W-1, Exercise 1—Appropriate Words

Multiple Choice

In each of the following sentences, replace the underlined phrases or clauses with wording that is most appropriate for academic writing. If the underlined material is most appropriate, select *c. No change*.

1. Foremost among the daunting challenges that confront us is unifying our nation.

a. Foremost among the major hassles that face us

b. The most serious challenge we face

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

2. When you suffer from severe depression, maintaining a positive outlook is difficult.

a. keeping your sunny side up

b. establishing a sense of euphoria over an extended period of time

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

3. After giving each other a lot of grief, the Founding Fathers reached agreement on the Constitution.

a. debating strenuously among themselves for numerous months

b. months of heated debate

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

4. Air-traffic controllers sometimes leave their jobs because the enormous pressure of their work envelops them every single moment.

a. the stress of the work becomes overwhelming.

b. they can’t hack the pressure 24/7.

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

5. Before we started the relay race, our coach said that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

a. it was imperative for every team member to contribute to the best of her ability.

b. every team member is essential, not just the fastest runners.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

6. Harvard University will continue to be in the forefront of higher education.

a. will yield to no other in delineating the future

b. will always be one of the hottest schools

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

7. The preponderance of the results from research studies tell us that obesity is on the rise among U.S. children.

a. Researchers who have their act together

b. Most results from research studies

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

8. During last night’s enactment of *Othello,* the tremendous forbearance exhibited by the audience astounded me.

a. the patience of the audience

b. the audience was so cool that it

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

9. After the United States dropped atomic bombs on Japan at the end of World War II, some of the scientists who helped develop the bomb had serious reservations about the work they had done.

a. wondered why in the world they had ever gotten involved in such a project.

b. wished they had come to their senses sooner.

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

10. People who believe the grass is always greener somewhere else may continually change jobs or spouses or places to live.

a. feel that a vastly improved life is just around the corner

b. are never satisfied with what they have

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

W-1, Exercise 2—Appropriate Words

Multiple Choice

In each of the following sentences, replace the underlined phrases or clauses with wording that is most appropriate for academic writing. If the underlined material is most appropriate, select *c. No change*.

1. The head of the department was bent out of shape because the engineers had missed every deadline.

a. was upset

b. expressed his extreme displeasure

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

2. The order promulgated by the judge piqued my curiosity.

a. The order that the judge hit them with

b. The judge’s order

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

3. Anyone who has tried to win the presidency knows that campaigning requires mental and physical stamina.

a. requires that candidates be in extraordinary psychological and athletic condition.

b. is not a piece of cake by any means.

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

4. When parents don’t discipline their children, the parents’ behavior is tantamount to relinquishing their responsibility.

a. the same as letting kids be in charge of the whole ball of wax.

b. irresponsible.

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

5. In sociology, the term *mob psychology* refers to the way people get hot under the collar in an emotional group situation.

a. get carried away

b. become less inhibited

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

6. Attention to detail is the epitome of skills for an architect.

a. essential

b. of the utmost importance

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

7. Benjamin Franklin wrote many clever sayings, such as “a penny saved is a penny earned.”

a. had some cool advice,

b. gave us a repository of dozens of memorable lines,

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

8. Psychologists who have clients with severe mental illnesses often tell them to establish a broad, supportive social network throughout their community.

a. look to friends and family for support.

b. hang out with people who will help them.

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

9. Veronica failed the chemistry exam because she neglected to learn the required subject matter.

a. didn’t get her act together soon enough.

b. didn’t study for the test.

c. No change.

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

10. Chicago’s lake front, architecture, and museums attract millions of visitors each year.

a. make tons of people want to see what the city has to offer.

b. draw a tremendous quantity of visitors to the city year after year.

c. No change.

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-1. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=36>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-1.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-1-appropriate-words.html>

W-2a-b, and W-2d - Precise Words

Multiple Choice

In each of the following sentences, replace the underlined phrase or clause with wording that is more precise or imaginative. If the underlined phrase is the best choice, select *c. No change*.

1. Franklin Roosevelt’s famous line, “the only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” became important to his presidency.

a. was relevant to

b. became the touchstone of

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=40>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2d.html>

2. Roosevelt’s New Deal program was great for the American people, bringing color and light to replace the gloom of the Great Depression.

a. was a tremendous benefit for

b. strengthened

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=40>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2d.html>

3. After Roosevelt put people back to work and initiated Social Security, his popularity soared.

a. he became extremely popular.

b. he was idealized by the American public.

c. No change.

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a and W-2b. <<http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a and L-2b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2b.html>

4. During World War II, Roosevelt did a good job as a speaker and inspired the nation with his “fireside chats” on the radio.

a. spoke eloquently, inspiring the nation

b. was an excellent speaker, and he helped people

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a and W-2b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a and L-2b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2b.html>

5. Stricken with polio at the age of 39, Roosevelt struggled with his disability throughout his presidency.

a. Because he had been diagnosed with polio years earlier,

b. Since he came down with polio while in his thirties,

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a and W-2b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a and L-2b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2b.html>

6. In those days, the White House staff could keep secret the seriousness of a president’s health problems.

a. In the 1930s and 1940s,

b. Long before the present era,

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=39>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2b.html>

7. While America’s young men fought overseas, women did most of the heavy work, changing forever their role in the workforce.

a. left their jobs as housewives to go to factories,

b. joined the assembly lines as riveters and welders,

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a and W-2b. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a and L-2b.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2b.html>

8. Often advising her husband on the plight of the poor, Eleanor Roosevelt was a champion of women’s rights as well.

a. was a fighter for

b. championed

c. No change

ANS: b

REF: The correct answer is *b.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

9. The story of the Roosevelt marriage is about a strained personal relationship coupled with a mutual dedication to country.

a. reveals

b. is a narrative about

c. No change

ANS: a

REF: The correct answer is *a.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2a. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=38>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2a.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2a.html>

10. When Franklin Roosevelt died in 1945, Americans mourned the loss of a beloved leader who had lifted them out of a depression.

a. tried to do everything for them

b. supported them

c. No change

ANS: c

REF: The correct answer is *c.*

In *The Norton Field Guide to Writing*, see W-2d. <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/bullock2\_readings\_handbook\_ebook/welcome.asp?page=40>

In *The Little Seagull Handbook*, see L-2d.

<http://wwnorton.com/college/english/write/LSH/full/l-2d.html>