

## PSAT Writing and Language Practice Test 2

### Passage I—My Childhood

I grew up in a large family, as being<sup>1</sup> the oldest of six siblings, and I have many wonderful memories from my childhood. I am very close to most of my siblings and I treasure my relationships with them. But when I have had<sup>2</sup> my own family someday, it won't be as big as the one I grew up in. As much as my large family was full of love, and as much as I learned about sharing, giving, and patience, I think having too many kids strains the parents and the oldest child, both in terms of emotion and money.<sup>3</sup>

When I think back on my early years with my family, I remember playing with my siblings and grandparents. (2) However, I<sup>4</sup> don't remember spending a whole lot of time with my mother and father. (3) They were always around, but they were always (4) My mother was always cooking, cleaning, nurs- ing, changing a diaper, shopping, or had to take<sup>5</sup> someone to baseball practice, and my father was always working. (5) He needed over- time whenever he could get it; and weekends<sup>6</sup>were always full of projects around the house.

(6) Money was also a constant worry for my family. (7) With so many children, our budget was always tight. (8) Back-to-school shopping was always a stressful time as we<sup>7</sup> all wanted the latest fashions, but we could only get a few things. My younger siblings lived in hand-me- downs. We shopped at bargain stores and often got clothes that we didn't really like simply because they were on sale and cheap.<sup>8</sup> Our house always needed repairs, and there was never enough money to keep up.

And yet another<sup>9</sup> problem with large families is that the older siblings always end up being a babysitter.<sup>10</sup> Like it or not (and most of the time I didn't like it), I had to watch my younger brothers and sisters. At age six, I could change a diaper like a pro. I was getting my brothers and sisters dressed, giving them breakfast, and helped them get ready for bed.<sup>11</sup> I don't want to give the impression that I didn't have a happy childhood; I most definitely did. I was loved as much as my parents could love me, and I have had<sup>12</sup> wonderful fun with my broth- ers and sisters. But I always wanted a little more time with Mom and Dad, and I often resented having so much responsibility. I wished my mom wasn't always so tired and my dad didn't have to work so much. Because I want to be there more for my kids, because I want<sup>13</sup> them to be kids throughout their childhood, I plan to have a much smaller family.

1. A. NO CHANGE  
B. family, was  
C. family, I was  
D. family as

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. A. NO CHANGE  
B. will have

- C. had
- D. have

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. A. NO CHANGE  
B. in terms of both emotion and money.  
C. both emotionally and financially.  
D. both in emotion and money.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. A. NO CHANGE  
B. However I  
C. But,  
D. I however

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. A. NO CHANGE  
B. needed to  
C. had to bring  
D. taking

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. A. NO CHANGE  
B. it, and weekends  
C. it, weekends  
D. it and weekends

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. A. NO CHANGE  
B. time; we  
C. time: we  
D. time. As we

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

8. A. NO CHANGE  
B. simply because they were on sale, and cheap.  
C. simply for they were on sale and cheap.  
D. simply, because they were on sale and cheap.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

9. A. NO CHANGE  
B. And, yet another  
C. Yet, another  
D. Another

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

10. A. NO CHANGE  
B. a babysitter.  
C. being babysitters.  
D. as a babysitter.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

11. A. NO CHANGE  
B. and I helped them get ready for bed.  
C. and helping them get ready for bed.  
D. helped them get ready for bed.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

12. A. NO CHANGE  
B. would have  
C. was having  
D. had

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

13. A. NO CHANGE  
B. and because I want  
C. I want  
D. and for

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

14. The writer wishes to separate the second paragraph into two paragraphs. The best place to do so would be between
- A. sentences 4 and 5.  
B. sentences 5 and 6.  
C. sentences 6 and 7.  
D. sentences 7 and 8.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

15. The writer wishes to change the title of this passage to "Family." This change
- A. should not be made. The passage contains more of the writer's thoughts about childhood than about family.

- B. should not be made. The title is unimportant.
- C. should be made. The passage contains more of the writer's thoughts about family than about childhood.
- D. should be made. The title should not be longer than one word.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Answers Keys and Explanation Link

<https://gotestprep.com/psat-writing-and-language-test/>