Digital SAT Transitions: Six Original Practice Questions

Choose the transition that best expresses the relationship between the two ideas. The answer key explains the logical relation and why each other option does not fit. Read the full two-sentence passage. Identify the relationship before choosing A, B, C, or D. Then review the explanation for every option.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

1. Choose the transition

City planners expected rooftop test plots to have higher daytime temperatures than nearby ground plots. ____, their temperature loggers showed nearly identical daytime averages.

- **A.** For example
- **B.** However
- **C.** Consequently
- **D.** Similarly

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

2. Choose the transition

Silt blocked two fish passages below the ridge. ____, fewer trout reached the upstream spawning area that season.

- **A.** As a result
- **B.** In contrast
- **C.** For instance
- **D.** Meanwhile

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

3. Choose the transition

The archive protects fragile maps in several ways. ____, staff store selected sheets in acid-free folders.

- **A.** For example
- **B.** Nevertheless
- **C.** Meanwhile
- **D.** Instead

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

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Questions 4–6

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

4. Choose the transition

Conservators assembled the sculpture’s support frame in the workshop. ____, they installed its panels inside the gallery.

- **A.** In contrast
- **B.** Instead
- **C.** Likewise
- **D.** Afterward

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

5. Choose the transition

Reaching the observatory required an extra hour of walking. ____, the research team chose the ridge trail because it avoided disturbing a nesting site.

- **A.** For instance
- **B.** Even so
- **C.** Similarly
- **D.** Next

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

6. Choose the transition

A bird-survey notebook records each species observed at a station. ____, it includes a separate line for the time and weather.

- **A.** By contrast
- **B.** Accordingly
- **C.** In addition
- **D.** Meanwhile

Answer: _____ Relationship: _____

Answer explanations

Questions 1–3

1. Contrast between the expected higher temperatures and the observed similar averages.

B. However. The sentence contrasts the expected higher daytime temperatures on the rooftop plots with the nearly identical averages the loggers recorded.

- **A.** For example introduces an illustration of a preceding general point. The second sentence reports a result that contrasts with the expectation, not an example of it.
- **C.** Consequently signals a result caused by the preceding idea. The planners' expectation did not cause the temperatures the loggers recorded.
- **D.** Similarly signals a parallel case. No second comparable case is given; the sentence presents an expectation and a different observation.

2. Cause and effect.

A. As a result. Blocked passages are the stated cause; fewer trout reaching the spawning area is the resulting effect.

- **B.** In contrast introduces an opposing idea. The second sentence follows from the blocked passages instead of opposing them.
- **C.** For instance introduces an example of a general idea. The second sentence describes an effect, not an example.
- **D.** Meanwhile marks simultaneous events. The sentence relationship is causal, not simply about events happening at the same time.

3. Example or illustration.

A. For example. Storing selected sheets in acid-free folders is one specific method illustrating the archive's general preservation approach.

- **B.** Nevertheless signals a concession or contrast. The folder practice does not run counter to protecting maps.
- **C.** Meanwhile signals simultaneous events. No second concurrent event is described.
- **D.** Instead indicates a replacement choice. The second sentence gives one method that illustrates the archive's general approach; it does not replace another method.

Answer explanations

Questions 4–6

4. Sequence in time.

D. Afterward. The frame was assembled first, and the panels were installed later.

- **A.** In contrast introduces an opposing idea, but the two actions are consecutive steps in the installation.
- **B.** Instead indicates a replacement choice. The second action is a later step, not an alternative to assembling the frame.
- **C.** Likewise signals a similar example. The sentence gives the next event in the same project, not a comparison.

5. Concession: the team kept the route despite its added travel time.

B. Even so. The route took longer, yet the team selected it because it protected the nesting site. The second sentence continues despite the drawback.

- **A.** For instance introduces an example. The second sentence states the team’s choice and reason, not an example of a general claim.
- **C.** Similarly compares this situation with another one. No comparison is present.
- **D.** Next marks a later step in a sequence. The relationship is a drawback followed by a decision that accepts it for another benefit.

6. Addition of related information.

C. In addition. The second sentence adds another kind of information recorded in the notebook: time and weather.

- **A.** By contrast signals a difference. Recording time and weather does not oppose recording species.
- **B.** Accordingly signals a result or action that follows from the first statement. The second sentence adds another notebook feature rather than a consequence.
- **D.** Meanwhile links simultaneous events. The sentences list information fields in the same notebook; they do not describe two events happening at once.

Next practice step

Label a missed relationship, explain why each rejected choice fails, and try another item using that relationship.

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