

## PPST Writing Test Ten Tips to Success

1. Do not rely on whether a sentence “sounds right/wrong”. Evaluate each sentence in terms of standard written English. (i.e. “This is she”, not “This is her”)
2. Focus first on the subject(s) and verb(s) of the sentence. Are they in agreement? Are all the verbs in the same tense?
3. Look for pronoun-antecedent and case errors.
4. Check awkward larger structures for faulty parallelism.
5. Check for wordiness; remember that often the best answer is the most concise answer. (This especially applies to Part B.)
6. Look for dangling and misplaced modifiers.
7. Look for common errors in idiom.
8. If you feel the sentence is correct, answer “E”, no error. Twenty percent of the sample problems contain no error.
9. Section B, Sentence Correction, is the most difficult and time-consuming of the two multiple choice sections. Allot your time accordingly! Some even suggest doing Part B first.
10. Maximize your points on the essay section by preplanning your response. Be certain that you are addressing the topic and that you support your key points with specific examples. As with any essay, an introduction, conclusion, and paragraphs for each key point are essential.