

PRACTICE SET 4: ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS

1. D Possessives

The word *their* indicates ownership. *They're* means "they are," while *there* indicates location. Neither of which would be appropriate in the underlined section of the sentence.

2. G Verb Tenses

The verb *lie* and its past tense form *lay* refer to something resting or reclining, while the verb *lay* and its past tense form *laid* refer to putting something down. The sentence should be reworded to say *the delight that lay ahead* because it is the past tense form of *lie*, so G is correct.

3. D Connecting and Transitional Words

After meeting a friend for Sunday breakfast is an introductory clause, which needs a comma to show that the main part of the sentence is about to begin. A connecting word such as *and*, in C, or *so*, in B, is not necessary here. D is correct.

4. F Semicolons

Semicolons can be used to join two related sentences. Using only a comma to separate the sentences would cause a run-on sentence, as would using a conjunction without a comma.

5. B Adverbs and Adjectives

The word *rebelliously* describes how the author *drove*, so it should be placed before the word it modifies, as in B. The other options are awkward and confusing.

6. J Redundancy

The reader can figure out that the author saw *many sights* during her garden visit. The underlined phrase should be deleted because it is redundant.

7. C Verb Tenses

The author is reflecting about an event that happened in the past, so a past tense verb should be used, C. As it is written in A, *am transporting* makes it seem as if the garden visit is happening right now, instead of in the past.

8. H Parallelism

Sentences should be parallel, so they will flow well. *What was the next occurrence* should be rewritten as *what happened*, H, to make it parallel with *what appeared*.

9. A Colons

Colons call attention to the words that follow them, as long as a complete sentence exists to the left of the colon. *The August afternoon was unusual* is a complete sentence, so a colon appropriately introduces the list that follows. The list also elaborates on the sentence to the left of the colon.

10. **G** Vague Words
As it is written, *some people* does not provide the reader with much information. Changing *people* to *Italian travelers* further explains the previous sentence in which the author mentioned overhearing Italian voices, so G is correct.
11. **B** Connecting and Transitional Words
The transitional word *furthermore* is used to introduce additional arguments or points, so it is not necessary in this sentence. The author is merely telling the reader what happened next during her adventure, so *furthermore* should be replaced with *then*, B.
12. **H** Periods, Question Marks, and Exclamation Points
Although exclamation marks should not be overused, the exclamation mark is appropriate in this sentence because the author is expressing a feeling of excessive joy. Exclamation marks end sentences, so the word *no*, H, should be capitalized.
13. **C** Semicolons
As it is written, the sentence is a run-on because it lacks either a semicolon or a comma followed by a conjunction. A semicolon is appropriate in this sentence because the second part of the sentence further explains the first part. This makes C correct.
14. **H** Passage Reorganization
As the passage is currently organized, paragraph 3 is confusing because it describes the author's sensory experience, but the reader does not find out the author's location until paragraph 4. By placing paragraph 3 after paragraph 4 in H, the reader discovers that the author is in a garden, which makes the essay more logical.
15. **A** Big Picture Purpose
This essay describes the author's experience at a botanical garden. She describes in detail the different sights, sounds, and smells of her garden visit, which fulfills the assignment. Therefore, A is correct.