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TABE 11 & 12 LANGUAGE PRACTICE ITEMS

1. Read the sentences.

One reason no one recognized her was because she had cut her hair.  
Since she was wearing dark glasses, people did not realize it was she.  
She did not speak, so no one realized it was she.

Which of these effectively combines the sentences into one sentence using appropriate parallel structure?

- A. No one recognized her because of short hair, her dark glasses hid her eyes, and not talking.
- B. No one recognized her because her hair was shorter, her dark glasses, and she did not say a word.
- C. No one recognized her because she had cut her hair, was wearing dark glasses, and said not a word.
- D. No one recognized her because her hair was cut, people did not realize it was she because of her dark glasses, and her silence.

2. Read the sentences.

Because I wanted to adopt a healthier lifestyle, I decided to abstain from fast foods and sugary soft drinks.

I looked and felt better after eliminating those harmful foods from my diet.

What does the word *abstain* mean as used in the first sentence?

- A. limit availability
- B. follow guidelines
- C. give up voluntarily
- D. develop a new habit



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3. Which sentence correctly uses a colon to introduce quoted words?

- A. "A house full of love has elastic walls": A saying Hank keeps in mind when his five children seem underfoot.
- B. A saying that Hank keeps in mind when his five children seem underfoot is: "A house full of love has elastic walls."
- C. Hank keeps in mind certain sayings when his five children seem underfoot, such as: "A house full of love has elastic walls."
- D. Hank keeps this saying in mind when his five children seem underfoot: "A house full of love has elastic walls."

4. Read the sentence.

Radical opinions often come from all kinds of people about geothermal energy that are unsupported by facts.

Which revision of the sentence is most appropriate and clear?

- A. Radical opinions are what people often have without facts about geothermal energy.
- B. Geothermal energy that people often have radical opinions about is unsupported by facts.
- C. Unsupported facts about geothermal energy often come from people with radical opinions.
- D. People often have radical opinions about geothermal energy that are unsupported by facts.



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**Read Sean's essay. Then answer question 5.**

Another important obligation of a U.S. citizen is jury duty. In the old days, they made this great deal called the Magna Carta. Ever since, folks get to have their very own jury. In the United States, a trial by jury is guaranteed in criminal cases by the Bill of Rights. A jury generally consists of twelve citizens. You select jurors from a group of people who I guess don't really want to be there! These people listen to the case against the accused and decide, based on the evidence, whether that person is guilty or not.

Because the decision is made by a jury of the accused's equals, it is considered fair. If the accused were at the mercy of the government or the individual judge, the process of judgement would be left vulnerable to personal prejudices and corrupt practices, such as bribery and intimidation.

**5.** Which of these sentences should Sean delete from his essay?

- A. Another important obligation of a U.S. citizen is jury duty.
- B. In the United States, a trial by jury is guaranteed in criminal cases by the Bill of Rights.
- C. You select jurors from a group of people who I guess don't really want to be there!
- D. Because the decision is made by a jury of the accused's equals, it is considered fair.



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## 6. Read the essay.

The market for cars that run on a combination of electricity and gas, called “hybrids,” and cars that run only on electricity, called “plug-ins,” has become crowded and confusing in the past few years. Several well established hybrid car models have been available for over ten years, and new hybrid versions of popular gas-only cars are in development. Since 2010, no fewer than six new models of plug-in cars have been introduced. What is the best choice for an environmentally conscious consumer?

Plug-in vehicles, which run solely on electricity stored in batteries, are newer to the market and, therefore, less familiar to consumers. These cars are not measured by miles per gallon, since they don't burn gallons of gas (and therefore create no greenhouse gas emissions). The defining statistic for most plug-ins is the range, or the number of miles that can be driven on a full charge. Most plug-ins that are widely available can travel between forty and ninety miles on a charge. In cities of the United States, typical car owners travel less than thirty miles a day—well within the single-charge range of plug-in vehicles. The overall cost of running a plug-in car depends on the cost of electricity, which varies from region to region. Environmentally conscious consumers might also consider whether the electricity that comes to their homes is generated by burning coal or from hydroelectricity.

Since many consumers are concerned about reliability and the long-term performance of new technologies, the ten-year record of success for hybrid cars is important. With the newer plug-in technology, there remains a greater possibility of unforeseen maintenance costs. Additionally, many consumers may prefer the flexibility of hybrids in terms of their unlimited range on gasoline power.

The writer needs to add a concluding paragraph. Which three sentences combine to create an effective conclusion?

- A. Gas-powered cars are still more popular than hybrids and plug-ins because they have more powerful engines.
- B. Buyers who typically drive less than forty miles a day and have low electricity costs should consider a plug-in vehicle.
- C. People prefer hybrids because they look better and have been available longer.
- D. On the other hand, people who are most concerned about reliability and range should probably purchase a hybrid.
- E. Since environmental and financial responsibility are the two main concerns of car buyers, plug-in cars are the better choice.
- F. In conclusion, there are two basic considerations to make before deciding on either of these new automobile technologies.



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**ANSWER KEY:**

1. C
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. B, D, F