Fragments and Run-Ons

After each sentence, select the option which best describes that sentence. The first option will always be that the sentence is fine. Other options will not only define the structural flaw but suggest a way of fixing it. Choose the option with the best remedy.

1. Although he had been an often decorated soldier during World War II and had fought many battles for the losing cause of liberalism in Congress.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Run-on: put a comma after World War II.
   C. Run-on: put a semicolon after World War II.
   D. Fragment: put a comma after Congress and finish the sentence.

2. This is going to be the most difficult exam of your college career, you had better start studying for it immediately.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: put a comma after immediately and finish the sentence.
   C. Run-on: replace that comma with a semicolon.

3. Knowing better than anyone else how the state legislature had ignored the needs of the community college system and created a crisis characterized by an uneducated workforce that had no place to go for proper training and realizing that someone had to do something about the situation or the state would begin to lose jobs to states in the American south that were more aggressive in providing and publicizing excellence in education, Representative Fuentes began to lay plans for an education bill that took into consideration the needs of the state's community colleges and the students who attended them.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. This sentence is too long; it must be a run-on.
   C. Even though this sentence is very long, it is actually a fragment.

4. Coach Espinoza really wants this job with Notre Dame University, she is very excited about returning to the college she graduated from.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: put a comma after from and finish the sentence.
   C. Run-on: change that comma to a period and start a new sentence.

5. Right after the Christmas holidays and during those three weeks before class begins in January.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: put a comma after January and finish the sentence.
   C. Run-on: put a comma after holidays.
6. She ran.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: the sentence is too short and needs more details to be a complete thought.

7. Perplexed by the rising rates of inflation and alarmed by the decline in major construction projects.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Run-on: put a comma after inflation.
   C. Fragment: put a comma after projects and finish the sentence.

8. Anabel realizes what she is doing, I think, but she doing it anyway.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: we're missing part of a verb.
   C. Run-on: change the comma after doing to a semicolon.

9. Professor Pepin spends a lot of time translating medieval texts on ancient medicine, however, he also stays informed about the latest developments in modern asthma treatments.
   A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
   B. Fragment: although this is a long sentence, it's missing part of a verb.
   C. Run-on: remove the verb from the second independent clause.
   D. Run-on: change the comma after medicine to a semicolon.

10. If we're ever going to get out of here in time, we're going to have to re-write all these papers, set up the desks, and clean the chalkboards; stack those books in the corner and clean up the mess around the wastebasket; notify security about the broken window, the thermostat that Raoul messed up, and the desk that was stolen before we even got here.
    A. There is nothing wrong with the structure of this sentence.
    B. Run-on: the sentence should be broken into three smaller sentences.
    C. Fragment: although the sentence is very long, it's missing a verb string.
    D. Run-on: change those two semicolons to commas.