English Grammar and Editing

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Which line makes a complete standalone sentence in standard written English?
   A. The porch light flickered.
   B. While the porch light flickered.
   C. With a flicker from the porch light.
   D. The flickering porch light by the steps.

2. Which verb completes this sentence in the present tense? The lanterns ___ above the path.
   A. glowing
   B. glows
   C. glow
   D. to glow

3. Which word completes the sentence? The turtle tucked ___ head into its shell.
   A. it's
   B. its
   C. its'
   D. it is

4. Which sentence correctly punctuates the opening dependent clause?
   A. When the bus arrived the runners waved.
   B. When, the bus arrived the runners waved.
   C. When the bus arrived the runners, waved.
   D. When the bus arrived, the runners waved.

5. In standard U.S. punctuation, which line correctly prints the direct quote and its closing period?
   A. Ari said, "The trail is clear".
   B. Ari said, "The trail is clear."
   C. Ari said, "The trail is clear,."
   D. Ari said, "The trail is clear".,

6. Two captains share one locker. Which phrase identifies it correctly?
   A. the captains' locker
   B. the captain's locker
   C. the captains locker
   D. the captains's locker

7. Which phrase completes the sentence in formal written English? The coach saved two seats for ___.

A. I and Morgan
B. Morgan and I
C. Morgan and myself
D. Morgan and me

8. Rosa has one sister. Which sentence correctly sets off the sister's name as extra information?

A. My only sister, Nina lives nearby.
B. My only sister Nina, lives nearby.
C. My only sister, Nina, lives nearby.
D. My only sister Nina, lives, nearby.

9. Which sentence uses parallel verb forms for all three duties?

A. Our duties included labeling boxes, filing receipts, and updating the log.
B. Our duties included labeling boxes, to file receipts, and updating the log.
C. Our duties included to label boxes, filing receipts, and the log was updated.
D. Our duties included labeling boxes, receipts to file, and the log.

10. The entire group stayed to help, but Elisa was the sole person who counted the cash. Which line puts only where it clearly expresses that contrast?

A. Elisa counted the only cash.
B. Elisa counted only the cash.
C. Elisa only counted the cash.
D. Only Elisa counted the cash.

11. Which edit clearly makes Josie the person who opened the cabinet?

A. After opening the cabinet, the shelf held the missing keys for Josie.
B. After opening the cabinet, the missing keys were visible to Josie.
C. After opening the cabinet, Josie found the missing keys.
D. After opening the cabinet, there were keys for Josie to find.

12. A draft says, ‘Maya told Lena that her sketch had been chosen.’ The selected sketch belongs to Maya. Which edit preserves who told whom and makes ownership clear?

A. Lena told Maya that Maya's sketch had been chosen.
B. Maya told Lena that Maya's sketch had been chosen.
C. Maya told Lena that Lena's sketch had been chosen.
D. Maya told Lena that their joint sketch had been chosen.

13. Which version correctly joins two complete clauses in one sentence using however as a transition?

A. The library closed however; the courtyard stayed open.
B. The library closed, however, the courtyard stayed open.
C. The library closed; however the courtyard stayed open.
D. The library closed; however, the courtyard stayed open.

14. Which edit keeps both present-tense verbs in agreement with their subjects?

A. The list of rooms changes every Monday, but the signs on each door stay in place.
B. The list of rooms change every Monday, but the signs on each door stay in place.
C. The list of rooms changes every Monday, but the signs on each door stays in place.
D. The list of rooms change every Monday, but the signs on each door stays in place.

15. Lena tested the microphone before the doors opened. Once they opened, she greeted guests and passed out programs. Which rewrite keeps the order and uses parallel past-tense verbs for the two later actions?

A. Lena tested the microphone before the doors opened and, once they opened, greeted guests and passes out programs.
B. Before the doors opened, Lena tested the microphone, greeted guests, and passed out programs.
C. Lena tested the microphone before the doors opened and, once they opened, greeted guests and passed out programs.
D. Once the doors opened, Lena tested the microphone, greeted guests, and passed out programs.