

SAT GRAMMAR DRILLS: MODULE 2 FOCUS

Sheet B: Transitions Practice

Choose the best word or phrase to complete each sentence logically.

1. Many investors expected the stock to drop after the scandal; ____, it continued to rise.
A) consequently B) however C) likewise D) namely
2. The factory increased production in the first quarter. ____, output declined steadily over the next six months.
A) As a result B) For instance C) In contrast D) Additionally
3. Global warming is affecting weather patterns across the globe. ____, sea levels are rising at an accelerated pace.
A) Instead B) Nevertheless C) Similarly D) On the other hand
4. Julia forgot to set her alarm; ____, she missed the interview.
A) nevertheless B) as a result C) for example D) in contrast
5. I studied every night this week. ____, I still didn't do well on the test.
A) For instance B) Nevertheless C) Likewise D) Consequently
6. Some people fear artificial intelligence. ____, others see it as a tool for progress.
A) For example B) Conversely C) Subsequently D) Therefore
7. We arrived at the museum too late for the tour. ____, we explored the exhibits on our own.
A) In contrast B) Instead C) As a result D) Nevertheless
8. The article highlights the company's success in Europe. ____, it also details its struggles in Asia.
A) Therefore B) Similarly C) For instance D) In contrast
9. The rainforest is rich in biodiversity. ____, it is a vital part of the Earth's climate system.
A) Additionally B) Instead C) Nevertheless D) On the other hand
10. The team expected a difficult match. ____, they were surprised by how easily they won.
A) Similarly B) For example C) However D) Therefore

OFFICIAL TEST QUESTION:

In November 1934, Amrita Sher-Gil was living in what must have seemed like the ideal city for a young artist: Paris. She was studying firsthand the color-saturated style of France's modernist masters and beginning to make a name for herself as a painter. _____ Sher-Gil longed to return to her childhood home of India; only there, she believed, could her art truly flourish.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) Still,
 - B) Therefore,
 - C) Indeed,
 - D) Furthermore,
-

Sheet C: Parallelism & Comparison Practice

Choose the most grammatically consistent or logically valid version of the sentence.

1. Lily enjoys hiking in the mountains, kayaking in the bay, and ____ around town.
A) she rides her bike B) bike rides C) to bike D) biking
2. The documentary was not only informative but also ____.
A) it entertained the audience B) to be entertaining C) entertaining D) was entertaining
3. His goals include finishing college, starting a business, and ____ a nonprofit.
A) he wants to launch B) launching C) to launch D) launched
4. The movie was both exciting and ____.
A) it had humor B) had humor C) humorous D) was humorous
5. She prefers classical music to ____.
A) pop B) listening to pop C) to listen to pop songs D) she listens to pop music

6. The new software is faster, more accurate, and ____.
- A) easy to understand B) it's easier to use C) easier to use D) using it is easy
7. Unlike her older brother, who plays the guitar, Sarah ____.
- A) takes piano lessons B) is taking the piano C) is musically inclined D) to play violin
-

Answer Key

Sheet B: Transitions

1. B
2. C
3. C
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. C

Sheet C: Parallelism & Comparison

1. D
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. C
7. A

Root Word Guide (Latin & Greek Origins)

Below are common Greek and Latin roots that appear in advanced vocabulary. Use them to help decode unfamiliar words:

- **Luc/Lum** (*Latin*) – Light
 - *Example: Translucent* – allowing light to pass through
 - **Chron** (*Greek*) – Time
 - *Example: Anachronism* – something out of its proper time
 - **Phon** (*Greek*) – Sound
 - *Example: Cacophony* – a harsh, discordant sound
 - **Bene/Bon** (*Latin*) – Good
 - *Example: Benefactor* – someone who gives help or support
 - **Mal** (*Latin*) – Bad
 - *Example: Malicious* – intending to harm
 - **Graph/Gram** (*Greek*) – Write
 - *Example: Autograph* – a person's handwritten signature
 - **Port** (*Latin*) – Carry
 - *Example: Deport* – to carry away; banish
 - **Vid/Vis** (*Latin*) – See
 - *Example: Evident* – clearly seen or understood
 - **Ject** (*Latin*) – Throw
 - *Example: Eject* – to throw out
 - **Dict** (*Latin*) – Say
 - *Example: Dictate* – to say aloud with authority
-

LATIN ROOTS QUIZ — REVISED & ROOT-ALIGNED

1. What does the word *luscent* most likely describe?

(Root: *lucere* = to shine)

- A) A glowing light
- B) A rigid surface
- C) A cold wind
- D) A harsh smell

✅ Correct Answer: A

🧠 *luc-* = light

2. The word *discursive* most likely applies to someone who...

(Root: *currere* = to run)

- A) Avoids confrontation
- B) Speaks in a rambling, wandering way
- C) Displays calm wisdom
- D) Thinks in short, abrupt statements

✅ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *dis-* = apart, *currere* = run → "running apart" in thought

3. What is most likely the meaning of *conflagration*?

(Root: *flagrare* = to burn)

- A) A formal agreement
- B) A large destructive fire
- C) A coded message
- D) A windstorm

✅ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *con-* = together, *flagr-* = burn

4. A *perfidious* friend would be someone who is...

(*Root: *fides* = faith/trust; *per-* = through or false)

- A) Too trusting of others
- B) Likely to betray someone's trust
- C) Quiet and emotionally distant
- D) Confused about their own loyalties

✅ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *per-fides* = through/destroying faith → betrayal

5. The adjective *moribund* is best applied to something that is...

(Root: *mori* = to die)

- A) Rapidly spreading
- B) On the verge of dying or becoming obsolete
- C) Emotionally charged
- D) Just beginning to form

✅ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *mori-* = to die

6. What would *corporeal punishment* most likely involve?

(Root: *corpus* = body)

- A) Physical punishment
- B) Verbal correction
- C) Moral guidance
- D) Financial penalties

✅ Correct Answer: A

🧠 *corpus* = body → affecting the body

7. What kind of statement is considered *equivocal*?

(*Root: *vocare* = to call/speak; *aequus* = equal/on both sides)

- A) Clearly stated and direct
- B) Vague or deliberately ambiguous

- C) Warm and emotional
- D) Repeated and predictable

✓ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *aequus* + *voc-* = "equal voice" → double meaning

8. If something is described as *intractable*, it is likely...

(*Root: *trahere* = to drag/pull)

- A) Easy to negotiate
- B) Difficult to manage or control
- C) About to collapse
- D) Covered in layers

✓ Correct Answer: B

🧠 *in-* = not, *tract-* = pulled/handled

9. A *reclamation* project most likely aims to...

(*Root: *clamare* = to call; *re-* = back)

- A) Rescue or restore something
- B) Change how people communicate
- C) Criticize a political idea
- D) Refuse responsibility

✓ Correct Answer: A

🧠 *re-* = back, *clamare* = call → to call something back

10. An *interlocutor* in a debate is best described as...

(*Root: *loqui* = to speak; *inter-* = between)

- A) A participant in a conversation
- B) A note-taker
- C) A silent observer
- D) A timekeeper

✓ Correct Answer: A

🧠 *inter-loqu-* = between speakers

✓ ANSWER KEY:

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. A
10. A

MATCHING QUESTION — LATIN ROOTS

Directions: Match each Latin root and its meaning to the correct vocabulary word. Write the correct letter on the line.

Latin Root & Meaning Vocabulary Word Options

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 lucere = to shine | A) conflagration |
| 2 trahere = to pull/drag | B) interlocutor |
| 3 flagrare = to burn | C) intractable |
| 4 loqui = to speak | D) luscious |
| 5 mori = to die | E) moribund |
-

Answer Key:

- 1 → D
- 2 → C
- 3 → A
- 4 → B
- 5 → E

Vocabulary in Context – Module 2 (Advanced)

Directions: Choose the best word or phrase to complete the sentence. Each question tests your ability to use context clues and roots to decode meaning.

1. The scientist's theory, while initially dismissed as _____, ultimately transformed the field of particle physics.
 - A) mundane
 - B) quixotic
 - C) feasible
 - D) redundant
2. Although he was known for his charm, his _____ motives eventually surfaced.
 - A) altruistic
 - B) disingenuous
 - C) magnanimous
 - D) zealous
3. Her remarks were both _____ and offensive, causing widespread outrage.
 - A) trenchant
 - B) laudatory
 - C) conciliatory
 - D) vapid
4. The book's thesis was undermined by a series of _____ claims, none of which were supported by credible sources.
 - A) empirical
 - B) spurious
 - C) poignant
 - D) salient
5. The _____ rise of the startup drew the attention of global investors.

- A) dilatory
 - B) meteoric
 - C) taciturn
 - D) ponderous
6. The debate devolved into a _____ of accusations, none of which addressed the original issue.
- A) panacea
 - B) litany
 - C) hiatus
 - D) moratorium
7. His tone was _____, dripping with sarcasm that masked his true opinion.
- A) earnest
 - B) reverent
 - C) sardonic
 - D) candid
8. The student's essay was praised for its _____ insights into human psychology.
- A) prosaic
 - B) insipid
 - C) incisive
 - D) superficial
9. Even though the policy sounded reasonable, it had many _____ consequences that disadvantaged vulnerable groups.
- A) negligible
 - B) laudable
 - C) inadvertent
 - D) egregious
10. As the storm intensified, the captain issued a _____ warning to all crew members.

- A) tentative
 - B) perfunctory
 - C) vehement
 - D) placid
-

Answer Key

Vocabulary Module 2:

1. B
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. C
9. C
10. C

SAT Punctuation Drill: Correct the Errors

Semicolons

1. I wanted to go to the party, however, I was too tired.
2. She loves chocolate; but she avoids sweets on weekdays.

Comma before coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS)

3. He ran to the store but forgot to buy milk.
4. The sky was dark, and the storm began suddenly.

Comma after dependent clause

5. Because the movie was long I left early.
6. When she finished her homework she went to bed.

Commas around non-essential info

- 7. My teacher Mrs. Collins is very strict.
- 8. The book *The Great Gatsby* was written in 1925.

Comma splice (no comma between independent clauses)

- 9. The sun was bright, the birds were singing.
- 10. I finished my homework, I watched a movie.

Comma between subject and verb

- 11. The dog, barked loudly all night.
- 12. My brother, enjoys playing soccer.

Comma between compound elements (linked by and)

- 13. We visited Paris, and London last summer.
- 14. She likes reading, and painting.

Comma before/after preposition

- 15. The gift was from, my aunt.
- 16. They traveled to, Spain last year.

Comma before or after “that”

- 17. The story was interesting, that I read yesterday.
- 18. I heard the news that, shocked everyone.

Comma between adjectives that can't be reversed

- 19. The old, wooden bridge was unsafe.
- 20. She wore a bright, silk dress.

Comma before open parenthesis

- 21. We met the author, (who was very friendly) at the event.
- 22. The house, (which was recently renovated) sold quickly.

Comma between adjective and noun

- 23. He drove the fast car through the streets.
- 24. They built a large, house by the lake.

Commas and titles

- 25. The scientist Dr. Lee won the award.
- 26. Marie Curie the famous chemist discovered radium.

Colons

- 27. Here are my favorite fruits apples, bananas, and oranges.
- 28. She made a promise she would always be honest.

Answer Key & Explanations for Punctuation Correction Drill

1. Incorrect: I wanted to go to the party, however, I was too tired.
Correct: I wanted to go to the party; however, I was too tired.
Explanation: Use a semicolon before a conjunctive adverb like *however*.
2. Incorrect: She loves chocolate; but she avoids sweets on weekdays.
Correct: She loves chocolate, but she avoids sweets on weekdays.
Explanation: Use a comma before coordinating conjunction *but*, not a semicolon.
3. Incorrect: He ran to the store but forgot to buy milk.
Correct: He ran to the store, but forgot to buy milk.
Explanation: Use a comma before coordinating conjunction joining two independent clauses.
4. Incorrect: The sky was dark, and the storm began suddenly.
Correct: The sky was dark and the storm began suddenly.
Explanation: When two subjects share the same verb, no comma is needed before *and*.
5. Incorrect: Because the movie was long I left early.
Correct: Because the movie was long, I left early.
Explanation: Use a comma after a dependent clause that comes first.
6. Incorrect: When she finished her homework she went to bed.
Correct: When she finished her homework, she went to bed.
7. Incorrect: My teacher Mrs. Collins is very strict.
Correct: My teacher, Mrs. Collins, is very strict.
Explanation: Use commas around non-essential appositives.
8. Incorrect: The book The Great Gatsby was written in 1925.
Correct: The book, *The Great Gatsby*, was written in 1925.
9. Incorrect: The sun was bright, the birds were singing.
Correct: The sun was bright; the birds were singing.
Explanation: Comma splice — use semicolon or period to separate two independent clauses.
10. Incorrect: I finished my homework, I watched a movie.
Correct: I finished my homework. I watched a movie.

11. Incorrect: The dog, barked loudly all night.
Correct: The dog barked loudly all night.
Explanation: No comma between subject and verb.
12. Incorrect: My brother, enjoys playing soccer.
Correct: My brother enjoys playing soccer.
13. Incorrect: We visited Paris, and London last summer.
Correct: We visited Paris and London last summer.
Explanation: No comma between compound nouns joined by *and*.
14. Incorrect: She likes reading, and painting.
Correct: She likes reading and painting.
15. Incorrect: The gift was from, my aunt.
Correct: The gift was from my aunt.
Explanation: No comma before or after prepositions.
16. Incorrect: They traveled to, Spain last year.
Correct: They traveled to Spain last year.
17. Incorrect: The story was interesting, that I read yesterday.
Correct: The story that I read yesterday was interesting.
Explanation: No comma before *that*.
18. Incorrect: I heard the news that, shocked everyone.
Correct: I heard the news that shocked everyone.
19. Incorrect: The old, wooden bridge was unsafe.
Correct: The old wooden bridge was unsafe.
Explanation: No comma between adjectives that cannot be reversed.
20. Incorrect: She wore a bright, silk dress.
Correct: She wore a bright silk dress.
21. Incorrect: We met the author, (who was very friendly) at the event.
Correct: We met the author (who was very friendly) at the event.
Explanation: No comma before open parenthesis.
22. Incorrect: The house, (which was recently renovated) sold quickly.
Correct: The house (which was recently renovated) sold quickly.

23. Incorrect: He drove the fast, car through the streets.

Correct: He drove the fast car through the streets.

Explanation: No comma between adjective and noun.

24. Incorrect: They built a large, house by the lake.

Correct: They built a large house by the lake.

25. Incorrect: The scientist Dr. Lee won the award.

Correct: The scientist, Dr. Lee, won the award.

Explanation: Use commas around non-essential titles after names.

26. Incorrect: Marie Curie, the famous chemist discovered radium.

Correct: Marie Curie, the famous chemist, discovered radium.

27. Incorrect: Here are my favorite fruits apples, bananas, and oranges.

Correct: Here are my favorite fruits: apples, bananas, and oranges.

Explanation: Use a colon to introduce a list.

28. Incorrect: She made a promise she would always be honest.

Correct: She made a promise: she would always be honest.

READING

✓ MAIN POINT

Passage Excerpt:

"Although the gecko is often praised for its sticky feet, allowing it to cling to walls and ceilings, recent studies have shifted attention to the creature's tail. Researchers now believe that the tail functions not only as a balance aid but also as a failsafe parachute when the gecko falls."

Question:

What is the main point of the text?

- A) Researchers found new uses for the gecko's tail.
- B) The gecko's sticky feet help it cling to surfaces.
- C) Scientists are divided about how geckos survive falls.
- D) The gecko is known more for its feet than its tail.

Correct Answer: A

✓ RHETORICAL PURPOSE

Passage Excerpt:

"In 2015, after years of heated debate, the town council finally voted to preserve the lighthouse, citing its cultural significance and potential as a tourist attraction."

Question:

Why does the author include the detail about the 2015 vote?

- A) To illustrate the timeline of the lighthouse's construction
- B) To suggest that town councils are influenced by economic motives
- C) To show a resolution to a long-standing controversy
- D) To question the value of preserving old structures

Correct Answer: C

✓ RHETORICAL FUNCTION

Passage Excerpt:

"Critics argue that automation reduces job availability. However, this view ignores how automation has historically created new industries and roles, from software development to machine maintenance."

Question:

What role does the sentence "However, this view ignores how automation has historically created new industries and roles..." play in the paragraph?

- A) It introduces a new topic
- B) It refutes a counterargument
- C) It offers historical background
- D) It summarizes the main idea

Correct Answer: B

 STANDARD COMMAND IN EVIDENCE

Passage Excerpt for both questions below:

"Students who attended schools with later start times reported feeling more alert and showed higher academic performance. In a study across six districts, those with an 8:30 AM start time had a 12% improvement in test scores."

Question 1:

Which choice best supports the claim that later school start times benefit students academically?

- A) Students who attended schools with later start times reported feeling more alert.
- B) A study across six districts showed a 12% improvement in test scores with an 8:30 AM start time.
- C) Early school hours often conflict with teenagers' natural sleep cycles.
- D) Teachers also reported improved morale in schools with later start times.

Correct Answer: B

Question 2:

Which choice best supports the claim that students feel better during the school day when school starts later?

- A) Students who attended schools with later start times reported feeling more alert.
- B) Test scores improved by 12% in schools starting at 8:30 AM.
- C) Later school start times reduced traffic congestion around schools.
- D) Attendance improved slightly in schools with later start times.

Correct Answer: A



ADVANCED COMMAND IN EVIDENCE

Passage Excerpt (for both questions):

"In the early 20th century, researchers dismissed octopuses as antisocial creatures, prone to aggression and solitude. However, a 2017 study found that when exposed to MDMA—a compound known for promoting social behavior in humans—octopuses unexpectedly displayed increased physical contact, even extending their arms in what resembled hugs. Some scientists now believe this behavior points to a more complex neurological architecture than previously assumed."

Question 1:

Which choice best supports the claim that octopuses might have an underestimated capacity for social behavior?

- A) In the early 20th century, researchers dismissed octopuses as antisocial creatures.
- B) Octopuses displayed increased physical contact after being exposed to MDMA.
- C) MDMA is a compound known for promoting social behavior in humans.
- D) Some scientists believe the behavior resembles hugging.

Correct Answer: B

Question 2 (evidence pair):

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) "In the early 20th century, researchers dismissed octopuses as antisocial creatures..."
- B) "However, a 2017 study found that when exposed to MDMA... even extending their arms..."
- C) "Some scientists now believe this behavior points to a more complex neurological architecture..."
- D) "MDMA—a compound known for promoting social behavior in humans..."

STANDARD INFERENCE

Passage Excerpt for both questions below:

"During the drought, Lake Mead's water levels fell so dramatically that boat ramps were left stranded hundreds of feet from the waterline. Tourists stood on cracked mudflats, once submerged, where fish skeletons now lay exposed."

Question 1:

What can be reasonably inferred about the severity of the drought?

- A) The drought has affected wildlife migration patterns.
- B) The lake's reduced levels are part of a seasonal trend.

- C) The drought has drastically changed the lake's appearance.
- D) Tourists caused damage to the lakebed.

Correct Answer: C

Question 2:

What does the author most likely suggest about the tourists?

- A) They are surprised by the lake's transformation.
- B) They are contributing to the lake's decline.
- C) They are researchers documenting the event.
- D) They are unaware of the drought's cause.

Correct Answer: A



ADVANCED INFERENCE

Passage Excerpt:

"The artist's studio was a study in contradictions: jars of brushes meticulously labeled and stacked beside half-finished canvases strewn haphazardly across the floor. A jazz record skipped softly in the background, as if refusing to move forward until the painter resolved his own uncertainties."

Question:

What can reasonably be inferred about the painter's emotional state?

- A) He is completely confident in his artistic direction.
- B) He is torn between order and creative disorder.
- C) He is trying to impress visitors to the studio.
- D) He is frustrated with the limitations of jazz music.

Correct Answer: B



DSAT-STYLE PAIRED PASSAGE

Text 1

Social historian Lila Sandford contends that nostalgia is not a longing for the past itself but for an imagined version of it. In her view, nostalgia emerges more often during periods of instability, when people project ideals onto previous decades. "We sanitize the past," she writes, "not because it was better, but because the present feels uncertain." Sandford

believes that understanding this tendency helps explain recurring retro trends in fashion, entertainment, and politics.

Text 2

Sociologist Trent Dwyer agrees that nostalgia becomes more visible during uncertain times but challenges the idea that it's purely escapist. He argues that nostalgia can serve as a tool for cultural critique. "Looking back," Dwyer notes, "is often a way of saying we've lost something meaningful. The goal isn't to retreat but to recover." He views nostalgia not as fantasy, but as a starting point for reimagining the future.

Question 1

Based on the texts, how would Dwyer (Text 2) most likely respond to Sanford's claim that nostalgia is a projection of idealized memories?

- A) By agreeing that nostalgia reflects distortion but arguing that it can inspire constructive reflection
- B) By asserting that nostalgia always reflects factual memories, not imagined ones
- C) By arguing that nostalgia is irrelevant to cultural trends or collective values
- D) By claiming that nostalgia only functions as a form of escapism in times of personal hardship

Correct Answer: A

Question 2

Which choice best describes a difference between the perspectives of Sanford (Text 1) and Dwyer (Text 2)?

- A) Sanford sees nostalgia as reactive and distorting, while Dwyer sees it as potentially visionary
- B) Sanford views nostalgia as a form of entertainment, while Dwyer views it as a psychological weakness
- C) Sanford believes nostalgia is fading in modern culture, while Dwyer believes it is on the rise
- D) Sanford thinks nostalgia is a threat to social stability, while Dwyer sees it as a sign of cultural decline

Correct Answer: A

Question 3

Which choice best summarizes what the two authors would most likely agree on?

- A) Nostalgia tends to increase during periods of social or political uncertainty**
- B) Nostalgia should be encouraged as a tool for shaping political policies**
- C) Nostalgia prevents societies from making meaningful progress**
- D) Nostalgia is rooted in accurate, shared memories of past decades**

Correct Answer: A