SOUTH DAKOTA ENGLISH 10 · UNIT 3

Writing — Practice Test

South Dakota English 10 • 25 questions

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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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

- A conclusion, body, introduction
- B body, introduction, conclusion
- C introduction, body, conclusion
- D introduction, conclusion, body

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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

ANSWER _____

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ANSWER KEY

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

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