd like to come over for dinner and talk.
  - a. , he asked if she'd like to come over for dinner and talk.
  - b. ; he asked if she could come to dinner and talk.
  - c. he asked her to dinner and a talk.
  - d. , he asked if she would like to come over for dinner to talk further.
3. My primary goals are to get enough sleep, a proper diet and exercise.
  - a. to get enough sleep, a proper diet and exercise.
  - b. are: getting enough sleep, eating, and exercising for good health.
  - c. to improve my health by: sleeping, eating good food and exercise.
  - d. are to get enough sleep, eat a proper diet, and exercise daily.

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4. I would like to see the historic ship which President Washington commissioned which is docked in Charlestown, Massachusetts.
- which President Washington commissioned which is docked in Charlestown, Massachusetts.
  - docked in Charlestown, Massachusetts and originally commissioned by President Washington.
  - President Washington commissioned and docked in Charlestown, Massachusetts.
  - , commissioned by President Washington, which is docked in Charlestown, Massachusetts.
5. Yawning and stretching he climbed out of bed and down the stairs.
- Yawning and stretching he climbed out of bed and down the stairs.
  - Yawning and stretching, he climbed out of bed and walked down the stairs.
  - He climbed out of bed, yawning and stretching, and went downstairs.
  - Down the stairs he climbed, yawning and stretching, out of bed.
6. I wanted to see him to but my father wouldn't let me.
- I wanted to see him to but my father wouldn't let me.
  - I wanted to see him, too, but my father wouldn't allow it.
  - I wanted to see him, but my father, too, wouldn't let me.
  - My father would not let me, even though I wanted to see him, too.
7. Neither baby mice nor the tiny squirrel have fur when first born.
- have fur when first born.
  - are furry when born.
  - has fur when first born.
  - have fur when born first.
8. After blowing the match, the crowd despondently left the stadium.

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- a. After blowing the match, the crowd despondently left the stadium.
  - b. After the team blew the match, the crowd left the stadium despondent.
  - c. The crowd left the stadium despondent: after watching their team lose again.
  - d. After blowing the match; the crowd despondently left the stadium.
9. Three traits made her life easier: thrift, hope, and perseverance.
- a. Three traits made her life easier: thrift, hope, and perseverance.
  - b. Thrift and hope, plus perseverance were traits that made her life easier most days.
  - c. Her life was easier than it would have been without thrift, hope and perseverance.
  - d. The traits of thrift, hope and perseverance helped her.