

<b>ERROR IDENTIFICATION TEST</b>
<b>15 Minutes 20 Questions</b>

**DIRECTIONS**

Some of the following sentences are correct. Others contain problems in grammar, usage, idiom, or diction (word choice). There is not more than one error in any sentence.

If there is an error, it will be underlined and lettered. Find the one underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence correct, and choose the corresponding letter on your answer sheet. Mark (e) if the sentence contains no error.

1.  $\frac{\text{Him and I}}{a}$  I will take full responsibility for  $\frac{\text{each other}}{b}$  on the camping trip,  $\frac{\text{using}}{c}$  the "buddy system"  $\frac{\text{to insure each other's safety.}}{d}$   $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
2. The  $\frac{\text{people}}{a}$  only in the movie  $\frac{\text{theater}}{b}$  on that stormy Monday night  $\frac{\text{were}}{c}$  the usher and  $\frac{\text{me}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
3. After  $\frac{\text{finding}}{a}$  the problem, the  $\frac{\text{mechanic}}{b}$  cleaned the carburetor  $\frac{\text{thoroughly,}}{c}$  hoping that a clean carburetor would  $\frac{\text{eliminate}}{d}$  the automobile's stalling problems.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
4.  $\frac{\text{Us}}{a}$  citizens need to speak out on national  $\frac{\text{as well as}}{b}$  local issues, because a strong, efficient federal government  $\frac{\text{will have}}{c}$  its effect  $\frac{\text{on the quality}}{d}$  of our city.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
5.  $\frac{\text{We}}{a}$  heard news about a storm  $\frac{\text{which}}{b}$  does not seem dangerous  $\frac{\text{nor}}{c}$  liable to  $\frac{\text{dump}}{d}$  more than an inch of snow on the city.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
6. He wore  $\frac{\text{a wig}}{a}$  that was  $\frac{\text{far more}}{b}$  attractive  $\frac{\text{than}}{c}$  the  $\frac{\text{other men}}{d}$  who had their own hair.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
7. The  $\frac{\text{anger of}}{a}$  the opposing candidates  $\frac{\text{was obvious,}}{b}$  but  $\frac{\text{neither}}{c}$   $\frac{\text{of them}}{d}$  insulted the other.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .

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8. If the dog  $\frac{\text{had lain}}{a}$  there without snarling, the visitor  $\frac{\text{wouldn't}}{b}$   $\frac{\text{have been}}{c}$  tempted  $\frac{\text{to provoke}}{d}$  him into biting.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
9. If  $\frac{\text{one reads}}{a}$  the newspaper carefully everyday, you  $\frac{\text{will be surprised}}{b}$  at the  $\frac{\text{improvement}}{c}$  in your  $\frac{\text{overall}}{d}$  reading skills.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
10. If I  $\frac{\text{had been}}{a}$  alert, I  $\frac{\text{would have}}{b}$  caught a World Series  $\frac{\text{home run}}{c}$  and taken it home as a  $\frac{\text{souvenir}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
11. Between  $\frac{\text{he and his wife}}{a}$  there have been nothing but arguments;  $\frac{\text{this}}{b}$  is a situation  $\frac{\text{which is}}{c}$  strikingly  $\frac{\text{atypical}}{d}$  of most modern marriages.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
12. I'm willing to sell you this refrigerator at  $\frac{\text{ten percent}}{a}$  above cost,  $\frac{\text{being that}}{b}$  you are the  $\frac{\text{Chief of Police}}{c}$  and might  $\frac{\text{do}}{d}$  me a favor someday.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
13. The  $\frac{\text{advance}}{a}$  of the Mongol army into Italy's  $\frac{\text{outskirts were}}{b}$  threatening that  $\frac{\text{the Pope}}{c}$  met personally with  $\frac{\text{Genghis Khan}}{d}$  to ask him to retreat.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
14. The old song  $\frac{\text{"Our Day Will Come"}}{a}$  expressed the  $\frac{\text{same}}{b}$  hopes and dreams  $\frac{\text{which}}{c}$  occupy  $\frac{\text{we}}{d}$  teenagers today.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
15. In opposition  $\frac{\text{to}}{a}$  President Carter's foreign policy  $\frac{\text{was}}{b}$  the  $\frac{\text{House}}{c}$  Majority Leader and the Chairman of the  $\frac{\text{Ways and Means Committee}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
16. In his valedictory address, the scholar insisted that  $\frac{\text{this here}}{a}$  society remains  $\frac{\text{decent and strong}}{b}$  despite the presence of so many  $\frac{\text{who}}{c}$  are ignorant and  $\frac{\text{a varicious}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
17. Attorneys  $\frac{\text{these days}}{a}$  may practice corporate law,  $\frac{\text{environmental law}}{b}$  or  $\frac{\text{choosing from}}{c}$  a variety of  $\frac{\text{other}}{d}$  alternatives.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .

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18.  $\frac{\text{There is}}{a}$  only a box of cereal and three breadsticks in the cupboard, so we  $\frac{\text{better}}{b}$  go to the market and  $\frac{\text{stock up}}{c}$   $\frac{\text{on food}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
19. I'm sure that I can  $\frac{\text{vault}}{a}$  higher than  $\frac{\text{him}}{b}$  today, because in yesterday's warm-up my performance  $\frac{\text{was better}}{c}$   $\frac{\text{than his}}{d}$  on three occasions.  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .
20. When I think about  $\frac{\text{the person}}{a}$  I'd like to be in ten years, I wonder if  $\frac{\text{this kind}}{b}$  of people  $\frac{\text{w hom}}{c}$  I now associate with  $\frac{\text{will change}}{d}$ .  $\frac{\text{No error}}{e}$ .

<b>A N S W E R</b>
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1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (e)
4. (a)
5. (c)
6. (d)
7. (e)
8. (e)
9. (a)
10. (c)
11. (a)
12. (b)
13. (b)
14. (d)
15. (b)
16. (a)
17. (c)
18. (a)
19. (b)
20. (b)

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