ASAC Writing Lab: Common Mistakes & Word Choice
Answer Key

1. Fill in the blank with “that”, “who”, or “which”
   a. The party, _____ was over by nine, wasn’t loud enough to get a noise violation.
   b. My godmother, _____ is Italian, always cooks the best meatball.
   c. The political party _____ gets the most votes will win the Senate.
   d. Their argument _____ China would become a superpower was convincing.
   e. It is Ashley _____ I trust the most.
   f. Their argument, _____ had no basis in reality, was not convincing.

2. Fill in the blank with “affect(s),” or “effect(s)” or
   a. How does the placement of the verb _____ the rest of the sentence?
   b. The prisoner was released with his personal _____.
   c. The pills won’t take _____ for another hour.
   d. The size of the army will _____ the outcome of the battle.
   e. The plan goes into _____ on Thursday.
   f. The war will have a negative _____ on civilians living in the area.
   g. She will _____ a change if she becomes the first female president.
   h. The snow won’t _____ my chances of getting home.

3. Fill in the blank with “then” or “than”
   a. We went to the store and _____ we went home.
   b. I am happier _____ I thought I would be.
   c. If that’s how you feel, _____ you should go home.
   d. I never knew someone who liked this band and _____ I met you.
   e. The movie is better _____ the book.

4. Fix the errors in the following paragraph by replacing the incorrect forms of “two/to/too” and “their/they’re/there”

“IT’s not over ‘til it’s over their!” he shouted, with a smile that was to big. He had always been a bit obsessed with World War Two and music from that era. He thought that artists in the forties were inspiring, and that there work was important to study as part of the propaganda of the time. He liked two go too the library and see if their was any new books on the subject. The librarians were nice, and they’re advice was always helpful. “Their always they’re if you need them” he thought, walking through the too main doors. “You’re such a nerd” said his friend. “You are, to”, he replied.