

# Group Session - Final Exam Review Packet

## Question 1 .

**Jungle Mischief**

by L. Kenyi

Alexander pursued his older brothers through the thick vegetation of the jungle forest. "Hey wait! Where are you guys going?" Alexander hollered after Jonathan and Abraham who did not slow down or answer him. The older boys were faster and stronger than little Alexander, but he had more heart. He kept his sharp eyes focused on the moving plants in front of him, indications that his brothers had just rushed past. Alexander kept running until he discovered them below a tall acacia tree. They had lugged ropes, boards, nails, a hammer, and a large basket out to the tree.

"Hey, Alexander will fit in that basket," Abraham commented to Jonathan.

"No. It's not a good idea. Mom would have our hides if we did that," Jonathan replied.

"What are you guys talking about?" Alexander pestered them.

"Do you want to do something fun?" Abraham inquired mischievously.

"What?" Alexander was eager to participate in his older brothers' fun.

~~"We can lift you high in that tree if you sit in that basket. It will be great. Then, we'll send stuff up and you can start building a fort,"~~ Abraham explained.

"It looks sort of dangerous. I don't think I want to do it," Alexander said apprehensively.

"Are you chicken? I knew you wouldn't do it. You're not brave enough," Abraham jabbed at him.

"Just leave him alone. He said he doesn't want to," Jonathan defended Alexander.

"Well, I might," Alexander offered, working up his courage.

~~"I'll let you ride my dirt bike if you do it,"~~ Abraham bribed.

"Okay, but don't lift me too high up," Alexander agreed.

"Get in," Abraham ordered without acknowledging Alexander's condition.

"I don't know about this," Jonathan hesitated.

Abraham reassured him, "It will be fine."

Alexander sat in the large basket. One end of the rope was knotted around the handle of the basket and the other end was hanging over a very high tree branch. Alexander's brothers pulled the free end of the rope and easily lifted him and the basket.

~~"That's enough! Stop lifting me!"~~ Alexander yelled down to them.

"Okay, we'll stop lifting you," Abraham smirked. The older boys stopped lifting the basket and tied the loose end of the rope around the trunk of the tree, leaving Alexander high above the ground.

"I want down! Get me down now!" Alexander screamed.

"Stay right there, we're just going to get a few more tools. We'll be right back," Abraham said amused at his prank. The older boys started walking away.

"Wait guys! At least let me get to a branch. Then, send up some boards and the hammer and nails so I can start working on the fort," Alexander used his cunning.

"Okay, you might as well make yourself useful up there," Abraham remarked.

Jonathan lowered the basket to the nearest branch and held the rope steady while Alexander climbed out. Abraham lifted the supplies to Alexander and tied the rope again.

As soon as the two older brothers were gone, Alexander got busy nailing boards onto the tree. He had some difficulty, but he managed to stand on a branch and nail a board securely to the tree trunk. Then he moved down and nailed another board below it. Carefully, he worked his way down to the ground. Alexander was proud of the way he got himself down from the tree. He walked cheerfully back to his house imagining the surprised look on his brothers' faces when they found he was not in the tree and saw the ladder he had built.

How does the author develop the points of view of Alexander and his older brother, Abraham?

- A. The author writes from Alexander's perspective and uses dialogue to develop Alexander's admiration of Abraham and Abraham's frustration with Alexander.
- B. The author writes from Alexander's perspective and develops his clever point of view by narration and dialogue, whereas Abraham's mischievous point of view is developed only by his dialogue.
- C. The author writes from Alexander's perspective and develops Alexander's admiration toward his brothers through narration, but he uses dialogue to develop Abraham's annoyed point of view toward Alexander.
- D. The author writes from Alexander's perspective and uses dialogue to show that Alexander is bothersome and Abraham wants to get Alexander to leave him alone.

## Question 2 .

## The Birthday Party

## CHARACTERS:

ELISE

LEO

MRS. ALVAREZ

**SCENE**—A large house. Elise, aged 13, has accompanied her younger brother Leo, aged 6, to a birthday party at the home of one of Leo's friends. Balloons and streamers hang from the ceiling. A large birthday cake shaped like a dinosaur sits on a table at the center of the room. A lady is painting children's faces in a corner, and in another corner, a man is making balloon animals.

ELISE: *(ringing the doorbell)* Now remember, Leo, when we go inside, go up to Juan and give him the birthday present first. You can enjoy the party after that.

*(Juan's mother Mrs. Alvarez opens the door, beaming.)*

MRS. Hello Leo! Elise, it's so nice of you to come along with your brother because your

ALVAREZ: parents are working late today. Come in, the party has already started.

LEO: *(looking around)* Whoa! Just look at this place, Elise! I'm going to go get my face painted right now!

ELISE: What did I just tell you, Leo? Look, Juan's sitting on the sofa. Go wish him a happy birthday, give him his present, and don't forget to thank him for inviting you!

*(Leo approaches Juan and gives him the present. Elise walks around the house, chatting with the other parents. She looks over at Leo, who has a glass of soda in his hand.)*

ELISE: *(walking up to Leo)* Leo! Mom said you're not supposed to drink that. You have a cold and this will only make it worse.

LEO: But Mom's not here, so I can do what I want!

ELISE: You most certainly cannot. Mom and Dad asked me to look after you, so you have to do as I say.

LEO: Oh, come on, Elise, it's just one glass! I'm sure I'll be fine.

ELISE: Tell you what, you give up the soda and you can have an extra piece of cake instead. How does that sound?

*(Leo hands over his glass reluctantly.)*

ELISE: Hey, isn't that the new boy from your class? He's standing there all by himself. Why don't you go talk to him?

LEO: But I want to get my face painted! He'll talk to us if he wants to.

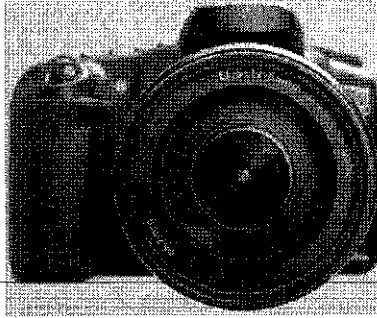
ELISE: Maybe he's shy, Leo, and he doesn't know anyone very well. Just go say hi and ask him if he wants to get his face painted too!

How does the author show the contrasting points of view of Elise and Leo?

- A. The author uses dialogue and stage directions to show that Elise is taking her responsibilities seriously, but Leo wants to take advantage of his parents' absence.
- B. The author uses dialogue to show that Elise is much older and stage directions to show that Leo is quite young.
- C. The author uses dialogue and stage directions to show that Elise is taking advantage of her parents' absence to be bossy, and Juan is trying to enjoy the party.
- D. The author uses dialogue to show that Elise is responsible and stage directions to show that Leo is not.

## Question 3 .

## Photography



Photography has become an important feature in business and pleasure. From movie-making to photo albums, the camera has played a vital role in society. Over the decades, photography has become as much of an art as it is a science.

The first photographs were taken in the 19th century. Since then, the understanding of photography and the technology associated with it have both improved rapidly. Photographers utilize this equipment and knowledge when they take pictures. For instance, photographers often adjust the exposure of an image. This can be done by adjusting the amount of light that reaches the film through duration or intensity. A longer duration means more light is allowed to strike the film. A wider lens opening will increase the light intensity of the exposure.

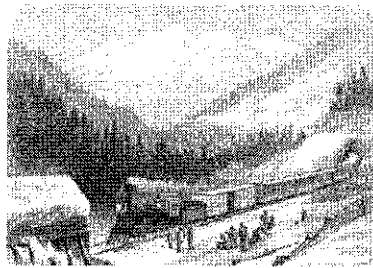
Contrast is also another important term in photography. Photographers can adjust the contrast by changing the range of bright or dark areas on an image. Human eyes are sensitive to light contrast, so this is an important feature of photography.

Photography can be done in many ways. Photographs can be taken with a digital camera on a cellphone or as an ultraviolet image from a satellite. Regardless of the kind of image a camera captures, photography will continue to play an important role in society.

Which sentence from the passage shows that exposure has something to do with time?

- A. A wider lens opening will increase the light intensity of the exposure.
- B. Human eyes are sensitive to light contrast, so this is an important feature of photography.
- C. A longer duration means more light is allowed to strike the film.
- D. Over the decades, photography has become as much an art as a science.

## Question 4 .

**The Transcontinental Railroad**

Building the transcontinental railroad across the United States required vast amounts of manpower, resources, and planning. It is regarded as one of the greatest achievements in U.S. history. Its construction could be compared to the digging of the Panama Canal and the landing of men on the Moon. This railroad allowed the U.S. to grow more easily, in size and population, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

The U.S. grew quickly during the middle of the 19th century. Much of this growth was east of the Mississippi River. Many politicians and businessmen from the U.S. wanted to push west and connect the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. At the time, the steam locomotive was the best choice for this task. However, laying railroad tracks was a time-consuming effort. The process included preparing the track ballast, or trackbed. This was a layer of crushed stone where the railroad ties and rails sat. The crushed stone allowed for better water drainage. It also prevented vegetation from growing around the track. The ties were wooden planks that rested on the trackbed. The rails were made of metal and were connected to each tie with metal spikes. This process made the transcontinental railroad a difficult operation.

Construction began in 1863, during the Civil War. Two companies built the railroad. The Union Pacific Railroad Company began building west from Omaha, Nebraska, on relatively flat ground. This allowed Union Pacific to lay tracks at a faster rate. Union Pacific's competitor was the Central Pacific Railroad Company. Working east from Sacramento, California, Central Pacific had to construct a railway through the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This became a great obstacle. Thousands of laborers worked each day at a slow pace through, around, and over the difficult mountainous landscape. As the years went by, more and more workers were hired to build the railroad as quickly as possible. In fact, many different immigrants contributed to building the railroad, including Chinese, Irish, and German workers.

The two companies intended to connect their rails about halfway between the starting points. However, the U.S. Government promised benefits to the company that laid the most railway. This prompted fierce competition between the two companies. This competition became dangerous when the companies drew closer to one another in the late 1860s. Each company began to sabotage the other's work. They did this using dynamite and other methods to prevent the rival company from laying more rails.

In the end, the two companies connected their rails. Meeting in 1869 at Promontory Summit, Utah, the final "Golden Spike" was hammered into the linked railroad. The completed transcontinental railroad allowed people and goods to travel across the U.S. in only a matter of days.

What is the purpose of the first paragraph?

- A. It provides a brief explanation of methods used in constructing railroads.
- B. It draws the reader into the subject by describing a problem to be solved.
- C. It provides an overview of the information that will be explained in what follows.
- D. It helps the reader understand the significance of the transcontinental railroad.

## Question 5 .

## The Transcontinental Railroad



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Based on the context of the passage, the track ballast is the

- ☐ A. worker who fixes any loose spikes, rails, or ties.
- ☐ B. part of the train engine that increases speed.
- ☐ C. section of the locomotive that releases steam.
- ☐ D. place where the railroad rests on the ground.

**Question 6 .**

Some people believe that any food labeled "diet," "low fat," "heart healthy," or "low carb" is good for everyone. In reality, good nutrition is not always a one-size-fits-all deal. In fact, some people who read food labels might actually be putting harmful things into their bodies.

For example, certain foods that are low in calories can be high in other things, such as sodium. Frozen dinners can be quite high in sodium, although some of those dinners are low fat. Someone looking for a low-calorie meal might do well to eat a frozen meal every now and then; many are portion-controlled and loaded with vegetables. However, someone who is under doctor's orders to control their sodium intake might want to make another choice. Just because a meal contains a lot of vegetables does not mean it is an equally good choice for everyone.

In addition, some foods that are low in carbohydrates can be high in sugar. People often look at the number of carbs on a food's label because they know carbs contribute to fat. However, a product low in carbs but high in sugar can be equally damaging. Sugar does not break down quickly in the body. Products high in sugar can keep you coming back for more while simultaneously building fat. Therefore, someone looking to maintain a healthy weight must look at a product's carb and sugar content. Also, too much sugar contributes to diabetes, so people in danger of developing diabetes need to keep an eye on more than a label's carb count.

In general, it is a good idea to try to weigh all items that are listed on a product's label. Trying to take into account all aspects of the food you eat is critical to your overall health and well-being. Being alert to a food's total nutritional value can help maintain good health for years to come.

Which of the following is likely true based on this passage?

- ☐ A. Most people eat too much sugar and are at a serious risk of becoming diabetic.
- ☐ B. No one is recommended to eat frozen dinners because they contain too much sodium.
- ☐ C. Cutting back on carbohydrates is the best thing people can do to maintain good health.
- ☐ D. Foods that are healthy for some people can actually be unhealthy for other people.

**Question 7 .**

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Which sentence from the passage shows that people need to be more observant when it comes to reading food labels?

- ☐ A. Just because a meal contains a lot of vegetables does not mean it is an equally good choice for everyone.
- ☐ B. People often look at the number of carbs on a food's label because they know carbs contribute to fat.
- ☐ C. Trying to take into account all aspects of the food you eat is critical to your overall health and well-being.
- ☐ D. In fact, some people who read food labels might actually be putting harmful things into their bodies.



## Question 8 .

**Cleanup Crew**

After working in the blistering sun all day, Yoshi returned to her bungalow at the far end of the beach. She knew volunteering for the cleanup crew after the storm would require long days and hard work. Clearing the fallen branches and debris was not the problem. She was strong and felt capable of all the lifting, carrying, and dragging. It was the heat that made this job particularly difficult.

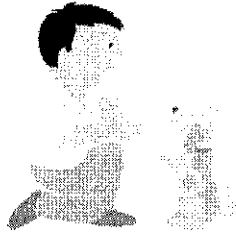
Lately, the weather seemed to be unable to make up its mind. First there was the storm, which brought heavy rains and wind damage to the coastline. Then, the very next day, it turned sunny and beautiful. By the time the cleanup crew was organized, temperatures had risen to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Yoshi opened all the windows and sat down on her mat. The cool evening breeze flowing in was a welcome contrast to the heat of the day, and the bungalow seemed to breathe a sigh of relief. She felt drained, sore, and tired, but she also felt honored that she was able to help with such an important effort.

The author uses the phrase "the bungalow seemed to breathe a sigh of relief" to show that

- A. Yoshi felt as if she was completely out of breath.
- B. the temperature inside the bungalow was rising.
- C. cool air was circulating throughout the bungalow.
- D. Yoshi felt very satisfied from the day of work.

## Question 9 .



For decades, centuries even, the most common way to train a dog was to punish the dog when it did something wrong. This is known as negative training. Often, a choke chain would be used. If the dog did something wrong, such as jumping up on someone or chasing a squirrel, the dog's trainer would swiftly yank on the chain. The choke chain would then squeeze the dog's throat in an uncomfortable way. Dogs learned that they would be choked if they chased squirrels, so they stopped chasing them. Usually,

Over the past 20 years, there has been a growing movement of positive dog training. In this method, the dog is taught to do the correct thing rather than being taught *not* to do the incorrect thing. For example, in positive dog training, the dog is not punished for chasing squirrels. Instead, the dog is rewarded, often with a treat, for staying still by the trainer when squirrels are nearby. After a dog has been rewarded enough times for doing something correctly, eventually it continues to do the correct thing even without a reward. Sometimes, the reward is changed to kind words and rubs rather than treats.

There are several benefits to positive dog training. First of all, the person training the dog never has to hurt the dog. Usually, if a person owns a dog, he or she loves dogs and doesn't really like hurting them. Secondly, the dog never has a reason to fear the owner. Fear is what causes dogs to bite people, sometimes for no reason. They are just trying to protect themselves from whatever they fear. If a dog does not fear a person, it has no reason to bite. Overall, this method of training creates a respectful relationship between pet and owner. Rather than one being dominant over the other, both dog and owner are working together. This type of bond can be deeper and more meaningful than any bond built upon hurting and pain.

The second paragraph is mostly about

- A. how to keep a dog from chasing squirrels.
- B. how positive and negative dog training differ.
- C. how positive dog training is done.
- D. how to keep a dog from jumping up.

## Question 10 .

## The Birthday Party

## CHARACTERS:

ELISE

LEO

MRS. ALVAREZ

**SCENE**—A large house. Elise, aged 13, has accompanied her younger brother Leo, aged 6, to a birthday party at the home of one of Leo's friends. Balloons and streamers hang from the ceiling. A large birthday cake shaped like a dinosaur sits on a table at the center of the room. A lady is painting children's faces in a corner, and in another corner, a man is making balloon animals.

ELISE: *(ringing the doorbell)* Now remember, Leo, when we go inside, go up to Juan and give him the birthday present first. You can enjoy the party after that.

*(Juan's mother Mrs. Alvarez opens the door, beaming.)*

MRS. Hello Leo! Elise, it's so nice of you to come along with your brother because your parents are working late today. Come in, the party has already started.

LEO: *(looking around)* Whoa! Just look at this place, Elise! I'm going to go get my face painted right now!

ELISE: What did I just tell you, Leo? Look, Juan's sitting on the sofa. Go wish him a happy birthday, give him his present, and don't forget to thank him for inviting you!

*(Leo approaches Juan and gives him the present. Elise walks around the house, chatting with the other parents. She looks over at Leo, who has a glass of soda in his hand.)*

ELISE: *(walking up to Leo)* Leo! Mom said you're not supposed to drink that. You have a cold and this will only make it worse.

LEO: But Mom's not here, so I can do what I want!

ELISE: You most certainly cannot. Mom and Dad asked me to look after you, so you have to do as I say.

LEO: Oh, come on, Elise, it's just one glass! I'm sure I'll be fine.

ELISE: Tell you what, you give up the soda and you can have an extra piece of cake instead. How does that sound?

*(Leo hands over his glass reluctantly.)*

ELISE: Hey, isn't that the new boy from your class? He's standing there all by himself. Why don't you go talk to him?

LEO: But I want to get my face painted! He'll talk to us if he wants to.

ELISE: Maybe he's shy, Leo, and he doesn't know anyone very well. Just go say hi and ask him if he wants to get his face painted too!

Which dialogue from the passage supports the theme?

- A. But Mom's not here, so I can do what I want!
- B. Now remember, Leo, when we go inside, go up to Juan and give him the birthday present first. You can enjoy the party after that.
- C. Tell you what, you give up the soda and you can have an extra piece of cake instead.
- D. Elise, it's so nice of you to come along with your brother because your parents are working late today.

## Question 11 .

**Popcorn**

People have been eating popcorn for a very long time. Native Americans of the Great Plains were the first people to eat this fluffy morsel. They thought that the popping noise was the result of an angry god escaping the kernel.

Today, we know that popcorn pops because of moisture in the kernel. Each kernel contains a small drop of water stored inside. This water is surrounded by soft starch, which is then encased by the kernel's hard outer surface. Popcorn needs about 14 percent moisture to pop. When popping corn is harvested, it has too much moisture and must be dried before it is sold. The majority of popping corn is grown in the Midwest.

As the kernel heats up, the water expands. At the boiling point, around 212 degrees, the drop of water turns to steam. This causes the starch to turn into very hot goop. The kernel continues to heat. When the pressure inside the hull reaches 135 pounds per square inch (at about 347 degrees), the hull bursts. As it explodes, the steam is released. The hot starch goop inside the popcorn inflates and spills out, cooling immediately. This cooling is what causes the odd shapes to form. A kernel will swell 40-50 times its original size! Two tablespoons of kernels will make a quart of popped corn.

Producers and sellers of popcorn consider two things when measuring popcorn: what percentage of the kernels will pop and how much each kernel will expand. Expansion is the holy grail of popcorn. For the consumer, bigger pieces are more tender. For the grower and vendor, expansion determines profit. For both these reasons, higher-expansion popcorn fetches a higher profit.

Popcorn is a big money maker because of its high-profit margin. We've all seen the prices charged for theater popcorn. The expansion to 40-50 times its original size supports a large markup in its price. A pound of kernels will produce two and a half gallons of finished product. Essentially, it is a product bought by the pound and sold by the ounce. That's why theater owners and sports teams love popcorn. Add a little salt and count your money.

However, about 70 percent of popcorn is sold to be eaten at home. Americans consume 54 quarts of popcorn per person each year. In 2007, almost one billion pounds of popcorn were sold in this country.

How does the first sentence of the second paragraph affect the reader's understanding of the rest of the passage?

- ☐ A. It shows the reader that we have been unable to understand popcorn until today.
- ☐ B. It gives just enough information to make the reader want to keep reading.
- ☐ C. It prepares the reader to think about what makes a kernel of popcorn pop.
- ☐ D. It explains how popcorn pops so the reader knows it is not the result of angry gods.

## Question 12 .

Passage 1**Sybil Ludington: The Female Paul Revere**

Not many 16-year-old girls took part in the Revolutionary War, but Sybil Ludington is certainly one of the few.

Sybil Ludington was born in Fredericksburg, New York, in 1761. Her father, Henry Ludington, was a colonel in the Dutchess County Militia, a division of the Continental Army. He was also the commander of the militia's 7th Regiment.

Two thousand British soldiers were spotted in Fairfield, Connecticut, on April 25, 1777. They quickly traveled to Danbury, Connecticut. By the next day, they were burning stores and homes hiding Continental Army supplies. Word was sent that the British has descended upon the area and that parts of Danbury were being destroyed.

A messenger from Danbury arrived at Colonel Ludington's late that night. Unfortunately, the colonel's soldiers were not together in an army camp. They were in their own homes, spread out for miles and miles. The messenger was unfamiliar with the area. He could not be trusted to locate all 400 members of the 7th Regiment.

So Colonel Ludington's daughter took up the task. At only 16 years of age, Sybil hopped on her horse, Star, and rode through the night. She rode for 40 miles in the rain. Some reports say that Sybil could see Danbury burning as she rallied her father's soldiers. Some people say she called out, "Muster at Ludington's!" so the men would know to gather at the Ludingtons' farm. Her ride was not only long, it was treacherous. British soldiers were scattered throughout the area, as well as dangerous outlaws called "skinnners." As long as Sybil was on her horse, she was in jeopardy. Sybil left her home around 9:00 p.m.; she didn't return home until dawn.

As a result of Sybil's bravery, the 7th Regiment rode to Danbury and fought the British troops. Sybil's part in the battle didn't go unnoticed by the Continental Army. She received a very special honor: being congratulated by General George Washington. She is now known by many as the female Paul Revere.

Passage 2**Sybil Ludington's Ride**

There were many heroes during the Revolutionary War. One of the lesser-known heroes was a farm girl who tried to save Danbury, Connecticut, from being burned to the ground.

**The Burning of Danbury**

On April 25, 1777, the residents of Fairfield, Connecticut, were terrified when they witnessed six British warships and 20 transports arrive on the Saugatuck River. However, the 2,000 soldiers didn't harm Fairfield. They continued inland. The next day, they reached their target: Danbury, Connecticut. The British were hunting for Continental Army supplies that had been moved there. Fortunately for the British, the supplies were not very well guarded and were easily discovered. The soldiers found many important provisions, such as beef, flour, tents, cots, and clothing. They planned on destroying the supplies but didn't want to hurt anyone loyal to the British crown. They cleverly marked the properties of British loyalists with chalk; all properties without these marks would be set on fire. By 4:00 p.m., Danbury was burning.

**Sybil Ludington Rides Into Action**

Colonel Henry Ludington was the commander of the Dutchess County Militia's 7th Regiment. Although he and his men resided in New York, they were close enough to ride to Danbury to aid in the fight against the British.

When a messenger arrived at Colonel Ludington's house that night, the colonel's eldest daughter, Sybil, was trusted with the task of riding out and gathering her father's troops. Some people say the 16 year old rode for 20 miles in the rain; others say it was 40 miles. Regardless of the distance, Sybil rode until sunrise, calling her father's troops into action.

Although they could not save Danbury, the men fought in what is now known as the Battle of Ridgefield. What is also known is that it could not have been done without the courage of an ordinary farm girl.

How does the information in the first passage differ from the second passage?

- A. The first passage explains the reason for the attack on Danbury; the second passage only gives the result of the attack.
- B. The first passage gives more details about Sybil's ride; the second passage gives more details about the attack on Danbury.

- C. The first passage gives information about Colonel Ludington; the second passage only gives information about Sybil Ludington.
- D. The first passage explains the reasons for the Revolutionary War; the second passage describes the war's last battle.

## Question 13 .

**The Transcontinental Railroad**

Building the transcontinental railroad across the United States required vast amounts of manpower, resources, and planning. It is regarded as one of the greatest achievements in U.S. history. Its construction could be compared to the digging of the Panama Canal and the landing of men on the Moon. This railroad allowed the U.S. to grow more easily in size and population, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

The U.S. grew quickly during the middle of the 19th century. Much of this growth was east of the Mississippi River. Many politicians and businessmen from the U.S. wanted to push west and connect the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. At the time, the steam locomotive was the best choice for this task. However, laying railroad tracks was a time-consuming effort. The process included preparing the track ballast, or trackbed. This was a layer of crushed stone where the railroad ties and rails sat. The crushed stone allowed for better water drainage. It also prevented vegetation from growing around the track. The ties were wooden planks that rested on the trackbed. The rails were made of metal and were connected to each tie with metal spikes. This process made the transcontinental railroad a difficult operation.

Construction began in 1863, during the Civil War. Two companies built the railroad. The Union Pacific Railroad Company began building west from Omaha, Nebraska, on relatively flat ground. This allowed Union Pacific to lay tracks at a faster rate. Union Pacific's competitor was the Central Pacific Railroad Company. Working east from Sacramento, California, Central Pacific had to construct a railway through the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This became a great obstacle. Thousands of laborers worked each day at a slow pace through, around, and over the difficult mountainous landscape. As the years went by, more and more workers were hired to build the railroad as quickly as possible. In fact, many different immigrants contributed to building the railroad, including Chinese, Irish, and German workers.

The two companies intended to connect their rails about halfway between the starting points. However, the U.S. Government promised benefits to the company that laid the most railway. This prompted fierce competition between the two companies. This competition became dangerous when the companies drew closer to one another in the late 1860s. Each company began to sabotage the other's work. They did this using dynamite and other methods to prevent the rival company from laying more rails.

In the end, the two companies connected their rails. Meeting in 1869 at Promontory Summit, Utah, the final "Golden Spike" was hammered into the linked railroad. The completed transcontinental railroad allowed people and goods to travel across the U.S. in only a matter of days.

Which statement gives two central ideas from the passage?

- A. Construction of the transcontinental railroad led to the invention of track ballast, and the transcontinental railroad helped Utah become a state.
- B. Construction of the transcontinental railroad was very dangerous, and the transcontinental railroad made the United States a more diverse nation.
- C. Construction of the transcontinental railroad was very challenging, and the transcontinental railroad was important to the growth of the United States.
- D. Construction of the transcontinental railroad took many years, and the transcontinental railroad helped the Union Army win the Civil War.

**Question 14 .**

In which of the following sentences do the subject and verb agree?

- A. Mr. Hampton's acting class is the best part of my day.
- B. The actors in Martin's school performs challenging dramatic pieces.
- C. We all feels incredibly lucky to have Mr. Hampton as a mentor.
- D. A lack of discipline make acting impossible for even the most talented students.

**Question 15 .**

~~I was walking through the store in my pajamas, when I found a talking dog, I woke up from my strange dream; when the dog asked, "How can I help you?"~~

In order to be punctuated correctly, how must the sentence above be rewritten?

- A. I was walking through the store in my pajamas when I found a talking dog; I woke up ~~from my strange dream when the dog asked, "How can I help you?"~~
- B. I was walking through the store in my pajamas, when I found a talking dog I woke up; from my strange dream when, the dog asked, "How can I help you?"
- C. I was walking through the store in my pajamas; when I found a talking dog, I woke up from my strange dream, when the dog asked, "How can I help you?"
- D. I was walking through the store, in my pajamas, when I found a talking dog; and I woke up from my strange dream when the dog asked, "How can I help you?"

**Question 16 .**

Which sentence below uses **affect** correctly?

- A. A lack of serious practice can negatively **affect** performance.
- B. What **affect** does stretching have on your time?
- C. Some people think the **affect** will be minimal.
- D. You must always consider the **affect** on your running.



## Question 17 .

Read this sentence.

The Morales family were gracious generous hosts, and their home was bright cheerful and welcoming.

Which is the **best** way to rewrite this sentence?

- A. The Morales family were gracious, generous hosts, and their home was bright, cheerful and welcoming.
- B. The Morales family were gracious, generous hosts, and their home was bright cheerful and welcoming.
- C. ~~The Morales family were gracious, generous hosts, and their home was bright, cheerful, and welcoming.~~
- D. The Morales family were gracious generous hosts, and their home was bright, cheerful, and welcoming.

## Question 18 .

Use context clues to determine the meaning of the underlined word below. Then, answer the question.

Paleontologists have developed several ways to study life from the prehistoric ages. As a result, they are able to study fossilized remains of plants, insects, and animals.

Which of these would a paleontologist most likely study?

- A. extinct reptiles
- B. how plants use sunlight
- C. the songs of grasshoppers
- D. planetary movements

**Question 19 .**

Once school is finished for the day, students can choose from a variety of activities for entertainment. They can watch television, play outside, or browse the Internet. However, one activity that students are no longer enjoying is reading. Over the years, interest in reading has greatly declined.

With the rise of technology, television and Internet use have grown quickly. Most students go home and watch television for an average of two hours. They also browse the Internet for entertainment, which sometimes does not involve reading. The time it takes to watch television and to surf the Internet could be spent reading. Limiting reading can have harmful effects on learning because students are just being entertained. They are not gaining much knowledge.

Although technology has certainly changed how people live, it does not make reading less interesting. Reading books, whether fiction or nonfiction, requires a little bit more effort. This is because books have to be actively read instead of being watched, like television. Despite the effort needed for books, reading is definitely worth the time. It provides students with a varied vocabulary. This allows them to communicate with other people now and in the future. In addition, reading helps students to perform better in school and on tests because they can comprehend what the text means.

Reading books does not mean that students can no longer have fun. Rather, it is just a different form of entertainment. With reading, students are being entertained as well as learning.

How does the author share his or her opinion in this passage?

- ☐ A. by contrasting the benefits of reading with the popularity of technology
- ☐ B. by proving that too much time is wasted on television and the Internet
- ☐ C. by stating that students should no longer watch television or use the Internet
- ☐ D. by pointing out the different types of entertainment that students now have

**Question 20 .****Dawn**

Birds tweet cheerfully  
 A rooster salutes  
 The rising sun beckons the dawn  
 The aches and dreads of yesterday  
 Are gone  
 Adventure calls expectantly  
 Arise quickly!  
 Do not delay!  
 Today will be a wonderful day

What best describes the tone throughout the poem?

- ☐ A. mocking
- ☐ B. hopeful
- ☐ C. disappointed
- ☐ D. amused

**Question 21 .**

Asha's family has been through a difficult time since her father lost his job, but she is a **tough** girl. She started working part time at the library to support her parents, and they all seem to be doing much better now.

What does the use of the word **tough** suggest about Asha?

- A. She is physically very strong.
- B. She is hasty and immature.
- C. She is angry and upset all the time.
- D. She is capable of dealing with hardship.

**Question 22 .****Passage 1**

Skateboarding is a sport just like any other. Many people look at skateboarders as though they were criminals. There is nothing illegal about the sport. However, because there are often not adequate facilities for practicing, skateboarders use public property. Instead of punishing skateboarders, we should work to build skate parks so they can practice safely and legally.

**Passage 2**

Skateboarders are a nuisance. They have no regard for the law. These people cause problems instead of simply practicing their skills. Skateboarding should be completely banned in the city limits, and the fines for breaking the ban should be larger. This would lower the city's overall crime rate.

How do the authors' attitudes toward skateboarding differ?

- A. The author of passage 1 approves of skateboarding; the author of passage 2 disapproves of skateboarding.
- B. The author of passage 1 likes skateboarding; the author of passage 2 does not have an opinion about skateboarding.
- C. The author of passage 1 is excited about skateboarding; the author of passage 2 is confused by skateboarding.
- D. The author of passage 1 is angry about skateboarding; the author of passage 2 is amused by skateboarding.

**Question 23 .**

Everyone can bring \_\_\_\_\_ own favorite movie to the sleepover on Friday.

What pronoun goes in the blank?

- A. their
- B. our
- C. his or her
- D. its

## Question 24 .

## Unwind

The hot sun intensified the sharpness of Pete's face as he trudged along the beach. He breathed in the salty air and forgot about the pressures and responsibilities of school projects and chores around the house. Those things would be waiting for him, but now, he needed to unwind. Pete stretched his arms out. Then, he stepped into the damp sand on the shore and waited for the tide to come in. "Ah," Pete sighed. The water was perfect.

Pete waded deeper into the water and then dove headlong into the waves. Each blissful stroke eased the stress that had been building for weeks. Pete drew steady, deep breaths as he continued swimming toward the bobbing buoy. When he finally reached it, he turned around and eyed the beach. The golden sand's beauty inspired him and begged for his return. Pete calmly swam back to the shore. When he reached shallow water, he stood up and walked onto the beach. He grabbed his towel, shook the sand out, and wrapped it around him. Smiling softly, he strolled toward home whistling a peaceful tune.

Think about the way the author portrays the character of Pete. What is the author's attitude toward Pete?

- ☐ A. unfriendly
- ☐ B. critical
- ☐ C. humorous
- ☐ D. sympathetic

## Question 25 .

I slammed the window as hard as I could. The awful rain had ruined everything! There it was—just pouring, pouring, and pouring like the rest of us had absolutely nothing to do with our afternoon. The rain flooded the sidewalks, trickled over the gutters, and gushed down the driveways. I peered out my bedroom window, shaking my head as the road teemed with rainwater, gurgling from house to house and finally toward the sewers.

When we'd made our plans last week, Saturday afternoon had seemed like the perfect time. In fact, it had seemed like the perfect time until about half an hour ago when the skies broke open, releasing torrents of water all over Washingtonville. It was just maddening! We'd planned everything right down to the final detail—and then this had to go and happen!

If this story were to continue, what would the author most likely discuss in the next paragraph?

- ☐ A. what it is like to live in Washingtonville
- ☐ B. what kinds of houses are on her street
- ☐ C. what plans have been ruined by the rain
- ☐ D. what type of weather she likes the best

## Question 26 .

The tall man with the oversized hat had a deep, growling voice.

In the sentence, what is the function of the phrase with the oversized hat?

- ☐ A. It is an adjective phrase modifying "man."
- ☐ B. It is an adverb phrase modifying "had."
- ☐ C. It is a noun phrase modifying "tall man."
- ☐ D. It is a participial phrase modifying "voice."

## Question 27 .

## A Gift for Business

Monica sat at the kitchen table, filling in her calendar with all the babysitting jobs she had arranged for the next few weeks. Her father sat across from her and beamed at his daughter.

"I'm so proud of you, Monica, for making your babysitting business such a success."

"Thanks, Dad," Monica answered with a grin. "Those flyers I put up at the community center really paid off. I already have jobs lined up for the entire month of June!"

Her dad shook his head in amazement. "At the rate you're going, you'll have the money together for that new bike in no time." He thought for a moment and added, "You know, that lawn-mowing business you had going last summer was also a winner. You certainly have the Midas touch when it comes to business!"

Monica closed her calendar and sat back in her chair with a contented look. "I guess I've been pretty lucky," she said, "or maybe I've just picked the right services. People always seem to need their lawns mowed and their kids looked after! It helps to have a goal, too," she added.

~~"Every time I get tired of working, I just imagine that gorgeous 21-speed bike. It will be my payoff for all the sweat and toil."~~

Which sentence from the passage is an example of an allusion?

- ☐ A. Monica closed her calendar and sat back in her chair with a contented look.
- ☐ B. ~~Her father sat across from her and beamed at his daughter.~~
- ☐ C. "You certainly have the Midas touch when it comes to business!"
- ☐ D. "People always seem to need their lawns mowed and their kids looked after!"

## Question 28 .

For the modeling contest, Regan **posed** in different positions for the camera.

Which sentence uses the word **posed** as it is used in the box above?

- ☐ A. The teacher posed a question to her students.
- ☐ B. The situation posed a very difficult problem.
- ☐ C. Olivia posed for her 7th grade class pictures.
- ☐ D. A lion posed a great threat to a wildebeest.

## Question 29 .

Characters who play tricks called tricksters often show up in Native American stories.

What is missing from this sentence to make it clearer?

- ☐ A. commas around the phrase "called tricksters"
- ☐ B. a comma after the word "tricks"
- ☐ C. Nothing is missing; the sentence is correct
- ☐ D. a comma after the word "tricksters"

## Question 30 .

Before Shane left for the party, his mother **quizzed** him about the safety rules.

In this sentence, the word **quizzed** means

- A. to confuse someone.
- B. to create a surprise.
- C. to question closely.
- D. to make fun of a lot.

## Question 31 .

Ben smiled as the sun's rays shimmered through the window and lit up the room drawing open the curtains.

What is the misplaced modifier in this sentence?

- A. lit up the room
- B. drawing open the curtains
- C. through the window
- D. as the sun's rays shimmered

## Question 32 .

The Wright brothers who were the first men to fly a plane started their own **aeronautics** company in 1909.

What does **aeronautics** mean?

- A. aircraft design
- B. wind sailing
- C. bicycle making
- D. car production

## Question 33 .

**Drink Up: Stay Hydrated****Dehydration can occur quickly and unexpectedly**

Regardless of the time of year, the body can become dehydrated quickly and suddenly. Dehydration is when the body loses too much fluid to function properly. According to the American Academy of Family Physicians, the body normally loses water when we urinate, sweat, and breathe. It can easily become dehydrated when the weather is hot and humid. We sweat more in those conditions.

**Why we need water**

More than half of the body is made up of water. Water nourishes and assists the body in many ways. A few of its uses are getting rid of waste and regulating body temperature. Water also helps regulate heart rate and blood pressure, protect joints, and moisturize skin.

**Be proactive**

The body cannot survive without water. The best method of rehydration is prevention. The easiest way to monitor whether or not you are getting enough water is to check your urine color. If your urine is dark, you will need to get more fluids in your body. A clear or light yellow hue is the desired color for urine.

**Tips for staying hydrated**

~~Most people can get enough water each day by drinking based on their level of thirst. They~~ can also get enough water by eating plenty of fruits and vegetables. People who exercise heavily or are outdoors in hot weather for long periods of time should drink water more often. This will help to prevent dehydration. The National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA), an organization for certified athletic trainers, recommends planning outdoor exercises in the early morning or late evening. The NATA suggests that people exercising outdoors drink sports drinks in addition to water.

Sports drinks are popular with athletes because they contain electrolytes. Electrolytes supply the body with sodium that is often lost through heavy sweating. However, most people can be sufficiently hydrated with water. Water is the best beverage choice because it does not have any added calories or sugar.

How does the author support the advice for drinking sports drinks when exercising outdoors?

- ☐ A. by recalling a story from a person's blog
- ☐ B. by stating information from a reliable source
- ☐ C. by relying on his or her personal opinion
- ☐ D. by providing a poll of athletic organizations

## Question 34 .

**Storm at Sea**

by R. Lee Walters

Over the seas, the ship rolled on high waves.  
Over the waves, the storm's high winds howled.  
Over the howls, the thunder, the thunder rose  
And the lightning, the lightning flashed wildly.

Over the storm's squall, the captain fought the winds.  
Over the wind's strength, the sailors climbed the sails.  
Over the sails' tatters, the clouds, the clouds parted  
And the moon, the moon shone victoriously.

The poet repeats the phrase "Over the..." in this poem to

- ☐ A. mimic the moon's rays.
- ☐ B. make it sound like rain.
- ☐ C. make the lines rhyme.
- ☐ D. build up the suspense.

## Question 35 .

Olympic athletes spend hours training starting at an early age. Those who do make it to the Olympic Games often do not win medals—and these are the top athletes of the world. Wilma Rudolph not only made it to the Olympics, she won three gold medals.

Wilma Rudolph was born on June 23, 1940, in St. Bethlehem, Tennessee. She came from a very big family. She was the 17th of 19 children in her family. The family moved to Clarksville, Tennessee, which is where Wilma grew up. When Wilma was young, she had polio and scarlet fever. The polio left her without the use of one of her legs. She needed to wear leg braces to walk. Eventually, she was able to walk with a special shoe. After about three years, she didn't need the special shoe anymore.

In high school, Wilma played basketball and ran track. She broke all the state basketball records and won all her track meets. Wilma went to Tennessee State University and started training for the Olympics. In July of 1960, Wilma went to the Olympics in Rome, Italy. She won three gold medals and was called the "World's Fastest Woman." She was later named female athlete of the year.

Wilma became a coach and an athletic consultant in Chicago, Illinois. She died in 1994 of a brain tumor. Wilma will be remembered for her courage as a young child overcoming her illness, her athletic ability, and her dedication to reaching her goals. To this day, Wilma's life continues to inspire people to reach their personal goals.

Which of the following phrases **best** describes Wilma Rudolph?

- ☐ A. dissappointed to be a coach
- ☐ B. easily discouraged
- ☐ C. determined to excel
- ☐ D. extremely wealthy



## Question 36 .

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According to the passage, by overcoming childhood diseases and going on to win Olympic medals, Wilma Rudolph became

- ☐ A. a critic of others.
- ☐ B. a well-known doctor.
- ☐ C. a sportscaster.
- ☐ D. an inspiration to others.

## Question 37 .

(1) Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the. (2) Movie during the holiday break. (3) Their favorite actors had starring roles. (4) In the film, the members of a rock band save the world they have secret lives as superheroes. (5) Kendra and Ancel were very surprised when they didn't love the movie. (6) In fact, they hated it.

Which is the best revision to change sentences 1 and 2 into one complete sentence?

- ☐ A. Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the, movie during the holiday break.
- ☐ B. Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the movie during the holiday break.
- ☐ C. Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the; movie during the holiday break.
- ☐ D. Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the, and movie during the holiday break.

## Question 38 .

(1) Ancel and Kendra decided to attend the. (2) Movie during the holiday break. (3) Their favorite actors had starring roles. (4) In the film, the members of a rock band save the world they have secret lives as superheroes. (5) Kendra and Ancel were very surprised when they didn't love the movie. (6) In fact, they hated it.

Which is the best revision to sentence 4?

- A. In the film, the members of a rock band save the world, and they have secret lives as superheroes.
- B. In the film, the members of a rock band save; the world they have secret lives as superheroes.
- C. ~~In the film, the members of a rock band. Save the world they have secret lives as~~ superheroes.
- D. In the film, the members of a rock band save the world but they have secret lives as superheroes.

## Question 39 .

The following is a draft of a student essay. It may contain errors.

### The Apple Pie Disaster

(1) Monica had gotten good grades last semester, so she and I decided to celebrate her success by baking an apple pie. (2) After a long day at school, both of us went to the closest supermarket to buy the ingredients for the apple pie. (3) We carefully picked up all the items on the list and eagerly walked back home. (4) On our way back, we kept discussing how we could make our pie tastier by adding some whipped cream or a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

(5) As soon as we reached home, we excitedly began our baking experiment. (6) We preheated the oven as mentioned in the recipe. (7) Meanwhile, I prepared the dough for the pie and placed it carefully on a pie plate. (8) Monica tossed the sliced apples in a large bowl along with some brown sugar and cinnamon. (9) After setting the temperature of the oven, Monica sliced the apples into thin, even slices. (10) We beautifully arranged the apple slices on the pie crust and put the pie tray in the oven for about 30 minutes. (11) Both of us were very proud of our joint experiment, and we could not wait for our pie to be ready. (12) Once the pie crust began to appear golden-brown, we took the pie out of the oven and let it cool for a while. (13) We then placed a big dollop of whipped cream on our pie and sat down to enjoy it. (14) We took a bite of the pie and it tasted very salty. (15) To our horror, we realized that I had added salt to the pie dough instead of sugar!

Which detail would be **best** to add after sentence 14 to better convey the taste of the apple pie?

- A. The pie slipped from our forks and fell back onto the plate with a thud as we looked in disbelief.
- B. Something wasn't right and we were disappointed that our experiment failed so badly.
- C. The whipped cream didn't make the apple pie taste better, but at least we had something to eat.
- D. Our mouths puckered and our eyes watered as we both looked at the pie on our forks.

## Question 40 .

**The Perfect Job**

by Courtney Goff

Noah had not expected to be so nervous on his first day, but his hands trembled as he drove down the highway. He looked down to see the nametag in his lap. *Yup, this is definitely real*, Noah thought.

Noah had completed what seemed like thousands of applications over the past few months, and he had waited anxiously by the phone for someone to call him back. Noah's mom joked that he had worn a permanent spot in their couch from sitting there so long.

It seemed awfully early, with the sun just rising above the gigantic pines that lined the road. Of course, it was a Saturday, and Noah was usually not awake before noon. He put on his sunglasses to guard against the glare, and switched on the radio to calm his nerves. He sang along for a few minutes thinking about his interview the week before. Noah was supposed to see a manager named Timothy today so that he could fill out more paperwork, and then Noah hoped he would be able to start working.

He remembered what the teacher in his career class had said about the responsibility of a first job. Noah knew that his performance would be important to people who wanted to hire him later, and he was determined to do his best. Noah pulled into a parking lot in front of the two-story building. Now, his hands began to sweat as well as tremble, and his heart thudded in his ears as he got out of the car and headed toward the store. Noah clipped the nametag onto his shirt pocket and then opened the glass door.

The store was not filled with customers yet, and a "CLOSED" sign still hung on the door. Noah was relieved that he would not be tossed into the middle of things right away. He wandered toward the customer service desk, unsure of where he could find Timothy. Several employees stood at the tops of ladders placing books into the high shelves near the ceiling. *Good thing I'm not afraid of heights*, Noah thought. He reached the customer service desk in the center of the first floor and waited for a moment, one hand fidgeting with his nametag. From the corner of his eye, Noah spotted someone hurrying toward him, and he turned to see a man whose nametag said "Timothy."

"Hi, I'm Noah," Noah said, extending his hand.

Timothy shook Noah's hand firmly. "Hi, Noah, it's good to see you," Timothy replied brightly. "Are you ready to start?"

Noah smiled. "Sure!"

Timothy disappeared behind the counter at the customer service desk and came up with a stack of forms and a pen. "Fill these out, and when you're finished, I'll show you around."

Noah filled the forms out quickly with all the basic information: name, birth date, and phone number. He handed the forms back to Timothy, who put them in a folder and slid it under the counter.

They walked up and down the aisles stuffed with books with Timothy pointing out each section along the way, and Noah found out that they both liked to read about history. As Timothy explained how to use the cash register, Noah knew he had found the perfect job.

Which sentence from the story **best** shows the setting?

- A. "He remembered what the teacher in his career class had said about the responsibility of a first job."
- B. "He sang along for a few minutes, thinking about his interview the week before."
- C. "He looked down to see the nametag in his lap."
- D. "Of course, it was a Saturday, and Noah was usually not awake until noon."

## Question 41 .

One of the most popular characters in children's literature is the Mad Hatter, from Lewis Carroll's popular book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Alice happens upon the Mad Hatter at a "mad," or crazy, tea party. The characters at the tea party are the Mad Hatter, the March Hare, and the Dormouse. They are drinking tea as if time doesn't exist and so have no reason to hurry. The way the Mad Hatter acts and speaks does make it seem as if he may be a little crazy.

The character of the Mad Hatter was likely inspired by the phrase "mad as a hatter." A hatter is a person who makes hats. Today, no one works with mercury without proper protection. But before the dangers were understood, hatters often worked with mercury to cure the felt used in many hats. It was impossible for the hatters to avoid inhaling mercury fumes. They sometimes developed mercury poisoning. Mercury poisoning caused brain damage and could result in confused speech. Listening to the Mad Hatter at the mad tea party, one can guess that he probably did spend too much time with mercury!

Which detail would be most important to include in a summary of the passage?

- A. Mercury poisoning could cause brain damage and confused speech.
- B. Today, hatters would not think of working with mercury without protection.
- C. Alice meets the character of the Mad Hatter at a crazy tea party.
- D. The Mad Hatter, the March Hare, and the Dormouse are all at the tea party.

## Question 42 .

One of the most popular characters in children's literature is the Mad Hatter, from Lewis Carroll's popular book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Alice happens upon the Mad Hatter at a "mad," or crazy, tea party. The characters at the tea party are the Mad Hatter, the March Hare, and the Dormouse. They are drinking tea as if time doesn't exist and so have no reason to hurry. The way the Mad Hatter acts and speaks does make it seem as if he may be a little crazy.

The character of the Mad Hatter was likely inspired by the phrase "mad as a hatter." A hatter is a person who makes hats. Today, no one works with mercury without proper protection. But before the dangers were understood, hatters often worked with mercury to cure the felt used in many hats. It was impossible for the hatters to avoid inhaling mercury fumes. They sometimes developed mercury poisoning. Mercury poisoning caused brain damage and could result in confused speech. Listening to the Mad Hatter at the mad tea party, one can guess that he probably did spend too much time with mercury!

Which is the best summary of this passage?

- A. The character of the Mad Hatter may have been inspired by hat makers who went crazy from mercury poisoning.
- B. It was common for hatters to go crazy because they developed mercury poisoning from making hats without proper protection.
- C. The Mad Hatter was one of the most popular characters from Lewis Carroll's book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.
- D. Alice meets the popular character of the Mad Hatter at a tea party that was also attended by the March Hare and the Dormouse.

## Question 43 .

**Art and Music in Schools**

(1) With shrinking school budgets, many people have objected to the idea of teaching art and music every semester. (2) However, it is important that students are exposed to art, music, and theater from a young age. (3) These activities are not only entertaining for children but also help them to develop on a fundamental level.

(4) Art and music allow kids to express themselves better than math or science do. (5) Since these activities are creative, they help children think and practice in a creative way rather than in a manner of calculating mathematical or technical operations. (6) According to a recent study, children who engage in the arts regularly are four times more likely than others to participate in math and science fairs, to win an award for writing an essay or poem, or to be recognized for academic achievement.

(7) Besides academic achievement, art and music also help to develop children's motor skills. (8) Activities such as playing an instrument or making a painting using a paintbrush or a crayon help to develop a child's fine motor skills.

~~(9) Some students lack confidence or suffer from stage fright at school. (10) If these~~ children are given the chance to participate in a school play, to practice singing, or to play an instrument in front of a crowd, it will help to boost their confidence. (11) It also increases the level of focus in students. (12) When students practice art and music repeatedly to master the skill, they improve their concentration and focus as well.

(13) Art and music also play a major role in improving children's social skills. (14) When children participate in an art or musical activity together, they interact with each other and ~~make new friends. (15) Art and music also provide children with a relaxing environment in~~ which to unwind after an eventful day at school.

(16) Many schools are choosing to cut down on art and music classes. (17) However, students should be given the opportunity to experience these activities as much as possible. (18) Students will never truly know what they are missing if they are not shown the world of music and art.

If the author were to present this paper to the school board, which would be the **best** concluding statement to add?

- A. Some people may think that music and art are just a waste of time, but I believe I have successfully demonstrated that they are completely wrong. They simply don't know what they are talking about.
- B. While some may balk at the expense, many highly regarded schools that have adopted music and arts programs have found results consistent with the benefits described in this presentation.
- C. What else can I say, folks? I've got nothing against math and science. They're important. But you've got to have music and art. It's that simple.
- D. Ladies and gentlemen, the verdict is clear: While math and science have their place, music and art are vital to the success of public education in this country.

## Question 44 .

It was the year 3009. The door opened, and a whole new world welcomed us. I wondered what we would encounter. The scout robots had searched to and fro and came back with reassuring reports. There were water, plants, and animals. None of the life forms were found to be as intelligent as humans. It was a planet that was perfect for habitation. My family was chosen to be in the first group of settlers. We were about to set foot on New Planet when another spaceship landed. We watched as a door opened and tall mouse-like creatures, standing upright on their hind legs, stepped out. Our scout robots flew into action and took scans of the creatures. They did not seem dangerous. Then, the tallest mouseman said, "What are you humans doing here? We discovered this planet first, and we are going to live here!" His voice sounded a little squeaky, and his long whiskers twitched now and then.



Captain Spirk came out to speak with the mouse people, "Now hear this King Rodent, we filed our paperwork with the Office of Livable Planets. Everything is official. You'll just have to find yourselves another place to live."

~~"We both know how difficult that would be. There is no way we are leaving," King Rodent squealed.~~

"Excuse me, Your Highness and Captain Spirk, isn't this an enormous planet? Why can't we all live here together in peace? We could help each other out as we learn about this place. We could work together to protect ourselves from other invaders," I bravely suggested.

"You know, the kid is onto something there! This could be a new world with different intelligent species living together in harmony. That could work! What do you say, Mousey?"

~~Captain Spirk questioned King Rodent.~~

"Okay, Captain Smirk, it's a deal as long as we divide it evenly. We won't settle for less than half," King Rodent answered. The two leaders shook hands, and we all introduced ourselves to one another. That was only the beginning.

How does the setting contribute to the plot?

- A. The setting illustrates real problems with space travel.
- B. The setting builds the suspense and sense of adventure.
- C. The setting helps the reader identify with the narrator.
- D. The setting educates the reader about outer space.

## Question 45 .

**Passage 1**

Many people may know Paul Hewson as Bono, the lead singer of the Irish rock band U2. He is also an activist for human rights. An activist is someone who believes in a cause so much that he or she takes action to help that cause. Bono and his band have performed in many benefit shows to raise money for people in Africa. He performed in the Band Aid and Live Aid shows. He has also started several organizations to provide food, medical care, and education for people in Africa. Bono is a co-founder of ONE and (RED). These organizations raise funds for Africa. Bono also helped start a clothing company called EDUN to make clothes in developing countries like Africa. Bono has traveled to Africa to volunteer in feeding programs and to raise awareness of problems there. He has also been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to help poor people in Africa.

**Passage 2**

Ingrid Newkirk began working with animals at a Maryland animal shelter in 1972. She did not like the harsh treatment animals received there. She moved on to become an animal investigator for Montgomery County in Maryland. Then, Newkirk became the chief of the animal-disease-control division for Washington, D.C. She started the organization called PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) in 1980. Her main goal as leader of PETA was to stop animal cruelty. Ingrid has worked hard to expose poor treatment of animals in labs. She has also drawn attention to the treatment of animals in the field of entertainment. Under Ingrid's guidance, PETA has won many animal cruelty cases.

What is the common theme in both of the passages?

- A. Animals should be respected and treated fairly by people around the world.
- B. You should give a lot of your time and money to help starving people in Africa.
- C. It is important to stand up for your beliefs to make a positive difference.
- D. Musicians have the biggest impact in helping raise money for important causes.

## Question 46 .

**Art and Music in Schools**

(1) With shrinking school budgets, many people have objected to the idea of teaching art and music every semester. (2) However, it is important that students are exposed to art, music, and theater from a young age. (3) These activities are not only entertaining for children but also help them to develop on a fundamental level.

(4) Art and music allow kids to express themselves better than math or science do. (5) Since these activities are creative, they help children think and practice in a creative way rather than in a manner of calculating mathematical or technical operations. (6) According to a recent study, children who engage in the arts regularly are four times more likely than others to participate in math and science fairs, to win an award for writing an essay or poem, or to be recognized for academic achievement.

(7) Besides academic achievement, art and music also help to develop children's motor skills. (8) Activities such as playing an instrument or making a painting using a paintbrush or a crayon help to develop a child's fine motor skills.

(9) Some students lack confidence or suffer from stage fright at school. (10) If these children are given the chance to participate in a school play, to practice singing, or to play an instrument in front of a crowd, it will help to boost their confidence. (11) It also increases the level of focus in students. (12) When students practice art and music repeatedly to master the skill, they improve their concentration and focus as well.

(13) Art and music also play a major role in improving children's social skills. (14) When children participate in an art or musical activity together, they interact with each other and make new friends. (15) Art and music also provide children with a relaxing environment in which to unwind after an eventful day at school.

(16) Many schools are choosing to cut down on art and music classes. (17) However, students should be given the opportunity to experience these activities as much as possible. (18) Students will never truly know what they are missing if they are not shown the world of music and art.

Which sentence would be **best** to add at the beginning of paragraph 4 to better clarify the relationship between the ideas at the beginning of that paragraph and the main thesis of the passage?

- A. Art and music may help students overcome poor study habits.
- B. Art and music may help students make new friends.
- C. Art and music may improve a student's entertainment skills.
- D. Art and music may improve a student's self-image.



## Question 47 .

I had several pets as a child: a parakeet named Lucky, two turtles named Pete and Repeat, and a hamster named Polly who loved to crawl under the bathroom door while I was in there. But, unlike most of my friends, I was never allowed to have a dog of any kind. Eventually, I stopped asking for one. My mother had all sorts of reasons why dogs were not a good idea.

It was not until I was an adult that I learned the real reason for her dislike of dogs. She drove up to Minnesota to visit me during my first year of college, and on her first day in town, I gave her the tour of my new neighborhood. We left my apartment building in the early evening and began walking up and down the nearby residential streets. School children rode their bicycles down the sidewalks, and families sat on their front porches, just like any other afternoon in that area.

We followed the sidewalk around a corner and started traveling along a home's back fence. Suddenly, a large dog barked behind the fence, and I could hear its chain rattling as it stood up and continued barking at us, although I was sure it posed no danger. My mother, however, stiffened and grabbed my arm.

"Let's go!" she whispered in a panicky tone, as she dragged me across the street. When we were safely away from the dog, I saw that she was shaking and breathing heavily. I could not imagine why she changed so suddenly.

"Mom, I don't think that dog could jump the fence," I said.

She loosened up a bit and took a deep breath, and then she released her grip on my arm. "I know, Sarah. But when I was a little girl, I was bitten by a dog. My uncle lived near us, and he had these big dogs that used to chase kids down the street. I've always stayed as far away from dogs as possible."

My lack of canine pets as a child now made sense, but I was surprised at my mother's admission. I always thought she was not afraid of anything.

"Well, I've been thinking about adopting a dog from the humane society," I said as we continued down the street. "But I don't want it to make you uncomfortable."

She laughed nervously and patted my hand. "I could probably handle it as long as you get something small. Maybe a poodle?"

How does the setting impact the story's plot?

- ☐ A. The setting of the residential street shows that the college student does not live in the dorm and has planned to get a dog all along.
- ☐ B. The setting of the residential street gives the mother and daughter an opportunity to take a walk and discuss the mother's fear of dogs.
- ☐ C. The setting of the residential street with fenced yards shows that the daughter has already made plans to adopt a dog and uses the walk to tell Mom.
- ☐ D. The setting of a residential street with fenced yards and the barking dog gives a ready opportunity for the mother to explain her fear of dogs.

## Question 48 .

**Dog Training Me?**

by Bryan Ellett

My new dog is a mutt, or a mix of breeds, most likely a mix between a basset hound and a beagle. No one knows for sure, though. His name is Capote, and he is a really attractive dog, small but sturdy. He has great posture and always looks proud, sticking his chest out slightly and standing tall. There is only one problem, but it's a big problem: he won't fetch.

Actually, it's worse than that. Not only will he not fetch, he's making me play *his* game! I throw the ball, and Capote goes running after it, as if fetch is the thing in the world he most enjoys. He begins bringing the ball back to me, but then he runs right past me. I follow him, reaching for the ball and trying to pull it out of his mouth, but he keeps turning away from me, teasing me with the ball! He's not playing fetch; he's playing "come chase me!" And he's training me to do it, too!

Once I realized this, I read some books, and I've changed my strategy. If he runs past me with the ball, I don't follow him, and I don't reach for the ball. Instead, I turn my back on him and ignore him. He really does like to play, so me ignoring him is a tremendous punishment! Eventually, he'll bring the ball over to me, and once he does, I immediately throw it. That way, he knows that he'll be rewarded with another throw if he brings me the ball. He is not a perfect fetch player yet, but I can now tell that one day he will be!

Which statement is supported by the story?

- A. The narrator enjoys playing with his dog.
- B. The narrator taught his dog the wrong way to fetch.
- C. The dog does not enjoy playing with the narrator.
- D. The dog will never learn how to play fetch.

## Question 49 .

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The reader can **infer** that

- A. dogs can be trained to fetch.
- B. Capote is not very smart.
- C. some dogs will never fetch.
- D. young dogs cannot play games.

## Question 50 .

## I Want

Being the oldest isn't usually hard;  
 you're the first to graduate school,  
 the first to drive a car.  
 But Kathleen had a sister whom everyone adored.  
 When Mary Louise wanted something,  
 she refused to be ignored.  
 If their quiet, meek mother attempted to stand firm,  
 up from Mary Louise would rise the howl,  
 "I

WANT

IT

NOW!"

Then a servant would go sprinting to her beck and call.  
 She made clear what she desired, and promptly, she got it all.  
 Eventually, Mary wanted a gift no one could supply,  
 and all that she desired was a car that would fly.  
 After explaining and pleading, bargaining and such,  
 Kathleen's parents asked her to tell Mary that her request was simply too much.  
 Giddy at the prospect of putting the younger one in her place,  
 Kathleen told Mary "No," with a wide smile upon her face.  
 In a tone so low and guttural, from Mary came the growl,  
 "I

WANT

IT

NOW!"

Kathleen turned and left the room to the sound of Mary's cry,  
 and assured her parents that the time of throwing tantrums would ultimately slip by.  
 The weary parents eavesdropped quietly for a short while,  
 and sure enough their youngest child grew more docile.  
 Forward from that day, whenever something struck her fancy,  
 out from prim Mary would come the question with great ease,  
 "I

WANT

IT

NOW . . . please?"

Read the stanza.

Being the oldest isn't usually hard;  
 you're the first to graduate school,  
 the first to drive a car.  
 But Kathleen had a sister whom everyone adored.  
 When Mary Louise wanted something,  
 she refused to be ignored.

What is the purpose of the first stanza?

- A. It establishes the characters in the poem and describes their traits.
- B. It establishes the problem mother has with Mary Louise's tantrums.

- C. It shows the relationship of Mary Louise, Kathleen, and mother.
- D. It shows how Kathleen is first at everything and Mary Louise is last.

### Question 51 .

#### Art and Music in Schools

(1) With shrinking school budgets, many people have objected to the idea of teaching art and music every semester. (2) However, it is important that students are exposed to art, music, and theater from a young age. (3) These activities are not only entertaining for children but also help them to develop on a fundamental level.

(4) Art and music allow kids to express themselves better than math or science do. (5) Since these activities are creative, they help children think and practice in a creative way rather than in a manner of calculating mathematical or technical operations. (6) According to a recent study, children who engage in the arts regularly are four times more likely than others to participate in math and science fairs, to win an award for writing an essay or poem, or to be recognized for academic achievement.

(7) Besides academic achievement, art and music also help to develop children's motor skills. (8) Activities such as playing an instrument or making a painting using a paintbrush or a crayon help to develop a child's fine motor skills.

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(16) Many schools are choosing to cut down on art and music classes. (17) However, students should be given the opportunity to experience these activities as much as possible. (18) Students will never truly know what they are missing if they are not shown the world of music and art.

Which evidence would be **best** to add to paragraph 3 to support the claim that music develops fine motor skills?

- ☐ A. For example, playing the bass requires students to stand for long periods at a time.
- ☐ B. For example, playing the violin requires precise finger placement to ensure that notes are in tune.
- ☐ C. For example, playing the trumpet requires strong diaphragm muscles to enable controlled exhalation.
- ☐ D. For example, playing the cello requires strong fingers to hold down the strings.

### Question 52 .

Do you have difficulty sleeping? Does your restlessness leave you feeling \_\_\_\_\_ and unfocused the next day? Then it's time for you to try the Sleepster, which is the latest \_\_\_\_\_ to our "Get Some ZZZZZs" line of bedding. The Sleepster is made from the highest quality fabrics to help \_\_\_\_\_ you into a deep sleep in mere moments! So, stop suffering and start sleeping . . . with the Sleepster!

In the second sentence, fill in the blank with the word that is associated with the **most** negative feeling.

- ☐ A. irritable
- ☐ B. hazy
- ☐ C. drowsy
- ☐ D. forgetful

## Question 53 .

## History of Wristwatches

In the past, women wore wristwatches as a piece of jewelry rather than for practical reasons. Men used pocket watches rather than wristwatches to keep time. They wore pocket watches because wristwatches could get damaged as men usually engaged in outdoor work.

However, the trend of wearing wristwatches soon emerged after men in the army realized that seeing the time on their wrist would be easier than taking the watch out of their pockets. Wearing wristwatches helped soldiers keep track of time without stopping to open a pocket watch. It also helped them operate machines and weapons easily while still being able to check the time. The earlier versions of wristwatches were made of unbreakable crystal, and they had a leather strap and a luminous dial. This design enabled them to see the time even when it was dark.

Over the years, wristwatches have evolved in terms of design and technology. Watches now have battery-powered circuits and do not need to be manually wound. Different materials ranging from metals such as steel and silver to high technology materials such as silicon and ceramic are used to manufacture wristwatches. In recent years, there has been a revolution in the field of mobile phones and computers, and engineers have come up with the concept of "smartwatches." Thus, wristwatches continue to evolve and advance with improvements in science and technology.

What does the word luminous mean in the passage?

- A. something that performs different functions
- B. something that does not break easily
- C. something that has a history
- D. something that gives off light

## Question 54 .

On Saturday, the rain poured down heavily and continuously. Staring out the window at the soggy world outside, Jake believed the rain was never going to stop. He was extremely disappointed because it was the weekend, and he wanted to enjoy it with his best friends. Because of the intense storm outside, Jake now was trapped inside the house with his little sister, Emma. She always wanted him to play board games with her. However, Jake was too mature for board games—he was attending middle school now.

From across the living room, Jake could hear the telltale sound of Emma coming toward him. The sound was a board game being dragged across the wood floor. Emma was lugging the game *Toffee Terra* in a tattered box. Jake could not help but smile when he saw that familiar game; he loved playing *Toffee Terra* when he was Emma's age. He decided not to sulk anymore. Jake was going to teach Emma how to play the greatest game of all time.

Read the following sentence from the passage.

"He decided not to sulk anymore."

Which word is a synonym for sulk?

- A. play
- B. pout
- C. stop
- D. quit

## Question 55 .

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Read the following sentence from the passage.

"On Saturday, the rain poured down heavily and continuously."

Which word is an antonym for continuously?

- A. powerfully
- B. occasionally
- C. effortlessly
- D. severely

## Question 56 .

**First Game of the Season**

by Courtney Goff

Brightly-colored leaves from the oak trees had begun to fall, and workers had spent most of the morning clearing them from the field for the game. The cool September wind blew more leaves onto the ground making them harder to clear.

Buses lined the curb on both sides of the stadium, snaking all the way back to the parking lot entrance. Each school's marching band unloaded their instruments and filed through the gates to take their place in the bleachers. Thousands of excited students, wearing their team's colors, rushed into the stadium and filled the stands. Cheerleaders practiced their stunts on the sidelines of the field performing flips and flying high into the air.

In the locker room, the players were much more subdued. They stretched and dressed in their uniforms before gathering around the coach. They knelt down and listened carefully to the coach's last-minute pep talk. The players left the locker room and headed down the hall ~~blinking into the setting sun as they stepped out onto the field.~~

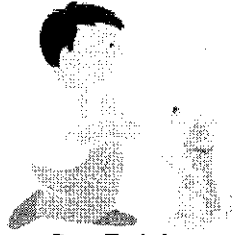
~~All the fans stood up at once to cheer for the teams as they ran out onto the field, and the cheerleaders leapt and shouted to energize the crowd.~~ Everyone anticipated the first game of the season each year, and now it was finally here. Parents of the players sat in the front rows of the stadium cheering the loudest of all. Horns and drums from each team's marching band played loudly with their music vibrating across the field.

On the ground, the teams faced each other, shaking hands before the game began. They ~~stared up toward the end of the field, imagining the ball sailing through the goalposts. As the players prepared to get in their positions, a referee approached the 50-yard line. He handed a football to the home team's center, and it was time for kickoff.~~

Which sentence from the story **best** shows that it is evening?

- ☐ A. ~~"The players left the locker room and headed down the hall blinking into the setting sun as they stepped out onto the field."~~
- ☐ B. "Everyone anticipated the first game of the season each year, and now it was finally here."
- ☐ C. "Thousands of excited students, wearing their team's colors, rushed into the stadium and filled the stands."
- ☐ D. "Horns and drums from each team's marching band played loudly with their music vibrating across the field."

## Question 57 .

**Dog Training**

For decades, centuries even, the most common way to train a dog was to punish the dog when it did something wrong. This is known as negative training. Often, a choke chain would be used. If the dog did something wrong, such as jumping up on someone or chasing a squirrel, the dog's trainer would swiftly yank on the chain. The choke chain would then squeeze the dog's throat in an uncomfortable way. Dogs learned that they would be choked if they chased squirrels, so they stopped chasing them. Usually,

Over the past 20 years, there has been a growing movement of positive dog training. In this method, the dog is taught to do the correct thing rather than being taught *not* to do the incorrect thing. For example, in positive dog training, the dog is not punished for chasing squirrels. Instead, the dog is rewarded, often with a treat, for staying still by the trainer when squirrels are nearby. After a dog has been rewarded enough times for doing something correctly, eventually it continues to do the correct thing even without a reward. Sometimes, the reward is changed to kind words and rubs rather than treats.

There are several benefits to positive dog training. First of all, the person training the dog never has to hurt the dog. Usually, if a person owns a dog, he or she loves dogs and doesn't really like hurting them. Secondly, the dog never has a reason to fear the owner. Fear is what causes dogs to bite people, sometimes for no reason. They are just trying to protect themselves from whatever they fear. If a dog does not fear a person, it has no reason to bite. Overall, this method of training creates a respectful relationship between pet and owner. Rather than one being dominant over the other, both dog and owner are working together. This type of bond can be deeper and more meaningful than any bond built upon hurting and pain.

Based on the passage, what is the author's attitude toward negative dog training?

- A. The author agrees with negative dog training because it has been used in behavioral correction for centuries.
- B. The author disagrees with negative dog training because it creates an unhealthy dynamic through punishment.
- C. The author disagrees with negative dog training because it does not always stop dogs from chasing squirrels.
- D. The author agrees with negative dog training because it promotes a respectful relationship between dog and owner.



## Question 58 .

**The Cat Hater**

by Bryan Ellett

When Samuel was a kid, his family had a dog. It wasn't a purebred or anything, just a mutt, but Samuel's family loved it very much. They only owned the one dog, but they loved all dogs, every dog they saw. When they would take the mutt to the dog park, Samuel and all of the members of the family would pet every dog they saw and scratch them behind the ears and say things like, "Aren't you beautiful!"

But there was something else they all agreed on, too: cats were terrible! For reasons no one knew, Samuel's family was one of those families that loved dogs but hated cats. And so, Samuel grew up hating cats too. When Samuel was 18, he left home for college, and still he hated cats.

Samuel and his friend Max rented an apartment in college. One night, they were watching TV when Max said, "There is something wrong with this apartment. It just doesn't feel right without an animal. I think we should get a cat." Samuel agreed that it didn't feel right without an animal, and he knew that dogs weren't allowed in the apartment. But, he hated cats, so he said, "You can get one if you want, but I'm not paying for anything!"

So Max bought a cat and named it Mitsy, and Samuel refused to help take care of it. Still, he was around the cat a lot. After a few weeks, he began to like it when the cat would rub her head on Samuel's leg, and he liked how she stalked and pounced on roaches. Within two months, Samuel thought Mitsy was one of the greatest animals in history. He was sure his family would make fun of him when they found out!

What is a recurring theme in a story such as this?

- A. No one can like both dogs and cats equally.
- B. Once a person has an opinion, he or she should never change it.
- C. A person should form his or her own opinions.
- D. It is important to hold the same opinions as one's family.

## Question 59 .

**Passage 1**

**Confucius**  
*adapted from Little Journeys*  
 by Elbert Hubbard

Confucius was a man of aristocratic origin and some official importance in a small state called Lu. Here in a very parallel mood to the Greek impulse he set up a sort of Academy for discovering and teaching Wisdom. The lawlessness and disorder of China distressed him profoundly. He conceived an ideal of a better government and a better life, and travelled from state to state seeking a prince who would carry out his legislative and educational ideas. He never found his prince; he found a prince, but court intrigues undermined the influence of the teacher and finally defeated his reforming proposals.

Confucius died a disappointed man. "No intelligent ruler arises to take me as his master," he said, "and my time has come to die." But his teaching had more vitality than he imagined in his declining and hopeless years, and it became a great formative influence with the Chinese people. It became one of what the Chinese call the Three Teachings, the other two being those of Buddha and of Lao Tse.

The gist of the teaching of Confucius was the way of the noble or aristocratic man. He was concerned with personal conduct as much as the Greek with external knowledge and the Jew with righteousness. He was the most public-minded of all great teachers. He was supremely concerned by the confusion and miseries of the world, and he wanted to make men noble in order to bring about a noble world. He sought to regulate conduct to an extraordinary extent; to provide sound rules for every occasion in life. A polite, public-spirited gentleman, rather sternly self-disciplined, was the ideal he found already developing in the northern Chinese world and one to which he gave a permanent form.

**Passage 2**

**Confusing Confucius**

One day Zi Lu came to see his teacher, Confucius, about a question. The disciple knew it pleased his teacher when they asked questions because it "stimulated their thinking." Confucius was sitting outside his humble hut talking with Ping Hui, another student. When Confucius saw Zi Lu approaching, his wrinkled face brightened, and he held up his hand.

"Zi Lu! How go your studies?" the sage inquired.

"Very well, Master, but I have a question," the young man replied. "When we hear a good proposal, should we put it into practice at once?"

Confucius did not hesitate to answer. "You should always first ask someone with more experience," he advised.

Humbly bowing, Zi Lu thanked his teacher and went on his way, and Confucius continued his conversation with his student.

In a short while, Ran You approached and begged an audience with his teacher. Coincidentally, Ran You had the same question. "Teacher, when we hear a good proposal, should we put it into practice at once?"

"Of course, you should put it into practice at once," Confucius replied, much to the astonishment of Ping Hui. After Ran You left, Ping Hui inquired of his teacher about the apparent contradiction of his advice.

"Why did you give the men different answers to the same question?" he asked.

"Zi Lu tends toward hasty decisions, so he should be advised to be more cautious. Ran You hesitates too much when making decisions. He must be encouraged to boldness. It is only natural that different people should get different answers, Ping Hui."

Read the sentence from "Confucius."

He sought to regulate conduct to an extraordinary extent; to provide sound rules for every occasion in life.

Based on a knowledge of word roots and affixes, which is the **best** definition of extraordinary as used in the sentence?

- ☐ A. according to what is expected
- ☐ B. equal to what already exists

- C. beyond what is typical
- D. more than what is needed

**Question 60 .****Rainwater Harvesting**

(1) Globally, water shortages have become a major cause for concern. (2) Although water covers about 71 percent of Earth's surface, people face water scarcity. (3) Out of this total, only 3 percent is fresh water, 2.5 percent of which is in the form of glaciers. (4) Therefore, people need to manage and distribute fresh water that is available effectively. (5) According to recent research, nearly one billion people across various nations do not have access to clean drinking water.

(6) To combat this water scarcity, many nations have begun rainwater harvesting. (7) Many societies have been practicing the technique of rainwater harvesting, but the recent water shortage has inspired people in urban areas to implement it as well. (8) Rainwater harvesting is the practice of collecting and storing rainwater for agricultural and domestic use. (9) Instead of letting rainwater fall off their roofs, people collect the water in huge water storage tanks. (10) The stored water is usually used for irrigation or gardening. (11) If people want to use the stored water for domestic purposes such as drinking or cooking, the water needs to be purified.

Which conclusion would **best** synthesize the big ideas of the passage?

- A. Much of Earth's water is in the form of glaciers, which means that it is frozen and unusable. When glaciers melt, the water is added to the global water supply and can be better used by people.
- B. Harvesting rainwater allows people to share water with others, which helps build stronger communities. As water scarcity becomes a bigger problem, communities will need to rely on each other more.
- C. Water scarcity is a major problem for many people on Earth and conserving fresh water is very important. Harvesting rainwater is one way to help people use water more effectively in their everyday lives.
- D. Water scarcity impacts urban areas of the world where people use most of their water for domestic use. Using storage tanks allows cities to use their water more effectively.



# Research paper and TDA questions

## Question 1 .

Which is **not** true of a thesis statement?

- A. It is between 1-3 sentences in length.
- B. It is at the end of the introduction.
- C. It follows a bridge statement.
- D. It outlines what your paper will be about.

## Question 2 .

Which is **not** true of a works cited page?

- A. It contains an entry for each source that you used in your research paper.
- B. It is not always needed for a research paper, especially if you do not cite any sources.
- C. It is listed in alphabetical order by author's last name.
- D. It helps you avoid plagiarism.

## Question 3 .

What is the first step you should do after reading a TDA passage and prompt?

- A. Write your final copy quickly before you lose the ideas that you had!
- B. Write a rough draft of the essay so that you can revise it!
- C. Make a graphic organizer in order to plan your essay!
- D. Break apart the prompt to see what you should analyze and write about!

## Question 4 .

What is the largest part of a TDA essay?

- A. Analysis/Explanation
- B. Summary/plot events
- C. Thesis statement/topic sentences
- D. Quotes/Paraphrasing

**Question 5 .**

Which of the following is an example of a strong thesis?

- A. The descriptions of the island, the castle, and the jungle aid in building suspense throughout the story.
- B. I think that the author uses similes, metaphors, and allusions to help develop the personality of the antagonist.
- C. The story's theme is developed when the author makes you feel sympathetic toward Johnny, when you see how Johnny acts toward the Socs, and when you read how Johnny save the kids in the church.
- D. The protagonist is revealed to be a fearful man.