



ACT/SAT Writing

TOP FIVE WRITING TIPS

THOUGHT #1

THE TEST ALWAYS PREFERS _____

LANGUAGE. OFTEN, THE _____
ANSWER IS THE CORRECT ONE.

THOUGHT #2

IF TWO ANSWERS _____
_____,
CROSS THEM BOTH OUT-- THEY CAN'T BOTH BE RIGHT, SO THEY MUST BOTH BE WRONG!

1 A SENTENCE IS COMPLETE IF IT HAS A _____ AND _____.

- Separate complete thoughts with a _____, _____, or _____.
- Do not put one comma between a subject and its verb.

2 VERB _____ IS DECIDED BY OTHER PARTS OF SENTENCE OR PARAGRAPH.

- Match conjugation to _____ (plural or singular?)
- Match conjugation to _____ in sentence (past? present?)

3 READ _____ WORDS IN THE QUESTION.

- The correct answer answers THAT question.

4 TRANSITIONS ARE DETERMINED BY THE TWO SENTENCES THEY RELATE.

- Read the sentence before and the sentence the transition is in.
- Determine the relationship... does the second sentence offer a contrast? example? continuation? no relation?
- Insert the appropriate transition.

5 SIMILAR IDEAS SHOULD BE _____

IN A SENTENCE OR PARAGRAPH.

ACT/SAT Writing

Flamingo Tutoring, LLC



THAN VS THEN

THAN-

THEN-

WHO VS WHOM

WHO-

WHOM-

ILLUSION VS ALLUSION

ILLUSION-

ALLUSION-

AFFECT VS EFFECT

AFFECT-

EFFECT-

ITS VS IT'S

ITS-

IT'S-

ITS'-

PRACTICE

1. He asked who / whom came to the door.
2. The dog chased it's / its / its' tail.
3. She did not let the teasing effect / affect her.
4. I would rather take the test than / then study any more.
5. He ran up on stage; its / it's / its' curtain fell.
6. He didn't know who / whom the candy is for: its / it's / its' mine.
7. They achieved the effect / affect of thunder with a tin sheet.
8. The dog barked once than / then went back to sleep.