MASSACHUSETTS ENGLISH 10 · UNIT 3 · 25 QUESTIONS

Writing — 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.

Source I - Draft Paragraph

Use this reading for questions 1 to 6.

Our school day starts too early. Many students ride buses in the dark and arrive half asleep. Teachers notice sleepy students in first period. My brother likes pancakes for breakfast. A later start would help students learn better and feel healthier.

1 **According to Source I, which sentence is off topic and should be removed?**

- **A** Our school day starts too early
- **B** Many students ride buses in the dark and arrive half asleep
- **C** My brother likes pancakes for breakfast
- **D** A later start would help students learn better and feel healthier

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

2 **According to Source I, what is the main weakness of this draft paragraph?**

A it has too many sentences about sleep

B it states its main idea too clearly

C it uses too many formal words

D it lacks specific evidence, such as data or examples about later start times

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

3 **According to Source I, which sentence best states the main idea of the paragraph?**

A Our school day starts too early

B Many students ride buses in the dark and arrive half asleep

C Teachers notice sleepy students in first period

D My brother likes pancakes for breakfast

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

4 **According to Source I, which revision best improves the choppy second and third sentences?**

- A Combine them: Many students ride buses in the dark and arrive half asleep, which teachers notice in first period
- B Delete both sentences entirely
- C Move them to the end of the paragraph unchanged
- D Replace them with a sentence about pancakes

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

5 **According to Source I, which sentence would make the best concluding sentence?**

- A Pancakes are a popular breakfast food
- B Teachers notice many things in first period
- C Buses run in the dark every winter
- D Therefore, starting school later would help students arrive alert and ready to learn

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

6 **According to Source I, which transition best connects the idea that students arrive half asleep to the idea that a later start would help?**

A However, because it signals contrast

B For example, because it introduces an example

C Therefore, because it signals a result or conclusion

D First, because it signals the first step

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

Source II - Draft Introduction

Use this reading for questions 7 to 11.

Have you ever wondered why some neighborhoods have no safe place for teenagers to gather after school? Our town needs a teen community center. A center would give students a safe place to study, play sports, and learn new skills after school.

Many students now go home to empty houses or hang out in parking lots. A teen center would solve this problem by offering supervised activities every weekday afternoon.

7 **According to Source II, which sentence is the thesis of the essay?**

A. Our town needs a teen community center

B. Have you ever wondered why some neighborhoods have no safe place for teenagers to gather after school

C. A center would give students a safe place to study, play sports, and learn new skills after school

D. Many students now go home to empty houses or hang out in parking lots

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

8 **According to Source II, what is the purpose of the opening question?**

A to state the thesis in a single sentence

B to cite a research study

C to conclude the essay

D to hook the reader's interest by raising a problem

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

9 **According to Source II, who is the most likely audience for this essay?**

A town leaders and community members who could support a teen center

B only teenagers who play sports

C only teachers at one school

D students in another state

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

10 **According to Source II, what should the body paragraphs most likely do next?**

A repeat the opening question in every paragraph

B list unrelated facts about parking lots

C explain reasons and examples that support building a teen center

D end the essay without evidence

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

11 **According to Source II, if the writer adds a statistic about teenagers with no after school supervision, what should the writer also do?**

A hide the source so readers cannot check it

B place the statistic in the title only

C change the statistic to fit the thesis

D cite the source of the statistic

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

12 **What is the main job of a topic sentence in a body paragraph?**

- **A** to state the main idea of that paragraph
- **B** to conclude the whole essay
- **C** to list sources used in the essay
- **D** to ask the reader a question

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

13 **Which sentence gives a supporting detail rather than a main idea?**

- **A** Volunteering helps a community in many ways
- **B** Community service is valuable
- **C** Last spring, forty students volunteered at the food bank every Saturday
- **D** Helping others matters

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

14 **Which sentence uses a formal tone most suitable for a letter to a principal?**

A Hey, can we please get new books for the library

B Our library books are super old and boring

C Gimme some new library books, please

D I am writing to request new books for our school library

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

15 **Which verb choice is most precise?**

A She sprinted across the field

B She went quickly across the field

C She did movement across the field

D She was going across the field

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

16 **Which revision best replaces the vague word stuff in the sentence: Put your stuff in the bin?**

A Put your things in the bin

B Put your stuff stuff in the bin

C Put your art supplies in the bin

D Put it in the bin stuff

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

17 **Which revision best fixes this run on sentence: Maria studied all evening she passed the test?**

A Maria studied all evening, she passed the test

B Maria studied all evening and she passed the test passed

C Maria studied all evening she passed the test passed

D Maria studied all evening. She passed the test

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

18 **Which order best organizes a standard essay?**

A conclusion, body, introduction

B body, introduction, conclusion

C introduction, body, conclusion

D introduction, conclusion, body

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

19 **Why should a persuasive essay address a counterargument?**

A to confuse the reader

B to show the writer has considered other views and can answer them

C to change the thesis in the middle of the essay

D to make the essay longer without adding ideas

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

20 **What should a conclusion do?**

A introduce a brand new piece of evidence

B restate the thesis and summarize the main points

C ask the reader to ignore the body paragraphs

D repeat the title word for word

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

21 **When writing to a principal instead of a friend, a writer should most likely**

A use a respectful tone and clear, formal language

B use slang and jokes only

C leave out all reasons

D write in text message abbreviations

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

22 **Which sentence correctly paraphrases an idea instead of copying it?**

- **A** restating the idea in your own words and citing the source
- **B** copying the original sentence word for word
- **C** changing one word and keeping the rest the same
- **D** quoting without naming the source

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

23 **Which peer review comment is most helpful?**

- **A** This essay is bad
- **B** Your second paragraph needs an example to support its claim about cost
- **C** I liked it
- **D** This essay is too long

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

24 **What is the main purpose of a title?**

A to hide the topic from the reader

B to give the reader a clear preview of the topic

C to replace the introduction

D to list the sources

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

25 **How many paragraphs does a basic five paragraph essay have?**

ANSWER _____

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

ANSWER KEY

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

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.