

ACT English Study Pack

Quick Review · Focused Practice · Flashcards

10 questions · suggested time: 7 minutes

How to use this pack. Start with the review, complete the practice before reading the key, then cut out or cover the flashcard answers for self-testing. These are original, unofficial practice materials. ACT is a registered trademark of ACT Education Corp.; no endorsement is implied.

Quick Review

Production of Writing. Check the passage's purpose, organization, unity, and development. A sentence belongs only when it advances the point the passage is making.

Knowledge of Language. Prefer precise, concise wording that fits the passage's tone. Remove repetition only when the meaning stays complete.

Conventions of Standard English. Find the sentence's subject and main verb. Distinguish complete clauses from phrases before choosing commas, semicolons, or periods.

A reliable edit. Read the whole sentence, test the answer in context, and keep the choice that is both correct and best for the writer's purpose.

Focused Practice

Choose the best revision or response for each item.

- The collection of field notes ____ on the table.
A. are
B. is
C. were
D. have been
- The trail was steep, the hikers reached the overlook before noon. Which choice best corrects the sentence?
A. NO CHANGE
B. steep; the hikers
C. steep the hikers
D. steep, and reaching
- The report includes the same conclusion twice. Which edit is most concise?
A. The report includes the same conclusion twice.
B. The report repeats its conclusion.
C. The report has a conclusion that is repeated again twice.
D. The conclusion of the report is included two times.
- The city planted shade trees along the sidewalk. ____, afternoon temperatures near the bus stop fell. Choose the best transition.
A. For example
B. As a result
C. Meanwhile
D. Instead
- Nora packed a notebook, a water bottle, and ____ before the field trip.
A. to bring a camera
B. a camera
C. bringing a camera
D. she brought a camera

6. The museum's new exhibit ____ visitors to compare maps from three centuries.
- A. allow
C. have allowed
- B. allows
D. were allowing
7. Which sentence best introduces a paragraph about how volunteers restored a wetland?
- A. Wetlands are found in many parts of the world.
C. Some people enjoy hiking near water.
- B. The volunteers began by removing invasive plants and reopening a blocked stream.
D. The word wetland has several meanings.
8. The librarian asked students to return their books ____ Friday.
- A. at
C. among
- B. by
D. during
9. Which choice correctly punctuates the sentence? The seedlings needed three things ____ sunlight, water, and room to grow.
- A. things, sunlight
C. things: sunlight
- B. things; sunlight
D. things sunlight
10. After reviewing the survey, the committee ____ its recommendation.
- A. revise
C. revised
- B. revises
D. revising

Answer Key and Explanations

1. **B.** The subject is the singular noun collection. The phrase of field notes does not change the subject.
2. **B.** A semicolon correctly joins two independent clauses.
3. **B.** “Repeats” expresses the idea directly without redundant wording.
4. **B.** The second sentence describes an outcome of planting trees, so “As a result” shows cause and effect.
5. **B.** The list uses parallel noun phrases: notebook, bottle, and camera.
6. **B.** The singular subject exhibit takes the singular verb allows.
7. **B.** This sentence directly introduces the restoration process described in the paragraph.
8. **B.** “By Friday” correctly sets a deadline.
9. **C.** A colon can introduce a list after a complete clause.
10. **C.** The past-tense context calls for “revised.”

Flashcards

Cover the right column, answer aloud, and then check. For print-and-cut use, trim along the rules.

Front / term	Back / meaning
Independent clause	A group of words with a subject and verb that can stand alone.
Comma splice	Two independent clauses joined only by a comma; revise with a period, semicolon, or conjunction.
Subject-verb agreement	A verb agrees with its true subject, not a nearby noun in a prepositional phrase.
Concise wording	Use the fewest words that express the complete intended meaning.
Parallel structure	Use matching grammatical forms for items in a series or comparison.
Transition	A word or phrase that makes the relationship between ideas clear.
Semicolon	Joins two closely related independent clauses.
Colon	Introduces a list or explanation after a complete clause.
Modifier	A word or phrase that describes another part of the sentence; place it beside what it modifies.
Pronoun antecedent	The noun a pronoun refers to; the reference should be clear and consistent.
KEEP question	Judge whether the material supports the passage’s purpose and development.
DELETE question	Delete only when the material is unnecessary or distracts from the main point.