

Fall Final Exam Study Guide 2015

Main Ideas

Define the following terms:

Main Idea:

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Supporting Details:

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Topic Sentence:

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Concluding Sentence:

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Extraneous Details:

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(1)She carried a large shopping bag loaded with fireworks and another one with groceries. (2)On her cheek, she had a tattoo of a rose and an airplane. (3)Finally, the bus stopped at Elm Street and this creepy lady exited the bus. (4)She wore purple eye shadow. (5)She kept on scratching her neck, as if she had fleas. (6)On the bus next to me sat the strangest looking person I have ever seen. (7)She looked like she was over 100 year old.

1. Which number/sentence identifies the topic sentence?

- a. 2
- b. 4
- c. 6

2. Which number/sentence identifies supporting details?

- a. 6
- b. 3
- c. 2

3. Which number/sentence identifies the concluding sentence?

- a. 3
- b. 2
- c. 6

4. The characteristics of a hurricane are powerful winds, driving rain, and raging seas. Although a storm must have winds blowing at least 74 miles an hour to be classified as a hurricane, it is not unusual to have winds above one hundred and fifty miles per hour in a major hurricane. The entire storm system can be five hundred miles in diameter, with lines of clouds that spiral toward a center called the "eye." Within the eye itself, which is about 15 miles across, the air is actually calm and cloudless. But this eye is enclosed by a towering wall of thick clouds where the storm's heaviest rains and highest winds are found.

What is the main idea presented in this paragraph?

- A. The eye of a hurricane is about 15 miles across.
- B. Hurricanes have very dangerous characteristics.
- C. Hurricanes are more destructive than tornadoes.
- D. Hurricanes have winds of at least 74 miles an hour.

5. Anchorage, Alaska is one of the largest cities in the U.S., covering over 1,958 square miles. Many large cities cover an area of 100 square miles or less. Anchorage sports many tall buildings, malls, hotels, and bicycle paths. Anchorage received its current name in 1915. Its residents chose "Anchorage" because ships anchored there.

What is the main focus of this paragraph?

- A. the reason behind tall buildings in cities
- B. the explanation of the size of large cities
- C. the stories behind U.S. cities' names
- D. the description of Anchorage, Alaska

**Define the following terms:**  
**Independent Clause:**

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**Dependent Clause:**

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**Simple Sentence:**

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**Compound Sentence:**

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**Complex Sentence:**

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**Compound-Complex Sentence:**

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### Varied Sentence Structure

7. Which sentence BEST combines the two sentences below?

The autumn ball was cancelled. The students were devastated.

- A. The autumn, ball, was cancelled and the students were devastated.
- B. The autumn ball was cancelled, because the students were devastated.
- C. The autumn ball was cancelled, and the students were devastated.
- D. The autumn ball was cancelled the students were devastated.

(1) Hundreds of people line up at Grand Central Terminal yesterday, but they weren't there to catch a train. (2) They came to trade in old dollar bills for the new George Washington Presidential \$1 coin to New York City's famous railroad station.

(3) By the U.S. Mint the gold-colored coin is the first in a new series. (4) The Mint will issue four Presidential \$1 coins a year through 2016. (5) Presidential \$1 coins will come out in the order in which each President served the George Washington coin is the first to be released. (6) The new coins is similar to the popular 50 State Quarters program. (7) That program issued coins in the order in which each state joins the Union. (8) John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison coins will come out later this year.

8. What is the best way to rewrite sentence 7?

- A. In the order that program issued coins in which each state joined the Union.
- B. Leave as is.
- C. That program issue coins in the order in which each state joins the

Union.

- D.** That program issued coins in the order in which each state joined the Union.

The crowd goes wild.

**9.** What type is the sentence above?

- A.** simple sentence
- B.** imperative sentence
- C.** complex sentence
- D.** compound sentence

Phyllis decided to drink, after trying to go to sleep, some warm milk.

**10.** In the sentence above, the modifying phrase is "after trying to go to sleep." How should the sentence be revised so that it is clearer?

- A.** Phyllis decided, after trying to go to sleep, to drink some warm milk.
- B.** After Phyllis was trying to go to sleep, warm milk was what she drank.
- C.** Phyllis decided to drink some warm milk trying to go to sleep after.
- D.** After trying to go to sleep, Phyllis decided to drink some warm milk.

Tom and Jerry have a big argument every morning over what they should do with their day.

**11.** The sentence above is

- A.** a complex sentence.
- B.** an interrogative sentence.
- C.** a simple sentence.
- D.** a compound sentence.

**12.** The principle caught the students wasting time in class when the teacher was out, so he made sure to take each of their names down and let their parents know what they were doing.

What change should be made to the above passage?

- A. Change *to* to *too*.
- B. Remove the comma.
- C. Change *principle* to *principal*.
- D. Change *know* to *now*.

### Revising Writing

#### WRITING: (1-4)

Put these steps of the writing process in order: Editing, Pre-writing, Publishing, Drafting, and Revising (write the word on your answer sheet).

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

(1) The Hubble Space Telescope is as large as a school bus and is full of important equipment. (2) This includes mirrors, computers, and imaging instruments. (3) There are also pointing and control mechanisms. (4) The telescope's solar panels generate electricity. (5) Its antennas make it possible to communicate with Earth.

(6) Unlike ground-based telescopes, hubble's astronomers cannot look through its lens to see the universe. (7) Instead, Hubble's scientific instruments serve as the astronomers' eyes. (8) These instruments include cameras and spectrographs. (9) The cameras use electronic detectors much like those used in home video cameras. (10) The spectrographs act as prisms. (11) They collect data by separating starlight into its rainbow of colors. (12) The data can be very valuable to astronomers.

(13) Hubble must maintain a steady position to produce clear images of distant or faint objects. (14) To accomplish this mission, the telescope must battle such celestial elements as air, atmospheric drag the sun's radiation, and the pull of gravity.

(15) For Hubble, maintaining proper direction is not easy. (16) It is like a sailor fighting the wind and water to keep his or her sailboat on course. (17) Hubble is successful because of it's pointing control system. (18) If movement occurs, the constantly rotating wheels change speeds. (19) The telescope moves smoothly back into position.

(20) Hubble gathers pictures and data on objects in space. (21) Then its computers turn the information into long strings of numbers which are beamed to Earth as radio signals. (22) Then the numbers are turned back into pictures and data.

(23) The information collected daily by Hubble is stored on optical computer disks. (24) A single day's worth of observations would fill an encyclopedia. (25) The constantly growing collection of Hubble pictures and data is a unique scientific resource for current and future astronomers.

31. What change should be made in sentence 6?

- A. Change **universe** to **Universe**.
- B. Change **hubble's** to **Hubble's**.
- C. Change **its** to **it's**.
- D. Change **hubble's** to **Hubbles**.

32. What change should be made in sentence 17?

- A. Change **is** to **are**.
- B. Capitalize **control**.
- C. Change **it's** to **its**.
- D. Add a comma after **successful**.

33. What change should be made in sentence 14?

- A. Change **telescope** to **telescope**.
- B. Add a comma after **drag**.
- C. Change **sun's** to **suns**.
- D. Capitalize **gravity**.

Mr. Berry, the librarian, had a reputation for being strict and for never making mistakes. He maintained complete order in the library and could tell immediately if a book was missing or misplaced. He did not say much. This struck fear into the students. They always said that Mr. Berry did not have to talk. When someone was careless with a book, the look on Mr. Berry's face told that person everything he or she needed to know.

All of this contributed to making Tom feel terrible about losing the copy of *Animal Farm* that he had borrowed nearly four weeks earlier. It was as if the book had disappeared from the face of the earth. In fact, Tom had completely forgotten about the book until he received an overdue notice from Mr. Berry through the mail. Tom did not look forward to facing the librarian directly. When he left for school that morning, he felt as if he were going to his execution.

Tom's fear increased with each tick of the clock. It was already fourth period by the time he talked himself into going to see Mr. Berry. As he walked to the library, his palms were sweating and he felt as though he had butterflies performing acrobatics in his stomach. When he walked through the doors, he saw that the library was deserted, except for Mr. Berry. Tom was happy that nobody would witness the embarrassing scene that was sure to erupt.

Upon seeing Tom, Mr. Berry said, "Oh Tom, I owe you an apology. I guess I made a mistake. I didn't realize that you had already returned *Animal Farm*." At first, Tom didn't know what to say, and then, much to his surprise, he found himself telling Mr. Berry that he hadn't returned the book, that he'd lost it, and that he'd looked all over for it but couldn't find it. Tom could not stop the words from coming out of his mouth.

When Tom finished, Mr. Berry smiled and said, "Well, somebody found it and returned it. That's the important thing. It's important to remember that everybody makes mistakes. I guess we both did in this case." Tom smiled too; he felt relieved. As he made his way back to class, he decided that he really liked Mr. Berry and that he would try to use the library more often.

24. The students are afraid of Mr. Berry because

- A. he is not talkative.
- B. he says mean things to them.
- C. he has a bad temper.
- D. he gives them detention.

25. What caused Tom to change his opinion of Mr. Berry?

- A. Mr. Berry gave Tom a good grade.
- B. Tom heard that Mr. Berry was nice after all.
- C. Tom had a conversation with Mr. Berry.
- D. Mr. Berry returned Tom's library book for him.

26. Why was Tom afraid of Mr. Berry?

- A. Mr. Berry had a reputation for being strict.
- B. Mr. Berry had been mean to him in the past.
- C. Tom had seen Mr. Berry be mean to people.
- D. Tom's parents told him to be afraid of all adults.

**Theme**  
**In the Country**  
by A. Gautam

Every day after the wedding, Sarita sat underneath a big fig tree looking sad. She would sit under the tree after finishing all the chores. At first, I thought she was sad from having to cook elaborate meals for a family of eight, but she seemed to enjoy cooking. She sang a song while peeling the potatoes, cleaning the rice, cutting the vegetables, and making the fire. I had noticed the way she constantly poked the wood into the clay oven. There was a hint of restlessness about Sarita even during the morning worship when everybody in my family closed their eyes and listened to her melodious psalms. She would squat like everybody else in front of the idols but move her knees about constantly.

Back then, I was a young boy of twelve, and Sarita treated me like her little brother. It hurt me to see her unhappy. I wanted to ask

my brother if he had noticed the sadness in his wife's eyes, but my brother was a man of few words. He would probably have said that it is hard for a young woman to leave her parents' home and adopt a new one as her own. Perhaps he would have expected me to understand that without him having to say it. I waited for things to change and for Sarita to spend her afternoon talking to the neighbors or reading a book instead of brooding under the fig tree.

A change came, and it was not what I expected at all. One morning after the morning meal, my brother, Raj, announced that he was moving to the capital with Sarita.

"She is expecting our first child, and we believe that we need to move to the city to give the child a better education and healthcare," Raj said without meeting my parents' eyes.

My mother, who was ready to take a nap on the hemp mattress, got up suddenly—as if to protest. My father kept looking into my brother's eyes for an explanation. He had crumpled the newspaper in his hands, but he was silent. Rita, my elder sister, stood by the door looking very shaken. We all waited for our grandparents, the oldest and the most respected members of our family, to say something. Only my grandmother took a break from reading her book and spoke, "If that is what you have decided. You are a man with your own family now." She stopped my grandfather from saying anything as he was about to open his mouth.

"We will come home at every festival. We will only be a bus ride away—only five hours apart," my brother explained his decision. "Now, Ravi has to take responsibility and look after you," he was talking about me. He did not give the responsibility to Rita, who was much older and abler than me. She was the right age for marriage, and I knew she would move away from the house soon.

*I would have never left my family and moved so far away,* I thought. "You are abandoning us," I screamed at Raj and stormed out of the house. As I looked back at my old house falling apart in places and four old people sitting inside it, I realized I wanted to grow up fast. I needed to show my brother that I was better than him.

13. What does this passage suggest about how the grandmother feels about Raj's decision to move?

- A. She hopes Raj will not move because the family will be separated.
- B. She does not want Raj to move because Ravi is just a young boy.
- C. She wants Raj to think about moving because it is a big decision.
- D. She thinks Raj should make his decision because he has a family.

14. Which of these **best** shows what Raj considers most important?

- A. He cares a lot about what others might think of his decisions.
- B. He does what his mother and father think is best for him.
- C. He puts his wife and unborn child before everybody else.
- D. He thinks his little brother should learn manners and respect.

15. Which of these **best** shows that Ravi's relationship with his brother is troubled?

- A. "My father kept looking into my brother's eyes for. . ."
- B. "*I would have never left my family and moved so far. . .*"
- C. "Now, Ravi has to take responsibility and look after. . ."
- D. "We will only be a bus ride away—only five hours. . ."

16. Why does Raj decide to move to the city?

- A. to teach his brother lessons about life
- B. to find a suitable husband for his sister

- C. to provide a better future for his family
- D. to get his wife far away from his brother

17. How does Ravi feel about his brother leaving the village?

- A. upset, because he feels abandoned by his brother
- B. sad, because he feels lonely without his sister-in-law
- C. confused, because his brother is not taking him along
- D. hurt, because Sarita does not ask for his opinion

(1) Daylight saving is what we call our system of setting clocks one hour ahead so that both sunrise and sunset happen at a later hour. (2) The result of daylight saving is an extra hour of daylight in the evening. (3) He first mentioned the idea of daylight savings, Benjamin Franklin, in an essay he jokingly wrote in 1784. (4) A British builder, William Willett, wrote seriously about the idea in 1907.

(5) Daylight saving has been used in the United States and in many European countries since World War I. (6) The system was begun in order to conserve fuel needed to produce electric power. (7) Since there was an extra hour of daylight in the evenings, homes and businesses didn't have to turn on the lights as early. (8) Some places in the United States went back to standard time, or regular time, after the war, but others kept daylight saving.

(9) During World War II, the U.S. Congress passes a law putting the entire country on "war time," which set clocks one hour ahead of standard time for the rest of the war. (10) The Uniform Time Act that began in 1966 set up a daylight saving time schedule for most of the United States. (11) Each state could vote on whether the whole state would follow daylight saving time.

(12) Under a 1986 law, daylight saving time begins at 2 A.M. on the first Sunday of April and ends at 2 A.M. on the last Sunday of October.

18. Which of the following is the best way to rewrite the ideas in sentence 3?

- A. The idea of daylight saving, it was first mentioned by Benjamin Franklin jokingly in an essay he wrote in 1784.
- B. The idea of daylight saving was first jokingly mentioned in an essay wrote in 1784 by Benjamin Franklin.
- C. The idea of daylight saving was first mentioned jokingly in an essay that Benjamin Franklin wrote in 1784.
- D. It was first mentioned jokingly in an essay that Benjamin Franklin wrote in 1784, the idea of daylight saving.

19. What change should be made in sentence 9?

- A. Change **hour** to **our**.
- B. Change **putting** to **put**.
- C. Add a comma after **standard time**.
- D. Change **passes** to **passed**.

20. What change should be made in sentence 7?

- A. Add a comma after **Since**.
- B. Change **lights** to **lites**.

- C. Change **their** to **there**.
- D. Remove the comma after **evenings**.

21. What is the BEST way to combine the information in the two clauses below?

Though she started with the flute two years later. Aisha plays the piano and the flute very well now.

- A. Though she started with the flute two years later Aisha plays the piano and the flute very well now.
- B. Though she started with the flute two years later; Aisha plays the piano and the flute very well now.
- C. Though she started with the flute two years later, but Aisha plays the piano and the flute very well now.
- D. Though she started with the flute two years later, Aisha plays the piano and the flute very well now.

**POV**  
**Resolution**  
by Isaak B., Idyllwild, CA

The airport smells like a combination of Lysol and buttered popcorn from the stand near the baggage claim, but the fresh air isn't any more inviting. I can see Dad leaning on the hood of the station wagon talking to Chris and making huge gestures with his hands. I watch them for a second gripping my duffel bag and backpack. Chris is at least six feet now, his thin frame stretching through a t-shirt and corduroy jacket. Three years ago his voice hadn't even started cracking, but I guess a lot of things have changed. Dad looks like he lost weight or maybe I just remember him as bigger than me, and now he looks older. His cheeks are pale and heavy and his hair is whiter than the last time I was home. I don't particularly know why I'm here, but Mom called and I couldn't really say no.  
<http://teenink.com/Past/2005/January/18585.html>

22. From which point of view is this passage written?

- A. third person
- B. second person
- C. first person
- D. The point of view shifts from first person to third person.

23. Which word from the passage above helps the reader identify the point of view?

- A. I
- B. Mom
- C. his
- D. smells

*adapted from* **Nurturing Nights on Nightingale Lane**  
by Vanessa O., Clarks Summit, PA

The stars shone brightly over the snowy hill while the residents on the straight, which stretch over a mile, closed their eyes to take sleep. Every home had smoke puffing from the chimneys that smelled of smoked beef; the houses were dim with a little night light casting illusions on the window pane. Every home looked as though someone could take refuge from the cold and spend weeks there with hosts joyous to have one's company.

Out in that night, though, wandered an old soul, a frail man. With every breath there was a puff of white fog, and he rubbed his mittens together trying to create heat. He walked for a mile down the lane knowing he needed shelter soon or he'd be as frozen as the ground.

<http://teenink.com>

24. From which point of view is this passage written?

- A. third person



**B.** first person

**C.** The point of view shifts from second person to first person.

**D.** second person