

**PRACTICE 3**

Each point is followed by three statements that provide relevant, on-target support and three that do not. In the spaces, write the letters of the three **relevant** statements of support.

1. Point: I'm a perfect example of someone who has "math anxiety."

- A. I feel dread every time I sit down to take our Friday math quiz.
- B. Fear of math is almost as widespread as fear of public speaking.
- C. During my last math test, I "froze" and didn't even try to answer most of the questions.
- D. I also have a great deal of anxiety when I sit down to write a paper.
- E. I turned down a summer job as a salesclerk because I would have had to figure out how much change customers should get back.
- F. I used to be afraid to raise my hand in class, but now it's easier for me to answer questions.

Items that logically support the point: _____

2. Point: Elephants are very intelligent animals.

- A. For years, hunters shot elephants to obtain the ivory from their tusks.
- B. Like chimps, elephants can recognize their reflections in mirrors.
- C. Elephants tear off branches of trees to use as fly swatters.
- D. Elephants have been seen keeping vigil over their dead companions.
- E. An elephant can live as long as sixty-five years.
- F. Elephants should not be forced to perform in circuses.

Items that logically support the point: _____

3. Point: Drinking coffee can be bad for people.

- A. Some people don't like the taste of decaffeinated coffees.
- B. Coffee in the evening can interfere with sleep at night.
- C. As addictions go, coffee is less dangerous than tobacco.
- D. Too much coffee can cause the hands to shake.
- E. Drinking too much coffee can lead to a faster heartbeat and light-headedness.
- F. Most coffees cost under five dollars a pound.

Items that logically support the point: _____

4. **Point:** If you think school is difficult, it's even harder for older students.

- A. Studies show that more and more adults are returning to school.
- B. It takes a lot of work to re-learn study habits.
- C. Many older students have family and job responsibilities in addition to classes.
- D. Some older students are afraid of not "fitting in."
- E. It is never too late to gain new knowledge.
- F. Older students can contribute to class discussions by talking about their "real-world" experiences.

Items that logically support the point: _____

5. **Point:** Workers in early American factories led difficult lives.

- A. The average work day was twelve hours long.
- B. Early factory workers were paid pennies an hour.
- C. Female factory workers often worked in textile mills.
- D. The first American factories were built in the late 1700s.
- E. All workers on power machines risked accidents that could maim or kill.
- F. Labor unions have greatly improved conditions in today's factories.

Items that logically support the point: _____

6. **Point:** Schools should eliminate the summer vacation.

- A. It costs too much money for school buildings to remain empty in the summer months.
- B. Students have more energy than adults.
- C. Year-round school can better prepare students for year-round work in the adult world.
- D. During summer classes, schools should be air-conditioned.
- E. Students will learn more and forget less if they attend school twelve months a year.
- F. Students won't be able to take summer jobs that would provide money for college.

Items that logically support the point: _____

7. **Point:** Some people have very poor telephone manners.

- A. They never identify themselves, but just begin the conversation.
- B. They often make their calls on cordless phones.
- C. They have an unlisted telephone number.
- D. They conduct conversations with people around them at the same time they're talking on the phone.
- E. Some people don't like to talk on the phone.
- F. They often call around 6 p.m., which is most people's dinner hour.

Items that logically support the point: _____

8. **Point:** My father's boss is an unpleasant man to work for.

- A. He barks orders and never asks for an employee's opinion.
- B. His fashion-plate wife is said to be even nastier than he is.
- C. His office is decorated in dull browns and grays.
- D. Even when he invites employees out to lunch, he expects them to pick up their own checks.
- E. He changes his mind so often that an employee who pleased him on Friday can be in the doghouse by Monday.
- F. He once accumulated so many parking tickets that the police actually came to his home to arrest him.

Items that logically support the point: _____

9. **Point:** There are some simple ways to save money at the supermarket.

- A. Avoid products which charge extra for packaging, such as cheese wrapped individually by slice.
- B. Buy store brands of basic items instead of expensive name-brand products.
- C. Some people organize a shopping list alphabetically; others group items by categories.
- D. Shop when you are not hungry, so that you won't be tempted to buy pricey treats.
- E. Go to the store at odd hours or on weekdays to reduce the time you spend in lines.
- F. Buy locally grown fruits and vegetables, which are often better for you than canned or frozen ones.

Items that logically support the point: _____