

WOC 1.2

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Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

A Great Champion

This is the first draft of Danny's letter. It may contain errors.

To Whom It May Concern at General Mills:

(1) The best candidate to be placed on the Wheaties cereal box is the world's greatest athlete, Bryan Clay. (2) I am writing this letter to ask that Bryan be placed at the top of the list for this position. (3) While reading about the history of Wheaties "Breakfast of Champions," I learned that it began in the world of minor league baseball. (4) It then ventured on to the major leagues and followed with other sports. (5) Such greats as Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, and Jackie Robinson have endorsed your product and earned the right to be the face of Wheaties during their time. (6) These great athletes were positive role-models for kids and adults everywhere.

(7) Bryan has vigorously trained for the decathlon for the last eight years. (8) Even though he did not receive much publicity, he earned the silver medal in the 2004 Athens Olympics. (9) He continued to go through injury and challenges and came up on top in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. (10) After two days of competition, Bryan got the gold medal. (11) Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was to win the gold medal and being on the Wheaties box.

(12) Wheaties is known as the "Breakfast of Champions." (13) What is the definition of a champion? (14) A champion is someone who has defeated all opponents in a competition and having the characteristic of a winner. (15) Bryan has earned that title on and off the field. (16) The entire world was able to see how his difficult training paid off in Beijing. (17) Bryan feels that training off the field is just as important, especially by getting in a well-balanced diet. (18) The combination of physical fitness and eating right will help anyone reach their potential.

(19) I learned that Wheaties has paired with the U.S. Olympic Committee to help promote physical fitness and proper nutrition. (20) What better candidate to uphold this belief than the Olympic Champion, Bryan Clay. (21) He can join another Olympic decathlete, Bruce Jenner, who has had the opportunity to be on the Wheaties box. (22) Bruce Jenner, the 1977 decathlon gold medalist has really encouraged physical fitness and eating right, just like Bryan.

(23) In addition to his job as a decathlete, Bryan has also helped out in his community. (24) The inauguration of the Bryan Clay foundation kicked off in November of 2007. (25) His foundation set out to help underprivileged students further their education. (26) Another goal of his foundation is to help provide schools with the equipment they need for physical education.

(27) I'm not the type of guy that would usually write a letter, but it's worthwhile if I can convince you that Bryan Clay is the best candidate for the Wheaties box. (28) His performance on and off the field shows that he is a great role model and athlete. (29) By looking at Bryan's story, young people will have the opportunity to see how hard work dedication and persistence pays off. (30) I am sure that there is a long list of contenders to go on the Wheaties box. (31) No one will represent the "Breakfast of Champions" as well as Bryan Clay.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Danny Shane

(Question 1)

1

How could the following sentence from the passage BEST be rewritten?

Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was to win the gold medal and being on the Wheaties box.

- A** Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was winning the gold medal and to be on the Wheaties box.
- B** Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was to win the gold medal; be on the Wheaties box.
- C** Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was to win the gold medal and to be on the Wheaties box.
- D** Bryan has said that a lifelong dream of his was to win the gold medal; and being on the Wheaties box.

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

Amazing Architecture

Read the following draft of a student's essay. It may contain errors.

(1) Most artists can create a masterpiece by using simple tools like a paint brush and a canvas; however, beautiful artwork can also be created through modern architecture. (2) Engineers have taken the classic structures of bridges and buildings to a whole new level. (3) Many amazing architects have used nature as inspiration for their design. (4) These designers have pushed the limits and created structures that can not be called anything but remarkable.

(5) Building a bridge is difficult in itself, but creating it to be a beautiful piece of architecture is an even bigger challenge. (6) The Millau Viaduct is an engineering project that is considered to be a wonder of the world. (7) The designer of this bridge did the unthinkable and made something that was impossible possible, Michel Virlogeux. (8) He created a bridge that had a slender outline and has made it blend in with the surrounding nature. (9) The Millau Viaduct crosses over the Tarn River in the Southern part of France. (10) This is the tallest bridge in the entire world, reaching a height of 1122 feet.

(11) One of the world's most incredible hotels is currently under construction. (12) It may not be easily found. (13) This hidden structure is being built under water. (14) Hydropolis, which is located in Dubai, will be the world's first luxury hotel under water. (15) The hotel will have three main structures a place to greet the guests on land a tunnel that leads to the hotel and the underwater hotel itself. (16) The completion of the hotel is still under way, but the builders are hoping it will be finished in 2009.

(17) The Torre Agbar was built to look like a geyser shooting water in the air and is located in the city of Barcelona. (18) The tall shell-like shape measures over 450 feet in height. (19) The Torre Agbar illuminates color which creates a vibrant skyline at night.

(20) Combining architecture with nature is a great way to make something extraordinary. (21) When engineers use their environment as a model for their design, the end result can be breathtaking, like a spectacle, and brilliant.

(Question 2)

2

Read the following sentence from Jeffrey's essay.

When engineers use their environment as a model for their design, the end result can be breathtaking, like a spectacle, and brilliant.

What is the BEST way to rewrite the underlined words using parallel structure?

A spectacularly

B spectacle

C spectacular

D spectacles

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

Popular Pair of Pants

This is the first draft of Joel's essay. It may contain errors.

(1) Denim jeans are one of the most common pieces of clothing around. They are universal, practical, and something of style. Without a doubt, blue jeans are as American as apple pie or a good old game of baseball. This article of clothing is used in the fashion world as well as the working world. Even though there are many different brands and types of denim today, for many years only one was widely known and used.

(2) During the late 1840s, miners flooded to the far west to look for gold in California. They faced many challenges during their treasure hunting, including a lack of sturdy clothing. The treacherous work usually led to torn pants which slowed down the miner's work. Local businesses tried very hard to find a quality pants to sell to the miners; likewise, the product was not good enough.

(3) One inventive man Levi Strauss heard about the problems the miner's were facing and thought of a new way to create pants that could endure almost anything. At first, he created the pants out of tent canvas because it was extremely durable. However, the miners complained that it chafed them while they worked. To fix the problem, Strauss came up with a way to make the pants more comfortable by adding twill cotton, which was a softer fabric. This fabric eventually became known as denim.

(4) At the same time, Jacob Davis, a tailor, developed a way to make regular pants more durable. Davis came up with the idea of using copper rivets to strengthen the pockets of the pants. Eventually, Levi paired up with Jacob Davis to create a better pair of pants, the denim jean. Together, Levi and Davis bought a U.S. patent so no one would steal their invention. This patent would not let any other company make riveted jeans for twenty years. The two men received the patent on May 20, 1873, which became the "birthday" of blue jeans.

(5) Levi Strauss And Company created a functional piece of clothing that was very good for miners and workers in the United States. It was not until the 1950s that the blue jean became fashionable. What was first used by miners during the gold rush is now worn as comfortable everyday pants by most Americans.

(Question 3)

3

Read the sentences below from Joel's essay.

Denim jeans are one of the most common pieces of clothing around. They are universal, practical, and something of style.

What is the BEST way to rewrite the underlined words to make the sentence parallel?

A styling

B style

C are stylish

D stylish

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

For the New Kid

The following is the first draft of Shawn's letter to the editor of the school newspaper. It may contain errors.

(1) Maplewood Junior High is a notable school with many great programs. (2) There are programs that reach out to local elementary schools, senior citizens in the community, and fellow students in lower income schools. (3) The Care Reading Program, for example, is a program that encourages junior high students to read to younger school children. (4) What a great way to help out! (5) In addition to all the great things Maplewood is doing in the neighborhood, they are forgetting one important group within their own school community. (6) What about the new students?

(7) Currently, there aren't any programs or groups that aid students who transfer into the school. (8) It was only a year ago that I moved to this city and started attending Maplewood. (9) I am writing this letter to share with you my bad experiences as a new student and to show how the school needs to adopt a program that would help people like me. (10) I know that this concern may not be at the top of your list, but you must be out of your mind if this matter doesn't seem important.

(11) My first day at Maplewood was in November of 2007. (12) I was a transfer student. (13) Unfortunately, there wasn't an orientation class that could tell me more about the campus. (14) I did not know where any of my classes were, so I spent most of my time asking other students where to go. (15) Sadly, they were not that helpful. (16) Another issue at hand was that I was not informed of any tryout dates for school sports. (17) The lacrosse team held their tryouts the week after I started attending the school, but I was not able to participate because I did not know where to get any information.

(18) In 1999, Clover West Junior High received over one hundred transfer students. (19) The administration recognized that they needed a way to make the transition to a new school easier for those students, and The Taking Care of Transfers (TCT) program was adopted. (20) While interviewing some of the students in their program, we gathered that the overall feeling was that it really helped them feel like they were part of the school. (21) I believe this program would be a great way to help out our own new students as well.

(22) Hopefully after reading this letter, my voice has been heard. (23) For those who have been at Maplewood for a long time, please understand that this is a valid concern. (24) Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable, and for bringing up this concern to the administration. (25) Let's add the TCT program to Maplewood to better ease the transition for new students. (26) Let's also add The Sunrise Care program which really helps students get involved with the elderly in the community. (27) Please carefully consider this issue and help make a difference!

A Concerned Student

(Question 4)

4

Read the following sentence from the letter:

(24) Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable, and for bringing up this concern to the administration.

How could sentence 24 BEST be rewritten?

- A Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable; and bringing up this concern to the administration.
- B Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable and to bring up this concern to the administration.
- C Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable: and for bringing up this concern to the administration.
- D Although I am comfortable at school now, I wrote this letter to help out those who aren't so comfortable, and bring up this concern to the administration.

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

The Coffee Cart

For extra credit, Jack's English teacher encouraged each student to write a letter to the school board about a new idea that could be implemented in the school. This is the first draft of Jack's letter. It may have some errors.

Dear School Board of Cedarwood High School,

(1) I am writing this letter to request that the school board permit the Pro Start program to start and run a coffee cart on the school campus. (2) The Pro Start program is a course that combines culinary skills with business economics of the industry, and it is similar to the former class called *Home Economics*. (3) It has come to my attention that some schools in the area have already applied this great business plan, and it is running successfully. (4) I would like to share with you the reasons why running a coffee cart will benefit the entire student body.

(5) High school is supposed to be a preparatory school for life, whether it is for college or the work force. (6) Students take classes that are educational, enlightening, and are something of value. (7) For example, every senior has the privilege of taking a class called economics. (8) Most of what is taught to the students is through a big hard bound book. (9) I believe it is also essential for a school to teach they're students this subject in a practical way. (10) What better way to do this approach than through a student-run coffee cart?

(11) Isn't it the objective of teachers to train students to be responsible and for keeping them accountable? (12) According to Senator Jon Billings, "it absolutely is the job of educators to nurture responsibility, a teacher's work is to prepare them for their future." (13) The students will be liable for completely running the cart. (14) Whether it be through set up or clean up, purchasing supplies, running the register, or depositing the day's receipts, the students would be overseeing all aspects of the business. (15) All of these skills will better equip the student for their future, even if it isn't in the food service industry.

(16) Coffee is a beverage that is widely beloved and served at almost every street corner. (17) Not only is it quite tasty, it also has many beneficial perks. (18) No pun intended. (19) Coffee has been proven to help with memory and cognitive performance. (20) According to Dr. Jeffers, "Coffee helps to improve awareness, alertness, and aids in applicable learning." (21) This deliciously aromatic brew is also valuable because it has other health benefits like lowering cholesterol and lowering the risk of diabetes. (22) No, it isn't as healthy as tomato juice or green beans, but who wants to digest those things at 8:00 in the morning?

(23) If I can put my two cents in, I really believe that this coffee cart program would be the greatest teaching tool for the student body. (24) You have the opportunity to help the students learn by experience. (25) I know the board is quite busy and has a lot on their plate, but I would appreciate it if you could take the time to really consider this idea.

Sincerely,

Jack Green

(Questions 5-6)

5

How could this sentence from the letter *best* be rewritten?

Isn't it the objective of teachers to train students to be responsible and for keeping them accountable?

- A** Isn't it the objective of teachers to train students to be responsible; and for keeping them accountable?
- B** Isn't it the objective of teachers to train students to be responsible and to keep them accountable?
- C** Isn't it the objective of teachers to training students to be responsible and to keep them accountable?
- D** Leave as is.

6

Read this sentence from Jack's letter.

Students take classes that are educational, enlightening, and are something of value.

What is the *best* way to rewrite the underlined words using parallel structure?

A valuable

B valuably

C are valuable

D valuables

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

Coach of the Century

This is the first draft of Adrian's report. It may contain errors.

One of the most distinguished football coaches of all time was Vince Lombardi. He was devoted, showed a lot of wisdom, and was full of enthusiasm. Even though he only coached one sport, his inspirational wisdom has been shared in many locker rooms around the world. One amazing characteristic of his was that he never settled for anything less than excellence.

Vince Lombardi was born in Brooklyn on June 11, 1913. Being the first of five children, he often took the role of a leader. This leadership ability carried on throughout his life. His career in football began in high school when he starred as a fullback. Vince was a great athlete. He was a brilliant student too. While in college he graduated with honors. After that, he played semi-pro football while working for a financial company.

His career in coaching began when he took a job at St. Cecilia High school in New Jersey. Seven years later, he left St. Cecilia and coached at his alma mater. An alma mater refers to the college someone attended. A couple of years later, he was an assistant coach for the United States Military academy at West Point. While he was at West Point, he learned a lot about leadership and perfection on the field.

He took his expertise from West Point and moved on to the highest level of the sport, professional football. Lombardi took an assistant coaching job for the New York Giants. He got a losing team and helped turn them into a championship team. Even though it was quite an accomplishment, Vince wanted something more challenging. After being the assistant coach in New York for four years, he was ready for his own team.

Vince took over as the head coach for the Green Bay Packers of Wisconsin. The Packers had only won one game the previous season. He demanded perfection from each player and expected them to give everything they had. Vince promised his team that if they followed what he said, they would be champions. That was exactly what happened. Only three years after Vince took over as head coach, the Green Bay Packers won the National Football League Championship in 1961. During the rest of his time coaching the Packers, Vince led the team to five championships. Throughout his time in Wisconsin, Lombardi and his team committed to excellence, and it paid off.

Vince Lombardi's coaching ability was nothing short of outstanding. Not only did he have a winning career as a coach on the football field, but he also left a positive impression on players and fans for many years. Vince Lombardi is one of the most admired coaches in history. In fact, he was so extraordinary that the Super Bowl Championship trophy was named after him. Every team that wins the Super Bowl will always remember Vince Lombardi.

(Question 7)

7

Read these sentences from the first paragraph of Adrian's passage.

One of the most distinguished football coaches of all time was Vince Lombardi. He was devoted, showed a lot of wisdom, and was full of enthusiasm.

What is the *best* way to rewrite the underlined words using parallelism?

- A devotion, wisdom, and enthusiasm.
- B devotedly, wisely, enthusiastically.
- C devoted, wise, and enthusiastic.
- D devoting, while showing wisdom and having enthusiasm.

Read the passage carefully and answer the following question(s).

Andrew Jackson

The following passage may contain errors.

(1) Andrew Jackson was one of the most incredible men in history. (2) He was the seventh president of the United States. (3) He also was a soldier, teaching school, a lawyer, a member of congress, and a major general.

(4) Jackson was raised by his mother. (5) His father died before he was born. (6) When he was thirteen, he joined the army to fight the British. (7) In April 1781, he and his brother were taken prisoner by the British. (8) When Jackson refused to clean his boots, a British soldier cut his hand to the bone. (9) Then they both got smallpox and his brother died. (10) After he got outta prison, his mother died and he was left alone.

(11) After the revolutionary war, Jackson taught school, and then he was a lawyer. (12) During the War of 1812, he became a hero as a general in the Battle of New Orleans. (13) In 1824, he ran for the presidency of the U.S. (14) He did not win. (15) He had the most popular votes, but he did not have over fifty percent of the electoral votes. (16) In 1828, he ran again and won.

(Questions 8-9)

8

Which sentence should be added to the end of the first paragraph as a TRANSITION between the first and second paragraphs?

- A Andrew Jackson served in many different wars in the U.S.
- B He was very popular and loved by many U.S. citizens.
- C Andrew Jackson is discussed in many different books.
- D He suffered through a lot to achieve all these positions.

9

Which is the correct way to write the underlined portion of sentence 3?

(3) He also was a soldier, teaching school, a lawyer, a member of congress, and a major general.

- A serving as a soldier, teaching school, a lawyer, a member of congress,
- B a soldier, teaching school, being a lawyer, a member of congress,
- C a soldier, a school teacher, a lawyer, a member of congress,
- D Correct as is

Read the following passage and answer the question(s).

Wooden Instrument

Kamau's 8th grade class was assigned to write a report on the history of an instrument. This is the first draft of his report. It may contain errors.

(1) Did you know that small peices of wood could make a sound so sweet to the ear they could even be used as musical devices? This particular device is known as a xylophone. The xylophone is a percussion instrument that is struck with an object. They can come in many different shapes and sizes. Its unique tone and look made it appealing to people of all ages. The xylophone has been played in many different cultures, and in many different settings throughout time. Many of us may be familiar with this instrument, so many of us may not be familiar with its history.

(2) Long ago in the country of Africa, someone created this ancient instrument. Wooden peices were placed on the shell of a fruit that was hollowed out and dried. Quite often it was made in the shape of a ladder. The mallets, or playing sticks, were made of wood with bowl-like balls at the end. The Africans carved arches underneath the wooden peices to create separate distinctive sounds. For centuries, these instruments were used and eventually changed, or evolved.

(3) During the 1500s, the Africans shared their instrument with the people of Central America. The Latinos loved the xylophone and eventually changed them into an instrument called the marimba. The marimba had a much wider range than the xylophone. Another difference is in the playing sticks. The xylophone's mallet is much harder than the marimba's mallet.

(4) The xylophone was also introduced to the people of Europe during the sixteenth century. This musical instrument became a popular piece in their folk music. The xylophone became even more popular during the 1800s when a Russian musician, by the name of Michael Gusikov, played it when he went on tours throughout Europe. After that, the xylophone became a common instrument that was played in many different orchestras.

(5) Eventually, the xylophone became popularized in America during the 1900s. The famous George Hamilton Green was a great xylophonist. He shared this instrument through his unique style of music. Green's xylophone had many wooden peices, which gave off a wider range of sound.

(6) The xylophone is such a marvelous musical instrument that gives off a sound that is beautiful, pure, and cannot be compared. In time, this delightful device could be found in many different bands, orchestras, and even households. They are played by professionals in impressive orchestras. They can also be played by young toddlers who are first learning about music. This ancient instrument has come a long way.

(Question 10)

10

Read the sentence below from Kamau's report.

The xylophone is such a marvelous musical instrument that gives off a sound that is beautiful, pure, and cannot be compared.

What is the BEST way to rewrite the underlined words using parallel organization?

- A** is beautiful, is pure, and can't be compared
- B** is beautiful, pure, and incomparable
- C** is full of beauty, cannot be compared, and full of purity
- D** is beautiful, is pure, and is incomparable