

## Identifying Sentence Errors

### Part 1

Each of the following sentences contains either a single error or no error at all. No sentence contains more than one error. The error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. If the sentence contains an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct. If the sentence is correct choose choice E.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The other delegates and him immediately accepted the resolution drafted by the  
A B C D  
neutral states. No error  
E
2. \_\_\_\_\_ It is likely that the opening of the convention center, previously set for July 1,  
A B  
would be postponed because of the bricklayer's strike. No error  
C D E
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The bright fiberglass sculptures of Luis Jimenez has received critical acclaim  
A B  
not only in his home state, New Mexico, but also in New York. No error  
C D E
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Even with a calculator, you must have a basic understanding of mathematics if  
A B  
one expects to solve complex problems correctly. No error  
C D E
5. \_\_\_\_\_ People who dislike cats sometimes criticize them for being aloof and  
A B  
independent; people who are fond of cats often admire them for the same qualities.  
C D  
No error  
E
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The decision that has just been agreed with by the committee members  
A B  
should serve as a basis for their work in the years to come. No error  
C D E
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Since there is two pencils, a pad of paper, and a ruler on each desk, students  
A  
do not have to bring their own supplies. No error  
B C D E
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Each time Caroline turns on her computer, she has to enter a company code,  
A  
then her initials, and then enters a password before she can begin working. No error  
B C D E

9. \_\_\_\_\_ Flints found in the region extending from the Nile Valley to the highlands of  
A B  
 eastern Iraq attests to the presence of people there as long ago as one hundred thousand  
C D  
 years. No error  
E
10. \_\_\_\_\_ By virtue of its size and supersensitive electronics, modern radio telescopes are  
A  
 able to gather more waves and discriminate among them with greater precision than  
B C D  
 earlier versions could. No error  
E

## Part 2

Parts of each of the following sentences are underlined; beneath each sentence are four ways of phrasing the underlined material. Choice A repeats the original phrasing; the other three choices are different. If you think the original phrasing is correct, choose A; if not, select one of the other choices.

1. Alice Walker, one of America's best-known writers, she has published both poetry and prose.
  - A. writers, she has published
  - B. writers, has published
  - C. writers, and publishing
  - D. writers since publishing
2. Consumers are beginning to take notice of electric cars because they are quiet, cause no air pollution, and gasoline is not used.
  - A. cause no air pollution, and gasoline is not used
  - B. air pollution is not caused, and gasoline is not used
  - C. cause no air pollution, and use no gasoline
  - D. fair pollution is not caused, and no gasoline is used
3. The convenience and availability of watercolor paint account for its popularity with amateur artists.
  - A. account for its popularity
  - B. account for their popularity
  - C. accounts for its popularity
  - D. is why it is popular
4. He arranged the gems on the counter, the sales assistant proceeded to tell us about the origins of each stone.
  - A. He arranged the gems
  - B. The gems, which were arranged
  - C. The gems were first arranged
  - D. After arranging the gems

5. Brought to the United States at the age of thirteen to receive a Western education, his first book discusses Lee Yan Phou's childhood in China.
- A. his first book discusses Le Yan Phou's childhood in China
  - B. Le Yan Phou's childhood in China is the subject
  - C. The subject of his first book is Lee Yan Phou's childhood in China
  - D. Lee Yan Phou discusses his childhood in China in his first book
6. Only since the publication of her first novel Olivia has been considering herself a genuine writer.
- A. Olivia has been considering
  - B. Olivia considered
  - C. has Olivia considered
  - D. was Olivia considering
7. Early American factories did not so much replace household manufacturing but complement it.
- A. but complement
  - B. as complement
  - C. but they complemented
  - D. and they complemented
8. Anita liked to watch television of which she found the science programs especially fascinating.
- A. television, of which she found the science programs especially fascinating
  - B. television; she found the science programs especially fascinating
  - C. television, and it was especially the science programs that were of fascination
  - D. television; the fascination of the science programs especially
9. Although gale force winds often pass through the Eiffel Tower, causing it to sway no more than four inches.
- A. causing it to sway no more
  - B. and yet it sways no more
  - C. they do not cause it to sway more
  - D. they do not cause it to sway more
10. Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip.
- A. Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip.
  - B. Breakfast is skipped by many people because of their underestimating its value.
  - C. Many people, underestimating the value of breakfast, and skipping it.
  - D. Many people skip breakfast because they underestimate its value.