

EDITING EXAMINATION -- Sample

Sentence Editing – Long Answer

Instructions: For each sentence, underline the error(s) and re-write the sentence correctly. Please note that the sentences may contain more than one mistake. If you feel the sentence is correct, write “*correct*” in the space after **corrected sentence**.

1. What is typical of chocolate lovers are that they think nothing of spending alot of money on there passion.

3 ERRORS:

- (a) incorrect subject-verb agreement- the subject *typical* is singular and the verb *to be* should be singular as well
- (b) incorrect spelling - a lot is two separate words
- (c) incorrect word choice – the possessive pronoun *their* should have been used

CORRECTED SENTENCE – What is typical of chocolate lovers is that they think nothing of spending a lot of money on their passion.

2. After stopping to read the map, the tourist’s car pulled away from the side of the road.

1 ERROR:

- (a) dangling participle – Who read the map? The tourist’s car? The subject of the gerund phrase is illogical.

CORRECTED SENTENCE – After stopping to read the map, the tourist drove his car away from the side of the road. **OR** After stopping to read the map, the tourist pulled away from the side of the road in his car. **OR** any other logical sentence.

Paragraph Editing

Directions: Choose the one best answer to each question.

(1) Translation plays an increasingly important role in and for society. (2) Coping with this demand, more and more highly qualified translators are needed. (3) Translators gain a professional qualification by a variety of methods, e.g. in specifically designed university programs at undergraduate level or at postgraduate level, by passing specific examinations, or by attending workshops organized by professional associations. (4) There is widespread agreement among translation scholars and translator trainers that knowledge of two languages is not enough for performing the task of translation up to a professional standard. (5) What is required is a specific translation competence, which takes time to develop.

1. Sentence (1): Translation plays an increasingly important role in and for society. How should this sentence be changed?

- a) Add "the" before "society".
- b) Change "plays" to "has played".
- c) Add "The " before "Translation".
- d) No change is necessary.

2. Sentence (2): Coping with this demand, more and more highly qualified translators are needed. How should the underlined part of this sentence be changed?

- a) Change "coping" to "To cope".
- b) Change "with" to "on".
- c) Change "demand" to "demands".
- d) No change is necessary.

3. Sentence (5): What is required is a specific translation competence, which takes time to develop. The most effective revision of this sentence would involve which of the following?

- a) Change "competence" to "competency".
- b) Insert ", however," after "which".
- c) Change "required" to "requiring".
- d) Insert "lot of" before "time".

Solutions: 1 d; 2 a; 3 b
