

Types of Questions – Language Arts, Writing Section of GED

Key Definitions

- Revision = change
- Effectiveness = to say in the best way possible
- Insert = place
- No revision necessary= No change is needed

Writing Guide

1. Which revision would improve the effectiveness of the text/article?

- Remove paragraph/sentence → Remove paragraph/sentence if it is not related to the topic of the passage.
- Move paragraph/sentence “x” to follow paragraph/sentence “y” → If a paragraph/sentence gives more detail about ideas that should be explained or expressed before another paragraph’s/sentence’s idea, you should move the paragraph/sentence so that the details make sense. This is called “logical order of ideas.”
For example if you are reading about changing a tire, the paragraph explaining how to put the new tire on the car must come after the paragraph explaining how to take the flat tire off of the car.
- Join paragraph “x” and paragraph “y” → If two paragraphs have the same main idea, you should join them to make one paragraph. *** Look in the passage to see if one paragraph is unusually shorter than the rest of the paragraphs (for example, a paragraph with only two sentences.)
- Begin a new paragraph with sentence “x” → If sentence “x” has a different main idea than the sentence before it, you should begin a new paragraph with that sentence.

2. Begin a new paragraph with

- Look in the passage to see where the main idea changes within a paragraph.*** Look to the paragraph that is longest in the passage.

3. Which is the most effective rewrite of sentence “x”?

- What is the best way to express the main idea of the sentence using logical order and correct punctuation.

4. Which sentence would be most effective if inserted at the beginning of the paragraph?

- a. Every paragraph needs a topic sentence. This sentence gives you a general idea of what the paragraph will discuss. Based on the details given in paragraph “x,” you must decide which answer choice is a general topic sentence that relates the other sentences in the paragraph.

5. The most effective revision of sentence “x” would begin with which group of words?

- a. If you rewrite the sentence in the best way possible, what group of words would begin the sentence. ** It is important to “say” the entire sentence using the new group of words, in order to make sure the new sentence works.

6. The most effective revision of sentence “x” would include which group of words?

- a. If you were to restate the sentence in a more clear and concise way, which group of words would be included in the new sentence. Be sure to “say” the entire sentence with this new group of words in order to make sure the new sentence works.

7. Which revision should be made to the placement of sentence “x”?

- a. This question asks you to review the placement of a sentence.