

ACCUPLACER[®]

SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS

ENGLISH (Sentence Skills)

In an ACCUPLACER placement test, there are 20 Sentence Skills questions of two types.

- The first type is sentence correction questions that require an understanding of sentence structure. These questions ask you to choose the most appropriate word or phrase to substitute for the underlined portion of the sentence.
- The second type is construction shift questions. These questions ask that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown while maintaining essentially the same meaning as the original sentence.

Within these two primary categories, the questions are also classified according to the skills being tested. Some questions deal with the logic of the sentence, others with whether or not the answer is a complete sentence, and still others with the relationship between coordination and subordination.

Directions for questions 1–6

Select the best version of the underlined part of the sentence. The first choice is the same as the original sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose the first answer.

1. The baby was obviously getting too hot, then Sam did what he could to cool her.
 - A. hot, then Sam did
 - B. hot. Sam did
 - C. hot; Sam, therefore, did
 - D. hot; Sam, trying to do
2. She hoped to find a new job. One that would let her earn money during the school year.
 - A. job. One that
 - B. job. The kind that
 - C. job, one that
 - D. job, so that it
3. Knocked sideways, the statue looked as if it would fall.
 - A. Knocked sideways, the statue looked
 - B. The statue was knocked sideways, looked
 - C. The statue looked knocked sideways
 - D. The statue, looking knocked sideways,

4. To walk, biking, and driving are Pat's favorite ways of getting around.
 - A. To walk, biking, and driving
 - B. Walking, biking, and driving
 - C. To walk, biking, and to drive
 - D. To walk, to bike, and also driving
5. When you cross the street in the middle of the block, this is an example of jaywalking.
 - A. When you cross the street in the middle of the block, this
 - B. You cross the street in the middle of the block, this
 - C. Crossing the street in the middle of the block
 - D. The fact that you cross the street in the middle of the block
6. Walking by the corner the other day, a child, I noticed, was watching for the light to change.
 - A. a child, I noticed, was
 - B. I noticed a child watching
 - C. a child was watching, I noticed,
 - D. there was, I noticed, a child watching

Directions for questions 7–12

Rewrite the sentence in your head following the directions given below. Keep in mind that your new sentence should be well written and should have essentially the same meaning as the sentence given you.

7. In his songs, Gordon Lightfoot makes melody and lyrics intricately intertwine.

Rewrite, beginning with

Melody and lyrics...

Your new sentence will include

- A. Gordon Lightfoot has
- B. make Gordon Lightfoot's
- C. in Gordon Lightfoot's
- D. does Gordon Lightfoot

8. It is easy to carry solid objects without spilling them, but the same cannot be said of liquids.

Rewrite, beginning with

Unlike liquids,

The next words will be

- A. it is easy to
- B. we can easily
- C. solid objects can easily be
- D. solid objects are easy to be

9. Excited children ran toward the loud music, and they told others about the ice cream truck outside.

Rewrite, beginning with

The excited children, who had run toward the loud...

The next words will be

- A. music, they told
- B. music told
- C. music, telling
- D. music and had told

10. If he had enough strength, Todd would move the boulder.

Rewrite, beginning with

Todd cannot move the boulder...

The next words will be

- A. when lacking
- B. because he
- C. although there
- D. without enough

11. The band began to play, and then the real party started.

Rewrite, beginning with

The real party started...

The next words will be

- A. after the band began
- B. and the band began
- C. although the band began
- D. the band beginning

12. Chris heard no unusual noises when he listened in the park.

Rewrite, beginning with

Listening in the park,...

The next words will be

- A. no unusual noises could be heard
- B. then Chris heard no unusual noises
- C. and hearing no unusual noises
- D. Chris heard no unusual noises

**ADDITIONAL STUDY RESOURCES AVAILABLE
AT THE WEBSITES BELOW:**

www.grammarbook.com

www.chompchomp.com/menu.htm

<http://www.actstudent.org/sampletest/index.html>

SENTENCE SKILLS	
QUESTION NUMBER	CORRECT ANSWER
1	B
2	C
3	A
4	B
5	C
6	B
7	C
8	C
9	B
10	B
11	A
12	D