

## SAT Applied Verbal Test pages 40-42 Writing Skills and Critical Reading

1. A is correct. "Never have" should read "never have visited."
2. B is correct. "Lay," the past tense form of the intransitive verb "lie," should be used instead of "laid," the past tense of the transitive verb "lay." The clothes are not being placed on the floor by someone, thus they "lie" on the floor as opposed to being "laid" there.
3. D is correct. Because only two boys are being compared, the superlative "best" cannot be used. "Better" should replace "best."
4. B is correct. This sentence describes a past unreal event, so (taking a step backward from the past) we need the past perfect: "had had." "Would have had" is impossible because you can't use the modal "would" in both the "if" clause (if he had had the training) and the result clause (he would have been more successful).  
  
\*Modal verbs are used to express ideas such as possibility, intention, obligation and necessity. Examples: CAN, COULD, WILL WOULD, SHALL, SHOULD, OUGHT TO, DARE, and NEED.
5. B is correct. Despite the parenthetical details ("together with all the members of his family"), the verb references only Mr. Martin. "Is," the singular form of the verb, is correct.
6. C is correct. "Adopt," which means to accept or implement, should be replaced with "adapt," which means to conform to different conditions.
7. A is correct. "Saw" should be replaced with "would have seen" in order to maintain consistent verb tense.
8. C is correct. Although "like" may be used in casual speech, "as" is the correct way to introduce a subordinate clause.
9. B is correct. "Walking in late" is a gerund—the -ing form of a verb used as a noun. Because it's treated as a noun, "him" should be changed to "his."

10. E is correct. The sentence contains no errors.

11. B is correct. "Ingenuous," which means candid, should instead read "ingenious," which means highly inventive or creative.

12. D is correct. "Misnomer" which means an incorrect or inappropriate name, should instead read "misconception," which means a false belief.

13. E is correct. This sentence contains no errors.

14. A is correct. The correct tense of the verb is "began."

15. C is correct. Since the reference is to a single person, "they" should be replaced with "he" or "she."

16. C is correct. To maintain consistent (and correctly conjugated) verb tense, the underlined portion should read "gradually reduced."

17. A is correct. To maintain consistent verb tense, the underlined portion should be changed to "I attended."

18. A is correct. This sentence contains no errors.

19. B is correct. Almost unable to see is the equivalent of hardly being able to see.

20. E is correct. "Me," the objective pronoun is correct. (Who doesn't know her? Everyone except Ruth and me.)

21. C is correct. "Whomever," the objective form, is correct. (The gods first make mad whomever they wish to destroy.)

22. E is correct. "Their" correctly references "people."

23. C is correct. Both verb phrases must be the same to preserve parallelism.
24. C is correct. Although the original version sounds correct, this phrasing is more appropriate.
25. D is correct. Books can be counted. They are referred to by number, not amount.
26. E is correct. (3P, First S) "The distance between the theoretician and reality is perhaps nowhere greater than in the discipline of cosmology, the student of the past and future of the universe."
27. B is correct. (First P, 2S) "The builders then gather those data, try to fit them within the framework, and, in the process, subject the designs to scientific evaluation." and.....(2P, 2S) "Theoreticians sometimes fancy themselves to be working at the pinnacle of their profession and may view the plodding experimentalists below with a certain condescension."
28. B is correct. (2P)
29. A is correct. (3P, 2S) "In this field there is precious little evidence available."
30. B is correct. (Last P, 2S) "Theoretical cosmologists and observational astronomers alike have reason to believe that there is much more matter in space than we have yet been able to see."
31. E is correct. (Lines 11-14) "The first of these assumptions is that artists are produced by their society, and that the people—the masses—are the source of their inspiration."
32. C is correct. (Lines 20-24) "If they are to fulfill their role, they must gather the courage to sift the ashes of their frustrations, nightmares, and inhibitions in order to salvage the essence of these experiences. And they must analyze their joys and jublations in order to extract the significance therein."
33. D is correct. (Lines 27-29) ..."they alone are capable of helping us reconcile our exalted images of ourselves with the truth." Choices A, B, C, and E all involve taking an

active role. Based on the author's opinion, artists comment on truths and realities to help us gain a more realistic perception of our lives.

34. B is correct. (Lines 29-34) "And because we are trapped between self-imposed image and reality, we are unable to release our full energies in the identity quest; we are prisoners of the undiscovered self."

35. A is correct. Roman numeral I is correct because the second paragraph reveals two assumptions that likely motivate Baldwin as a writer: first, that people are the source of artists' inspiration; and second, that exploitation and experience are central to the author's creative work.

Roman numeral III is eliminated because the fifth paragraph reveals that critics researched Baldwin, but did not "rate" him.

Roman numeral II is eliminated because there was no mention of any literary predecessors that might have shaped Baldwin's style.