

PSAT Reading Practice Test 4: Craft and Structure

1. Which of the following sentences uses the MOST formal language?

- A. Congrats!
- B. Congratulations!
- C. Congratulations on your recent success.
- D. Congrats to you.

2. In which of the following situations would it be best to use informal language?

- A. A charity event
- B. A football game
- C. A job interview
- D. A dentist's office

3. Which of the following sentences uses the MOST informal language?

- A. Where's the best café in these parts?
- B. Could you direct me to a nice café in the area?
- C. Would you be able to show me to a nice café?
- D. Could you tell me where a nice café is around here?

4. Which word functions as a transition in the sentence below?

Cassandra loved reading and writing books as a child. Thus she became an English teacher in her adult life.

- A. Loved

- B. Child
- C. Thus
- D. Became

5. Readers can determine tone primarily by examining:

- A. setting.
- B. word choice.
- C. their feelings.
- D. connecting words.

6. Transitions tend to be longer and more detailed when they occur between:

- A. words
- B. clauses
- C. sentences
- D. paragraphs

7. What is the most likely purpose of a cookbook full of Mediterranean recipes?

- A. To decide
- B. To inform
- C. To persuade
- D. To entertain

8. An author's point of view is a(n):

- A. lack of purpose.
- B. general outlook.
- C. rhetorical strategy.

D. appeal to the emotions.

9. The author's _____ is the reason for writing.

- A. purpose
- B. rhetoric
- C. main idea
- D. point of view

ANSWER KEY

1. **C.** Congratulations on your recent success. It is the sentence with the most formal language and no slang. **See Lesson: Formal and Informal Language.**
2. **B.** A football game. A stadium is an informal setting where formal language is not necessary. **See Lesson: Formal and Informal Language.**
3. **A.** Where's the best café in these parts? The sentence is informal because it has a contraction and uses more colloquial language. **See Lesson: Formal and Informal Language.**
4. **C.** The transition is the word that links the two ideas: *thus*. This word shows how the two sentences have a cause-and-effect relationship. **See Lesson: Tone, Mood and Transition Words.**
5. **B.** Word choice, or diction, is the reader's most important tool in determining tone. **See Lesson: Tone, Mood, and Transition Words.**
6. **D.** Transitions between paragraphs or longer sections of text tend to be detailed and may include a short recap of related ideas from earlier parts of the text. **See Lesson: Tone, Mood, and Transition Words.**

- 7. B.** Informational texts like cookbooks are usually meant to inform. **See Lesson: Understanding Author's Purpose, Point of View, and Rhetorical Strategies.**
- 8. B.** An author's point of view is a general outlook on the subject. **See Lesson: The Author's Purpose and Point of View.**
- 9. A.** The main idea of a text is its key point, and the point of view is the author's outlook on the subject. The purpose is the reason for writing. **See Lesson: The Author's Purpose and Point of View.**

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