

Rhetorical Skills Drill

[1]

The golden age of television means many things to many people, and to the small band of actors, writers, and directors

who would rise to prominence in the late 50s and early 60s,

without a doubt it meant the “live” television shows such as *Playhouse 90*, where many of them initially worked for the first time.

[2]

[1] Each week, a new “teleplay” was created from scratch—written, cast, rehearsed, and performed. [2] *Playhouse 90* was truly a remarkable training ground for the young talents. [3] Such future luminaries as Paddy Chayefsky, Marlon Brando, and Patricia Neal worked long hours honing to a knife edge their craft. [4] In some cases, when there were problems with the censors, it would have to be created twice. [5]

[3]

Despite the frantic pace, accidents happened frequently. David Niven once revealed that, during an early show, he inadvertently locked his costume in his dressing room two minutes before air time. As the announcer read the opening credits, the sound of axes splintering the door to Niven’s dressing room could be heard in the background. [7]

1. A. NO CHANGE

B. thus to

C. but to

D. In addition to

2. F. NO CHANGE

G. prominent famousness

H. famous prominence

J. famousness

3. A. NO CHANGE

B. initially for the first time worked.

C. for the first time worked initially.

D. worked for the first time.

4. F. NO CHANGE

G. to an edge

H. edges

J. OMIT the underlined portion.

5. Which of the following sequences would best organize the sentences in Paragraph 2?

A. NO CHANGE

B. 1, 2, 4, 3

C. 1, 4, 3

D. 2, 3, 1, 4

6. A. NO CHANGE

G. Due to

H. In spite of

J. Thus

7. If the writer wished to make the tone of Paragraph 3 more lighthearted, she could change the word “accidents” to

A. NO CHANGE

B. casualties

C. mishaps

D. grave errors

Question 9 asks about the preceding passage as a whole.

8. Which of the following would best summarize the passage as a whole?
- F. The golden age of television meant many things to many different people.
 - G. Early television shows such as *Playhouse 90* provided the training ground where talented new entertainers could learn their craft.
 - H. The golden age of television had many amusing moments.
 - J. The rise of Paddy Chayefsky, Marlon Brando, and Patricia Neal helped to make *Playhouse 90* a success.
9. Which of the following sequences of paragraphs would make the structure of the passage as a whole the most logical?
- A. NO CHANGE
 - B. 3, 2, 1
 - C. 3, 1, 2
 - D. 2, 3, 1