

Question 1: A school magazine editor notices a student-submitted short story uses elaborate vocabulary but weak plot cohesion. As editor, which revision request best strengthens both clarity and reader engagement?

- a) Ask the writer to simplify overloaded vocabulary in key scenes and restructure the plot for clearer rising action and resolution.
- b) Tell the writer to replace all nouns with more obscure synonyms to enhance sophistication.
- c) Publish as-is since complex words imply literary quality.
- d) Remove all dialogue so the prose appears more formal.

Question 2: A speaker finds the audience distracted halfway through a presentation. Which immediate strategy is most likely to re-engage listeners?

- a) Pause and ask a brief, directed question relevant to the audience's interests, inviting one or two quick responses.
- b) Keep speaking faster to fit more content.
- c) Read verbatim long paragraphs from your slides to establish authority.
- d) Turn off the microphone to force silence.

Question 3: Which sentence shows correct use of the past perfect tense?

- a) By the time the teacher arrived, the students had already submitted their essays.
- b) The students already submitted their essays by the time the teacher arrived.
- c) The students have already submit their essays when the teacher arrived.
- d) The students submitting their essays by the time the teacher arrived.

Question 4: A multiple-choice reading question asks: "Which sentence best captures the author's tone in paragraph 3?" Which mental step is essential to answer correctly?

- a) Identify specific word choices and sentence structure in paragraph 3, then map them to tones (e.g., ironic, nostalgic) supported by textual evidence.
- b) Pick the tone that sounds most dramatic, regardless of the paragraph.
- c) Choose the antonym of the first tone that comes to mind.
- d) Use knowledge of the author's biography only.

Question 5: Which word best completes the sentence with correct collocation and nuance?

"Her explanation was _____; students left with many unanswered questions."

- a) perfunctory
- b) magnificent
- c) transparent
- d) eloquent

Question 6: In a persuasive speech, an orator uses a brief story about a single listener to generalize about the whole audience. That rhetorical move is primarily an example of:

- a) Anecdotal evidence that can humanize but may risk hasty generalization if overused.
- b) Statistical proof because one example equals many.
- c) A formal logical proof.
- d) An ad hominem attack.

Question 7: Identify the correctly punctuated sentence using relative clauses.

- a) The student, who won the essay contest, read her piece aloud.
- b) The student who won, the essay contest read her piece aloud.
- c) The student who won the essay contest, read her piece aloud.
- d) The student who, won the essay contest read her piece aloud.

Question 8: “He watched the river, listless, as the sun sank.” Which literary device is primarily at work in “the sun sank”?

- a) Personification—giving the sun human-like movement to create mood.
- b) Simile—comparing two things using like or as.
- c) Metaphor—calling one thing another without comparison words.
- d) Hyperbole—extreme exaggeration for emphasis.

Question 9: Choose the option where the underlined/italic word is used incorrectly.

The committee’s principal concern was funding.

- a) The school’s principal welcomed the guests.
- b) The principal reason for delay was weather.
- c) He sent money to the principal by mistake.
- d) She kept her principle in a drawer.

Question 10: A student must convert a descriptive paragraph into a concise analytic paragraph for a literature assignment. Which task is most important to preserve the paragraph’s academic quality?

- a) Retain the central claim and remove repetitive descriptive detail, then support the claim with one precise quotation and analysis.
- b) Remove the thesis and keep only adjectives to preserve style.
- c) Replace all content with bullet points of single words.
- d) Translate it into the most complex synonyms possible.

Question 11: Which choice shows correct subject–verb agreement?

- a) Neither of the answers is correct.
- b) Neither of the answers are correct.
- c) Neither the answers is correct.
- d) Neither the answers are correct.

Question 12: Which of these words is closest in meaning to *ephemeral*?

- a) Short-lived
- b) Numerous
- c) Permanent
- d) Predictable

Question 13: A teacher asks students to identify the most persuasive thesis for an argumentative essay on social media. Which thesis is strongest (clear, debatable, and focused)?

- a) Social media is bad for society.
- b) While social media offers connectivity, restricting data collection and improving digital literacy are necessary to protect users’ privacy and mental health.
- c) Lots of people use social media these days.
- d) Social media might be okay sometimes.

Question 14: Which sentence demonstrates correct active-to-passive voice conversion of: “The playwright wrote the scene.”?

- a) The scene was written by the playwright.
- b) The scene was wrote by the playwright.
- c) The scene was composing by the playwright.
- d) The scene writing by the playwright.

Question 15: Choose the pair where the second word properly contrasts with the first:

- a) transparent — opaque
- b) ample — abundant
- c) subtle — nuanced
- d) consent — assent

Question 16: During a debate, a student finds the opponent repeatedly changing the subject to personal anecdotes. Which rebuttal technique is most effective and rhetorically sound?

- a) Point out the subject shift politely, return discussion to the motion with focused facts, and ask a clarifying question that forces relevance.
- b) Start insulting the opponent’s character to distract.
- c) Repeat the opponent’s anecdotes to fill time.
- d) Walk away mid-debate.

Question 17: Which sentence requires a comma after the introductory clause?

- a) After the rain stopped we went outside to inspect the garden.
- b) The rain stopped we went outside to inspect the garden.
- c) After the rain stopped we went outside, to inspect the garden.
- d) The rain stopped, we went outside to inspect the garden.

Question 18: Which poetic device is exemplified by the phrase “a fleet of sleeping ships” describing clouds?

- a) Metaphor
- b) Onomatopoeia
- c) Irony
- d) Alliteration only.

Question 19: Which vocabulary choice best fits the sentence? “The speaker’s _____ delivery undercut the speech’s authority.”

- a) halting
- b) florid
- c) lyrical
- d) polished

Question 20: Which sentence correctly uses the conditional to describe hypothetical past cause and present result?

- a) If she had studied more, she would understand the topic now.
- b) If she studied more, she will understand the topic now.
- c) If she had study more, she will understand the topic now.
- d) If she will have studied more, she would understand now.

Question 21: Which revision improves paragraph coherence best?

- a) Add a clear topic sentence and logical transitions to link sentences, removing non sequitur details.
- b) Replace every verb with the passive voice to appear objective.
- c) Insert unrelated quotations to raise word count.
- d) Use longer sentences exclusively.

Question 22: Which sentence correctly uses a semicolon?

- a) She wanted to study literature; however she preferred science.
- b) She wanted; to study literature however; she preferred science.
- c) She wanted to study literature; however, she preferred science.
- d) She wanted to; study literature; however she preferred science.

Question 23: In this glossary question, what is the connotation of *frugal* when used to describe an adult?

- a) Positive
- b) Neutral
- c) Negative
- d) Confused

Question 24: A student prepares an oral presentation for an unfamiliar audience. Which adjustment best helps clarity and audience connection?

- a) Use clear simple language, pause for summaries, include relatable examples, and use slow pacing with visual cues.
- b) Use dense academic jargon to appear authoritative.
- c) Speak as fast as possible to finish early.
- d) Exclude visual support and rely on memory only.

Question 25: Which option shows correct use of the subjunctive mood?

- a) I insist that he be present at the meeting.
- b) I insisted that he is present at the meeting.
- c) I insist that he was present at the meeting.
- d) I insist that he will be present at the meeting.

Question 26: Which paraphrase most accurately captures the implied meaning:
Original — “She closed the door with finality?”
Paraphrase options:

- a) She closed the door as if ending a chapter
- b) She slammed the door accidentally during a storm.
- c) She left the door open.
- d) She painted the door to look final.

Question 27: Choose the option where the underlined collocation is natural: “He made a _____ decision.”

- a) He made a rash decision.
- b) He made a quick decisioned.
- c) He made a rashly decision.
- d) He made a rashness decision.

Question 28: Which sentence demonstrates correct pronoun reference and clarity?

- a) When Maria talked to Ana, she seemed nervous.
- b) When Maria talked to Ana, Maria seemed nervous.
- c) When Maria talked to Ana, she nervous.
- d) When Maria talked to Ana, nervous seemed she.

Question 29: Which literary term best describes a recurring image/theme (e.g., “the locked door” appears across a novel)?

- a) Motif
- b) Allegory
- c) Satire
- d) Soliloquy

Question 30: A student writes a short reflective piece that is personal but unfocused. To shift it into an analytical essay for assessment, which change is most necessary?

- a) Introduce a clear thesis that links personal detail to larger analytical claim and support it with textual or contextual evidence.
- b) Add more personal anecdotes with no commentary.
- c) Delete all opinions to make it factual.
- d) Change the font size to make it appear formal.

Question 31: Which sentence uses the conditional perfect correctly?

- a) If you had told me, I would have helped.
- b) If you told me, I would have helped.
- c) If you had told me, I would help.
- d) If you tell me, I would have helped.

Question 32: Which vocabulary item is most appropriate in a formal academic research abstract?

- a) demonstrate
- b) showy
- c) cool
- d) thing

Question 33: Which punctuation correctly separates items in a complex list?

- a) For the play we need: actors, who can sing; set designers, who understand lighting; and stage managers.
- b) For the play we need actors who can sing set designers who understand lighting and stage managers.
- c) For the play we need: actors; who can sing; set designers; who understand lighting; and stage managers.
- d) For the play we need, actors who can sing, set designers who understand lighting and stage managers.

Question 34: Which sentence contains an error in parallel structure?

- a) She likes swimming, biking, and to run.
- b) She likes swimming, biking, and running.
- c) She likes to swim, to bike, and to run.
- d) She likes swimming, biking, running.

Question 35: Which is the strongest opening line for an argumentative essay that intends to analyse media influence on youth?

- a) Media affects young people.
- b) With targeted algorithms and filtered storytelling, contemporary media reshapes adolescent identity
- c) Young people sometimes watch TV.
- d) Media exists.

Question 36: A candidate for student council must give a 2-minute speech convincing peers to vote for increased mental-health resources. Which structural choice best fits the time and purpose?

- a) Start with a personal anecdote (20–25s), state a concise problem, propose one feasible action, and end with a memorable one-line call to action.
- b) Read the full policy proposal including budget tables.
- c) Give a long history of mental-health research.
- d) Spend the whole time thanking supporters.

Question 37: Which sentence correctly uses the colon for emphasis?

- a) She had a secret: she practiced every night.
- b) She had a secret she: practiced every night.
- c) She had a: secret she practiced every night.
- d) She had a secret; she practiced every night.

Question 38: Which literary device best describes an unexpected twist that changes reader understanding at the end of a story?

- a) Irony or plot twist
- b) Repetition only
- c) Onomatopoeia
- d) Rhyme

Question 39: Which word pair shows gradable synonyms?

- a) big — enormous
- b) quick — immediate
- c) tiny — microscopic
- d) silent — noisy

Question 40: Choose the best revision to remove verbosity while retaining meaning: Original — “Due to the fact that the committee was of the opinion that the proposal would not be feasible...”

- a) Because the committee thought the proposal was not feasible...
- b) Due to the committee’s thinking that feasibility was not present...
- c) In view of the fact that the committee thought it wasn’t feasible...
- d) The committee had an opinion about the proposal’s lack of feasibility.

Question 41: Which sentence is an example of effective audience-aware rhetorical framing for a formal job application email?

- a) I am writing to express my interest in the role and to highlight three relevant achievements that demonstrate fit for the position.
- b) Yo! Hire me, I’m awesome.
- c) This email is to inform you that I require payment.
- d) I’m not sure if this job is real but I’m applying anyway.

Question 42: Which line demonstrates correct reported (indirect) speech conversion? Direct: She said, “I will finish the report tomorrow.”

- a) She said that she would finish the report the next day.
- b) She said that she will finish the report tomorrow.
- c) She said, “she will finish the report tomorrow.”
- d) She said that I would finish the report the next day.

Question 43: Which choice best identifies the poem’s dominant theme if repeated images of clocks, winter, and empty chairs appear?

- a) Temporality and loss—meditations on passing time and absence.
- b) Celebration of summer activities.
- c) A manual on chair repair.
- d) Instructions for timekeeping.

Question 44: A peer reviewer finds a student essay’s argument relies on a single weak source. Which reviewer feedback is most constructive?

- a) Recommend adding at least two stronger, varied sources and discuss counter-arguments to strengthen credibility.
- b) Reject the essay immediately with no comments.
- c) Suggest deleting references entirely.
- d) Replace the single source with an opinion.

Question 45: Which sentence correctly uses a hyphen as a compound modifier?

- a) She is a well-known author.
- b) She is a well known author.
- c) She is a well, known author.
- d) She is well-known author.

Question 46: Which rhetorical appeal depends primarily on the speaker's credibility and authority?

- a) Ethos
- b) Pathos
- c) Logos
- d) Kairos

Question 47: Which sentence demonstrates correct use of restrictive vs. non-restrictive clause punctuation?

- a) My sister who lives in Delhi is visiting next week.
- b) My sister, who lives in Delhi, is visiting next week.
- c) My sister who, lives in Delhi is visiting next week.
- d) My sister; who lives in Delhi is visiting next week.

Question 48: Choose the best vocabulary word to complete the sentence: "The student's argument was _____: it relied on assumptions rather than evidence."

- a) specious
- b) fruitful
- c) cogent
- d) rigorous

Question 49: A teacher asks students to identify a tone shift in a passage moving from ironic detachment to urgent plea. Which textual cue most reliably signals the shift?

- a) Abrupt change in diction from ironic distance to urgent verbs and first-person direct address.
- b) The author's biography in the margin.
- c) The font size change.
- d) Page number.

Question 50: Which sentence shows correct infinitive use as purpose clause?

- a) She went to the library to study for her exam.
- b) She went to the library studying for her exam.
- c) She went to the library for study to her exam.
- d) She went the library to studying for her exam.

Question 51: During a group oral, one member dominates answering questions, leaving others silent. As a peer moderator, what is the most constructive intervention?

- a) Politely allocate time, invite quieter members with a specific question, and summarize contributions to ensure balance.
- b) Interrupt loudly and accuse the dominator of incompetence.
- c) Leave the room in protest.
- d) Let the dominator continue without comment.

Question 52: Which sentence correctly uses a phrasal verb with idiomatic meaning?

- a) She called off the meeting because of a sudden storm.
- b) She called the meeting off because the meeting was called off.
- c) She called on the meeting off because it rained.
- d) She called the meeting because it was off.

Question 53: Which technique most improves imagery in a descriptive paragraph?

- a) Use concrete sensory details (sight, sound, smell, touch) and specific verbs rather than abstract nouns.
- b) Rely entirely on abstract adjectives like "beautiful" and "nice."
- c) Use long, empty lists to overwhelm the reader.
- d) Remove all sensory detail.

Question 54: Which is the best concise thesis for an analytical essay on a novel's use of irony?

- a) The novel uses irony in many places to make readers feel things.
- b) Through sustained dramatic irony and contrasting dialogue, the novel critiques social hypocrisy by exposing gaps between public speech and private action.
- c) Irony exists in the book.
- d) The author wrote ironically because they were funny.

Question 55: Which is the most effective closing technique for a persuasive speech aimed at high-school students about climate action?

- a) Call to a specific, achievable action and link it to shared values in one short, memorable sentence.
- b) Apologize for lack of evidence.
- c) Read a random statistic with no context.
- d) End abruptly without summary.

Question 56: Which sentence correctly distinguishes between *fewer* and *less*?

- a) There are fewer students in the class this semester.
- b) There are less students in the class this semester.
- c) There is fewer water in the bottle.
- d) There is fewer chairs in the room.

Question 57: A creative writing prompt asks students to write a short story with an unreliable narrator. Which narrative element best signals unreliability to readers without explicit stating?

- a) Inconsistencies between narrator's claims and other characters' actions or objective details in the text.
- b) The narrator explicitly says, "I am unreliable."
- c) The story uses only third-person omniscient voice.
- d) Long lists of descriptions.

Question 58: Which revision most improves the clarity of this sentence: "The committee discussed the proposal, which had been submitted, but it was delayed."

- a) The committee discussed the submitted proposal, but it was delayed.
- b) The proposal had been submitted which the committee discussed but it was delayed.
- c) It was discussed by the committee the proposal which had been submitted but delayed.
- d) The committee discussed because the proposal had been submitted but delayed.

Question 59: Which exam question best tests students' ability to infer theme from a short passage rather than paraphrase?

- a) Ask students to identify two recurring images and explain how they support the passage's central theme in 3–4 sentences.
- b) Ask students to rewrite the passage in their own words only.
- c) Ask students to copy three sentences verbatim.
- d) Ask students to list the passage's nouns.

Question 60: Which presentation skill most reduces filler words (um, like) during public speaking?

- a) Practice pausing silently where fillers would occur and rehearsing transitions; breath control and deliberate pacing reduce fillers.
- b) Speak as fast as possible to hide fillers.
- c) Never practice and hope audience overlooks fillers.
- d) Fill pauses with louder ums to make them sound intentional.

(NOT TO BE EVALUATED)

[illegible]