Writing — Practice Test

Washington English 10 • 10 questions

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1 **Which thesis is strongest because it is specific and debatable?**

- A School is a place where students learn
- B School has classes and teachers
- C Many students attend school every day
- D Schools should start later because teenagers need more sleep to learn well

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2 **Which detail is most relevant as evidence for the claim that reading daily improves vocabulary?**

- A a study showing students who read daily learned more new words than students who did not
- B a photo of a library
- C a list of favorite book colors
- D a story about a student who dislikes reading

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3 **Which transition best adds another idea?**

- A furthermore, because it adds another point
- B however, because it signals contrast
- C finally, because it signals the last point only
- D for example, because it introduces one example

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4 **A process essay explaining how to plant a garden should most likely be organized in**

A random order, so readers guess the steps

B alphabetical order by plant name

C chronological order, following the steps in time order

D order of importance only, with no steps

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5 **Which sentence uses sensory detail most effectively?**

A The soup was food

B The soup smelled of garlic and tomatoes and steamed in the cold kitchen

C The soup existed

D The soup was in a bowl

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6 **Which sentence avoids slang in formal writing?**

A That movie was awesome sauce

B That movie was lit

C That movie was totally rad

D That movie was well made and engaging

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7 **What is the main purpose of brainstorming before drafting?**

A to correct spelling errors

B to generate and explore ideas before writing

C to write the final copy

D to format the title page

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8 **What is the difference between revising and editing?**

- **A** revising improves ideas and organization, while editing fixes grammar and spelling errors
- **B** revising fixes spelling, while editing changes ideas
- **C** revising and editing mean exactly the same thing
- **D** revising is done after publishing, while editing is done before brainstorming

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9 **What is the main purpose of a works cited list?**

- **A** to hide the sources used
- **B** to list sources so readers can find and check them
- **C** to replace body paragraphs
- **D** to count the words in the essay

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10 **What is usually the first step of the writing process?**

A publishing the final draft

B editing for spelling

C prewriting, such as brainstorming and planning

D writing the conclusion first

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ANSWER KEY

1.	D	**5.**	B	**9.**	B
2.	A	**6.**	D	**10.**	C
3.	A	**7.**	B		
4.	C	**8.**	A		

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