ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Inappropriate Sentences MCQ Exercise 1

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Explanations

1. (I) The Watsons are good with money. (II) Everyone has a different attitude towards money. (III) They are practical people and work to a budget. (IV) This means they never find themselves without money. (V) They even manage to put a little by for the future.
✔ **B) II**
The paragraph is about the Watsons and how well they manage money. Sentence II talks about **everyone** in general, and it separates **They** in sentence III from **The Watsons** in sentence I.

2. (I) A thousand years ago York was regarded as the capital of the north of England. (II) It was a rich city and well-known beyond Britain. (III) In fact, it was a trading centre of European fame. (IV) It is not so famous nowadays. (V) It came to this position through the hard work and commercial enterprise of Viking settlers.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph describes York's importance a thousand years ago. Sentence IV jumps to the present, and it breaks the link between **a trading centre** (III) and **this position** (V).

3. (I) The famous film director Steven Spielberg has been interested in space ever since he was five when his father took him out one night to watch a meteorite storm. (II) He has always believed that outer space is not a hostile place. (III) Later, at high school, he showed little interest in academic subjects. (IV) Moreover, he feels that the beings inhabiting space have good intentions towards Earth. (V) This belief is demonstrated in one of his major films, E.T.
✔ **C) III**
The paragraph is about Spielberg's interest in space and his belief that space beings are friendly. Sentence III, about his **school subjects**, is off topic. It also separates sentence II from **Moreover** in sentence IV, which adds to the belief in II.

4. (I) Insufficient exercise is one of the major factors contributing to obesity. (II) When we eat, we take in calories and if we exercise, we burn them up. (III) When the number of calories we consume exceeds the number we burn up, the excess is stored in the body in the form of fat. (IV) Everybody has different eating habits. (V) People with desk jobs often can't burn up the calories consumed and they put on weight.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph explains how too little exercise leads to obesity through calories taken in and burnt up. Sentence IV, about **eating habits**, does not continue this idea about exercise and burning calories.

5. (I) Anyone who has seen a gymnastics competition knows the excitement of waiting for the judges' scores. (II) The panel of judges in most sports competitions consists of seven members from different countries. (III) When the scores finally appear, the crowds usually respond with cheers or groans. (IV) In most cases, the scores of the various judges are very close, and to a casual observer, this similarity may seem surprising. (V) To the judges, however, scoring a gymnastics event is a matter of following the guidelines of the International Gymnastics Federation.
✔ **B) II**
The paragraph follows the moment of waiting for gymnastics scores, then the scores appearing (III). Sentence II talks about judging panels in **most sports competitions** in general and interrupts this sequence. Sentences I and III go together: **waiting for the scores**, then **when the scores finally appear**.

6. (I) Henry Ford was principally responsible for the design of the Model T car. (II) The first of these appeared in 1908. (III) The last one was manufactured in 1927. (IV) Naturally, Ford was often criticised. (V) Between these years, millions of Model Ts were sold.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph gives the history of the Model T: first car 1908, last car 1927, and millions sold **between these years**. Sentence IV, about criticism of Ford, breaks the link between the dates in III and **these years** in V.

7. (I) Not all snakes in the world are poisonous. (II) In fact, only one-third of the 2000 known kinds are harmful. (III) The smallest of these is the coral snake. (IV) In India, nearly 100,000 people are bitten by poisonous snakes each year. (V) The most deadly of all is the bushmaster that carries enough poison to kill 100 men.
✔ **D) IV**
The paragraph describes kinds of poisonous snakes: **the smallest** (III) and **the most deadly** (V). Sentence IV, about how many people are bitten in India, interrupts this comparison of snake types.

8. (I) Language dates back to prehistoric times. (II) The exact date when human beings first communicated through words is unknown. (III) Learning a language is a highly irregular process. (IV) By combining gestures with various noises, people began to associate meaning with sounds. (V) From these associations, a spoken language slowly developed.
✔ **C) III**
The paragraph explains how language first developed in prehistoric times. Sentence III is about **learning a language** today, which is a different topic.

9. (I) The novel "A Farewell to Arms" was written by Ernest Hemingway. (II) He is one of the best-known modern American writers. (III) Its principal female character is Catherine Barkley, an English nurse. (IV) She falls in love with Lt. Frederic Henry, a driver in an Italian ambulance unit. (V) Frederic Henry expresses the disillusionment of a great many Americans with war.

✔ **B) II**

The paragraph is about the novel and its characters. Sentence II moves to Hemingway's fame, and it separates **Its** in sentence III from **the novel** in sentence I.

10. (I) The speeds we normally measure are relative. (II) What we think of as the speed of a car is how fast it is moving relative to the ground. (III) The ground has a speed of its own relative to the earth's axis and the earth's axis is also moving relative to the sun. (IV) A person sitting in a moving car is at rest relative to the car but has a speed relative to the ground. (V) In comparison with the first cars, modern cars have reached incredible speeds.

✔ **E) V**

The paragraph explains that speed is always **relative** to something else. Sentence V compares modern and early cars, which has nothing to do with relative speed.

11. (I) James had to be at his office at 9 a.m. because he had an important meeting. (II) In fact, he lives in a large house with his family. (III) But, because of the heavy rain, he couldn't get to the office until 9:40. (IV) He had his reports with him and went directly to the meeting place. (V) On the way, he met one of the secretaries and she told him that, unfortunately, the meeting had been cancelled.

✔ **B) II**

The story is about James trying to get to an important meeting. Sentence II, about his house and family, has nothing to do with the meeting.

12. (I) Robert Zimmerman is a musician. (II) He is also a very famous songwriter. (III) In this capacity, he is known as Bob Dylan. (IV) This name reflects his admiration for Dylan Thomas, a Welsh writer. (V) In fact, the amount of literature in Welsh is quite small.

✔ **E) V**

The paragraph is about Robert Zimmerman and why he chose the name Bob Dylan. Sentence V moves to the amount of literature in Welsh, which is a different topic.

13. (I) Long ago, on the plateau region of Peru, they discovered potatoes were being grown and used for food. (II) Probably between 1580 and 1585, one traveller brought the first potato to Europe. (III) Perhaps, as the Germans believe, it was first brought to England by Sir Francis Drake. (IV) Potatoes are, unfortunately, subject to disease. (V) Later, it was taken from one European country to another.

✔ **D) IV**

The paragraph traces how the potato travelled from Peru to Europe. Sentence IV, about potato diseases, breaks this story. It also separates **it** in V from **the first potato** in II and III.

14. (I) Transportation at weekends is a problem of growing importance everywhere in Europe. (II) Although riding a bicycle is economical, it can be dangerous. (III) For example, I used to ride mine to work every day through the heavy traffic. (IV) I found people were either not properly awake or far too tired to drive properly. (V) Several times, I nearly had an accident, so now I go by bus.

✔ **A) I**

The paragraph is about the danger of cycling to work in heavy traffic. Sentence I talks about transport problems **at weekends**, but the writer describes riding to work every day.

15. (I) One of the ugliest creatures in literature is the monster in the novel "Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus". (II) This monster has flowing black hair and teeth like pearls. (III) King Kong is another famous monster of fiction. (IV) These fine features form a sharp contrast to his horrible yellow skin. (V) Even uglier, perhaps, are his black lips.

✔ **C) III**

The paragraph describes how Frankenstein's monster looks. Sentence III brings in a different monster, **King Kong**. It also breaks the link between the hair and teeth in sentence II and **These fine features** in sentence IV.

16. (I) John Randall was quite a famous novelist. (II) The novel "In Spring" was published a year later. (III) When he died, he left a large sum of money to the town where he was born. (IV) The town used the money to build a new library. (V) When it was finished, they called it the Randall Library.

✔ **B) II**

The paragraph tells how John Randall's money was used to build a library. Sentence II, **published a year later**, refers to no earlier event and does not fit this story.

17. (I) Not all snakes are poisonous. (II) In fact, only about one-third of the 2000 known kinds of snakes are harmful. (III) It is usually those living in the tropical regions that are deadly. (IV) Children are usually less afraid of snakes than most of us. (V) However, there are some which are actually useful to man.

✔ **D) IV**

The paragraph is about which snakes are harmful and which are useful. Sentence IV, about children's fear of snakes, is a different topic. **However** in V contrasts with the deadly snakes in III.

18. (I) I woke up to find that it had been snowing all night. (II) As I looked out of the window, I was very worried. (III) I wonder how the people in the northern countries cope with the snow. (IV) All the streets were blocked and I began to fear I wouldn't be able to get to my appointment on time. (V) It was essential that I got there on time.

✔ **C) III**

The story is about the writer worrying about getting to an appointment in the snow. Sentence III moves to people in northern countries and uses the present tense, so it breaks the story.

19. (I) Potatoes and onions are very expensive this spring. (II) Sir Walter Raleigh first ate potatoes in the New World. (III) He liked them and took them back to Ireland. (IV) Potatoes like the soil and climate of Ireland. (V) Soon they were growing everywhere in the country.

✔ A) I

The paragraph tells how potatoes came to Ireland and spread there. Sentence I, about prices this spring, has nothing to do with this history.

20. (I) Tom had worked late all week. (II) On Friday, too, he wasn't able to leave the office before 8 o'clock. (III) But it was Friday, and for that he was happy. (IV) On Saturday and Sunday, he would rest and enjoy himself. (V) After three months he was used to the work.

✔ E) V

The paragraph describes Tom's busy week and the weekend he looks forward to. Sentence V, about getting used to the work after three months, does not fit this week.

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