

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_/50

**Exit: Editing/ Using Effective Word Choice**

**Part I: Informal Expressions in Writing**

**10 points**

Read the paragraph below. Each sentence contains errors in **WORD choice, spelling, run-ons, and comma splices**

**Poor word choice**

[ ]

**Circle the spelling errors**



**Insert commas**

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**Fix run-ons**

**RU**

**Comma splice**

**CS**

1. George Washington Carver the man who invent the peanuts.

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2. Back when I was little, I use to try to invent the craziest things ever with my friends but they always use to seem to not work.

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3. George Washington Carver has been an inspiration, because he was a black chemist.

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4. Not only was he a good man he was a fascinated incoragement to the young and helpful/respectful man who have a good reputation.

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**Part II: Avoiding Slang** Replace the informal slang words or phrases with more formal diction. Most sentences contain two slang expressions. *(Adapted by John Langan/ Exploring Writing)* **20 points**

1. When we told the neighbors to can the noise, they freaked out.

2. I didn't know how messed up John was until he stole money from his parents and split.

3. After a hard day, I like to veg out in front of the idiot box.

4. John was wiped out after his workout at the gym that he couldn't get it together to defrost a frozen dinner.
5. When Paul tried to put the move on Maria, she told him to shove off.
6. My father claims that most grease monkeys are rip-off artists.
7. After the game, we stuffed our faces at the dinner.
8. The movie grossed me out.
9. The entire town was psyched that the corrupt mayor got busted.
10. I finally told my parents to get off my case; both of them had been annoying me all day.

**Part II: Avoiding Clichés.** Underline the cliché in each of the following sentences Then, substitute formal diction for the trite (clichéd) expression (*Adapted by John Langan/ Exploring Writing*) **20 points**

1. My boyfriend has stuck with me through thick and thin
2. As the only girl in the family, I got away with murder.
3. When I realized that I lost my textbook, I was up the creek without a paddle
4. My suggestion is just a shot in the dark, but it's better than nothing.
5. Bob is pushing his luck by driving a car with bad tires.
6. On a hot, sticky, mid-summer day, iced tea, or any frosty drink, hits the spot.
7. Nadia thanks her lucky stars that she was born with brains, beauty, and humility.
8. Anything that involved mathematical ability has always been right up my alley.
9. Your chance of buying a good, used car from the dealer is one in a million.
10. Even when we are up to our eyeballs in work, our boss wonders of we have enough to do.