

2. GAC002 Academic English I: Reading and Writing Skills

Starter Quiz ·

GAC Academic English

Name: _____ Score: _____

1. You need the year a study was published, and nothing else. Which technique?
 - ☐ Close reading
 - ☐ Reading every word
 - ☐ Skimming
 - ☐ Scanning
2. "The supply proved precarious: a single dry summer emptied the reservoir." What does precarious mean?
 - ☐ Plentiful
 - ☐ Expensive
 - ☐ Unstable, easily lost
 - ☐ Clean
3. "Because the hall is being repaired, it is unavailable." What kind of sentence is this?
 - ☐ Complex
 - ☐ Simple
 - ☐ A run-on
 - ☐ Compound
4. A paragraph about metro improvements contains a sentence about the city's food markets. What should you do?
 - ☐ Make it the topic sentence
 - ☐ Move it to a paragraph about markets, or delete it
 - ☐ Keep it – it adds interest
 - ☐ Add a connective in front of it
5. Supplied fictional Lin (2026) note: shaded seedlings grew more slowly during seven days, but conditions were not controlled. Which paraphrase preserves the meaning and gives credit?
 - ☐ Shade slowed seedling growth during the seven-day experiment that Lin carried out in 2026
 - ☐ One shaded tray grew more slowly than the window tray, but conditions were not controlled
 - ☐ One shaded tray grew more slowly than the window tray, but uncontrolled conditions limit causal conclusions (Lin, 2026, p. 2)

☐ Shaded seedlings grew more slowly over seven days, showing that shade slows growth (Lin, 2026, p. 2)

6. A conclusion should answer the question from the argument already developed, not introduce major new evidence.

☐ True ☐ False

7. Which parts can help you obtain an initial overview while skimming? Choose all that apply.

☐ The first and last paragraphs

☐ The title

☐ The first sentence of each paragraph

☐ Every footnote

Tick every correct option.

8. Usage labels and example sentences in a suitable dictionary can help you check a word's register in context.

☐ True ☐ False

9. "The survey was small; the result was clear. We repeated it." is correctly punctuated.

☐ True ☐ False

10. Being able to infer a paragraph's focus after deleting its topic sentence proves that the paragraph is poorly built.

☐ True ☐ False

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Answers ·

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1. Scanning

Scanning locates a target detail such as a publication year. Read nearby wording to confirm what the year refers to.

2. Unstable, easily lost

The supplied fictional sentence links a dry summer with an emptied reservoir, supporting unstable or vulnerable supply rather than plentiful, costly or clean.

3. Complex

It contains a subordinate because clause and a main clause, so it is complex. Grammar expresses the reason; source evidence is still needed to establish the claim.

4. Move it to a paragraph about markets, or delete it

The sentence should serve the paragraph's actual focus. An unrelated food-market detail needs a different paragraph or removal; a connector alone cannot establish relevance.

5. One shaded tray grew more slowly than the window tray, but uncontrolled conditions limit causal conclusions (Lin, 2026, p. 2)

The credited paraphrase preserves both the limited observation and the uncontrolled-condition warning. A citation cannot repair a false universal or causal claim.

6. True

True. New evidence in the conclusion has no room for explanation; put it in the body and use the conclusion to draw the argument together.

7. The first and last paragraphs; The title; The first sentence of each paragraph

Titles and selected opening, ending or paragraph sentences can provide an overview. They need not reveal every qualification, so read important passages closely afterwards.

8. True

A dictionary can help with usage and register. No dictionary or translation automatically settles the meaning without context.

9. True

True. Each independent clause is separated by a semicolon or a full stop, so there are no comma splices.

10. False

Supporting details often reveal the focus too. This observation alone does not establish whether the topic sentence is useful or the paragraph is well built.