Name _____ Date _____

Parallel Structure: Lists, Correlative Conjunctions and Comparisons

Directions: Read the student's draft feature. In each question, the underlined words should match the form of the words they are listed, paired or compared with. Pick the revision that makes them match, or keep the draft's wording if it already does.

Saturdays with the Trail Crew

Every other Saturday from April to October, a white van leaves the Pine Hollow High parking lot at seven in the morning and heads north to Larkspur Ridge State Park. Inside are a dozen sleepy students, a crate of work gloves and a cooler that someone always forgets to fill. They belong to the school's trail crew, a volunteer organization that has kept the park's footpaths open since 2019. Most of them originally joined for a line on a college application, and most of them stayed because they discovered that they genuinely enjoyed the work.

The work is considerably less glamorous than it sounds. On a typical Saturday, our responsibilities include clearing fallen branches from the trail, hauling gravel in wheelbarrows and to build stone steps on the steepest slopes. Before anyone touches a shovel, Ms. Odell, the ranger who supervises our crew, requires every volunteer to wear long sleeves, carry two liters of water and stay on the marked paths. The regulations exist for good reasons. Hiking the ridge trail with a full pack is considerably harder than to hike the creek trail with an empty one. Unfortunately, the ridge is where most of the difficult work is located.

Last spring the crew took on its most ambitious project yet. A violent storm had washed out part of the creek trail and cracked the old wooden footbridge, so the park closed that section for most of May. The volunteers not only repaired the bridge but also the railing beside it. By noon on the first day, we had cleared the debris, the gravel was spread and set the first new step. The work was both exhausting and satisfying. When the trail officially reopened in June, a family with two small children was the first to cross the bridge, and nobody on the crew has stopped talking about it since.

Much of the credit belongs to the crew leader, a senior named Kenji Mori. He brings three qualities to every Saturday: patience, knowledge and he has a sense of humor. On especially busy days, volunteers can work on either the new steps or the drainage ditches, and Kenji checks on both groups every hour. He also has strong opinions about scenery. According to Kenji, the view from the new overlook is considerably wider than the old bench by the creek, and he will defend that opinion to anyone who stops to listen.

Our goals for this season are to finish the creek trail, to replace the faded trail signs and building a bench at the new overlook. None of it requires previous experience, only a free Saturday and a pair of sturdy boots. The van leaves at seven.

1. Which revision of the underlined portion makes the list of responsibilities grammatically parallel?

"On a typical Saturday, our responsibilities include clearing fallen branches from the trail, hauling gravel in wheelbarrows and to build stone steps on the steepest slopes."

A. building stone steps
B. build stone steps
C. Keep it as written.
D. we build stone steps

2. The ranger gives every volunteer three separate instructions. How should the underlined portion read?

"Before anyone touches a shovel, Ms. Odell, the ranger who supervises our crew, requires every volunteer to wear long sleeves, carry two liters of water and stay on the marked paths."

A. Keep it as written.
B. a promise to stay on the marked paths
C. staying on the marked paths
D. that volunteers stay on the marked paths

3. Which revision of the underlined portion makes both halves of this comparison parallel?

"Hiking the ridge trail with a full pack is considerably harder than to hike the creek trail with an empty one."

A. hiking the creek trail
B. hike along the creek trail
C. the creek trail
D. Keep it as written.

4. Choose the revision in which *not only* and *but also* each appear directly before a noun phrase naming something the volunteers repaired.

"The volunteers not only repaired the bridge but also the railing beside it."

A. repaired not only the bridge but also the railing
B. Keep it as written.
C. not only repaired the bridge but also it repaired the railing
D. not only repaired the bridge but also repairing the railing

5. By noon the crew had accomplished three separate tasks. Which revision of the underlined portion lines them up in matching form?

"By noon on the first day, we had cleared the debris, the gravel was spread and set the first new step."

A. to spread the gravel
B. spreading the gravel
C. Keep it as written.
D. spread the gravel

6. The writer pairs two descriptive words to characterize the work. How should the underlined portion read?

"The work was both exhausting and satisfying."

A. both exhausting and a source of satisfaction

B. both exhausting and it was satisfying

C. Keep it as written.

D. both exhausting and satisfied everyone

7. The writer lists the qualities Kenji contributes to the crew. Which revision of the underlined portion completes the list in matching form?

"He brings three qualities to every Saturday: patience, knowledge and he has a sense of humor."

A. humorous

B. to keep everyone laughing

C. a sense of humor

D. Keep it as written.

8. Which version puts a noun phrase naming a work site immediately after each marker, *either* and *or*?

"On especially busy days, volunteers can work on either the new steps or the drainage ditches, and Kenji checks on both groups every hour."

A. either work on the new steps or the drainage ditches

B. Keep it as written.

C. work on either the new steps or they can dig the drainage ditches

D. work on either the new steps or to dig the drainage ditches

9. Which revision of the underlined portion makes Kenji's comparison logical and parallel?

"According to Kenji, the view from the new overlook is considerably wider than the old bench by the creek, and he will defend that opinion to anyone who stops to listen."

A. the old bench by the creek is

B. sitting quietly on the old bench by the creek

C. Keep it as written.

D. the view from the old bench by the creek

10. Which revision of the underlined portion completes the list of seasonal goals in matching form?

"Our goals for this season are to finish the creek trail, to replace the faded trail signs and building a bench at the new overlook."

A. we will build a bench

B. to build a bench

C. a bench to be built

D. Keep it as written.