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Revising Practice 2

Read the following story. Then read each question and mark the correct answer.

Sacha wrote this story about an experiment in the future. She would like you to read her story and look for the improvements she should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

Food in the Future

(1) Everyone looked toward the door as the robot instructor rolled into the classroom. (2) The robot told us to turn on our laptops to access today's science lesson. (3) I read the material on the screen. (4) I pulled a lever beside my desk. (5) A table rose from the floor. (6) The robot pushed a button at his desk, and small rolling cabinets started to appear at each of our desks. (7) The carts had the equipment we needed for today's experiment. (8) Our experiment was studying how people on Earth used to grow vegetables.

(9) A screen lowered from the ceiling. (10) Images appeared on the screen. (11) The instructor explained that farmers grew vegetables in the ground. (12) We all laughed. (13) He had to be joking! (14) The instructor continued his speech. (15) People had really planted seeds in the ground, watered the seeds, and waited for the plants to grow. (16) It sounded crazy. (17) Today our food is grown in labs and is available immediately.

(18) Our assignment, Screen 3 explained, is to attempt to grow food like people of the past. (19) I touched a button on my screen, and my lab assistant robot appeared. (20) First I read the instructions for the experiment and began to fill a cup with dirt. (21) Then I took a bean seed from the assistant and put it in a hole in the dirt. (22) I covered the hole and requested water. (23) The assistant gave me a container of water, and I poured a small stream onto the seed. (24) Finally, I placed the cup under a sun lamp. (25) My family uses a sun lamp to warm our house in the winter. (26) The bean plant began to grow. (27) I was growing food like people in the ancient past!

- 1 Sacha wants to use figurative language to introduce the setting. What is the most effective way for her to rewrite sentence 1?
- A Everyone looked toward the door as the futuristic instructor bolted into the classroom.
 - B Everyone looked toward the door as the shiny metal instructor teetered into the classroom.
 - C The enthusiastic students looked up eagerly as the robot instructor rolled into the classroom.
 - D The students gazed up like obedient pets as the robot instructor rolled into the classroom.
- 2 What is the most effective way to combine sentences 12 and 13 and make the meaning more clear?
- F We all laughed and we realized he had to be joking.
 - G We all laughed, we knew he was joking.
 - H We all laughed because we thought he had to be joking.
 - J We laughed, of course he was joking.
- 3 What sentence should be added after sentence 17 to support sentence 16 and add to readers' understanding of the futuristic setting?
- A My least favorite food is broccoli.
 - B No one touches dirt or steps outside to grow our food.
 - C Most labs are located inside large factories outside the main city.
 - D Restaurants purchase their vegetables from labs.
- 4 Sacha wants to convey the narrator's feelings about the first step of the experiment. Which of the following sentences would be most effective following sentence 20?
- F I could not believe I was touching real dirt.
 - G The dirt was a dark, grainy substance.
 - H I knew what dirt was but had never seen it before.
 - J Some of the dirt spilled on my desk, and I brushed it off.
- 5 What transition word or phrase could Sacha add to the beginning of sentence 22 to help the reader follow the narrator's actions?
- A Next
 - B Therefore
 - C Finally
 - D In addition to
- 6 Which sentence should be deleted because it does not relate to the story line?
- F Sentence 24
 - G Sentence 25
 - H Sentence 26
 - J Sentence 27



Editing Practice 2

Read the following passage. Then read each question and mark the correct answer.

Madison wrote this paper about a historical figure. She would like you to read her paper and look for the corrections she should make. When you finish reading, answer the questions that follow.

Sam Houston

(1) Sam Houston is an important figure in Texas history. (2) He was born in Virginia on March 2, 1793. (3) In 1807, Houston's family moves to Tennessee. (4) While living in Tennessee Houston fought in the War of 1812. (5) He also was a member of the House of Representatives for Tennessee.

(6) Houston left Tennessee and eventually moved to Texas. (7) Before coming to Texas, he had been living with a Cherokee tribe. (8) Some people believe that Houston came to Texas because he wanted to get land for the Cherokee tribe.

(9) Once in Texas, Houston began to support the cause of the American settlers. (10) At that time, Texas was a Mexican state. (11) The settlers wanted independence from Mexico. (12) They formed an army. (13) In 1836 Sam Houston was named commanding general of the revolutionary army. (14) On March 2, 1836, he signed the Texas declaration of independence.

(15) On March 6, the Mexican army led by General Santa Anna defeated a group of soldiers at the Alamo. (16) After hearing of the defeat, Houston and his army retreated. (17) The army camped at a farm and made plans for attack.

(18) On April 21, 1836, Houston and his army surprised Santa Anna and the Mexican forces. (19) The battle lasted less than 18 minutes. (20) The Mexican army was defeated, and Santa Anna was captured. (21) He signed a treaty that gave Texas independence.

(22) After the treaty was signed, Texas became the Republic of Texas. (23) Sam Houston became the first president. (24) Later, Texas became a part of the United States. (25) Houston served as a United States senator for Texas and as a governor. (26) He died in 1863.

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- 1 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 3?
- A Change *In 1807* to *During 1807*
 - B Change *Houston's* to *Houstons'*
 - C Change *moves* to *moved*
 - D Make no change
- 2 What change should be made in sentence 4?
- F Change *War* to *war*
 - G Insert a comma after *Tennessee*
 - H Insert a semicolon after *Tennessee*
 - J Change *fought* to *fights*
- 3 What change should be made in sentence 14?
- A Change *March* to *march*
 - B Delete the comma after *March 2*
 - C Insert a colon after *signed*
 - D Change *declaration of independence* to *Declaration of Independence*
- 4 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 15?
- F Change *led* to *lead*
 - G Change *General* to *general*
 - H Change *defeated* to *that defeated*
 - J Make no change
- 5 What change should be made in sentence 17?
- A Change *at a farm* to *to a farm*
 - B Insert a comma after *farm*
 - C Change *atack* to *attack*
 - D Change *camped* to *camps*
- 6 What change, if any, should be made in sentence 20?
- F Change *was captured* to *is captured*
 - G Delete the comma after *defeated*
 - H Change *was defeated* to *was defeating*
 - J Make no change



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- 27 A do: even
B do; even
C do even
D Make no change

- 28 F whos
G who's
H whom
J Make no change

- 29 A change. Until now
B change (until now)
C change—until now
D Make no change

- 30 F drivers' license
G driver's license
H "driver's license"
J Make no change

- 31 A doing
B had done
C have been doing
D Make no change

- 32 F Triple a market
G triple a market
H Triple A Market
J Make no change

Part 2: Correcting Sentence Errors

Questions 21–26: Read each sentence. One of the underlined parts may be an error in grammar or usage. Decide which underlined part, if any, should be corrected. Fill in the circle of the correct answer on your answer document.

21 Listening to a few brief sound bites on the
A
 TV news is certainly not an adequate
B
 substitute for reading daily newspaper such
C
 as The New York Times. Make no change
D E

22 After the game on Friday night, Coach
 Sullivan congratulated the team, threw
 a few necessities in his suitcase, and
headed direct to the airport, hoping that
F G
 the storm would not cause his flight
H
to be canceled. Make no change
J K

23 On Mondays, Sams grandfather shops for
A
 groceries at Food Giant because the store
B
offers a generous discount to senior citizens
C D
 on that day. Make no change
E

24 It was getting close to midnight, and I had
F
 not done none of my math homework,
G
nor had I studied for Tuesday's biology test.
H J
Make no change
K

25 Regina and her friends are hoping to find
A
part-time jobs to earn some spending
B
 money durring the months of June, July,
C
and August. Make no change
D E

26 Monarch butterflies, with their dramatic
F
colors, are lovely to look at: moths, on the
G H
 other hand, are nothing more than a
nuisance, as far as I am concerned!
J
Make no change
K