



# PRAXIS-WRITING-SECTION<sup>Q&As</sup>

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) - Writing Section

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### QUESTION 1

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Him and his sister ran and ran, but they could not seem to get away from the pack of dogs.

- A. Him and his sister
- B. ran and ran
- C. could not seem
- D. pack of dogs.
- E. No error

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: The correct form would be he and his sister.

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### QUESTION 2

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Sports are a significant part of life for people all across the world, as was demonstrated in 2006 when billions of people came together to be involved with the World Cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.

- A. World Cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.
- B. World cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising.
- C. World Cup either through playing, watching or through advertising.
- D. World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising.
- E. World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising for it.

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: This sentence tests your knowledge of capitalization and awareness of parallelism. The original sentence is incorrect because choice "World Cup either through playing, watching or thru advertising" destroys the parallelism (i.e. thru advertising instead of simply "advertising") and uses the informal spelling of through (i.e. "thru"). Only choices "World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising" and "World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising for it" correct the parallelism error; however, the list should strictly contain gerunds in order to be parallel, so "advertising for it" is not the best choice. By ending with "for it" the author is also implying that one may "play for it" and "watch for it," and although one may play for the World Cup through a grammar stretch, one cannot possibly "watch for it" and do the same thing as one who simply "watches it." Choice "World Cup either through playing, watching or advertising" uses the appropriate capitalization (because the World Cup is a major sports event it is a proper noun that must be capitalized) and maintains strict parallelism in the concluding list of ways to be involved.

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### QUESTION 3

Determine whether the underlined portion of the sentence below is correct or whether it needs to be revised. Choose the correct option.

Natural disasters have been increasingly effecting nearly every part of the world in the past decade with catastrophic tornadoes, hurricanes and tsunamis.

- A. have been increasingly effecting
- B. has been increasingly effecting
- C. have been increasingly affecting
- D. will be increasingly effecting
- E. will be increasingly affecting

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: The only problem with the underlined portion of this sentence is the use of the word "effecting" instead of "affecting." When an object/s undergoes changes, these changes are effects such as in the following sentence: John's excellent attendance at school has had positive effects on his education. However, in the verb form, "effects" turns into "affects" such as in the following sentence: John's excellent attendance has affected his education. Noun (effect) vs. verb (affect). Only choice "have been increasingly affecting" and choice "will be increasingly affecting" properly used "affecting" but choice "will be increasingly affecting" uses the future tense when the sentence clearly describes an occurrence of the past ("...in the past decade...").

### QUESTION 4

Identify the error in the following sentence:

Asking for directions when you are lost is the properly course of action.

- A. Asking
- B. for directions
- C. you are lost
- D. properly
- E. No error

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: The adjectival form rather than the adverbial form should be used here.

### QUESTION 5

Identify the error in the following sentence:

After the brilliant team that developed the atomic bomb for the United States government finished testing and realized



the apocalyptic consequences of use, each member of the team felt remorseful and adamant urged the government to reach peace.

- A. that
- B. apocalyptic
- C. use
- D. adamant
- E. No error

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: This sentence tests your knowledge of adverbs. Adverbs alter and describe the meaning of a verb, hence the name adverb as it represents an "adjective" for a "verb." Adverbs are most easily recognized by an "-ly" at the end such as "quickly," "shrewdly" and "nicely." In this sentence because the scientists "urged" against use of the atomic bomb, the adjective "adamant" must be modified to an adverb and be "adamantly."

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