Composition Across Forms — Practice Test

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

Draft I - The Missed Ferry

Use this reading for questions 1 to 4.

Jai stood at the dock at six in the morning, watching the grey water slap against the pilings. The ferry, which usually arrived with a low groan and a wash of white water, did not come. He checked his watch, then the timetable, then the water again, as if looking harder would summon the boat. By seven, the other waiting passengers had drifted away, and Jai realised he would have to walk the long road home through the rain, a journey he had always avoided.

1 **According to Draft I, which form of writing is this opening?**

- A a narrative opening
- B a persuasive letter
- C a research report
- D an expository explanation

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2 **According to Draft I, what is the main purpose of this opening?**



A to argue for a new ferry schedule

B to list facts about tides

C to explain how ferries are built

D to draw the reader into a character's experience

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3 **According to Draft I, which revision states Jai's problem most clearly?**

- A When the ferry failed to arrive, Jai had to walk home in the rain
- B The ferry is a boat that carries people
- C Things at the dock were not going well that morning
- D Jai had many thoughts about many things

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4 **According to Draft I, how does the sensory detail help the writing?**

- A it proves Jai owns a watch
- B it helps the reader picture the dock scene
- C it explains the ferry timetable
- D it makes the paragraph longer

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Draft II - A Later School Start

Use this reading for questions 5 to 8.

High school should begin at nine instead of eight because teenagers need more sleep to learn well. Studies of sleep show that adolescent bodies naturally fall asleep later, yet early bells force students to rise before they are rested. When one district moved its start time later, tardiness fell and grades rose. A later start is therefore a practical change, not a luxury, and it would help students arrive ready to learn.

5 **According to Draft II, what claim does the writer defend?**



A schools should close early on Fridays

B districts should buy more buses

C schools should start later, at nine

D students should sleep during lessons

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6 **According to Draft II, which sentence gives evidence for the claim?**

A High school should begin at nine

B When one district moved its start time later, tardiness fell

C A later start is therefore a practical change

D Students arrive ready to learn

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7 **According to Draft II, how should the writer adapt this piece for a school board audience?**

- **A** remove all evidence and data
- **B** use slang and jokes only
- **C** write only about personal feelings
- **D** stress tardiness and grade data in a formal tone

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8 **According to Draft II, which persuasive appeal is strongest here?**

- **A** an appeal to evidence and reasoning
- **B** an appeal to a famous person
- **C** an appeal to fear alone
- **D** an appeal to the length of the piece

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Draft III - Life in a Tide Pool

Use this reading for questions 9 to 11.

A tide pool survives because its animals adapt to changing water. At high tide, the pool is part of the sea, and its animals feed and move freely. At low tide, the pool is cut off, the water grows warm and shallow, and animals must cling, hide, or close up until the sea returns. The same small pool is therefore two different worlds in a single day.

9 **According to Draft III, which form is this paragraph an example of?**



A a persuasive speech

B a personal narrative

C an expository explanation

D a fictional dialogue

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10 **According to Draft III, which sentence is the topic sentence?**

A At low tide, the pool is cut off

B The same small pool is therefore two worlds

C A tide pool survives because its animals adapt to changing water

D At high tide, the pool is part of the sea

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11 **According to Draft III, how is the explanation organised?**

A by listing the author's opinions

B by telling a story in order

C by arguing against tide pools

D by contrasting high tide and low tide conditions

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12 **How does an opinion piece differ from a research piece?**

A an opinion piece argues a view, a research piece supports claims

B an opinion piece has no title

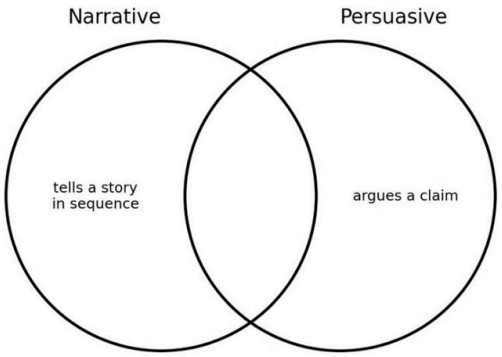
C an opinion piece is always shorter

D an opinion piece never uses reasons

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13 **In the diagram, which idea belongs in the overlapping middle region shared by both forms?**

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Question 13

In the diagram, which idea belongs in the overlapping middle region shared by both forms?

A) argues a claim with evidence

B) tells a story in sequence

C) reports laboratory results

D) shaped for an audience with a purpose

A argues a claim with evidence

B tells a story in sequence

C reports laboratory results

D shaped for an audience with a purpose

A argues a claim with evidence

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14 **A writer adapts a piece from classmates to a principal. What change fits the new audience best?**

A more slang and fewer reasons

B a longer title and no conclusion

C removing the main idea

D a more formal tone and clearer evidence

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15 **How does writing for a science discipline differ from writing an essay?**

A science writing uses only dialogue

B science writing stresses methods and results

C science writing never uses paragraphs

D science writing avoids all evidence

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16 **Which revision is clearest and most concise?**



A Rain being the case, inside staying occurred

B Due to the fact that it rained, we stayed inside

C Because it rained, we stayed inside

D It rained, and because of that fact, we stayed

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17 **Which sentence is written in the active voice?**

A The plan was approved by the committee

B The committee approved the plan

C Approval of the plan happened

D The plan is being approved

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18 **Which sentence shows nervousness rather than telling it?**

A Nervousness was present

B Her hands shook as she opened the letter

C She felt a feeling

D She was very nervous

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19 **Which transition word signals a contrast between two ideas?**

A finally

B first

C also

D however

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20 **What makes a paragraph unified?**

A it is very long

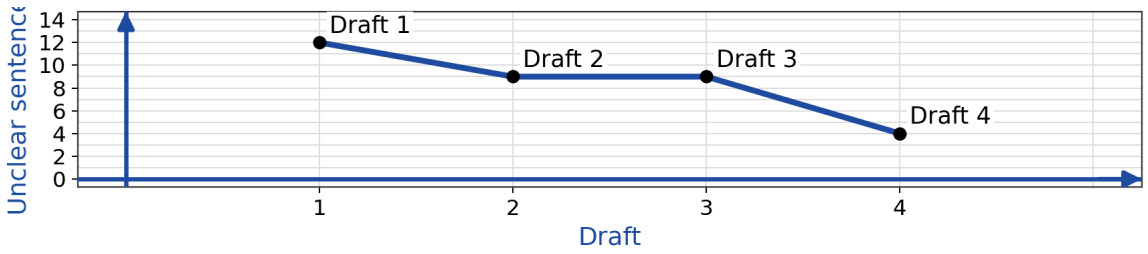
B it uses difficult words

C every sentence supports one main idea

D it has no topic sentence

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21 **The diagram shows unclear sentences in each draft of an essay. What pattern does the diagram show?**



A unclear sentences fall overall, flat between drafts 2 and 3

B unclear sentences rise every draft

C unclear sentences fall only in draft 1

D unclear sentences stay the same

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22 **How does revising differ from editing a draft?**

A revising rethinks ideas and structure, editing fixes language errors

B revising only fixes spelling

C editing rewrites the whole argument

D revising and editing are identical

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23 **What is the main purpose of descriptive writing?**



A to argue a claim

B to create a vivid impression through sensory detail

C to summarise research

D to list dates in order

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24 **What does a strong research based composition need?**

- A long sentences only
- B no sources at all
- C checked evidence and cited sources
- D only personal opinions

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25 **What makes an opinion piece persuasive rather than just a feeling?**

- A its length
- B reasons and evidence supporting the opinion
- C the author's age
- D its title

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ANSWER KEY

1.	A	**10.**	C	**19.**	D
2.	D	**11.**	D	**20.**	C
3.	A	**12.**	A	**21.**	A
4.	B	**13.**	D	**22.**	A
5.	C	**14.**	D	**23.**	B
6.	B	**15.**	B	**24.**	C
7.	D	**16.**	C	**25.**	B
8.	A	**17.**	B		
9.	C	**18.**	B		

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