

Wilderness Survival and Punctuation Practice

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part A. Reading Passage

Read the following nonfiction passage about wilderness survival. As you read, think about the skills and careful planning needed to thrive in the wild—just like Brian in Hatchet.

Surviving in the Wild

In the heart of a vast, untamed forest, a young explorer set out on a solo journey. He carried only a sturdy backpack, a reliable knife, and a few essential supplies. The land was both beautiful and unforgiving. As night fell, he built a small shelter from fallen branches and leaves. The cold wind blew steadily, yet he remained calm and focused. With careful observation he gathered firewood and built a campfire that warmed him throughout the long, dark hours. His experience taught him that preparation, resourcefulness, and patience are the keys to survival in the wild.

Part B. Punctuation Review

Answer the following questions by choosing the best answer from the options provided.

Part 1: Multiple Choice – Complete Sentences and Run-ons

- 1. Which of the following is a complete sentence?**
 - A. The explorer built a shelter it was dark.
 - B. The explorer built a shelter and he rested for the night.
 - C. The explorer built a shelter, and he rested for the night.
 - D. The explorer built a shelter and he rested for the night.
- 2. Which of the following is written correctly?**
 - A. He collected water from the stream he planned to purify it.
 - B. He collected water from the stream, and planned to purify it.
 - C. He collected water from the stream, and he planned to purify it.
 - D. He collected water from the stream and he planned to purify it.
- 3. Which of the following is a run-on sentence?**
 - A. The forest was quiet, and the night was calm.
 - B. The forest was quiet the night was calm.
 - C. The forest was quiet; the night was calm.
 - D. The forest was quiet because the night was calm.

4. **Which option correctly edits the sentence fragment or run-on in the following passage?**

Passage:

He ventured into the woods he needed to find shelter. The rain started.

A. He ventured into the woods because he needed to find shelter.

B. He ventured into the woods; he needed to find shelter. The rain started.

C. The sentence "He ventured into the woods he needed to find shelter" is a run-on. It can be corrected to: "He ventured into the woods since he needed to find shelter."

D. The passage contains no errors.

Part 2: Sentence Identification – Correct or Fragment

For each sentence below, circle **A** if it is a complete, correct sentence or **B** if it is a fragment.

1. The fire crackled under the stars. A. Correct B. Fragment
2. While the wind whispered. A. Correct B. Fragment
3. He examined his map. A. Correct B. Fragment
4. After the storm subsided. A. Correct B. Fragment
5. The path was illuminated by moonlight. A. Correct B. Fragment
6. Because he was prepared. A. Correct B. Fragment
7. They set up camp near the river. A. Correct B. Fragment

Part 3: Sentence Combining

1. **Combine the following sentences appropriately:**

"The rain poured down. The explorer sought refuge under a large tree."

A. The rain poured down and the explorer sought refuge under a large tree.

B. The rain poured down; the explorer sought refuge under a large tree.

C. Because the rain poured down, the explorer sought refuge under a large tree.

D. Both B and C.

2. **Recognize the combined sentence:**

A. The map was torn. The path was unclear.

B. The map was torn; however, the path was clear.

C. The map was torn but the path was clear.

D. Both B and C.

3. **Choose the appropriate punctuation correction for the run-on sentence below:**

"His skills were honed and he practiced daily he knew the forest well."

A. His skills were honed, and he practiced daily; he knew the forest well.

B. His skills were honed; and he practiced daily, he knew the forest well.

C. His skills were honed, and he practiced daily. He knew the forest well.

D. His skills were honed: and he practiced daily he knew the forest well.

4. **Combine the following sentences using an appropriate transition:**

"I planned to follow the river. It suddenly flooded."

- A. I planned to follow the river, however it suddenly flooded.
- B. I planned to follow the river, and it suddenly flooded.
- C. I planned to follow the river, so it suddenly flooded.
- D. I planned to follow the river, but it suddenly flooded.

5. **Combine the following sentences using an appropriate conjunction and punctuation:**

"The shelter was small. It provided protection from the cold wind."

- A. The shelter was small and it provided protection from the cold wind.
- B. The shelter was small, and it provided protection from the cold wind.
- C. The shelter was small; it provided protection from the cold wind.
- D. The shelter was small but it provided protection from the cold wind.

Instructions for Students:

- 1. Read the passage carefully.
- 2. Complete the multiple-choice questions by circling the correct answer.
- 3. For the sentence identification section, circle the letter that correctly identifies each sentence.
- 4. For the sentence combining section, choose the best option to combine the ideas clearly and correctly.