Sentence Skills Accuplacer
There are 20 Sentence Skills questions of two types. The first type is sentence correction questions that require an understanding of sentence structure. These questions ask you to choose the most appropriate word or phrase to substitute for the underlined portion of the sentence. The second type is construction shift questions. These questions ask that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown while maintaining essentially the same meaning as the original sentence. Within these two primary categories, the questions are also classified according to the skills being tested. Some questions deal with the logic of the sentence, others with whether or not the answer is a complete sentence, and still others with the relationship between coordination and subordination.

Sentence Skills Sample Questions
Directions for questions 1–5
Select the best version of the underlined part of the sentence. The first choice is the same as the original sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose the first answer.

1. Stamp collecting being a hobby that is sometimes used in the schools to teach economics and social studies.
   A. being a hobby that is
   B. is a hobby because it is
   C. which is a hobby
   D. is a hobby

2. Knocked sideways, the statue looked as if it would fall.
   A. Knocked sideways, the statue looked
   B. The statue was knocked sideways, looked
   C. The statue looked knocked sideways
   D. The statue, looking knocked sideways,

3. To walk, biking, and driving are Pat’s favorite ways of getting around.
   A. To walk, biking, and driving
   B. Walking, biking, and driving
   C. To walk, biking, and to drive
   D. To walk, to bike, and also driving

4. When you cross the street in the middle of the block, this is an example of jaywalking.
   A. When you cross the street in the middle of the block, this
   B. You cross the street in the middle of the block, this
   C. Crossing the street in the middle of the block
   D. The fact that you cross the street in the middle of the block

5. Walking by the corner the other day, a child, I noticed, was watching for the light to change.
   A. a child, I noticed, was watching
   B. I noticed a child watching
   C. a child was watching, I noticed,
   D. there was, I noticed, a child watching

Directions for questions 6–10
Rewrite the sentence in your head following the directions given below. Keep in mind that your new sentence should be well written and should have essentially the same meaning as the original sentence.
6. It is easy to carry solid objects without spilling them, but the same cannot be said of liquids.
Rewrite, beginning with
Unlike liquids,
The next words will be
A. it is easy to
B. we can easily
C. solid objects can easily be
D. solid objects are easy to be

7. Although the sandpiper is easily frightened by noise and light, it will bravely resist any force that threatens its nest.
Rewrite, beginning with
The sandpiper is easily frightened by noise and light,
The next words will be
A. but it will bravely resist
B. nevertheless bravely resisting
C. and it will bravely resist
D. even if bravely resisting

8. If he had enough strength, Todd would move the boulder.
Rewrite, beginning with
Todd cannot move the boulder
The next words will be
A. when lacking
B. because he
C. although there
D. without enough

9. The band began to play, and then the real party started.
Rewrite, beginning with
The real party started
The next words will be
A. after the band began
B. and the band began
C. although the band began
D. the band beginning

10. Chris heard no unusual noises when he listened in the park.
Rewrite, beginning with
Listening in the park,
The next words will be
A. no unusual noises could be heard
B. then Chris heard no unusual noises
C. and hearing no unusual noises
D. Chris heard no unusual noises

Answer Key: 1-D, 2-A, 3-B, 4-C, 5-B, 6-C, 7-A, 8-B, 9-A, 10-D

For Accuplacer preparation please visit the MSU Denver Tutoring Center in SSB 220