How the First Life Forms Made Earth What it is Today  

Writing Skills Practice Questions  

QUESTION ONE  

Read the sentences.  

All cells share basic similarities. They have the ability to reproduce themselves. Cells are the building blocks of life.  

Which revision best combines the ideas of the sentences?  

1. Cells are the building blocks of life, and share basic similarities like the ability to reproduce themselves.  
2. Cells shared basic similarities like the ability to reproduce themselves, and were the building blocks of life.  
3. While cells share basic similarities, they can reproduce themselves, and are the building blocks of life.  
4. The building blocks of life are cells, which have the ability to reproduce themselves and share basic similarities.  

(#1 is correct as it deletes repetitive words, uses commas correctly and utilizes all relevant information.)  

QUESTION TWO  

Which sentence uses the colon correctly?  

1. Three types of one-celled organisms are: yeast, bacteria, and amoeba.  
2. There are many types of human body cells: some are muscle, nerves, and blood.  
3. One-celled organisms like bacteria are crucial: They help with digestion.  
4. Science has identified three types of one-celled organisms: they include yeast, bacteria, and amoeba.  

(#1 is correct as the colon follows the verb and correctly lists related items)  

QUESTION THREE  

Living things are called organisms.  
All living things are made of cells.  
All living things require water and a source of energy.  
All living things reproduce and grow.  

What is the best way to revise the sentences above?
1. All living things, also called organisms, are made of cells, require water and a source of energy, and reproduce and grow.

2. All living things, or organisms, are made of cells: require water and a source of energy; and reproduce and grow.

3. All living things are called organisms and are made of cells; All living things require water and a source of energy and reproduce and grow.

4. Living things, also called organisms require water, energy, reproduce, and grow.

(#1 is correct as it deletes repetitive words, uses commas correctly and utilizes all relevant information)

QUESTION FOUR

Bacteria is used in the human body by producing vitamins and aiding in digestion.
Bacteria helps makes some food, like sourdough bread, yogurt, milk and cheese.
Bacteria produces nearly half the oxygen found in the atmosphere.
Which revision of the sentences above emphasizes the role of bacteria in producing oxygen?

What is the best way to revise the sentences above?

1. Bacteria can produce oxygen and vitamins, both of which we need to aid in digestion.
2. Although bacteria can be used to aid in digestion and producing vitamins, it is mostly used to produce oxygen and help make food.
3. Bacteria can produce vitamins and aid in digestion, help make foods we eat, and produce oxygen.
4. Bacteria produces oxygen and some food, which can help the body absorb vitamins and aid in digestion.

QUESTION FIVE

All living things require water and an energy source.
Humans get energy from food and air.
Animals get energy from food and air.
Not all living things get their energy this way.

What is the best way to revise the sentences above?

1. All living things require water and an energy source; while humans and animals get energy from food and oxygen, not all living things get their energy this way.
2. Getting energy from food and air, humans and animals require an energy source, but not all living things get energy this way.
3. Although living things get energy in different ways, humans and animals need food and air to survive.
4. Energy is needed to survive by animals, humans and other living things but it is gotten in different ways.