Scientific English Grammar Mastery

English Grammar · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which sentence correctly employs the subjunctive mood when discussing the hypothetical application of the laws of thermodynamics?

A) If the entropy was to decrease, the system would violate the second law.

B) If the entropy were to decrease, the system would violate the second law.

C) If the entropy had decreased, the system would have been violating the second law.

D) If the entropy will decrease, the system violates the second law.

2. Identify the sentence that uses a correct elliptical construction regarding the biological process of mitosis.

A) Mitosis results in two identical cells, whereas meiosis in four unique ones.

B) Mitosis results in two identical cells, whereas meiosis does four unique ones.

C) Mitosis results in two identical cells, whereas meiosis in four unique ones does.

D) Mitosis results in two identical cells, whereas meiosis do four unique ones.

3. Which sentence uses the correct relative pronoun and preposition placement when describing the properties of the Higgs boson?

A) The particle to which scientists refer to is the Higgs boson.

B) The particle which scientists refer to is the Higgs boson.

C) The particle to which scientists refer is the Higgs boson.

D) The particle that scientists refer is the Higgs boson.

4. Select the option that correctly uses a participle phrase to describe the behavior of light in a vacuum.

A) Traveling at a constant velocity, physicists measure light at 299,792,458 m/s.

B) Traveling at a constant velocity, light is measured by physicists at 299,792,458 m/s.

C) Having traveled at a constant velocity, light is measured by physicists at 299,792,458 m/s.

D) Traveling at a constant velocity, the measurement of light is 299,792,458 m/s by physicists.

5. Choose the correct usage of a gerund phrase as the subject in a statement about geological time.

A) Measuring the age of Earth using radiometric dating requires specialized equipment.

B) To measure the age of Earth using radiometric dating require specialized equipment.

C) Measurement of the age of Earth using radiometric dating require specialized equipment.

D) Being measuring the age of Earth using radiometric dating requires specialized equipment.

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6. Which sentence correctly utilizes the past perfect tense to sequence two scientific observations?

A) After the chemist has observed the reaction, she recorded the gas emission.
B) After the chemist observed the reaction, she has recorded the gas emission.
C) After the chemist had observed the reaction, she recorded the gas emission.
D) After the chemist was observing the reaction, she had recorded the gas emission.

7. Identify the grammatically correct sentence featuring a restrictive relative clause regarding planetary orbits.

A) The planet, that orbits the star closest to the center, experiences extreme heat.
B) The planet that orbits the star closest to the center experiences extreme heat.
C) The planet, which orbits the star closest to the center, experiences extreme heat.
D) The planet who orbits the star closest to the center experiences extreme heat.

8. Select the sentence that correctly uses the causative 'have' regarding the preparation of a specimen.

A) The biologist had the student to prepare the microscope slide.
B) The biologist had the student prepare the microscope slide.
C) The biologist had the student preparing the microscope slide.
D) The biologist had the student prepared the microscope slide.

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