

TOEFL 19

Practice Choosing Connecting Words:

Example: Walls that are smooth and flat enable sound to bounce back as an echo. _____, rooms enclosed by such walls tend to be noisy.

a-consequently b-nevertheless c-in any case d-in contrast

You should choose "a" because a noisy room would be a consequence of walls that enable sound to make an echo.

1. Whiskers are very sensitive, ___ animals can use them to avoid obstacles in the dark.

a- so b- regardless of this c-besides d-granted that

2. Soil fertility is largely a consequence of the action of earthworms. _____, they have played an important part in world history.

a-Likewise b-Because of this c-For example d-In contrast

3. In 1927, critics gave bad reviews to Buster Keaton's film *The General*, which is now regarded as both a classic ___ the best work of a cinematic genius.

a- and b-furthermore c-nevertheless d-beyond

4. _____ Emily Dickinson wrote some of the most haunting lines of American poetry, only seven of her poems were published during her lifetime.

a-But b-When c-Before d-Although

5. America was probably not discovered by Columbus _____ by the Vikings.

a- but b-neither c-however d-in addition

Practice Choosing Transition Words

Example: Although potatoes are richer in food value than any other vegetable, they are not always a wise choice for a garden crop because they need a considerable amount of space to grow. Consequently,

a-they are the most common vegetable in a garden

b-people don't eat potatoes very much

c-they can be more economically grown on farms

d-farmers overcharge for their potatoes

You should choose C because consequently introduces a consequence of a previously stated fact. If potatoes are not a wise choice for a garden because of the amount of space they need, they could be grown on a farm more economically, since a farm has more space than a garden.

1. Glass was precious to Egyptians, who used it interchangeably with gemstones, but

a-it is over 4,000 years old

b- its novelty as an artist's material prevents its being taken seriously

c-today it has come out of factories and into the workshops

d-today it is so commonplace that it is seldom given a second thought

2. Glimpses into the prenatal world via ultrasound imaging occasionally show behavior such as

a-the development of the central nervous system

b-the sex of the baby to be

c-a fetus sucking its thumb

d-structures as small as the pupil of an eye of a second trimester fetus

3. Although the animals and plants that live in the world's various deserts come from different ancestral stocks,

- a- they have solved their problems of survival differently
- b- none of them have adapted to the jungles
- c- they are from different deserts
- d- they resemble one another to a surprising degree

9. Medical researchers have recently developed a nonsurgical method of treating heart disease that, in some cases,

- a-is just as effective as coronary bypass surgery but is much less expensive and disabling
- b-can replace a clogged artery by the transplantation of a vein or artery from another part of the body
- c-continues to be underused because coronary bypass operations are lucrative for hospitals and surgeons
- d-requires opening up the chest and operating under local anesthesia

10. Neurons, which cannot divide, are the basic cells of the brain. Glial cells, which can increase in number, provide support and nourishment to the neurons. It was hypothesized that if Einstein's brain had been more active, more glial cells would be found there. Indeed,

- a-scientists found that the physicist's brain contained more glial cells per neuron than the brains of eleven normal males
- b-scientists' previous work had shown that animals put in environments that stimulate mental activity develop more glial cells per neuron
- c-scientists examined sections of the upper front and lower rear of both hemispheres because these areas are involved in "higher" thinking
- d-scientists found that even though there was evidence he had greater intellectual processing, it cannot be determined whether Einstein was born with this or developed it later

Inserting Sentences

For each passage, choose the letter of the square where the bold sentence would best fit.

Example:

For more than 2,000 years, nomads of Central Asia and the Far East have lived in portable, circular dwellings called yurts. **A** These structures are highly durable and use resources very efficiently. **B** They typically have a low profile and circular shape. **C** This allows the wind to slip around and over them so they can withstand very high winds. The basic shape is formed from wooden poles crisscrossed to form a circular lattice frame in which a wooden door is set. **D** The outside covering is made of fabric that is supplemented with animal skins during cold weather.

Roof poles are made from wooden beams that are tied at the lower end to the lattice and are secured to a central roof ring.

Answer: The sentence to be added gives details on how the basic shape is made. It would follow the sentence describing the basic shape and precede the sentence that describes the covering of the basic shape. The sentence would logically be inserted at D.

1. **A** Pragmatism is essentially an American school of thought that has had few supporters elsewhere. **B** One of the first pragmatists, William James, wrote that it was impossible to discover the real world outside our senses and therefore we must concern ourselves primarily with human experience. **C** Because the world would be a worse place without a belief in human responsibility, morals and free will, it was necessary, he considered, to believe in these concepts. **D** Another pragmatist, John Dewey, held that since truth is an instrument for solving problems, it must change as the problems it confronts change.

Pragmatists believe that the test of any belief should be its practical consequences and that the truth of a proposition should be judged on how well it corresponds with experimental results.

2. In the early years of the twentieth century, the American art scene was dominated by painters who had established their reputations in the previous century. **A** At this time, there was a general intolerance both by critics and by the public of any deviation from the kind of work championed by academic institutions. **B** Acceptable art generally employed detailed realistic technique and focused on subject matter of historical or mythological scenes or sentimental landscapes. **C** In 1908 a group of artists organized an exhibition in a New York gallery that constituted a revolt against these current orthodoxies. **D** Their unconventional work often depicted the seamy side of urban life in settings such as backyards, saloons, dance halls, and theaters. Surprisingly, the show was a success, and for a time these artists enjoyed widespread popularity.

The artists, who came to be called “the Eight” and were later dubbed the “Ashcan School,” used vigorous brush strokes and dramatic lighting.

3. Seeds are dispersed to new sites by various means. Many, such as dandelion or thistle seeds, have fine tufts that allow them to be scattered by the action of the wind. **A** Some seeds such as the coconut can float and are dispersed by currents around the islands of the Pacific Ocean. Other seeds have evolved ways of getting around through the activities of an intermediary animal. **B** This can happen in a number of different ways. For example, animals may devour the fruit containing seeds. **C** Sometimes a seed needs to be buried before it can germinate. This might happen when a hoarding animal such as a squirrel fails to return for its hidden meal. **D** Some seeds have sticky or spiky surfaces, often called burrs, which may catch on the coat of a passing animal and later drop off at a considerable distance from their origin.

In fact, a seed may require passage through the gut of the bird or animal before it can germinate.