

Sentence Structure Subtest

This Subtest has the type of sentence structure items found on the ACT. If you don't know an answer, eliminate the choices you know are incorrect, then guess. Circle the number of any guessed answer. Check pages 54–55 for answers and explanations.

INSTRUCTIONS: Certain words or phrases in the following passage are underlined and numbered. There is a corresponding item for each underlined portion. Each item offers three suggestions for changing the underlined portion to conform to standard written English or to make it understandable or consistent with the rest of the passage. If the underlined portion is not improved by one of the three suggested changes, mark NO CHANGE.

Choose the best answer to each question based on the passage. Then fill in the appropriate circle on the answer grid.

1 A B C D	7 A B C D	13 A B C D
2 F G H J	8 F G H J	14 F G H J
3 A B C D	9 A B C D	15 A B C D
4 F G H J	10 F G H J	16 F G H J
5 A B C D	11 A B C D	17 A B C D
6 F G H J	12 F G H J	18 F G H J

The Olympic Games are a major international event featuring summer and winter sports¹ thousands of athletes participate in a variety of competitions. The Games are currently held every two years. Summer and Winter Olympic Games.² The ancient Olympic Games were held in Olympia, Greece from³ the 8th century B.C. to the 5th century⁴ A.D., in the late 19th century, Olympic festivals were inspired by Pierre, Baron⁵ de Coubertin, to revive the Games. He founded the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894 two years⁶ later, the modern Olympic Games were established in Athens. The IOC has since become the governing body of the Olympic Movement, whose structure⁷ is defined by the Olympic Charter.

1. A. NO CHANGE
B. sports, thousands
C. sports; thousands
D. sports and thousands
2. F. NO CHANGE
G. Summer, and Winter Olympic games.
H. Summer and Winter Olympic games;
J. There are Summer and Winter Olympic games.
3. A. NO CHANGE
B. Olympia. Greece, from
C. Olympia, Greece. From
D. Olympia, Greece; from
4. F. NO CHANGE
G. century A.D. In the
H. century A.D. in the
J. century A.D.: in the

The Olympic Movement looked at the world's ⁸
changing circumstances with great caution. There
⁸
had to be adjustments, ⁹ some included the creation
of the Winter Games, the Paralympic Games for
athletes with physical disabilities. The Youth
¹⁰
Olympic Games for teenage athletes. The IOC
also had to accommodate the Games to the 20th
century, and the Games shifted from amateurism
¹¹
to the participation of professional athletes.
The growing importance of the mass media
¹²
created the issue of corporate sponsorship.
¹²
Observers knew that the Games were changing their
¹³
spirit with their commercialism.
¹³

Although the Olympic Movement currently
comprises international sports federations (ISFs).
¹⁴
There are committees for each Olympic Games.
¹⁴
The IOC chooses the host city, which is then
¹⁵
responsible for organizing the Games. There
¹⁵
are specific events contested at each
Olympic Games; each event is also determined
¹⁶
by the IOC. While the celebration of the
Games encompasses many symbols. The real
¹⁷
focus of the Games is on the athletes. More
than 13,000 athletes compete at the Summer
and Winter Games. The awards are made to
¹⁸
the athletes as gold, silver, and bronze
¹⁸
medals at an awards ceremony.
¹⁸

5. A. NO CHANGE
B. The Games were inspired by Pierre, Baron de Coubertin, to revive the Olympic festivals.
C. Pierre, Baron de Coubertin, was inspired by Olympic festivals to revive the Games.
D. To inspire the Games, Pierre, Baron de Coubertin, revived the Olympic festivals
6. F. NO CHANGE
G. in 1894, two
H. in 1894? Two
J. in 1894. Two
7. A. NO CHANGE
B. Olympic Movement. Whose
C. Olympic Movement; whose
D. Olympic Movement whose
8. F. NO CHANGE
G. The world looked at the Olympic Movement's changing circumstances with great caution.
H. The Olympic movement and the world's changing circumstances looked on with great caution.
J. The Olympic Movement looked with great caution at the world's changing circumstances.
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. adjustments; some
C. adjustments some
D. adjustments: some
10. F. NO CHANGE
G. disabilities. As well as the
H. disabilities, and the
J. disabilities. Along with the
11. A. NO CHANGE
B. century: and the
C. century and the
D. century, the
12. F. NO CHANGE
G. The growing importance of the mass media, created the issue of corporate sponsorship.
H. The growing importance of the mass media; created the issue of corporate sponsorship.
J. The growing importance of the mass. Media created the issue of corporate sponsorship.

13. A. NO CHANGE
B. the Games' spirit was changing their commercialism.
C. the Games' commercialism was changing their spirit.
D. the Games were changing their spirit and their commercialism.
14. F. NO CHANGE
G. (ISFs); there
H. (ISFs), there
J. (ISFs)? There
15. A. NO CHANGE
B. The IOC is chosen by the host city, which is then responsible for organizing the Games.
C. The IOC chooses the host city which is then responsible for organizing the Games.
D. The host chooses the IOC, which is then responsible for organizing the Games.
16. F. NO CHANGE
G. Olympic Games, each event
H. Olympic Games and each event
J. Olympic. Games and each event
17. A. NO CHANGE
B. symbols, the real
C. symbols; the real
D. symbols: the real
18. F. NO CHANGE
G. The awards are made at an awards ceremony as gold, silver, and bronze medals to the athletes.
H. The awards of gold, silver, and bronze medals are made to the athletes at an awards ceremony.
J. The awards are made to the athletes at an awards ceremony of gold, silver, and bronze medals.

(Answers on pages 54–55)

ACT-TYPE QUESTIONS Misplaced Modifiers and Shifts in Construction (pages 46–47)

1. **C**
Sue is the one who was scared, not the sea.
2. **J**
She was on the way home, not the foghorn.
3. **C**
The boat has green paint; the boat and the green paint are not two missing items.
4. **F**
No change.
5. **C**
The announcement issued the warning.
6. **F**
No change.
7. **B**
Sue is peering with one eye. Neither the peephole nor the figure has one eye.
8. **F**
No change.
9. **A**
No change.
10. **G**
Sue is crying with delight.

SENTENCE STRUCTURE SUBTEST (pages 48–50)

1. **C**
There are two independent clauses in this sentence. Choice C is correct because it separates these two independent clauses with a semicolon. Other correct choices are *sports. Thousands* or *sports, and thousands*. Choices B and D do not reflect any of these correct methods.
2. **J**
Summer and Winter Olympic Games is a sentence fragment that cannot stand on its own. J is the correct choice because it rewrites the sentence fragment as a sentence. G leaves the underlined text as a fragment. H is incorrect because a semicolon should be used to connect two independent clauses, not to connect a sentence fragment and an independent clause.
3. **A**
No change. The sentence is correct and expresses a complete thought. The other choices change the second part of the sentence into an incorrect sentence fragment.

4. **G**
Choice G correctly begins a new sentence with the words *In the . . .* The other choices all result in a run-on.

5. **C**
The modifier in the original sentence is misplaced. Choice C correctly rewrites the sentence to show that it was the festivals that inspired Baron de Coubertin. B is incorrect because it makes no sense that the Games were inspired to revive festivals. Choice D changes the intent of the original sentence by saying that the festivals were revived to inspire the games.

6. **J**
There are two independent clauses. Independent clauses must be joined by a semicolon, or by a comma and a conjunction, or rewritten as two separate sentences. Choice J solves the sentence structure problem by rewriting each clause as a separate sentence. Choice G is incorrect because a comma cannot be used to join two independent clauses. Choice H is incorrect because the first independent clause is a statement, not a question.

7. **A**
No change. In the original sentence, a comma correctly sets off the appositive phrase from the beginning of the sentence. Choice B creates a sentence fragment beginning with *Whose*. Choice C is incorrect because a semicolon is used to join two independent clauses, not to set off an introductory phrase. Choice D is incorrect because a comma is needed to set off the appositive.

8. **J**
The modifiers in the sentence are misplaced. Choice J is correct because it clarifies that it was the Olympic Movement that looked with great caution. Choice G incorrectly indicates that it was the world that looked on with great caution. Choice H incorrectly states that both the world and the Olympic Movement looked on with great caution.

9. **B**
There are two independent clauses. Choice B shows one correct way to separate these independent clauses—with a semicolon. Other correct methods include joining the independent clauses with a comma and a conjunction or rewriting the clauses as two separate sentences. Choices C and D are incorrect because neither one includes an appropriate way to write two independent clauses.

10. H

The original wording creates a sentence fragment. Among the choices given, only H changes the fragment into a sentence by joining it to the list of adjustments in the previous sentence. Choices G and J just create even longer sentence fragments.

11. A

No change. The two independent clauses are correctly separated by a comma and the conjunction *and*. Choice B is incorrect because a colon with a conjunction is not the appropriate way to join independent clauses. C is incorrect because a comma does not precede the conjunction *and*, as it must to join two independent clauses. Choice D is incorrect since there is no conjunction following the comma.

12. F

No change. The sentence consists of a single independent clause, so no further punctuation is required. Choice G is incorrect because a comma should not be used to break up a single independent clause. Choice H is incorrect because the semicolon is breaking up a single independent clause and creating a sentence fragment. J creates a sentence fragment, *The growing importance of the mass*.

13. C

The modifier is misplaced. The intent of the sentence is to show that the Games' commercialism was creating the change, not the spirit's commercialism. Choice C clarifies that point, moving *commercialism* next to the word *Games'*. Choices B and D incorrectly alter the meaning of the sentence.

14. H

The "sentence" beginning with *Although* is a fragment. Choice H shows one acceptable solution to that problem. It incorporates the fragment in the following sentence. Choice G is incorrect because a semicolon should not be used to join a fragment and

an independent clause. Choice J does not correct the sentence fragment, and it uses a question mark after a statement.

15. A

The intent of the sentence is that the IOC chooses the host city, and the host city is responsible for organizing the games. The phrase *which is then responsible for organizing the Games* should modify *host city*. Choice A best makes this clear by placing *host city* before *which*. Choices B and D both incorrectly indicate that the IOC organizes the Games. Choice C is incorrect because the dependent clause *which is then responsible for organizing the Games* needs to be set off with a comma.

16. F

No change. Two independent clauses are correctly joined by a semicolon. Choice G is incorrect because it joins two independent clauses with a comma. Choice H is incorrect because *and* would have to be preceded by a comma to correctly join the two independent clauses. J creates a nonsensical sentence.

17. B

The "sentence" beginning with *While* is a dependent clause. It cannot stand on its own as a sentence. Choice B correctly incorporates the dependent clause in the following independent clause. Choice C is incorrect because a semicolon does not correctly join the dependent clause to the independent clause. Choice D is incorrect because a colon should not be used to join a dependent clause and an independent clause.

18. H

Gold, silver, and bronze refer to the medals, not to the athletes or the awards ceremony. Choice H rewrites the sentence to clarify that point. Choices G and J are incorrect because they do not put *gold, silver, and bronze* close to the word *awards*.