

# Tests

## Identifying Sentence Errors





# Test 1

## Identifying Errors



Directions: In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. There have never been a subject that  
A  
has fascinated me more than the study  
B  
of astronomy; unfortunately, I have  
been unable to study it formally.  
C D  
No error  
E
2. Everyone has their own idea about  
A B  
what determines an exciting evening;  
C  
some like going to the movies, some  
D  
like going to dinner, and some like  
attending sports events. No error  
E
3. When the committee decided to look at  
A B  
the issue, they could not agree with a  
C  
plan of action which suited all the  
D  
members. No error  
E
4. After John had received his inheritance,  
A  
he became lazy and undependable, as  
B C  
though he didn't have no cares in the  
D  
world. No error  
E
5. James was shocked when Jerry said  
A B  
that he didn't like the poetry he had  
C D  
been writing. No error  
E
6. Laura is so pessimistic about life that I  
A  
am reminded of a martyr which I once  
B C  
met in a gothic novel. No error  
D E
7. Besides Callie and me, there are no  
A B  
other officers available to answer the  
questions that are being asked.  
C D  
No error  
E

8. In the background scenery of that  
A  
play, was two small children who sat  
B C  
as still as mice; if you did not look  
closely, you would never notice  
D  
them. No error  
E
9. The children were told that neither  
A  
California nor Texas are as big as  
B  
Alaska, but they were not able to  
C  
comprehend the true size of the large  
D  
state. No error  
E
10. The desire to gain and to hold power  
A  
stayed with this man even after his  
B C  
disastrous results at the polls.  
D  
No error  
E
11. We were excited when we bought an  
A B  
aquarium for our class because the  
day before we bought several fish  
C  
which were being stored in a small  
D  
container. No error  
E
12. Various social functions are an  
A  
important part of school life, but the  
B C  
most exciting event is the junior-  
D  
senior prom. No error  
E
13. Because the technician did not pay  
A  
attention to small details, several  
B  
mistakes which could have been  
C  
averted are made. No error  
D E
14. There is a story from ancient times  
A  
that told of two mountain climbers  
B  
who discover a city with streets  
C D  
paved of gold. No error  
E
15. In spite of my objections, Jennifer  
A B  
has went to the movies every week  
C D  
for the past month. No error  
E

## Test 2

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. There is a story from ancient times that  
A  
tells of two Chinese astronomers who  
B C  
 were put to death in 2137 B.C. for failing  
to predict an eclipse correctly. No error  
D E
  
2. Before our final test, our teacher gave  
A  
 the outline for the chapters to Dave  
and I and asked that we share with  
B C  
 two other students who are our  
D  
 friends. No error  
E
  
3. Although the new building will be  
A B  
 ready in time for the fall classes,  
C  
 some of the laboratory equipment  
will not arrive until late October.  
D  
No error  
E
  
4. After working with little children all  
A  
 day, she didn't have hardly any  
B  
 patience for her own children; conse-  
quently, she was often irritable and  
C  
 cross with them. No error  
D E
  
5. Sarah was distressed when Jennifer  
A  
repeated the rumors about whom she  
B C D  
 was dating. No error  
E
  
6. When you go to college, I know you  
A  
 will study hard, but I hope you will  
B  
aim at perfection in all your classes.  
C D  
No error  
E

7. From the mountain peaks loaded  
A B  
with melting snow, come the flood  
C  
waters gushing through the streets.  
D  
No error  
E
8. Either the captain or the co-captains is  
A B  
planning to take the band onto the  
C  
field at half-time to perform before  
D  
the expectant crowd. No error  
E
9. All of the flags that you see before  
A  
you has a special design that signifies  
B C  
the group, the financial status of that  
group, and the number of tribes  
D  
within the group. No error  
E
10. Both of the girls shopped for  
A  
new clothes; however, neither of  
B  
them bought the first dress they had  
C D  
tried on. No error  
E
11. My doctor told me that walking was  
A B  
one of the best forms of exercise for  
C  
me. No error  
D E
12. Across the street from our school,  
there are three cars which are  
A B  
parked illegally; they will be towed  
C  
in one hour if their owners did not  
D  
remove them. No error  
E
13. That newspaper reported that John  
A  
Newsom was one politician which  
B C  
would never tell even the slightest  
D  
lie. No error  
E
14. Shelley defended the backboards  
A  
remarkably well in yesterday's  
B C  
basketball game, even though he  
D  
has such a disadvantage in height.  
No error  
E
15. Many people believe that if one is  
A B  
going to be successful in life, you  
C D  
must get a college degree first.  
No error  
E

## Test 3

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. Because the high waves rolled far up on  
     A  
 the beach, getting a boat launched  
     B  
is difficult work. No error  
     C          D          E
  
2. There has been many countries that  
     A  
 held the court astronomer in high es-  
     B  
 teem, honoring him with many ceremo-  
     C  
 nies as well as with a high position in  
     D  
 court. No error  
     E
  
3. Even if a person feels he has no special  
     A  
 talent, they can still be useful to the  
     B  
 organization merely by having the  
     C  
 willingness to work hard. No error  
     D          E
  
4. The funeral was particularly stressful  
     A  
because we found it so hard to part  
     B  
with our relatives after not having  
     C          D  
 seen them for so long. No error  
     E
  
5. In his conversation with Sue, he said  
     A          B          C  
 that the game of bridge was a fasci-  
     D  
 nating game of cards. No error  
     E
  
6. After being elected president of his  
     A  
 class, John developed a sense of  
     B  
 superiority, and he wouldn't hardly  
     C  
 speak to any of us. No error  
     D          E

7. Millie was happy when Allison told  
 A B  
 her that she had been nominated for  
 C D  
 homecoming queen. No error  
 E
8. Besides Maria and me, there are no  
 A B  
 other people which are available to  
 C  
 monitor the progress of the patients.  
 D  
No error  
 E
9. When my friend's birthday ap-  
 A  
 proached, he invited Jerry and I to  
 B  
 the party that his mother had  
 C D  
 planned for him. No error  
 E
10. Around the mountain and down the  
 A  
 valley, flows the two rivers, converg-  
 B  
 ing only after each has traveled five  
 C D  
 miles from the city. No error  
 E
11. All of the work we have previously  
 A  
 done will amount to nothing if we do  
 B  
not conduct proper research on this  
 C  
 last section before we begin the  
 D  
 experiment. No error  
 E
12. In order to reach the victims of the  
 A  
 avalanche, the rescue crew took the  
 B  
 longer trail that circled the lake  
 C  
 since the shorter winter trail was  
 D  
 impassable. No error  
 E
13. Each of the flags that you see in  
 A  
these stately rooms have a special  
 B C  
 significance for the state that  
it represents. No error  
 D E
14. Everyone in the class was excited  
 A B  
to finally hear about the adventures  
 C  
 of the men who explored the depths  
 D  
 of the ocean. No error  
 E
15. Do Tony or Frank know how to get  
 A B  
 home from the amusement park that  
sits on the other side of town ?  
 C D  
No error  
 E



## Test 4

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. All possible arrangements were ready for  
A  
the invasion; still, at the last moment, the  
B  
general has to consider the weather as a  
C D  
prominent factor. No error  
E
2. There was many records available for the  
A B  
study of this subject, but there was no  
C  
assurance that what was written was actu-  
D  
ally correct. No error  
E
3. In this particular university, the greatest  
A  
single criterion for success is scholastic  
B  
achievement; a person must perform well  
C  
if they are to remain enrolled. No error  
D E
4. Only during the competition did we  
A  
begin to realize just how much Janet  
B  
differed from Karen; they were  
C D  
always arguing opposing ideas.  
  
No error  
E
5. After hearing that oak was the best  
A  
wood for this particular piece of  
B  
furniture, we sought a craftsman who  
C D  
was willing to work for us. No error  
E
6. Even if James feels like he doesn't  
A  
have no special talents, he can still try  
B C  
out for the team if he is willing to  
D  
work hard. No error  
E

7. Even through the excitement, Kyle  
A  
remained calm when his brother told  
B C  
him that an unhappy gang member  
was looking for him. No error  
D E

8. Because James had played first base  
A B  
all season, he was especially sur-  
C  
prised when the coach asked him to  
D  
play third. No error  
E

9. Before our tryouts, our teacher gave  
A  
the music to Dan and me and asked  
B  
that we copy it for two other students  
C  
which are our friends. No error  
D E

10. I was surprised to see you and Jake at  
A B  
the ball game; I thought you and him  
C  
were supposed to present the awards  
D  
at the ceremony. No error  
E

11. Behind the abandoned barrels and  
A  
boxes, sit the old man who discov-  
B C  
ered the buried treasure. No error  
D E

12. The plants in the aquarium on  
display is particularly brilliant since  
A B  
there is a special light shining on  
C  
them from above. No error  
D E

13. When the mayor spoke at the con-  
A  
vention, his speech was a disaster,  
B  
for he did not thoroughly prepare  
C  
for the event before coming.  
D  
No error  
E

14. As soon as Jane was elected presi-  
A  
dent of the organization, she imme-  
diately appointed chairmen for the  
B  
committees that had already  
C  
begun important projects. No error  
D E

15. Have the president or the other  
A  
officers of the organization been  
B  
chosen yet, or have their names even  
C  
been submitted to the membership?  
D  
No error  
E

## Test 5

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. I rowed with the oars while John used the  
A B  
 big paddle; thus, we are able to speed  
C D  
 toward the shore. No error  
E
2. There was found in the abandoned vault of  
A  
 an ancient king many dusty books that tell  
B  
 of lost treasure and cities of unimagined  
C D  
 wealth. No error  
E
3. Getting on this team is only half the battle;  
A  
 an athlete must consistently perform well if  
B  
they expect to remain eligible. No error  
C D E
4. When he saw the three young ladies laugh-  
A  
 ing among each other, he became aware  
B C  
 that they were true friends after all.  
D  
No error  
E
5. The old woman with all her home-  
A  
 made remedies argued that sunshine  
B  
was the best medicine for a cold.  
C D  
No error  
E
6. Besides Fran and me, there aren't no  
A B  
other officers available to run the  
C D  
 convention next month. No error  
E
7. In this book it suggests that a person  
A  
should think twice before he decides  
B C  
to go abroad. No error  
D E
8. You don't have to rush to the assem-  
A B  
 bly this afternoon, because I will save  
C  
 a seat for you next to Jane and I.  
D  
No error  
E

9. Looking around the office and  
A  
finding no one there made me won-  
B C  
der if I had come to the right place.  
D  
No error  
E

10. Behind the abandoned car parked  
A  
near those houses, sit the young  
B  
medical student who said he would  
C  
stop at nothing to get his degree in  
D  
medicine. No error  
E

11. Not until Fran was already out of  
A  
town, did she realize that she  
B C  
had not completed her homework.  
D  
No error  
E

12. Either the mayor or the members of  
the council is scheduled to speak  
A  
tonight, but since the rain is begin-  
B C  
ning to fall, the meeting might be  
D  
postponed. No error  
E

13. The church youth group spent its  
A  
entire spring vacation repairing and  
B  
painting the house in which the  
C  
refugee family could live. No error  
D E

14. The leaves of the plant provides  
A  
shelter, food, and oxygen for the  
animals, in addition to providing a  
B  
pleasing sight for travelers who pass  
C D  
by. No error  
E

15. Birds that are able to withstand the  
A B  
coldest weather have heavy layers of  
C  
fat, as well as oily feathers which  
D  
repel water and snow. No error  
E

## Test 6

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. There was faced an unbelievable number  
A  
of trials before the experiments began to  
B  
shed light on the possibilities available to  
C D  
man with this new invention. No error  
E  
Note a strange rule:  
A number = plural.  
**The** number = singular.
2. Everyone in this class who is going to  
A B  
college must begin immediately to pre-  
pare themselves for the rigorous hours of  
C  
study and preparation ahead of him.  
D  
No error  
E
3. Obviously, any company can tell you of  
A  
its focus on profitable growth and oppor-  
B  
tunity; any company that does not  
C  
hardly merits your favor as an investor.  
D  
No error  
E
4. Before he reached the top of the  
A  
mountain he had turned back,  
B  
knowing he could of gone on to the  
C  
top, but only with great risk.  
D  
No error  
E
5. In Kenneth Lang's book *The Roar*,  
A  
we saw the character Michael  
B  
standing alone on the beach just  
C D  
before the storm. No error  
E
6. You don't have to rush to no meeting  
A B  
this afternoon, because I have  
C  
arranged to have someone take your  
D  
place. No error  
E

7. Since he had attended this school for  
A  
four years, the library staff was well  
B  
known to the young scholar which  
C  
made it a point to read at least two  
D  
books each week. No error  
E

8. You and him can finish painting the  
A B  
room as soon as David and I have  
C  
finished cleaning the brushes.  
D  
No error  
E

9. From the large basket sitting on the  
A  
table, come fresh fruit, hot rolls, and  
B  
vegetables, all having been prepared  
C  
to serve the hungry men. No error  
D E

10. Neither he nor the other politicians  
A  
was certain about the time of the  
B  
meeting, but they all had planned to  
C D  
go early to avoid the possibility of  
being late. No error  
E

11. When we told family members what  
A  
had happened, we discovered that  
B C  
several relatives had had this prob-  
D  
lem with their own children.  
No error  
E

12. The plants for our aquarium was  
A  
bought at the pet shop that sits at  
B  
the corner of Jackson and Grant  
streets, but the fish were bought at  
C D  
another store across town. No error  
E

13. When Dad came through the door of  
A  
the house, he was surprised to see  
B C  
that Mom planned a birthday party  
D  
for him. No error  
E

14. In some newspapers, it says that  
A B  
John Blount will make the best  
C D  
decisions for the Senate. No error  
E

15. At first glance I did not recognize  
A  
the man, but then I see the familiar  
B  
clothing, and I knew at once who he  
C D  
was. No error  
E

## Test 7

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. He always carefully prepared his schedule for the next day; likewise, he selects the clothes he expected to wear. No error

A  
B                      C  
D                      E
2. There were always in the future the longed-for day that the flight to the stars would become a reality and man would walk on other planets. No error

A  
B  
C  
D                      E
3. A person may have to sacrifice some extracurricular activities and devote more time to studying if they want to achieve success in this area. No error

A  
B  
C                      D  
E
4. This unlucky situation staggered him; however, he decides to make the best of it and continued his journey. No error

A  
B                      C  
D                      E
5. His mother has told him many times to stay off of the dog house, but he is determined to get on it. No error

A  
B                      C                      D  
E
6. The author of *Petty Lies* presents the heroine as a woman of unquestionable character who was able to stand up to the rumors of a small Southern town. No error

A  
B                      C  
D  
E
7. That newspaper reported that Kyle is one politician who wouldn't never tell even the slightest lie. No error

A  
B  
C                      D  
E

8. According to this source, many teenagers struggle with the issues of responsibility and accountability; learning to assume adult roles in today's society is often very difficult. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
9. Inside the room beside those stairs, sits the three children who reported the accident which we saw on the news last night. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
10. Neither the owner of the garage nor the attendant who parks the cars were on duty the night of the fire; consequently, a number of automobiles were destroyed. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
11. Our people know that the only way to further increase the value of our company is to take the intelligent long-term steps necessary to maintain our excellent returns, increase our earnings, and sell more of our products. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
12. A change of several degrees in our temperature is nothing unusual; in fact, it is almost a daily occurrence and one to which we have become accustomed. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
13. Sitting by the stack of hay, was the small child who never left the farm until he went to town to see the fair last week. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
14. If Sally and her want to go to the concert, let me know as quickly as possible, and I will get tickets for them. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E
15. A creative imagination or other special talents are necessary characteristics for the person who wants to excel in the field of art. No error
- A  
B  
C  
D  
E



## Test 8

### Identifying Errors



**Directions:** In the following sentences the error, if there is one, is underlined and lettered. Elements of the sentence that are not underlined will not be changed. In choosing answers, follow the requirements of standard written English. If there is an error, select the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1. One important quality a teacher  
A  
should have is good communication  
B  
skills so that they can communicate  
C  
effectively with the students. No error  
D E
2. A national monument, unlike a na-  
A  
tional park, is established not so much  
B  
to protect a great natural setting as to  
C  
preserve a particular biological or  
D  
geological phenomenon. No error  
E
3. We were really confused when we  
A  
saw Bill at the scene because we  
B C  
thought he went home already.  
D  
No error  
E
4. When we saw William, he appeared  
A  
kind of anxious about his date with  
B  
Patty, but after talking to us for  
C  
awhile, he relaxed. No error  
D E
5. Dan Egan, the hero in *Houses Ablaze*,  
A  
has difficulty establishing his  
B C  
credibility in a town that did not trust  
D  
strangers. No error  
E
6. There hasn't never been a subject  
A  
that has fascinated me more than  
B  
the study of biology; fortunately, I  
C  
am in a position to continue my  
D  
studies. No error  
E

7. Even though I was at the trial from  
A  
beginning to end, I still find it hard to  
B  
believe that she and him were guilty.  
C D  
No error  
E

8. In a lonely shack near an old aban-  
A  
doned mine, lives two miserly broth-  
B  
ers who made the first claim on the  
C  
land over forty years ago. No error  
D E

9. Besides modifying the land in many  
A  
different ways, frost action sculpts  
mountain chains, splitting and shat-  
B  
tering the rock and sending great  
C  
chunks tumbling down the slopes.  
D  
No error  
E

10. We have certified and uncertified  
A  
teachers working in our classrooms  
B  
due to the lack of qualified people  
C D  
in the profession. No error  
E

11. The little creatures in the crevices of  
A  
the cliff was hiding in terror, but the  
B C  
snake managed to find them and  
D  
devour them after all. No error  
E

12. To provide our people with the best  
A  
possible information, we've  
B  
launched a seven-year program that  
will provide the tools and systems  
C  
for our people to acquire and share  
D  
knowledge throughout our global  
network. No error  
E

13. They say that you should beware of  
A B  
what you want, for you might get it.  
C D  
No error  
E

14. In their younger days, she and him  
A B  
would go picnicking in the country  
C  
at least once every month. No error  
D E

15. Along the side of the riverbank, was  
A B  
a fallen tree which had lain across  
C D  
the swirling water for five years.  
No error  
E



7. The secretary or the men at Dad's  
A  
office has secretly planned a party to  
B  
surprise the boss when he comes  
C  
through the doors this morning.  
D  
No error  
E
8. When David reached the top, he  
A  
realized that he had achieved a spec-  
B  
tacular feat: he had climbed the  
C  
highest mountain in the United States.  
D  
No error  
E
9. On our way back to the boat, we  
A  
were startled by the racket of cawing  
B  
crows which were chasing another  
C  
bird through the branches of the  
D  
forest. No error  
E
10. Three years passed before we could  
A  
make any organized attempt to dig out  
B  
the people which had been captured  
C D  
underneath the snow during the ava-  
lanche. No error  
E
11. The heat in the classrooms is usually  
A  
regulated by a central control unit  
B  
found in the office, but that unit is  
C  
often not working correctly, and the  
rooms become cold. No error  
D E
12. Even though the title of homecom-  
A  
ing queen was previously won by  
B  
the girl, she was not presented at the  
C D  
ceremonies. No error  
E
13. They say in this book that the role of  
A  
education is about to go through  
B  
some dramatic changes in the  
C  
twenty-first century. No error  
D E
14. Keeping their population in balance  
A  
with the available food supply is  
B C  
most critical to the survival of the  
D  
wolves in the park. No error  
E
15. I thought that I had spoke to the  
A B  
child about his behavior last week,  
C  
but he seems to have forgotten.  
D  
No error  
E



7. Did you assign Frank and I a research project, or was that just some crazy dream that I had last night? No error
- A B C D E
8. There is, as far as I can see, no good reasons for his behavior to be so disruptive to the rest of the class: the other students deserve consideration also. No error
- A B C D E
9. Neither the drivers of the cars nor the mechanic who tried to repair them were responsible for the scratches which we found on the hoods. No error
- A B C D E
10. Even though the teacher had taught twenty years, her salary was still lower than an administrator. No error
- A B C D E
11. The silent, eerie valley seemed deserted, as if all the animals which inhabited it had fled. No error
- A B C D E
12. The company hired Mr. Langston to head the research department because he experimented for years in the rain forests of Brazil. No error
- A B C D E
13. Even though all these barrels are filled up with apples, he still expects us to gather the fruit which has fallen to the ground. No error
- A B C D E
14. The most difficult job of the judges was to decide which of the three contestants was more beautiful. No error
- A B C D E
15. Before other pipelines are laid, there is time in which to plan for the careful development and preservation of the country's natural resources. No error
- A B C D E

# Identifying Sentence Errors

## Answers



# Answers

## Identifying Errors



### Test 1

1. a      2. a      3. c      4. d      5. c      6. c      7. e      8. b  
9. b      10. e      11. c      12. e      13. d      14. b      15. c

### Test 2

1. e      2. b      3. e      4. b      5. d      6. c      7. e      8. b  
9. b      10. d      11. b      12. d      13. c      14. e      15. d

### Test 3

1. c      2. a      3. b      4. c      5. d      6. c      7. c      8. c  
9. b      10. b      11. e      12. e      13. c      14. c      15. a

### Test 4

1. c      2. a      3. d      4. c      5. a      6. b      7. d      8. e  
9. d      10. c      11. b      12. a      13. c      14. e      15. a

### Test 5

1. d      2. a      3. c      4. b      5. c      6. b      7. a      8. d  
9. e      10. b      11. e      12. a      13. e      14. a      15. e

### Test 6

1. a      2. c      3. e      4. c      5. b      6. b      7. c      8. a  
9. e      10. b      11. e      12. a      13. d      14. a      15. b

### Test 7

1. c      2. a      3. c      4. c      5. b      6. c      7. c      8. e  
9. b      10. b      11. b      12. e      13. b      14. a      15. e

### Test 8

1. c      2. e      3. d      4. b      5. d      6. a      7. c      8. b  
9. e      10. e      11. b      12. e      13. a      14. b      15. e

### Test 9

1. e      2. a      3. c      4. c      5. d      6. b      7. b      8. e  
9. e      10. c      11. e      12. b      13. a      14. e      15. b

### Test 10

1. c      2. e      3. d      4. d      5. b      6. c      7. b      8. a  
9. c      10. d      11. e      12. c      13. b      14. d      15. e