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# PRAXIS-WRITING-SECTION<sup>Q&As</sup>

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) - Writing Section

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### QUESTION 1

Identify the error in the following sentence:

It is ineffective for high school administration to make policy without even asking for student input; banning flip flops and enforcing strict dress codes has merit but there must be a happy medium in school policy.

- A. ineffective
- B. administration
- C. student
- D. has
- E. No error

Correct Answer: E

Explanation: This sentence is correct as written.

### QUESTION 2

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

In countries such as China the government is recognizing the advantages of a capitalist market rather than communism and adjust economic policy accordingly.

- A. capitalist market rather than communism and adjust
- B. capitalist market rather than Communism and adjust
- C. capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjust
- D. capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjusting
- E. Capitalistic market nor a Communist market and adjusting

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The problem with this sentence is in parallel structure. The test is very particular about being consistent about the forms of words used. So specifically since the sentence refers to a capitalist market, then the sentence must refer to a communist market -- not communism, which is an ideology rather than a market system in this context. Only choices "capitalist market rather than Communism and adjust", "capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjusting" and "Capitalistic market nor a Communist market and adjusting" remain. Choice "Capitalistic market nor a Communist market and adjusting" commits terrible capitalization (neither "capitalist" nor "communist") mistakes and structure errors (where does the "nor" fit in? It does not.) Only choice "capitalist market rather than Communism and adjust" and choice "capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjusting" remain now, but "capitalist market rather than Communism and adjust" mistakenly capitalizes communism and does not change "adjust" to match the parallel verb (i.e. recognizing). Choice "capitalist market rather than a communist market and adjusting" uses the right adjective forms of capitalism and communism, does not make capitalization errors and maintains parallel sentence structure.



### QUESTION 3

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Although Neal loves almost everything about living in the forest, he does dislike raking the tree\\'s leaves that blanket his lawn each fall.

- A. Although
- B. does
- C. tree\\'s
- D. fall
- E. No error

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The correct answer is "tree\\'s" because there are many trees that shed all those leaves each fall. To show that a singular noun owns something, the apostrophe goes in front of the "s." To show that a plural noun own something, the apostrophe goes in after of the "s." Changing "tree\\'s" to "trees\\'" would correct the error in this sentence by reflecting that the leaves in Neal\\'s yard come from many trees, not just one.

### QUESTION 4

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Yesterday I fell down the stairs and then tried to act as I did so on purpose.

- A. Yesterday I fell down the stairs and then
- B. Yesterday I fell down the stairs, I
- C. I fell down the stairs yesterday, I
- D. After I fell down the stairs yesterday; I
- E. Falling down the stairs; I

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: "Yesterday I fell down the stairs, I" and "I fell down the stairs yesterday, I" are run-ons. D and E misuse their semicolons: the parts before them are not independent clauses.

### QUESTION 5

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.



Study the ancient fighting art of Hapkido and you will learn to avoid directly matching your strength against your opponents.

- A. your strength against your opponents.
- B. yours against your opponent.
- C. your strength against your opponent.
- D. your strength with your opponent.
- E. your opponent's strength against one's own.

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: "yours against your opponent" doesn't say what's being matched with what. "your strength against your opponent", "your strength with your opponent", and "your opponent's strength against one's own" all have some sort of parallelism error.

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