

# IES Test Prep Answer Explanations for SAT Critical Reading Workbook

Test 1.....	3
Test 1, Section 1 .....	3
Test 1, Section 2 .....	6
Test 1, Section 3 .....	9
Test 2.....	12
Test 2, Section 1 .....	12
Test 2, Section 2 .....	15
Test 2, Section 3 .....	18
Test 3.....	22
Test 3, Section 1 .....	22
Test 3, Section 2 .....	25
Test 3, Section 3 .....	28
Test 4.....	31
Test 4, Section 1 .....	31
Test 4, Section 2 .....	35
Test 4, Section 3 .....	39
Test 5.....	42
Test 5, Section 1 .....	42
Test 5, Section 2 .....	45
Test 5, Section 3 .....	49
Test 6.....	52
Test 6, Section 1 .....	52
Test 6, Section 2 .....	54
Test 6, Section 3 .....	57
Test 7.....	60
Test 7, Section 1 .....	60
Test 7, Section 2 .....	63
Test 7, Section 3 .....	66
Test 8.....	70
Test 8, Section 1 .....	70
Test 8, Section 2 .....	73

Test 8, Section 3 .....	76
Test 9.....	80
Test 9, Section 1 .....	80
Test 9, Section 2 .....	83
Test 9, Section 3 .....	86
Test 10.....	88
Test 10, Section 1 .....	88
Test 10, Section 2 .....	91
Test 10, Section 3 .....	94

# Test 1

## Test 1, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence involves a contrast signaled by “rather than.” Bernard would most likely clean his room in order not to *provoke* his mother, and would thus avoid her tirade, or angry reprimand. To *eschew* (D) means to avoid; to *enervate* (A) means to weaken.

2. Correct Answer: (E)

Because Jules showed “keen judgment,” it can be inferred that he has positive qualities as a businessman. This leaves choices (B), (C), and (E) for the first blank. The second blank should involve a basic description of Jules’s activities when dealing with “potential investments,” which is why *shrewd* and *assessing* (E) are the best fits for the blanks. *Excoriate* (C) means to criticize harshly; *inane* (D) means stupid or ridiculous.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence describes how Eunice made improvements in her life overall “by achieving success and fortune.” In other words, she improved her *lot* or general situation.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

This sentence involves a cause-and-effect relationship: by “performing acts of compassion and personal sacrifice,” Mother Teresa and Norman Borlaug would be likely to *alleviate* or lessen human suffering. *Exacerbate* (B) means to make worse.

5. Correct Answer: (B)

This sentence describes how rescue work under “normal circumstances” differs from rescue work during “inclement weather.” It can be inferred that rescue work under the second of these conditions is more difficult; while the two blanks should be filled with similar words, the word for the second blank should be more extreme in degree. *Challenging* and *perilous* are the words that fit best.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The sentence establishes a contrast between the father’s exhaustion and what he is “infused with” after a long day of work. *Vitality* fulfills this relationship most effectively. *Conviviality* (A) means friendliness; *temerity* (B) means boldness. While both of these are tempting choices, neither creates a direct opposition to “exhausted.”

7. Correct Answer: (E)

Consider the relationship between the two blanks in order to correctly describe the situation of “marine ecology,” a field that has “only recently gained prominence.” It can be inferred that such prominence would account for a large number of or *surge in* research grants. However, because marine ecology has only gained prominence recently, it would historically be at the *periphery* (or on the margins) of environmental awareness.

8. Correct Answer: (B)

To correctly describe James Packard, this sentence requires an answer that contrasts directly with the phrase “of aristocratic rank.” *Commoner* would be the best choice. None of the other words directly fit these clues: a *charlatan* (A) is a deceiver or swindler; a *maverick* (B) is a rebel or nonconformist; a *jingoist* (D) is an aggressive nationalist or patriot.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

The author of Passage 1 notes that geologists are “widely convinced” that Amasia will form the future (line 7),

while the author of Passage 2 discusses the “possibility of a new supercontinent” (line 13). Neither of these references indicates that Amasia is *inevitable* (B) or *chimerical* (D), which means far-fetched. Instead, Amasia is a hypothetical or *conjectural* notion. Because the authors do not discuss the current reception and awareness of this idea, answers (A) and (C) can both be eliminated.

10. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 2 nowhere mentions geologists and says nothing about their specific proposals or propositions; it is never even made explicit that geologists are the source of the passage’s information about Amasia. Passage 1 openly discusses geologists and their ideas in lines 6-9. Both passages discuss land masses (A) and the repercussions of a change in world geography (B); Passage 2 alone discusses the interactions of species (C) and the fate of human society (E).

11. Correct Answer: (A)

Unlike Passage 2, Passage 1 contains specific and concrete information about geological history, and about exactly which landmasses will meet if Amasia forms. It is thus more *informative*. Neither passage has a puzzled or *quizzical* tone (C); neither involves praise or could be described as *laudatory* (D); neither entails accusations (E). Be careful not to switch the passages when reading this question, since this will give you the wrong answer; the tone of Passage 2 would be more *meditative* (B) than that of Passage 1.

12. Correct Answer: (A)

Both passages deal with the Amasia hypothesis, yet the author of Passage 2 refers to Amasia as “a prospect that fires the imagination” (lines 14-15) and imagines a few of the consequences that could result. Although Passage 1 indicates that Amasia is a likelihood, Passage 2 does not offer evidence that would substantiate this likelihood eliminating (B). The author of Passage 2 does not argue against the origins or claims in Passage 1, thus eliminating (C) and (D); in fact, the passages are in general agreement about the likelihood of Amasia’s formation. Although it is possible to read Passage 2 as a piece of lyrical or meditative writing, Passage 1 does not deal with experiments, only with possibilities and logical suppositions.

13. Correct Answer: (B)

Overall, the author criticizes the shift away from meaningful and powerful musicals. He or she also discusses what makes a musical meaningful and powerful. (A) is incorrect because the author does not discuss how the modern playwrights maintain popularity. (C) is incorrect because the author’s method is not “unique.” (D) is incorrect because it falsely describes musicals today as “increasingly complicated.” (E) is incorrect because the author discusses collaborations in a positive light, so “repudiate” is wrong.

14. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “however” in the line reference indicates a contrast between the opinion of the “ordinary theatregoer” and that of the “aficionado”. While the former views modern musicals as superior, the aficionado has “reservations,” or doubts. Since the aficionado is the expert, he or she will hold theatre to a higher standard than the ordinary person will. Thus, it can be inferred that the musicals of the twenty-first century are not as high in quality as those of the past. (C) is fully supported, while (B) is incorrect because the line reference does not explain the merits of either popular or classical musical theater. (A) is incorrect because the author does not mention specific musicals, or finances. (D) is incorrect because the author does not discuss the range of musicals today. (E) is incorrect because it assumes a “growing conflict” between viewers of musicals.

15. Correct Answer: (E)

The first paragraph explains how the aficionados view modern musicals, partly by noting what qualities these plays have abandoned. Since the overall tone toward modern musicals is negative, it can be inferred that the abandoned techniques are the ones that the aficionados would prefer. Thus, “musical wit” and “energetic but

carefully-interpreted roles” are features that the aficionado would prefer. Of the options, only (E) matches these clue phrases. (A) and (B) are incorrect because they are not mentioned in the line reference, and (C) and (D) are incorrect because they are presented as aspects of modern musicals that the aficionados dislike.

16. Correct Answer: (C)

In context, the author is conveying that the aficionados do not agree with the use of these terms. The strongest clue to support this idea is “spurious” in line 17. Thus, the attitude is negative, and disagreeing. The only answer that is supported here is (C).

17. Correct Answer: (D)

The paragraph emphasizes that true musicals make reference to the time period, poke fun at “contemporary politics, culture, and attitudes,” “proffer songs and dance sequences in order to help advance the plot,” and “possess a sense of irony and wit that embodies the times.” Thus the answer must support these clues. (D) matches the description. (A) is wrong because the definition of a true musical makes no mention of plays based on movies. (B) is incorrect because the paragraph does not mention production value. (C) is wrong because the paragraph does not suggest that writers avoid controversy. (E) is wrong because the paragraph does not discuss whether musical theater will improve in the future.

18. Correct Answer: (A)

The phrase “wealth of surprising humor” shows that the author has a positive opinion of Gilbert. (B) can be eliminated. (C) is incorrect because the method does not incite a “melancholy” response. (E) is incorrect because of the phrase “outrageous situations not normally expected in the real world.” (A) is more supported by the line reference than (D).

19. Correct Answer: (B)

The line reference here emphasizes that for “the first time in musical theater,” collaboration was used to make musicals. Thus (B) is fully supported, while (C), (D), and (E) make no mention of collaboration. (A) is incorrect because Gilbert and Sullivan did not “abandon” their past careers.

20. Correct Answer: (C)

(A) and (B) can be eliminated easily because the line reference says that the men achieved “remarkable success”. (E) can be eliminated because the men were “creators of classic musicals,” not actors. (C) is more supported than (D) because the line reference makes a point that the men were anomalies in their individualism. The previous sentence notes that most successful playwrights at the time were “collaborative pairs.”

21. Correct Answer: (A)

The author characterizes the critics as “supposedly sophisticated,” and then proceeds to disagree with them. Thus, the answer must support a negative portrayal of the critics. (B), (C), and (D) can be eliminated. (E) is incorrect because the critics accused the plays of being “schmaltzy” and “saccharine”, not cavalier.

22. Correct Answer: (C)

The description here focuses on the cumulative emotional effect of the songs and lyrics on stage: “they produce a mood and an intensity that overwhelm the audience’s emotions.” Thus the correct answer must make mention of the emotional impact of a musical on its audience. Only (C) is fully supported. (E) is incorrect because although the author does make mention of the “ease of transition between dialogue and lyrics,” he or she does not indicate that this is not found in other musicals.

23. Correct Answer: (E)

This “finale number” is mentioned after the author discusses how the tune, lyrics and dialogue of the play

intertwine to create a meaningful impact on its audience. (E) is fully supported, because the “lyrics alone” would not give a true picture of the depth of the play. (D), (A), and (B) are incorrect because the context makes no mention of any of these ideas. (C) is incorrect because the author does not suggest that this song is the only one of its kind.

24. Correct Answer: (D)

A key phrase in this question is “according to the entire passage.” The reader must pull what he or she knows about the author’s opinion of good musicals. In paragraph 2, the author indicates that irony, wit, relevance to the times, and entertaining song and dance are important. In paragraph 4, the author emphasizes the importance of emotional depth to a musical. Thus, a correct answer must address at least some of these qualities. (D) is supported. (A) is incorrect because the author thinks that powerful musicals help us accept the world “cheerfully”, so “fatalistic” is wrong. (B) is incorrect because the author wants the plays to be relevant to the times, so “idealized lifestyles” is wrong. (C) and (E) are incorrect because they do not address any of the supporting evidence in the passage.

## Test 1, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (A)

Because the “road from New York to Boston” is considered “unusable,” words that establish a negative meaning should be expected for the blanks. *Beset* and *inconveniences* effectively establish a situation that would be problematic for motorists.

2. Correct Answer: (E)

Samantha’s reaction to Jason is clearly negative, and should result from a negative or aggravating action. Both (B) and (E) offer negatives for both blanks, but (B) does not fit the context; only a situation, not a “complaint,” can be aggravated.

3. Correct Answer: (B)

The blank should accurately describe a feature of the lecture, which “constantly pursued” unusual new digressions or side-topics. The word *tangent* is synonymous with digression. A *prevarication* (C) is a lie.

4. Correct Answer: (B)

As indicated by the clue “unexpectedly,” the blank requires a word that contrasts with “icy” in order to describe the Svalbard Islands. The best fit is *balmy*, a word that means warm and pleasant.

5. Correct Answer: (A)

According to the sentence, Harriet grants approval, but does not do so explicitly. The first word simply requires a synonym for approval; *confirmation* (A), *consent* (B), and *support* (C) are all possible fits. For the second blank, find a word that means “not explicit.” Only *tacit* (meaning silent or unspoken) is appropriate.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

This passage discusses the novelist Kazuo Ishiguro and presents a few of the themes and topics that he examines in his writings. As the author of the passage explain, Ishiguro’s works “transcend time and place to offer a global understanding of the human condition” (lines 14-15). In light of this information, (C) is the best answer. As described, Ishiguro is not primarily concerned with contemporary society, thus eliminating (A); only one of the books described deals with World War II, and the reception of this book is never discussed, thus eliminating (B); it is never made explicit that Ishiguro is a controversial figure, eliminating (D); while it is noted that Ishiguro moved between cultures, the passage in fact denies that such cultural exchange is the major or exclusive topic of his writing, thus eliminating (E).

7. Correct Answer: (D)

After stating that “the displacement of immigration” is not a focus of Ishiguro’s books (line 4), the author of the passage discusses two of Ishiguro’s novels as examples; one book is about World War II, the other is a science fiction tale. These books show that Ishiguro’s books are not exclusively concerned with immigration issues. Although Ishiguro focuses on different topics, it is not certain that he avoids exploring a single milieu, eliminating (A); Ishiguro’s specific readers and contemporaries are never mentioned, eliminating (B) and (C). It is not established that self-acceptance and self-fulfillment are Ishiguro’s consistent focuses, even though these themes seem prominent in *Never Let Me Go*, thus eliminating (E).

8. Correct Answer: (B)

The author begins the passage by observing that “growing up Italian-American” is “not a big deal” socially (line 3), but then goes on to describe the strong effects of “Italian ancestry” (line 5). On account of this evidence, answer (B) is the best choice. Answer (A) can be eliminated because “growing up Italian-American” does have meaningful repercussions. The cultural differences in question are everyday or common, but not necessarily neglected (C). In addition, the author never argues that “growing up Italian-American” should be a source of greater interest (D) or that it creates confusion (E); if anything, the author is quite aware of the ways that such heritage impacts daily life.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

In the final sentences of the passage, the author provides examples of how “I am tainted by my Italian ancestry” (line 5). The statements in lines 8-14 are simply a few of these examples, so that answer (E) is correct. Although some of the observations in the passage are ironic, the author does not take a negative tone; answers (A), (B), and (D) can thus be eliminated. Answer (C) is a trap. Even though the author’s observations can be humorous, they are not digressions and primarily serve to support the passage’s primary argument about the effects of Italian-American heritage.

10. Correct Answer: (A)

The author begins the passage by discussing the diversity in America, then transitions to a discussion of the immigrant experience, including assimilation, living in two cultures, and trying to find a balance between ancestral culture and American culture. (D) and (E) are incorrect because they do not address the immigrant experience enough. (C) is incorrect because the author discusses the adversities that parents face, but it is not the *primary* concern of the passage. (B) is incorrect because although the author mentions assimilation, again it is not the *primary* concern of the passage.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

In the first paragraph, the author discusses the diversity in supermarkets, mentioning specific countries like India, China, Russia, Kenya, and Mexico. Thus, the phrase “world pie” is a metaphorical reference to the cultural diversity within the supermarket. (B) and (D) are incorrect because they do not refer to diversity. (E) is incorrect because the author does not indicate any “bias”. (C) is incorrect because the people are foreign, not the cuisine.

12. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the author is discussing the transformation of America into a “country vastly different from what it once was.” Thus, the word “color” here is emphasizing the changing population of the country. (A) and (E) are incorrect because they are too negative. (B) and (C) are incorrect because they do not address the idea that the country is undergoing a transformation.

13. Correct Answer: (E)

The reader must read before and after the line reference to understand what the “different story” refers to. In the paragraph above the line reference, the author describes successful, overachieving immigrant children. After the line reference, the author shifts to describing the enormous burden and stress placed on the children of immigrants, who must obtain an education satisfy their parents. Thus, (E) is completely supported. (C) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that immigrant children perform poorly, (B) is incorrect because the author does not discuss assimilation here, and (A) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the parents and children necessarily disagree. (D) is incorrect because it is too positive.

14. Correct Answer: (E)

To answer how a sentence functions, the reader must establish how it is used in context. It clearly marks a difference in perspective, from viewing immigrant children as successful overachievers to discussing the stress and burden that immigrant children are subject to. (A) is incorrect because there is no danger, (B) is incorrect because the author does not discuss consumerism, (C) is incorrect because although the children face pressure, it is not from their peers. (D) is incorrect because it reverses the actual relationship portrayed in the passage: parents face adversities to ensure success for their children.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

The situation described in the passage is one in which an individual behaves and speaks one way with a certain group of people, then completely transforms in behavior and language to fit in with another group. (B) is supported. (A) is incorrect because the musician is only playing the classics, and (E) is incorrect because the Chinese American student is not finding anything in common with the residents of South Korea. (C) is incorrect because the swimmer does not routinely switch back and forth between ocean and pool, and (D) is incorrect because the exchange student is not forced to completely immerse himself in two worlds.

16. Correct Answer: (B)

To answer how the sentence functions, the reader must establish the context. In the sentence before the line reference, the author says “that’s the ideal result of the theory.” The sentence after the line reference starts with the phrase “It’s true,” so the sentence functions to transition between theory and truth. (A) is incorrect because the author does not dispute the *source* of the previous statement. (D) is incorrect because the author goes on to explain the truth, so “not always tangible” is unsupported. Both (C) and (E) are incorrect because neither feelings nor lifestyle are mentioned.

17. Correct Answer: (D)

Overall, the author is considering the immigrant experience in America. She discusses different points of view, and is not overly positive or negative about the subject. (D) is the only answer that is supported.

18. Correct Answer: (A)

The author expresses frustration at French shoppers with a sarcastic tone, making fun of the long time that shoppers take for every little task. (E) and (C) are incorrect because they are too positive. (B) is incorrect because the author does not express sadness, only frustration. (D) is incorrect because the author does believe that the French shoppers have frustrating habits.

19. Correct Answer: (A)

Overall, the author is describing a French way of shopping in a negative light, indicating that the process is needlessly long and drawn out. (B) is wrong because the author does not spend any significant amount of time detailing baked goods. (C) is wrong because the author is describing his or her own reaction, not that of all foreigners. (D) is incorrect because there is no fantasy involved in the passage. (E) is incorrect because the purpose of the author’s comparison is to illustrate how frustrating the French way of shopping is.

20. Correct Answer: (C)



Here, the author explains what shopping means to him or her, and then goes on to explain that shopping means something different to the French. Thus (C) is fully supported. (B) is incorrect because the author does not address “tastes”. (A) is incorrect because there is no support for the word “idiosyncratic.” (D) is incorrect because the French *do* have respected traditions. (E) is incorrect because neither approach to shopping is considered “controversial.”

21. Correct Answer: (D)

To answer this question, it is useful to read prior to the line reference and see how the analogy of the opera is being used. The author is using these operas to emphasize how long and tedious the conversation is between the French shopper and shopkeeper. (A) is incorrect because the author is not discussing “modern marketing”. (B) is incorrect because shopping at the deli is not a “dark situation”. (C) is incorrect because these operas do not provide information about the setting. (E) is incorrect because the term *boulangerie* is introduced in the first paragraph.

22. Correct Answer: (E)

In this paragraph, the author discusses at length the process of making a payment: first, the shopper must “hunt for a purse or a wallet,” then after locating it, must hand over a credit card or write a check. The author emphasizes that there are many steps to this process, even though it should not take as long as it does. Thus (E) is supported. (D) is incorrect because “outdated” is not supported, (C) is incorrect because “humiliating” is not supported, (B) is wrong because there is no evidence for “costly,” and (A) is incorrect because there is no evidence for “ignorant.”

23. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, the author is drawing a contrast between France and himself: in France, it seems common for people to pay with checks for “an item that costs four Euros or less.” The only word that implies this meaning is (A).

24. Correct Answer: (B)

When the author compares the process of shopping to an opera, he or she does so throughout the third and fifth paragraphs. (A) is incorrect because although the author does use a comparison, it is not historical. (E) is wrong because although the author uses a slightly humorous tone, it is too subtle to be considered slapstick. (D) is incorrect because the author’s analysis is far from objective, and (C) is wrong because the author does not include scientific facts to substantiate any points.

### Test 1, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (D)

According to the sentence, the discovery of cheese was “accidental,” but also had strong positive aspects. *Fortuitous* (involving a stroke of good fortune) is the word that most effectively fits these clues.

2. Correct Answer: (B)

Each blank simply lines up with a nearby description; the first blank refers to spiders that are “able to thrive under the most extreme weather conditions,” while the second refers to spiders that are “prone to death at the slightest variation in temperature.” A good fit for the first blank would be *resilient* (strong enough to endure difficult circumstances), while *delicate* effectively fits the second blank.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence describes the many different uses of corn: it can be used as a food, an energy source, or a decoration. *Myriad*, a word that indicates a large number or a wide diversity, most effectively fits the

sentence.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The process that this sentence describes involves “high temperature” and “tectonic pressure.” Each blank is designed to line up directly with one of these phrases; *thermal*(indicating temperature) and *dynamic* (indicating movement or pressure) are easily the best choices.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The assembly instructions described in the sentence involve clear “verbal directions.” As a result, the first blank should be a strong positive synonymous with “clear.” However, as a result of this quality of the verbal directions, it can be inferred that other directions or demonstrations are not entirely necessary to the assembly instructions. The best fits for the blanks are *lucidity* (clarity) and *superfluous* (unnecessary). Although (A) may seem like the right answer, *invaluable* actually means “highly valuable.”

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The sentence establishes that customers “no longer wish to purchase” existing iPhones. Thus, it would be logical for vendors to de-emphasize or *sideline* these versions of the product, and to make way for the more appealing version. To stunt (A) can seem close in meaning, but actually means “to keep from growing physically larger,” not “to downplay.”

7. Correct Answer: (A)

In the first line reference, the author describes language “as a knife,” thus a correct answer must support this detail. In the second line reference, the author uses the word “distorting,” which directly supports (A).

8. Correct Answer: (B)

The figurative language is “adrift in a sea.” (D) and (E) are too negative. (A) is incorrect because there is no reference to time. In context of the discussion of language, (B) is more supported.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

The words “clock” and “cloud” are two examples of “strange sounds” (line 6) that we eventually learn to associate with the objects they describe. (E) is fully supported. (C) is incorrect because the author is not introducing a “theory”. (A) is incorrect because it assumes that “parents” are teaching this vocabulary to their children. (B) is incorrect because the author does not bring up the idea that “all language is incomprehensible to infants.” (D) is incorrect because the author is not discussing the “history of language acquisition.”

10. Correct Answer: (C)

The major clue phrases in the paragraph are “so natural and organic that we scarcely notice its occurrence at all,” and “total language acquisition.” Thus language acquisition is characterized as not noticeable, but total. (C) is fully supported. (A) is incorrect because “strange” is not supported, (B) is incorrect because there is no evidence for “unlikely,” (D) is incorrect because there is no support for “mundane,” and (E) is incorrect because neither “systematic” nor “routine” are supported.

11. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the author is explaining how people are used to seeing the world with language, so it is difficult to remember how to see the world without it. In other words, we influenced by our use of language: (D). (A) is incorrect because it is too negative.

12. Correct Answer: (D)

In the second paragraph, the author explains how language forces us to see the world as “a random

jumble of distinct and separable objects,” even though in reality we are more connected with the environment than we think. Thus (D) is correct because the scenic photograph is whole, and it is separated. All the other options can be eliminated because they do not separate an original whole object.

13. Correct Answer: (B)

The “researchers” view life before language as paradise. Thus, they would view a “world without language” as something extremely positive. (C), (D), and (E) are all too negative to be the correct answer. (B) is more supported by the line references than (A).

14. Correct Answer: (C)

In order to answer this question, the reader needs to look at the first paragraph. It describes the urge to return to the past, but notes that this longing “for the golden days” is “an exercise in futility.” Thus, the “sentiment” refers to the idea that longing for the past is not useful. The only answer that is supported is (C).

15. Correct Answer: (C)

In context, it is clear that the author disagrees with the group of researchers whose views he or she describes in paragraph two. Thus, the term “experts” can be interpreted as sarcastic. The author uses quotes to emphasize that he or she does not agree with this term and the ideas described. (A) and (D) can be eliminated because they are not negative enough. (B) is incorrect because the author does not question whether the group of researchers is *objective*. (E) is incorrect because the researchers are not an “established authority.”

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The “oceanic state” is only experienced during pre-language infancy. Thus, the correct answer will describe the experience of post-language adulthood. All options except for (C) describe the “oceanic state.”

17. Correct Answer: (B)

In context, the author is referring to the group of researchers whose views he or she described in paragraph two. Thus, “crop” means group.

18. Correct Answer: (A)

Overall, the author of Passage 1 describes the process of acquiring language as something that happens naturally, but once acquired, divides the world in an unnatural way, and fails to capture the “world’s richness and subtlety.” (line 50)

(D) and (E) can be eliminated because they do not correctly describe Passage 1. Overall, Passage 2 explains that some people dislike language because it distorts reality and pulls us away from infantile paradise, but then disagrees with this group of people, because the acquisition of language is “necessary to sustain life.” (line 98)

(B) and (C) can be eliminated because they do not correctly describe Passage 2.

19. Correct Answer: (D)

The last sentence of Passage 1 laments the inability of language to capture the full complexity of the world. The author of Passage 2 disagrees with those who complain about the ill effects of language, because he or she feels that language has practical value. Thus, (A), (C), and (E) can be eliminated because they are too positive. (D) is more supported than (B) because the author of Passage 2 explicitly mentions “nostalgia” and “yearning,” which directly supports “wistful.”

## Test 2

### Test 2, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The word “because” implies that an explanation for the cats behavior follows, so an appropriate answer would explain being “rarely active after dawn” and sleeping during the day.

2. Correct Answer: (B)

The word “as” indicates that the ideas in the sentence will correspond with that in the blank. Since the sentence talks about improving “transportation,” the blank should indicate that *improved transportation* has increased.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

The word “however” in the middle of the sentence indicates a contrast between ideas, so the two blanks should illustrate opposing ideas. To find the specific evidence for the blanks, look to the clause that follows each blank. For the first blank, look for a word that means *opening doors of the mind*. For the second, look for a word that means *confusing to readers*.

4. Correct Answer: (B)

In this sentence, the only evidence for the blank follows the comma. Therefore, the blank is appropriately filled with a word that means “delighting...with songs and yarns.”

5. Correct Answer: (E)

In this case, there is no clear definition for the blanks within the sentence, but the word “instead” indicates a contrast between them. Thus the correct answer must show two opposites. This eliminates (B), (C), and (D), and between *glamorizing and embracing*, *embracing* is a better option.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

Both passages describe Japanese Internment, and both contain negative statements toward the phenomenon. This eliminates (B) because *less biased* is false. Passage 1 has a more scholarly perspective, discussing the facts of history, and Passage 2 is from an individual who lived through the event. Thus, *broader statistical view* is incorrect in (E). The authors both agree overall, so the word *invalidate* is incorrect in (D). Between (A) and (C) *ambiguous observations* is not supported.

7. Correct Answer: (D)

Passage 1 goes into detail about “compensation” and “paltry” “reparation funds”, explaining that the money Japanese-Americans received did not truly reflect the value of the farms they had lost. Thus, (D) is fully supported by the passage. (E) is false because the U.S. *did* acknowledge the suffering caused by internment. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not primarily focus on American farmers. The phrase “renewed interest” is not supported in (A), and “mixed reactions” is not supported in (B).

8. Correct Answer: (B)

The phrasing of the question is important here. The reader must look for a rhetorical device that does NOT show up in Passage 1, but does in Passage 2. The visual description in Passage 2 occurs in the first two sentences: “I stared at the plastic tatters on the barbed wire and watched these fragments whip back and forth in the desert breeze.”

9. Correct Answer: (C)

Both passages focus on the negative effects and/or experience of Japanese Internment. (C) is supported. In

(A), “children” is not supported. (B) is false because the only mention of how the Japanese Americans coped with Internment occurs in Passage 2, starting in line 25. (D) is somewhat supported by Passage 2, but not at all in Passage 1. (E) is not addressed at all in Passage 1, and merely alluded to in line 22 of Passage 2.

10. Correct Answer: (C)

The line reference explains that in order to achieve certain traits in animals such as “even-tempered blue-eyed kittens,” a specific process is employed. The line reference goes on to explain how this breeding strategy is carried out: thus the statements serve to explain why and how a method is used. (D) is incorrect because the desire for specific traits is not an “ethical problem.” (E) is incorrect because the line reference does not *undermine* anyone. (B) is incorrect because the “animals” are not seeking out mates—the breeders are making that decision. (A) is incorrect because the author never discusses how limited the range of traits is.

11. Correct Answer: (E)

The key evidence in this line reference is the phrase “at risk.” The author is warning, or cautioning, the reader that *engineering* pets could lead to mistreating animals. (A) is incorrect because it is too negative to match the line reference: the author does acknowledge the positive side of pet owners in line 29. The author is not being combative or remorseful, which eliminates (C) and (D). And the author is introducing a new idea, so (B) cannot be correct.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

A big clue in this line reference is the phrase “For example.” The reader should notice this and establish what the German Shepard is an example of: “pet-owners begin to see their animals as perfectly-engineered objects, not as creatures that deserve sensitivity and kindness.” Thus, the answer to the question should support this idea. Indeed, the third paragraph mentions “continuous inbreeding” that causes an “awkward stride, which hinders the dog’s ability...” (A) is incorrect because it misinterprets the relationship between the dog’s popularity as a pet and its breeding: the dog is bred extensively BECAUSE it is a popular pet. (B) is incorrect because it does not include any mention of breeding practices. (D) is incorrect because it makes the unfounded assumption that the American Kennel Club has imposed regulations. (E) is incorrect because the line reference does not address why the dog was domesticated.

13. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the author is negatively portraying the effects of breeding practices that aim to achieve an ideal animal. Thus, the phrase correct posture must be understood to be a sarcastic description of what the breeders think. The author is suggesting that perhaps the idea of correct posture is responsible for the inbreeding and suffering of the dog. He or she does not really think that “correct” is the right word to use. (C) is incorrect because standards of beauty are being pursued, not abandoned. (E) is incorrect because the author specifies the “criteria for correct posture.” (B) is incorrect because animal rights activists would value the health and safety of an animal rather than its *correct posture*. (A) is incorrect because the thesis of the passage is not about posture.

14. Correct Answer: (D)

In order to answer this question, the reader must have a grasp of the concept explained in the fourth paragraph. The entire focus of the paragraph is on “inbreeding-related afflictions.” Therefore, a correct answer must NOT illustrate this idea. (D) is correct because it discusses an animal that is NOT inbred and that is NOT suffering afflictions. All other options discuss a genetically altered species that has “afflictions.”

15. Correct Answer: (D)

The last sentence of the passage refers to the sentence before. Trends that were deemed fashionable or attractive for humans were abandoned because they hindered human health and comfort. The last sentence suggests that animals will benefit from the same decision: that animal health will eventually be considered

more important than animal attractiveness. The one assumption that bridges these two sentences is that a decision made for humans will also be made for pets. Therefore, (D) is supported. (B) is incorrect because the line reference does not suggest anything positive about animal inbreeding. (C) is incorrect because it has nothing to do with the final sentence, and the author does not suggest that foot binding was considered unimportant while it was popular. (E) is incorrect because the line reference makes no allusion to market demand for unhealthy animals. (A) is incorrect because the author is not distinguishing between feline/canine inbreeding and inbreeding as a whole.

16. Correct Answer: (D)

To answer this question, read the paragraph for its main idea. Overall, the message is that the French people treat their forests well because they “are deeply attached to these stretches of nature” and “the forests are not regarded as expendable.” (D) is fully supported. Though the author does mention the industrialization of English countryside, it is only to highlight the noteworthiness of France’s protected forests. (A) does not describe the PRIMARY concern of the paragraph. (B) is incorrect because although the *French countryside* is a primary concern of the paragraph, the author does not *detail* or *give specifics* on the natural landscape. (C) is incorrect because the environmental policy is mentioned just once in line 8, and is not described as revolutionary. Lastly, (E) is incorrect because infrastructure is not the primary concern of the paragraph.

17. Correct Answer: (C)

To determine what the phrase serves to do, the reader must see how it functions in context. From lines 10-20, the author discusses English treatment of nature. Overall, the author’s point is that the English are unlike the French in their *dissipation* and *degradation* of “real, ancient forests”. On the other hand, the phrase in question makes a positive statement about the English relationship with woodlands, so the phrase serves to contrast with, or *qualify*, the larger point about the English. (E) is incorrect because the phrase does not mention industry. (A) and (D) are incorrect because they do not explain the *function of the phrase in context*. (B) is incorrect because there is no opposing argument mentioned.

18. Correct Answer: (C)

To answer this question, the reader must first establish if the tone is overall positive or negative. Words and phrases like “stink,” “smothered,” “fumes,” and “blank anonymity” convey a negative tone. Thus, (E), (D), and even (B) are incorrect. Between vindictive and rueful, the reader must determine if the author is more vengeful or more sorrowful. He or she is referring to the destruction of the natural landscape, but does specifically blame anyone or suggest a desire to get revenge. Thus (A) is unsupported.

19. Correct Answer: (A)

The author establishes a relationship between preserving the land and the design of the roads: “these have not been allowed to impose on the land, which is why transit routes are so direct and straight.” The reader must see that straight roads presumably impose less on the land than do roads that are not straight. (A) simply rephrases this deduction. (B) is incorrect because the word “needlessly” is not supported; the author mentions the “need” for direct communication. (C) is incorrect because the passage talks about MINIMIZING harm to the environment, not avoiding harm “in any way.” (D) is incorrect because the line reference makes no mention of car emissions, and (E) is incorrect because the line reference makes no mention of durability or cost-efficiency.

20. Correct Answer: (E)

The clue phrase in this line reference is “calm, but not without activity”. The topic sentence of the second paragraph makes it clear that there IS wildlife in the forest, so the reason to mention wildlife is to substantiate the claim that the forest is “not without activity.” Thus, the author mentions wildlife to *dispel* an incorrect idea that the forest might lack activity. (A) is incorrect because the second paragraph is completely positive, and does not contain criticism at all. (B) is incorrect because hiking and camping expeditions are never mentioned,

(D) is incorrect because there are no specific forestry practices mentioned, and (C) is incorrect because there is no support for “popular” misconception.

21. Correct Answer: (A)

After the author mentions activity, he or she mentions birds that “flit” “stepping” stags, and other life forms. Thus, activity refers to animal life. The only word that corresponds with the clues in the paragraph is (A) movement.

22. Correct Answer: (D)

The author mentions the word “reaches” when he or she is discussing where to find the wild boar. Thus, “inner reaches of the forest” refers to a location. (E), (C), and (B) are incorrect. Between (A) and (D), “outgrowths” is contradicted by the word “inner” in the line reference. Therefore, (D) is the only supported option.

23. Correct Answer: (A)

To answer the question, read until the author stops discussing foresters (until line 58). To determine the attitude, read for whether the description of the foresters is positive or negative. The phrases “ensuring its survival” and “necessary to keep the woods alive” convey a positive message about the foresters, so (D) and (E) are incorrect. The author is not humorous in describing the foresters, so (C) is incorrect, and the author does not indicate a feeling of fellowship with the foresters, so (B) is not supported.

24. Correct Answer: (E)

The final paragraph is mainly about how the French people interact with their forests, so (C) is incorrect. (B) is incorrect because the author does not suggest the French are “irresponsible,” and (D) is incorrect because bureaucratic measures have not “redefined” French attitudes. (A) is incorrect because the final paragraph does not say that the pastimes are the *most popular*. (E) is supported because in the first paragraph, the author mentions the law that says the forests belong to “the people of France for their needs and use.”

## Test 2, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (B)

In this sentence, the reader must infer that Lucy rushes to “her daughter’s side” to make her child NOT “distraught and trembling.”

2. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, the two words “illustrious” and “remarkable” indicate that both blanks refer to something with a positive connotation. This eliminates (A), (B) and (D). The word *memorials* is not supported by the sentence.

3. Correct Answer: (E)

The word “thereby” indicates a strong relationship between the blank and the description of the president’s behavior. Thus, a correct answer would be a word that means “poise and equanimity”.

4. Correct Answer: (B)

In this sentence, the reader must see that the first blank will have a definition that, in context, would *surprise scientists*. This eliminates (D) and (E). Also, the second blank must correspond with *exhibited behavior*. This eliminates (A) and (C).

5. Correct Answer: (A)

To answer this question, look for the clause that describes the blank. The correct answer must be a word that means “centered on everyday contingencies rather than on lofty idealizations.”

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “but” indicates a contrast between the blank and the phrase at the end of the sentence. Thus, the blank must mean the opposite of “widely accepted”.

7. Correct Answer: (A)

The word “hope” indicates that the first blank should have a positive connotation, so a word that means the opposite of “imperfections” would fit. This eliminates all options except for A.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

In this sentence, the word “same” shows that the blank will correspond with the relaxing effects of meditation. Additional evidence can be found in the clause after the blank: “purging bad emotions.” The correct answer will support both clues.

9. Correct Answer: (D)

The main idea of this passage is that the mad scientist role has been around for a long time and will continue to be around for a long time. The author introduces *Breaking Bad* just after he or she states that mad scientists “aren’t going anywhere”. Therefore, *Breaking Bad* is used as an example of a modern—and *acclaimed*--show that employs the “archetype” of the mad scientist, substantiating the idea that mad scientists will remain popular into the future. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not refer to any financial gain that the show has enjoyed, and (B) is incorrect because of the word “protagonists”.

10. Correct Answer: (D)

In line 8, the author begins suggesting why people are interested in mad scientists. The last sentence begins of the passage is a continuation of this thought, and begins with the phrase “or perhaps,” indicating that a new idea is being introduced. Thus, (D) is supported. (B) and (E) are incorrect because the last sentence does not suggest any flaw in viewpoints or reasoning. (A) is incorrect because there is no problem to be solved, and (C) is incorrect because there is no example mentioned.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

The main idea of this passage is that a castle, reputed to be Dracula’s home, sparked a tourism surge in a small town, and that the residents of the town fabricated memories of Dracula in order to encourage the booming tourism sector. Thus, the “irony” is that people who had been “completely oblivious to Dracula” suddenly had generations-old tales of Dracula’s presence. Although the passage does assert that the myth about the castle is factually incorrect, (B) is wrong because it is not the PRIMARY purpose of the passage.

12. Correct Answer: (B)

The farmer is introduced as an example of the changing “collective memory.” Because the tourism industry is profitable, the farmer entertains visitors with tales that make the myth seem authentic. Thus, he is purposefully working with the others in his town to maximize profit. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not indicate that the tales are “immoral”. (E) is incorrect because the farmer is not “unsuspecting.” (D) is incorrect because these tales are fabricated, not “reliable.” (A) is incorrect because the farmer is neither “detached” nor an “observer.”

13. Correct Answer: (C)

The authors of both passages explain the ideas set forth by Absurdism. While the author of Passage 1 explains that some audiences love the genre and others hate it, the author of Passage 2 gives his or her own opinion, clearly disagreeing with Absurdist ideals. Thus, both authors would agree that not everyone thinks Absurdism is good, which supports (C). the author of Passage 1 never gives his or her opinion, so he or she may not agree with (A), (B), (D), or (E).



14. Correct Answer: (C)

To answer this question, the reader must establish the context in which the plays are mentioned. The author explains how an “artistic movement gained momentum,” then names plays to provide support for this statement. (C) is fully supported. (A) and (D) are incorrect because the author does not mention “theatre connoisseurs” or “scholars.” (B) and (E) are incorrect because the author mentions that the plays were considered “either ‘brilliant’ or ‘baffling,’” so the word “plummeting” is far too negative, and “misunderstood” is not fully supported.

15. Correct Answer: (E)

The line reference mentions that some audiences found the plays “brilliant” and others found the plays “baffling”. In addition, it says “you either love them or hate them.” Therefore it emphasizes the idea that the plays were met with contrasting responses. (E) is fully supported. (A) is incorrect because it makes the assumption that Samuel Becket enjoyed controversy, and (B) is incorrect because it makes the assumption that American critics opposed the plays the most. The author does not indicate that negative responses were “overreactions,” so (C) is incorrect. (D) is incorrect because the line reference makes no mention of techniques, or what dominates theatre today.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

The clue phrase for this question is “closely related to,” clearly indicating that the sentence is making a comparison of the Theatre of the Absurd to Existentialism. Thus, (A) is fully supported. (B) is incorrect because the author does not cite an expert. (C) is incorrect because the line reference does not “undermine” anything, and (D) is incorrect because the author is not arguing against anything. (E) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the “adversaries” are making the comparison.

17. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of the passage is explaining to the reader what a particular genre of theatre is really about, and rather than giving his or her own opinion, the author surveys the opinions of eminent people in the world of theatre. Therefore, (B), (D), and (E) are incorrect. Though the author is discussing theatre, he or she does not use an overly theatrical or melodramatic tone, so (A) is incorrect.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In order to answer this question, the reader must know the overall message of Passage 2. The author clearly asserts that one must search for meaning in life, rather than simply accepting life. Thus, he or she would disagree with the statement in line 22. (E) is fully supported, while (A), (B), and (D) are not negative enough, and (C) is not supported because the author of Passage 2 does not express confusion.

19. Correct Answer: (A)

To answer this question, the reader must figure out WHY the author mentions the Greeks. This requires reading the line reference in context. Prior to mentioning the Greeks, the author states that since the “beginnings of recorded history”, man has assumed that “the universe is indifferent to man.” When mentioning the Greeks, the author explains how the gods leaves man “on his own.” These two ideas confirm one another, so the author clearly mentions the Greeks in order to support the previous statement. (A) is completely supported. (E) is incorrect because the author does not say that standards have “declined.” (D) is incorrect because it makes the assumption that the Greeks were the “first civilization to produce classic tragedies.” (C) is incorrect because the author does not discuss current fascination with early literature. (B) is incorrect because although Hardy’s ideas support those of the Greeks, the author does not suggest that Hardy was directly influenced by the Greeks.

20. Correct Answer: (D)

In this line reference, the author explains that Absurdism is new, or *original* in presenting characters who “have given up and simply accept that nothing can be done about anything.” The author also states that it is new to NO LONGER be presented with “characters who struggle and strive to find themselves.” Thus, he or she implies that prior to Absurdism, plays contained characters who tried to find themselves. (D) simply rephrases this idea. (A), (C), and (E) are incorrect because the author does not mention the “proponents of Absurdism and Existentialism,” “researchers and historians,” or “Jean-Paul Sartre and Samuel Beckett.” (B) is incorrect because Absurdism did bring a new concept to the table, so it was not *simply an offshoot* of earlier movements.

21. Correct Answer: (D)

In the final paragraph, the author questions whether one should simply accept life. The author then explains purpose of literature: “to motivate us to demand a meaning to life.” Finally, the author urges the reader to look for meaning in life rather than simply accepting it. (D) is the correct answer, because the “ideologies” mentioned earlier in the passage were those of Absurdism, and clearly the author disagrees with simply accepting life. (A) is incorrect because no anecdote is provided. (B) is incorrect because the author gives a clear opinion without being “ambivalent.” (C) is incorrect because the author believes in the pursuit of meaning, not that meaning is “superfluous.” (E) is incorrect because the author disagrees with, not *accommodates*, those who think life lacks meaning.

22. Correct Answer: (A)

To answer this, the reader must understand Kenneth Tynan’s review AND the ideas of Jean-Paul Sartre and Samuel Beckett. In the fourth paragraph of the first passage, the reader can find Kenneth Tynan’s review, which basically describes how uneventful the Absurdist plays are. His review is not negative, and not extremely positive. In Passage 2, the author says that the two men “do not defend their ideas, they just blankly present their beliefs.” Thus, the Sartre and Beckett would not have an extremely positive or negative response to Tynan’s review. This eliminates (B), (C), and (D). (E) is incorrect because neither Sartre nor Beckett are described as optimists.

23. Correct Answer: (B)

If the reader remembered from question 17, the author of Passage 1 does not give an explicit opinion, but rather explains the genre and presents the opinions of other people. This eliminates (E). (C) is incorrect because the author of Passage 1 only briefly introduces the “history” of Absurdism in the first paragraph, but spends most of the passage describing reactions to the genre. (A) is incorrect because the author of Passage 2 does not mention compromise, but rather discusses the stark contrast between accepting life and searching for meaning in it. Finally, (D) is incorrect because the author of Passage 2 does not discuss scholars.

24. Correct Answer: (E)

In order to answer this question, the reader must rely heavily on process of elimination. (A) is incorrect because the author of Passage 2 does NOT mention biographical information on any writer. (B) is incorrect because the author of Passage 2 does not urge the reader to avoid adopting extreme views. (C) is incorrect because even though the author of Passage 2 mentions the Greeks, he or she does NOT indicate that Greek plays were a precedent for Absurdism. (D) is incorrect because the author of Passage 1 DOES use testimonies from art critics. (E) is the only option, because no novels are mentioned in Passage 1, but the specific characters of a novel ARE mentioned in Passage 2.

## Test 2, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (C)

The phrase “in light of” indicates that the following clause will agree in meaning with the first. Thus, the overall meaning of the second clause should support that the environment is being threatened. The phrase “by no means” cannot be ignored: the blank should support a word that means NOT threatened.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “surprisingly” is an important clue in this sentence. Since blatant opposition would normally cause a negative reaction, the reader must see that in this case blatant opposition will actually cause a positive reaction. The word “instead” helps the reader identify the order of blanks. Thus, the first blank should support a negative reaction. This eliminates (A) and (D). The second blank should support a positive reaction. This eliminates (B). Between (E) and (C), the words *disheartened* and *emboldened* are more opposite, fit the context of the sentence better.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

The word “and” shows that the blank and the description of Maria’s feelings will agree. Accordingly, the correct answer will support the evidence “hardly calm her nerves”.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The major clue in this sentence is the word “although,” which indicates a clear contrast between the two blanks. This is the only real evidence for the blanks, so the reader must choose the answer that has the best opposing pair of words.

5. Correct Answer: (B)

The information prior to the blank refers to the blank. The correct answer will be a word that means *aggressive behavior*.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “yet” indicates a contrast between the idea that heroes *always prevail* and that there is *enough spectacle and excitement*. The two blanks should illustrate this contrast, and in context, the second blank supports *spectacle and excitement*, which eliminates (A), (B) and (D), and the first blank should support *heroes always prevail*, which eliminates (E).

7. Correct Answer: (B)

In the line reference, the author mentions that William offered Abigail a “sparkling, jeweled bracelet” and that when she married William, she “donned the gown with the latest fashionable sleeves and the steeple head-dress that came with her elevated new position in life.” Thus it is suggested that William can offer Abigail nice things and high social status, which supports (B). (D) is incorrect because the line reference does not mention a “wealth of experience.” (A) and (E) are incorrect because there is no mention of “morality” or “social norms.” (C) is incorrect because it is based on the assumption that William is *popular*.

8. Correct Answer: (A)

The only negative statement about William is that he was “twenty years older than” Abigail. This supports (A). (B) is incorrect because it is not a “reservation” and it is based on the assumption that William is the “richest”. (C) and (D) are incorrect because the line reference does not indicate that William is “disingenuous” or that he “cannot comprehend Abigail’s emotions.” (E) is incorrect because although it is mentioned, it is not characterized as a negative action that would cause Abigail to have reservations about marrying him.

9. Correct Answer: (D)

In order to answer this question, the reader must look for why, in context, the other women would *defer* to her. This is mentioned just after the author alludes to Abigail’s “elevated new position in life,” which supports the idea that Abigail has increased her social standing. (D) is fully supported. (A), (B), and (E) are incorrect because they are negative, so would not be the reason for the women deferring to Abigail. Though (C) is positive, *pragmatic and frugal* are not supported by the passage.

10. Correct Answer: (E)

Three phrases are used to describe Absalom: “poor student,” “coat was patched,” and “eyes were of the deepest blue.” Thus, the correct answer must support at least one of these clues. (E) is completely supported. (A) is incorrect because the line reference does not mention indifference to religion, (D) is incorrect because he does not avoid social interaction, but rather winks at Abigail. (B) is incorrect because it does not mention either Absalom’s way of speaking or his spirit. Finally, (C) is incorrect because neither gestures nor voice are described in the line reference.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

In the line reference, after Abigail looks at Absalom, she turns her gaze to William, who “lumbered,” had “graying” hair, “had put on much weight,” and looked “tired” and “irritated.” Thus, the correct answer will give a negative characterization of William, which eliminates (B) and (E). (A) is fully supported. (C) is incorrect because the line reference makes no mention of work, and (D) is incorrect because the line reference makes no mention of Williams conversations.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

In order to answer the question, the reader must see how the bangle functions in the context of the passage. It is mentioned just after Abigail admires Absalom and then looks at her aging husband. The author characterized the bangle as expensive, and an object of envy for other women. After touching her bangle, Abigail acknowledges that Absalom would not be capable of providing her with such a gift. Thus, it functions to support Abigail’s relationship with William, and remind her that her husband gives nice gifts. (C) is supported. (A) is incorrect because it assumes that WILLIAM loves ornate objects. (B) is incorrect because the bangle does not symbolize anything about Absalom. (D) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the object does not deserve envy. (E) is incorrect because Abigail is not described as rebellious in this line reference.

13. Correct Answer: (E)

The statement that William makes shows that all the women noticed Absalom, even the ones who are “eighty and toothless.” This supports (E). William did not suggest that Goody Putnam should not have admired Absalom, so (A) is not supported. (B) is incorrect because William makes no statement about the community’s general behavior. (D) is incorrect because Abigail IS aware that she admires Absalom. (C) is incorrect because although William makes a deprecating remark about Goody Putnam, his point was to emphasize how many women admired Absalom.

14. Correct Answer: (C)

The two reasons William gives for providing Absalom a place to stay are: “He’ll be good money for me and some company for you, when I am working.” Thus (C) is supported by the passage. (A) is incorrect because it makes the assumption that Abigail has complained of loneliness. (B), (D), and (E) are not supported by the statements in lines 59-62.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

In context, the word is being used to describe color in cheeks. Since she is expressing uncertainty and concern, it can be inferred that she has lost her color, so (B) is supported. (A), (C), (D) and (E) are not suitable in context.

16. Correct Answer: (E)

Abigail laughs when Absalom claims to be studying, because he has no books. Thus, it is suggested that he may not actually be studying, which supports (E). (D) and (B) are incorrect because they describe a legitimate course of study. (A) is incorrect because there is no support for “subversive,” and (C) is incorrect because there is no support for “idiosyncratic.”

17. Correct Answer: (D)

In line 67, William refers to “Caesar’s wife” to indicate that Abigail will not be suspect of any bad behavior. Thus, when Absalom makes advances and Abigail remains a loyal wife, she explains herself by using the same phrase. Thus (D) is fully supported. (A) is incorrect because “intentionally inconclusive” is not supported. (B) is incorrect because “duplicitous” and “outrage” are not supported. (C) is incorrect because it is based on the assumption that Abigail’s comments “baffled” Absalom. (E) is incorrect because Abigail makes no comment of Absalom’s lowly position.

18. Correct Answer: (B)

Here, Absalom accepts Abigail’s decision and gets back to work. Thus, (B) is fully supported. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because they are too negative. (E) is incorrect because it does not acknowledge Absalom’s compliance with Abigail.

19. Correct Answer: (A)

Overall, the passage describes a woman marrying an older man and becoming a high-status individual, being tempted by a younger, better-looking man, and ultimately deciding to remain faithful to her husband. Thus, (A) is supported. (C) is incorrect because there is no mention of women’s “autonomy” in the passage. (E) is incorrect because it negatively characterizes marriage, whereas the passage supports faithful marriage. (D) is incorrect because the passage is neither bleak nor does it contain gratuitous humor. (B) is incorrect because the author does not overtly condemn either cynicism or adultery.

## Test 3

### Test 3, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence already describes George as a “reliable” salesman who can “successfully guarantee the performance of all his high-tech products.” These positive clues indicate that “reputable” is the best answer for the blank.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

Because *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* is described as a “first account” in the sentence, “pioneering” is the best word to apply to this work of literature.

3. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence describes the effect of “diversity” and how people in cities can be influenced by those “ethnically different from themselves.” “Heterogeneity” (meaning a combination of different types) is the best word from this process that “promotes cultural change.”

4. Correct Answer: (D)

Since the blue whale is “capable of swimming 100 miles a day without food or rest,” it is best described as having an indefatigable nature. The word “indefatigable” means “impossible to tire out.”

5. Correct Answer: (A)

The clue for the first blank is “willing to please others,” which lines up directly with the word “complaisant.” However, because Julie has this quality “to a fault,” you should expect a negative for the second blank. “Forgo,” meaning give up, is the best fit.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

This sentence involves two direct contrasts. In the correct answer, “elite members” are contrasted to “ordinary citizens,” while “free reign” is contrasted with “only a hint of latitude.”

7. Correct Answer: (E)

The first blank requires a word describing a “best” or positive quality that refers to “covering every detail” of an interaction. In the second half of the sentence, the negative clue “unfortunately” indicates that the blank should contain a strong negative word. “Fastidious” and “devastation” fit most effectively.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

For the blank, you are required to find a word that lines up with “stealthiest” to describe the Gila monster. Furtiveness (meaning sneakiness or elusiveness) is the best fit. Sinuousness means having curves and turns; alacrity means eagerness and cheerfulness; refractoriness means stubbornness.

9. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 compares the bodies of “exemplary athletes” (line 4) from the early 1900s to bodies that follow “today’s standards” (lines 8-9); the author of Passage 2 states that “since the inception of the Olympics in 1924, the average figure skater has decreased in height by five inches” (line 22-24). Only Passage 1 discusses (B), while only Passage 2 discusses (C). Neither passage discusses (D) or (E).

10. Correct Answer: (E)

The author of Passage 1 argues that “excellence in training,” not “a lucky roll of the genetic dice,” is essential to “the integrity of sportsmanship” (lines 12-13). As a result, the author would argue that “preordained physical traits” are damaging, or deleterious, to modern sportsmanship. The passage does not mention new research (A), controversy among commentators (B), guarantees of success (C), or sporting regulations.

11. Correct Answer: (C)

In these lines, the author transitions from considering the single sport of figure skating to offering a broad assertion about the positive traits of “personal perseverance and triumph over obstacles both mental and physical” (lines 27-29). (E) is the trap answer; there is no direct evidence that the developments mentioned in the passage are “much-debated.”

12. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 argues that “unique but preordained” physical traits now determine success in athletic competitions (lines 10-11). A decrease in height “by five inches” and a prioritization of “smaller, lighter bodies” would be evidence of the trend that is discussed in Passage 1. (B) is a trap answer; despite the thesis of Passage 1, it is nowhere argued that such developments are “widely regarded” as lamentable.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

The passage is a personal essay detailing the early life of Uncle Robert, who later perished in the First World War. The essay concludes with how Robert’s death affected the family, including the outlook of the author. Therefore, (A) is the best answer – the passage is an account of the circumstances (specifically, Robert’s early life and the impact on his family) surrounding Robert’s death. (B) is incorrect, as it is unrelated to the passage; (C) is incorrect, as “enumeration” refers to listing things one by one, which is not the style of the passage at all; (D) is incorrect, as the passage makes no mention of the reputation of the family, and (E) is incorrect, as the passage is too brief to be considered a biography of Robert’s life.

14. Correct Answer: (C)

The best answer is (C), provide essential information about an annual occurrence. (A) is incorrect, as the lines mention nothing about the causes of World War I. While the lines do touch upon “the grief of family loss,” the lines as a whole do not deal with the destructive consequences of war, so (B) is not the best answer. (D) is incorrect, as there is nothing mentioned in particular about family reactions to the war; (E) is incorrect, as nothing is mentioned about a ceremony.

15. Correct Answer: (E)

In context, “fiery” means having a passionate, quick-tempered nature. The word that most nearly means this is (E), “feisty.”

16. Correct Answer: (D)

The mother’s tale describes how she ran up a tree, and pelted her brothers with apples after they chased her around a field. Therefore (D) is the best answer, for the tale demonstrates the mother’s ability to defend herself from her brothers. Choice (A) is incorrect, as the author mentions nothing about her mother later in life; (B) is incorrect, as the passage does not mention anything about alienation from other children; (C) is incorrect, as the passage does not mention anything to do with dissatisfaction with gender roles; (E) is incorrect, as the passage does not emphasize her mother’s physical resilience, but her ability to “give as good as she got”(line 28).

17. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, to “relate the tale” means to “tell the story,” so the correct answer is (A), tell.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

The author mentions that “a lecture from Granny was far worse than anything Grandpa could do,” implying that a verbal reprimand from Granny was even worse than a spanking. As such, we can infer that Granny’s verbal discipline was extremely effective, and (E) is the answer. (A) is incorrect, as the author mentions “feeling small,” which is distinct from feeling resentful; (B) is incorrect, as the passage says nothing about her grandfather’s thoughts on her disciplinary methods; (C) is incorrect, as “feeling small” is not synonymous with feeling intimidated; (D) is incorrect, as the passage does not detail a moment of affection from Granny, but a moment of disciplinary action.

19. Correct Answer: (C)

The best answer is (C), which is supported by the two sentences in lines 47-50: “He was courteous and kind, but he also wanted to travel and see the world. He seemed to think that life was a great adventure that was meant to be embraced.” Choice (A) is incorrect, as the paragraph mentions nothing about a stern upbringing; choice (B) is incorrect, as the paragraph does not mention Robert having a sense of patriotic duty; (E) is incorrect, as the paragraph does not mention Robert having a preoccupation with aeronautic technology. Lastly, while the paragraph does begin by mentioning Robert’s infirmity as a young boy, the paragraph does not link this infirmity with his later desire to join the air force. Therefore, (D) is incorrect.

20. Correct Answer: (B)

The correct answer is (B), silent mourning. This is exemplified by Granny’s taking down of Robert’s picture, and silently sitting in the armchair and weeping. Choice (A) is incorrect, because Granny is not indifferent – she clearly feels strongly for her lost son. Choice (C) is incorrect, as there is no levity, or lightness, to this scene – it is somber and serious. Choice (D) is incorrect, as the scene depicts sadness far more than it does fear or hopelessness. Choice (E) is incorrect, as the scene does not depict or imply perseverance, but merely the grief from loss.

21. Correct Answer: (D)

The best answer is (D), untroubled and cheerful. This is supported by Robert’s laughter in the photo, as well as the mention that he “seemed so happy and so carefree,” which is a synonym for untroubled. Answer choice (A) has a negative tone, while the tone of the passage is clearly positive, so this is incorrect. Answer (B) is unsupported by the passage. Answer (C) is also unsupported, as the passage does not give the sense of a driving personal ambition on the part of Robert. Lastly, answer (E) is incorrect, as the passage does not mention anything about Robert’s patriotism.

22. Correct Answer: (E)

The best answer is (E). Because the author says that the picture looks “like a younger Grandpa,” it shows that he is not only looking at the picture, but that he is examining it and taking an interest in it. Answers (A), (B), and (C) are all unsupported by the passage. Answer (D) is incorrect, because it is Granny who is afraid of letting the picture fall (line 68), and not the author.

23. Correct Answer: (A)



The best answer is (A). The author concludes his anecdote by mentioning that the “two minutes of silence” on Remembrance Day allows us to think about “what we have become and what we have lost” – an activity that is often difficult due to the “swirling, perpetual changes of everyday life.” As such, the author finds this activity of remembrance valuable, and (A) is the best answer. Answers (B) through (E) are all unsupported by the final paragraph.

24. Correct Answer: (C)

The author concludes by saying that Remembrance Day “gives us a chance to think about what we have become and what we have lost.” Therefore (C), is the best answer, as the day is a reminder of both specific war casualties (“what we have lost”) and general social changes (“what we have become,” broadly speaking). Answer (A) is incorrect, as the author is concluding on a general note, and not a specific note. Answer (B), (D), and (E), are all unsupported by the paragraph.

25. Correct Answer: (C)

Because the passage deals with Remembrance Day, and the remembrance of things lost, the tone of the passage is wistful, which means “having or showing a feeling of vague or regretful longing.” Thus, (C) is the answer. The other answers do not accurately reflect the tone of the passage.

### Test 3, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (D)

If the “works” described are the “basis for advanced theories generations later,” they are still being utilized or used in mathematics.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

Christopher is described as not wanting “to upset his boss,” who prized a certain kind of conduct. The blanks should involve a logical cause and effect: because the boss prized orthodox (or conventional) business conduct, Christopher would attempt not to deviate from convention.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

The clue “pedestrian at best” directly indicates what word you will need in the blank. Both pedestrian and mediocre mean commonplace or unremarkable.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

This sentence involves a contrast between what Peter “admitted” and how the story had seemed “at first.” If the story had at first seemed “impossible,” then the appropriate contrast word would be “plausible.”

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The early content in the sentence anticipates the contrast in the two blanks. Abstemious (or self-denying) people allow themselves “certain liberties” during the holidays; as a result, the holidays are best described as “occasions for indulgence rather than self-denial.”

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The passage discusses the earliest African-American astronauts, then lists the important roles that African Americans have played in other branches of the aerospace field (E) is a trap answer; the passage discusses the presence of African Americans in a scientific field, but does not point to specific scientific discoveries.

7. Correct Answer: (A)

The author expresses hope that diversity, which came “gradually,” will remain in place permanently. However, the author does not express certainty that such diversity will be permanent; “qualified optimism” is thus the best answer. (B) and (D) are both tempting answers, but the author is not ambivalent about the virtues of diversity, and is too aware of the gradual and uncertain progress of such diversity to be describe as enthusiastic.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

In the first passage, the author establishes a strong position—hatred of musicals—that is then supported by the arguments and examples that follow. (C) is a tempting answer; however, it is never made evident that taste in musicals is a much-debated issue.

9. Correct Answer: (C)

The author notes that the “burst of trumpets and violins” is meant to “manipulate my emotions” (lines 14-15). Thus, this tactic is used to “elicit audience responses.” Earlier, the author depicts musicals as “melodramatic, cloying, irritating,” which justifies the description overwrought or overdone.

10. Correct Answer: (A)

The passage is primarily an account of the amazing landscape and plant life (second and third paragraphs) as well as the wildlife (last paragraph) that occur above the timber-line in the Rocky Mountains. Therefore, (A) is the best answer. (B) is incorrect, as the passage as a whole is not about the sheep in particular, but only mentions them towards the end. (C) is incorrect, as the passage is not a response to a claim. (D) is incorrect, as the passage has nothing to do with evolutionary history. (E) is incorrect, as the passage is not a personal account of an excursion into the mountains.

11. Correct Answer: (C)

The author mentions the Alps primarily to illustrate the difference in the height of the timberline in the Alps and the height of the timberline in the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra. Thus, the author is doing so in order to indicate an important feature of the topography (height of the timberline) of an American mountain range, and (C) is the correct answer. Choices (A), (B), (D), and (E) are all unsupported by the first paragraph.

12. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the author refers to the forest as “aggressive” because it is engaged “in a never-ending battle along the timerber-line” with the “relentless elements.” Therefore, choice (D) is the best answer – the tree-line, or timber-line, is relentless in its expansion, or its push, to move up the mountain in spite of the elements.

Choices (A), (B), (C), and (E) are all unsupported by the passage.

13. Correct Answer: (B)

The author refers to the trees along the timber-line as having “the uncouth shapes of prehistoric animals.” He then goes on to describe one of these trees as “a vine-made ichthyosaurus crawling along, flat upon the earth.” In context, then, the ichthyosaurus is simply a way of visualizing a wind-battered tree, lying flat against the mountain, and (B) is the best answer. The other choices do not correctly interpret the author’s use of imagery.

14. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the phrase “ponderous glaciers” refers to glaciers that are large and imposing. The best answer is choice is then (D), formidable, which means large and imposing.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

In context, the author makes mention of the big game (the ram) and its well-fed pursuers (the mountain lion), and then informs us that this predator-prey relationship occurs “almost three miles above the surface of the sea.” Thus, for the author, what is most significant is that these animals manage to live and flourish so far above sea level, and (B) is the best answer. Answer (A) is unsupported by the passage; answer (C) refers to something in a previous paragraph, and is unrelated to this particular question; answer (D) is completely contradicted by the passage, for life is flourishing above the timber-line, and answer (E) is incorrect because the passage mentions nothing at all about naturalists.

16. Correct Answer: (E)

In the last sentence, the author mentions “the snow-slide...occasionally carries off an entire flock” of sheep. Another word for snow-slide is avalanche, and (E) is the best answer. The last paragraph does not make specific mention of any of the other answer choices.

17. Correct Answer: (B)

Overall, the essay is a criticism (critique) of Emerson’s espousal of self-reliance and self-centeredness. As such, (B) is the best answer. (A) is incorrect, as the author only mentions high school in the second paragraph, and never mentions it again. For the same reason, (C) is incorrect, as the author only points out contradictions in Emerson’s philosophy in the fourth paragraph, and does not return to it later; it is merely a supporting point of his overall thesis. (E) is incorrect for this same reason; while the author does warn against the dangers of egotistical politics, this is not his main point throughout the essay. Lastly, (D) grossly misrepresents the passage, and is incorrect.

18. Correct Answer: (C)

The author asks a series of rhetorical questions that involving what he feels to be our inflated sense of “self-importance;” he then claims that the roots of these problems can be traced back to Emerson’s essay “Self-Reliance.” Therefore, the answer is (C). Answer (A) is incorrect, because the paragraph is concerned not with “all problems in contemporary society,” but the specific problem of “our desire to follow our every whim.” Answer (B) is incorrect, because the paragraph deals not with a historical reception of a classic text, but with its contemporary reception in English classrooms. Answer (D) is incorrect, as the author does not mention any data that argues against personal freedom, and (E) is incorrect, as the paragraph is not a warning, but is seeking to find out the cause of a current problem.

19. Correct Answer: (B)

Emerson would most likely agree with the English teacher’s quote. If “the integrity of your own mind” is of the utmost importance, then we should be wary of outside influences, which could misguide us. Therefore, (B) is the best answer. Answer (A) is incorrect, as Emerson would be adamantly opposed to conformity. Answer (C) is incorrect, as the important thing is the integrity of the individual mind – that is, being true to oneself – which is not the same as ethical integrity, or moral integrity. Answers (D) and (E) are unsupported by the passage.

20. Correct Answer: (D)

The author begins paragraph four by stating, “The problem with this is that what we construe as wrong or right, good or bad, varies on a daily basis.” Therefore, he views the contradictions as problematic, and (D) is the answer. The paragraph is critical in tone, and therefore a negative answer is needed; as such, answers (A) and (E) are incorrect, since they are positive in tone. Answer (B) is wrong because the word “paralyzing” is too

strong relative to the author's more balanced tone. Lastly, (C) is incorrect, as the author is not discussing the relative popularity of Emerson's views, but whether they are valid or invalid.

21. Correct Answer: (D)

The author claims that the political gridlock is "because there is little compromise." Thus, the answer is (D), lack of cooperation. The other answer choices are all unsupported by the passage.

22. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, the idiom "Emerson's words have become gospel" means that they are now widely accepted and followed by society. As such, (A), "widely sanctioned," is the best answer. The other answer choices are all unsupported by the passage.

23. Correct Answer: (C)

Just before mentioning humility, the author writes, "maybe listening to others' views and thoughts, and being affected by them, doesn't equal conformity." Thus, in the context of the paragraph, the author is advocating for listening to other viewpoints, which makes (C) the best answer. While answers (A) and (D) are common examples of humility in our everyday lives, they are not relevant to humility as it is specifically defined by the author in the passage. Therefore, these choices are incorrect. Lastly, there is no reference to either (B) nor (E) in the passage.

24. Correct Answer: (B)

Throughout the essay, the author is critical of Emerson's ideas, which he sees as being too self-centered. To drive home this thesis, in his last paragraph the author argues that humility is actually a virtue, thereby contradicting Emerson's thoughts on relying on the self alone. As such, (B) is the correct answer. The other answer choices do not accurately reflect the author's purpose.

### Test 3, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (D)

In this sentence, the Lord Derby Eland is described as "significantly taller than most other animals of the same type." Loftiest (or tallest) would consequently be the best fit for the blank.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

The narrator is able to make "accomplishments" seem bigger than "failings." In order for the narrator to do this, it would be necessary to "recollect" positive "deeds."

3. Correct Answer: (B)

This sentence indicates that "Georg Makarov" is a supporter of "avant-garde" (radical or experimental) leanings in art. As a result, he would want artists to "appraise" or inform the public of trends in experimental art, and would

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence encourages employees to master tasks. Those employees who are most adept or skilled at mastering these tasks are given promotions. Convivial means friendly and lively; fortuitous means by a good stroke of chance; pretentious means haughty or stuck-up.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The individual described in the sentence is able to find "nuances" and "pinpoint" failures. Thus, you should

expect positive words that have to do with perception or attention to detail for the first blank. “Acumen” means sharp-mindedness, and would naturally make the individual described “effective.”

6. Correct Answer: (E)

Because “hard evidence” is difficult to obtain, the “accounts” would rarely be substantiated, or supported decisively. Concomitant means accompanying or following; duplicitous means deceptive.

7. Correct Answer: (E)

The best answer is (E). While the author of Passage 2 argues that the individual performances of actors have a significant impact on the overall performance of the play, this author does not deny the fact that an actor is on stage in order to speak the words written by the dramatist, and to convey that dramatist’s intentions in a compelling way. Thus, both authors are in agreement on this point. (C) is incorrect as it would be unsupported by the author of Passage 1; (D) is incorrect, as it would be unsupported by the author of Passage 2, and (A) and (B) are both incorrect, as neither of these points is mentioned in either of the passages.

8. Correct Answer: (A)

The author references Shakespeare to provide support for his thesis that the job of an actor or actress is to play his or her part, and not to overstep it. Because Shakespeare is a playwright of legendary status, his views on acting carry great weight, and they support the author’s thesis strongly. As such, (A) is the best answer. (B) is incorrect, because no claim about “passionate and redemptive theatre spectacles” is ever mentioned in the passage; (C) is incorrect, because the passage does not deal with Shakespeare’s success as a playwright; (D) is incorrect, as the first paragraph is complete unto itself, and does not allude to later paragraphs; (E) is incorrect, as the paragraph has less to do with the content of Shakespeare’s plays, and far more to do with Shakespeare’s views on acting.

9. Correct Answer: (B)

The “realities” mentioned refer to the point described in the previous paragraph, namely that “the actor should never forget that he is not the center of the audience’s interest.” As such, (B) is the best answer, since this conveys the same idea. Keep in mind that the first sentence of paragraph two is clearly referencing back to an idea in paragraph one. Because (A), (C), (D), and (E) are all unmentioned in paragraph 1, these cannot be correct.

10. Correct Answer: (C)

Later in the paragraph, past the line reference mentioned in the question, the author writes, “It is difficult for professionals to come to terms with the fact that acting, particularly onstage, is both ephemeral and unpredictable.” Therefore, the author thinks that actors who talk about their “art” (line 15) to be in denial about the fact that they ultimately do not have total control over their performances. As such, (C) is the best answer. (B) is incorrect, because it states just the opposite of this, and (A), (D), and (E) are all unsupported by the passage.

11. Correct Answer: (C)

The tone of the parenthetical statement is (C), humorous, because it refers to actors becoming so engrossed in their roles that they actually murder their co-actors, which would lead to “obvious problems.” (The use of understatement here is what makes it humorous).

12. Correct Answer: (D)

The view that “the actor is the mere transposition of the playwright’s words from page to presence, from vision to visage, from ideas to identity” is completely consistent with how the author of Passage 1 believes actors should be. As such, he would completely agree with this view, and the answer is (D). The other answer choices all indicate less than complete agreement, and therefore they are all incorrect.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

In context, “depth” refers to the importance and significance of the character being played, and therefore “meaning” is the best answer. The other choices do not accurately capture the sentiment of the author.

14. Correct Answer: (A)

According to the author, the viewers of a play provide an “exceedingly indispensable characteristic of the Theatre: interpretation.” As such, the experience of a play is greater than simply the intentions of the dramatist or playwright alone, and (A) is the best answer. (B) is incorrect, as the tone of the author is not mocking or rude. (C) is also incorrect, as the author is clearly not trying to discourage play attendance. (D) is incorrect, as the historical context of a script is never mentioned by the author. Lastly, while the author mentions that the interpretation of a play is “exceedingly indispensable,” he does not say that it is more indispensable than the actual execution of the play; therefore, (E) is incorrect.

15. Correct Answer: (C)

The author mentions “it is indeed possible to read a playwright’s script” in order to preempt the potential counterargument that plays can be fully appreciated by reading them, thereby making actors unnecessary. As such, (C) is the best answer. The other answer choices are not supported by the passage as a whole.

16. Correct Answer: (D)

The author mentions that art is “an intangible concept because its merit is governed by a system that is primarily subjective...there is no standardized and indisputable method for distinguishing an outstanding performance from an inept one.” As such, art cannot be evaluated systematically, and is open to interpretation, which makes (D) the correct answer. While answer (B) comes close to this, it is incorrect because the passage makes no direct mention to any particular “forms of critical analysis;” the passage only refers to the fact that art itself is open to subjective interpretation. Answers (A), (C), and (E) are all unsupported by the passage.

17. Correct Answer: (E)

The author of Passage 2 argues that actors are as essential to the effective performance of any play as are the words and the writing of the playwright himself. As such, the author would feel that Noel Coward, in addressing actors as if they are mere props required to come in and perfunctorily execute a job, is severely understating the actor’s contribution and responsibility to the performance as a whole. As such, (E) is the best answer. The other choices are unsupported by the passage.

18. Correct Answer: (B)

In Passage 1, actors are depicted as necessary but ultimately secondary to the intentions of the dramatist; in Passage 2, actors are seen as critical factors in the overall performance of a play. As such, answer (B) is the best answer. The other answer choices all falsely describe the authors’ respective attitudes towards actors, as they are presented in each passage.

## Test 4

### Test 4, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (D)

The phrase “rather than” establishes a contrast between the first blank and the word “befriended.” Unlike a relationship between friends, a relationship between a teacher and pupils would be based on a clear hierarchy. The second blank should describe what happens in a friendship: reciprocate (exchange mutual feelings) is an excellent fit.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

George’s performance was extremely positive, since it “erased all memories of his earlier, slipshod work.” Accolades (praises) would be the best description of what George would consequently receive.

3. Correct Answer: (E)

This description of Pandal’s writing involves a contrast signaled by “although.” While it is not evident what exactly the two blanks should be, it is clear that they should be opposite words that fit the context: reason and visceral (emotional) create such a contrast. All the other answer choices involve synonyms or near-synonyms.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

For this sentence, pay attention to the word “since” and try to fulfill a cause-and-effect relationship. Animal shelters would be inundated with (or flooded by) cats and dogs when these animals experience a surge (massive increase) in population.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

The sentence contrasts the “exciting adventure” of sending a man to the moon in the 1960s with “space launches” as they are perceived today. It can be inferred that these launches are no longer exciting, and in fact they have been “replicated” often. The word tedious (dull and repetitive) is the best fit for this context. Droll (C) clever and funny; exorbitant (D) means beyond what is necessary.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

The first paragraph indicates that the narrator is experiencing strong emotions by using phrases such as “menacing eyes” (line 1) and “sense of guilt” (line 7). However, the narrator’s exact identity remains unclear; only in the second paragraph, where the narrator is described hopping “back toward my hole under the hill” (line 13), can it be inferred that the narrator is a rabbit. Thus, the two paragraphs discuss exactly the same topic or episode, but the first is elucidated by the second. Neither paragraph focuses on the use of a term (A), and the second paragraph describes actions and events, not a broader topic (E). Because the paragraphs link strongly, they are not incompatible (C) and do not involve a digressive structure (D).

7. Correct Answer: (D)

The narrator of this passage is a rabbit who is capable of formulating complex thoughts and emotions in the manner that a human would. This literary device, which involves giving non-human objects and

creatures human characteristics, is called personification. Hyperbole is purposeful exaggeration (A); simile is direct comparison using “like” or “as” (B); allegory involves extended comparison between two narratives (C); anachronism involves removing a character, object, or event from the proper or expected time frame (E). None of these devices are featured directly or prominently in the passage.

8. Correct Answer: (D)

The passage explains how the Romans were able to “excel in their military endeavors” (line 1). Roman practices involved both “training exercises” (line 4) and the use of “siege engines and heavy artillery” (lines 7-8); by examining these major features, the author provides an informative synopsis. Other answers involve faulty interpretations: there is nothing in the passage that indicates why Roman civilization collapsed (A) or that indicates that the tactics explained were little-known (B). Deploying artillery could be difficult, but this fact is never established and emphasized at length (C); the weapons described could be technological advances, but could also be seen as traditional or inherited technology since the passage provides no context for this issue (E).

9. Correct Answer: (B)

After describing the training exercises, the author indicates that “artillery could still turn the tide of battle” for the Romans (line 8). If such artillery could ultimately be the deciding factor, then training exercises would be secondary to or ancillary to artillery. Avoid answers that overstate the importance of the training exercises, such as (A) and (E). However, the training exercises were not obsolete, just used alongside artillery (C); training exercises could also guarantee victory, but not in all battles (D).

10. Correct Answer: (B)

Make use of clues from the passage: the author notes that “We all” made origami toys when we were young (line 4), then states that “It was easy” to make toys of this sort (line 6). These lines directly indicate the simplicity and universality of the craft of origami (B). The author’s interest for origami should not be confused with active promotion of this art form (A). At this point in the passage, the author neither discusses misconceptions (C) nor offers biographical anecdotes (D). Here and elsewhere in the passage, the author takes a positive tone to describe origami, so that (E) can be eliminated.

11. Correct Answer: (B)

The author shows explains that scientists and mathematicians do not see origami as simple, and argues that origami “has become a crucial factor in many fields of science and mathematics” (lines 12-13). In other words, the mention of “scientists and mathematicians” leads into a larger discussion of their stance. The author is here concerned with origami’s applications to engineering and medicine, not with statistical research or origami’s aesthetic appeal, thus eliminating (A) and (E). Nor does the author take a negative stance towards the scientists (C) or portray origami in a genuinely childish and thus negative light (D).

12. Correct Answer: (C)

The author explains that origami was “just an art form” and before that “just a popular pastime” before it took on practical uses (lines 15-17). Because the rough timeline spans hundreds of years, this timeline discusses origami over a vast period of time (C). The author does not take a decidedly questioning or negative tone toward origami, so that (A) or (E) can be eliminated. Nor does the author establish an



average amount of time or compare origami to other art forms, so that (D) can be eliminated. The passage directly contradicts (B), since origami has only become medically useful in the fairly recent past.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

In the third paragraph, the author voices the conviction that origami has meaningful practical uses, since “the relation between origami and math doesn’t stop at flaps and circles (lines 31-32). The best word for such a strong stance would be emphatic (A). Nothing about the author’s tone is negative; answers (B), (C), and (D) can thus be eliminated. Incredulous or doubting (E) is the opposite of the tone that the author takes here and throughout the passage.

14. Correct Answer: (B)

The lines in question describe the collaboration between origami artists and “National Laboratory engineers” (line 46). Try to find an answer that describes a collaboration involving individuals from different disciplines in art and science; answer (B) pairs an artist with naturalists. Make sure to avoid answer (B); although this answer describes collaborative work, only engineers are involved in the situation that is presented.

15. Correct Answer: (A)

Throughout the passage, the author indicates that scientific achievements have been facilitated by origami. Moreover, the passage concludes with the observation that origami may “carry technology to new, unseen heights” (lines 56-57). The author thus appreciates origami, and uses references to origami-based accomplishments to show that such appreciation is justifiable (A). Answers (B), (D), and (E) do not line up with the author’s predominantly positive stance, while answer (C) misrepresents the focus of the passage; the author is preoccupied with origami’s scientific applications, not its aesthetic appeal.

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The author refers to origami-based scientific endeavors in order to show how origami is applicable to current research and inquiry. Yet in the second paragraph, the author establishes that origami has existed for hundreds of years (lines 15-17). Thus, the passage would evaluate the modern scientific implications of the ancient practice of origami (C). The author does mention children in the first paragraph (A) and the early days of origami’s development (B), but only in passing while making a broader point about origami and science. Nowhere does the author disparage or express disrespect for artistic forms in medicine (D); in fact, the passage would support the use of such forms. Although the passage could be read by individuals from different cultures, the author is primarily interested in explaining the connection between origami and science, not in introducing origami to a particular audience (E).

17. Correct Answer: (C)

The township is described as “squeezed between the flanks of a mountain” (line 6). It would thus be best described as compact (C). Suppressed (A) and secretive (B) do not fit the context and would be best used to describe people; spread out (D) contradicts the clues in the passage; set back (E) does not necessarily describe a “squeezed” township.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In this section of the passage, the author contrasts the school conditions of white expatriate students

living in Malawi (new facilities) with the conditions experienced by native Malawian children (lessons in the shade of baobab trees). Answer (E) correctly captures this contrast between the two groups. While answers (A), (B), and (C) can be eliminated on the basis of false words, answer (D) is a trap; the expatriates and native Malawians could have different priorities, but this fact is not openly confirmed by the passage. Answer (D) thus rests on a faulty assumption.

19. Correct Answer: (D)

Twambi is described as “gazing up in awe and silence” (line 21) and later hides her face in her aunt’s skirt. These descriptions indicate that Twambi is in a situation that makes her uncomfortable (D). The other answers misstate the function of this portion of the passage: the narrator here records specific dialogue, not general character sketches (A). In addition, Twambi is the focus of this section of the passage, so that (B) and (E) can be eliminated. Answer (C) is a trap; Twambi could be heartbroken to be without her family, but the line references for this question offer no direct evidence in support of this inference.

20. Correct Answer: (A)

The hide is a tall structure with an opening for looking out, so that the individuals within would remain mostly concealed. Because the author and his companions use the hide to observe a variety of animals, it can be inferred that (A) is the best answer. Many of the other answers involve false words: formal schooling (D) and zoological equipment (E) are never mentioned in reference to the hide. The hide is the narrator’s destination, not a place for resting overnight (B) or a place that is intended mainly to offer relief from the heat and sun (C).

21. Correct Answer: (C)

In this portion of the passage, the narrator describes how the area around the water hole looks and how the land is laid out. Visual description (C) is the prominent writing device. Such precise description should not be confused with concepts relating to science (A). Although the author describes sounds in lines 58-59 (“Stillness and . . . undergrowth”), auditory evocation (B) does not occur within the lines designated for this question.

22. Correct Answer: (B)

The author describes a heron entering “the scene” (line 65), refers to a “climactic moment” (line 78), and concludes by noting that “the stage was bare” (line 87). These quotations involve an extended analogy (B) that compares the animals and their habitat to a theatrical stage. Answer (E) can be tempting, but would involve a misapplied concept; dramatic irony is the condition of knowing the fates of fictional characters before the characters themselves are aware of what will happen, and has no relation to the lines in question.

23. Correct Answer: (C)

The author, who is not a native Malawian (line 14), cannot remember all of the names of the animals; however, the native Malawians in this story (Twambi and the guide) are capable of doing so. Thus, it can be inferred that Malawian education and memorization techniques are effective. The narrator may not

be able to remember all the animal names, but this is not designated as a major lapse (A); answer (B) is contradicted by the fact that Twambi can remember the animal names. Both answer (D) and answer (E) rely on faulty assumptions. The narrator's normal ability to recall details may not have been compromised at all, and the animal names may have been equally easy to remember in English and in Malawian. The passage does not provide sufficient evidence for the inference that either answer requires.

24. Correct Answer: (A)

Although the author portrays Malawian education "in the shade of baobab trees" in unflattering light in the first paragraph (line 13), the final paragraph indicates that Twambi has effectively learned animal names while studying "under the baobab tree" (line 100). Thus, this seemingly improper technique proves to be effective (A). Answers (B) and (D) both take inappropriately strong negative tones. Moreover, the quotation focuses on Twambi's aptitudes and those of similar Malawian students, not on the operations of the expatriate school (C) or the author's own fascination with animals (E).

## Test 4, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (C)

A country where multiple languages are spoken, Switzerland can be described as linguistically rich or diverse. There is no context for generous (A) or astonishing (D); concentrated (B) contradicts the rest of the sentence; conflicted (E) is an inappropriate negative.

2. Correct Answer: (B)

If the novels described treated "controversial themes," then these works would be considered harmful to public morals. The word currency, as used in choice (B), means recognition and acceptance; this word fits because the novels eventually "captivated the public."

3. Correct Answer: (D)

The word "thus" indicates a similarity or cause-and-effect relationship; try to find words that make the two parts of the sentence describe the professor in equivalent ways. If the professor can convey his thoughts clearly, he can thus get his point across with coherence.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The second part of the sentence indicates the word you need in the blank: because squirrels are "adept at activities involving balance and muscle coordination," they are known for their agility. Watch out for trap answers: *maladroitness* (C) means clumsiness; *ambidextrousness* (D) means equal skill when using both hands, and does not fit the context.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

For the first blank, find a positive word that would accurately describe the status of two of the world's greatest guitarists (Eric Clapton and Carlos Santana). Celebrated (A) and venerated (E) are the most logical choices. Later in the sentence, these two guitarists are contrasted with other "practitioners of the instrument" who lack popularity but are similar to Clapton and Santana in some respect. These other practitioners would have equivalent technical skills.

6. Correct Answer: (D)

Because both blanks refer to Winston Churchill's positive ideas about "medical discoveries," try to find words that result in similar meanings. The finest examples of scientific betterment would be significant enough to deserve sainthood. Make sure to eliminate irrelevant words such as procession (A), and negatives such as somber (B), pretentiousness (C), and confounding (E).

7. Correct Answer: (A)

If Marcy is trying to "appear unaffected," she would try to seem nonchalant or unconcerned. Recalcitrance (B) means stubbornness; munificence (C) means generosity; wariness (D) means cautiousness; ambivalence (E) means inability to commit to a single position.

8. Correct Answer: (D)

The blank should describe Henry Kissinger's ideology, which involves the use of "peace talks" rather than "acts of war." Diplomacy is the best word for such ideas. Autonomy (A) means independence; appeasement (C) means making concessions to an enemy and does not entirely fit the context; retribution (B) and conflict (E) both directly contradict the meaning of the sentence.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

In lines 8-13 of Passage 1 ("Mandela was . . . Africa"), the author presents private recollections of African students and their reactions to Mandela. This passage would thus be more personal (E) than Passage 2, which does not contain direct anecdotes and never makes use of the pronoun "I." Misreading the question by flipping the passages can lead to a false answer: Passage 2 would indeed be more condemnatory (B) or even agitated (C) than Passage 1.

10. Correct Answer: (C)

Both passages support the idea that Mandela inspired his fellow Africans; the author of Passage 1 describes how African students responded positively to Mandela, while the author of Passage 2 references Mandela's reputation as "Father of the Nation" (line 14) to South Africans. Of the other answers, (A) and (B) are mentioned only in Passage 2, (D) is discussed only in Passage 1, and (E) is not directly supported by the information in either passage. In fact, the author of Passage 2 contradicts (E) by discussing the extreme resistance to reformers such as Mandela.

11. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 1 refers to Mandela's release from Robben Island, where Mandela "had been imprisoned for a long stretch of his life." Passage 2 never discusses a specific incident, so that (D) is the correct answer; instead, Passage 2 analyzes Mandela's general reception and reputation. Misreading the question could result in answer (A), which is arguably included in Passage 1 but not in Passage 2. Another trap answer is (C); although the author of Passage 1 expresses positive feelings for Mandela, the values and beliefs of Mandela himself are nowhere defined or explained in the passage.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 2 notes in lines 23-24 that in democracies "the solution to opposing ideologies is a steel cell." It can thus be inferred that the author of Passage 2 would take a negative stance toward democracies and point out their repressive measures; answer (C) is an effective fit. The author of

Passage 2 is nowhere interested in Mandela’s personal struggle (A), the modern media (B), or future policies specific to South Africa (C). Passage 2 also contradicts answer (E), since the passage describes “unwarranted and unmitigated reactions” to reform (lines 26-27) and indicates that such negative reactions will persist.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

This passage describes how Jermaine Wright, a reserved man from Wisconsin, has settled into a new urban lifestyle; on account of this, answer (C) is the most effective choice. All of the other answers rely on faulty assumptions and false words. Jermaine’s escape is not impulsive and was in fact supported by Jermaine’s therapist (A), and it is never clear that Jermaine will move on from Boston (B). Although Jermaine’s situation with Jeff is an element of the passage, this situation is not the main focus of the writing (D).

14. Correct Answer: (C)

The passage explains that Jermaine’s life in the Northeast differs from the “lazy ambling of his native Wisconsin” (line 7). On account of this, answer (C) is the best choice. As the passage indicates, Jermaine is capable of adapting to a faster lifestyle and becoming “a new Jermaine.” Answers (A), (B), and (E) can thus be eliminated. It is also true that the focuses on Jermaine’s new experiences, but it is never established that only new or novel experiences presented themselves in Boston (D).

15. Correct Answer: (D)

Earlier, the narrator explains that “Jermaine thought his therapist wanted a break from their sessions” (lines 13-14). From this, it can be inferred that the therapist will take a negative tone or annoyed when addressing Jermaine, so that (A), (B), (C), and (E) can all be eliminated. Answer (D) is the only choice that appropriately captures the therapist’s sarcasm.

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The large number of qualifications and conditions that accompany Jermaine’s coffee choice indicate that Jermaine is fastidious (C) or very particular about small details. Pretentious (E) can be a tempting choice, but is too negative for the context; the author does not explicitly seek to criticize Jermaine at this point in the narrative.

17. Correct Answer: (D)

After performing the actions mentioned in the question, Jermaine doesn’t “bring up the topic” of cleaning again (line 40). In other words, Jermaine is resigned to Jeff’s attitude (D), or reluctantly accepts Jeff’s stance. The tone of Jermaine’s response is negative, so that (C) and (E) can be eliminated, but not dramatically negative enough to justify either (A) or (B).

18. Correct Answer: (A)

As the passage indicates, Jermaine does not agree with Jeff’s habits but supposes that “the situation could be worse” (line 27). In order to account for this information, the answer to the question should be mildly negative: grudging tolerance (A) would be an appropriate description, while answer (B) is much too positive and answers (C), (D), and (E) are all extreme negatives.

19. Correct Answer: (E)

In lines 48-53, the passage provides Jermaine's personal response to Jeff's question. Jermaine believes that "those who listen intently" (lines 49-50) and think about social issues would get riled up as a result of Jeff's joke. The best answer is thus (E). Answers (A), (B), and (D) all misrepresent the breadth of Jermaine's response and misdirect the response's criticisms. It is tempting to read Jeff's question as a rhetorical question, but the extent of Jermaine's response shows that this is not the case, thus contradicting (C).

20. Correct Answer: (B)

The passage indicates that an "immeasurable" (line 66) amount of work has been construed as "no work at all" (line 67). This contrast demonstrates that Jermaine's work was in fact more difficult or arduous than had been anticipated (B). The other answers misrepresent the impact of the work on Jermaine: though the work is difficult, the passage does not indicate that this work will never be finished (A), that it necessitates formal assistance (C), or that it is Jermaine's main source of discomfort. Answer (E) contradicts the line reference.

21. Correct Answer: (A)

According to the passage, Jermaine "fondly" remembers Wisconsin (line 79) and misses its landscape. His reaction involves both desire and melancholy, so that wistful longing (A) is the best choice. Answer (C) is too positive, answers (D) and (E) are too negative, and answer (B) would not fit the context, since it is not evident that Jermaine hopes to return to Wisconsin.

22. Correct Answer: (C)

Among the things that Jermaine misses about Wisconsin are "Ontario Drive" (line 79) and "the flat plains" (line 81). It can be inferred from these and other descriptions that Jermaine misses the topography or physical layout (C) of Wisconsin. Jermaine does not appear to miss his mother (A) or neighbors (B), and in fact remembers his mother in a negative light. The reading never mentions the architecture (D) or agriculture (E) of Wisconsin.

23. Correct Answer: (A)

The lines designated in the reference emphatically repeat the phrases "he couldn't" and "he could," so that repetition is the best choice (A). These lines do not feature metaphor (C), allegory (E), or any other type of figurative language prominently. While it is possible to find humor (B) and sarcasm (D) elsewhere in the passage, the final paragraph is also notable for its reserved tone; these answers can thus be eliminated.

24. Correct Answer: (D)

The passage is delivered in the third person using a voice that describes the particulars of Jermaine's life; a detached third-person narrator (D) would be the most appropriate characterization. Jermaine's ideas and knowledge are presented throughout, but the lack of a first-person voice and the synoptic quality of the first paragraph and the last paragraph disqualify answer (B). Jeff (A), Jermaine's mother (C), and Jermaine's therapist (E) are never openly presented as possible points of view.

## Test 4, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (E)

The sentence involves a contrast; though initially described as a food source (positive), algae can also play a role (negative) in the dissipation or reduction of oxygen levels. It would thus contribute to such dissipation when “allowed to grow unchecked.” Pay attention to the construction of the sentence and make sure not to pair a negative, such as detract from (A), ward off (C), or corrode (D), with “dissipation.”

2. Correct Answer: (D)

What “many people” think, as described in the first part of the sentence, is “untrue” and contradicts the second half of the sentence. Only a programmer can be deemed “malicious” in reality; thus, it can be inferred that many people think of computer viruses as malevolent because these people confuse viruses and programmers.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

The word that goes in the blank must describe Winnie Hauser’s writing style, which is explained directly in the second half of the sentence. Because Hauser’s sentences are long and complex, her style is rambling or seems to run on. The word “burdened” helps to justify this answer choice, since rambling tends to be used as a negative word.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

Because the sentence describes the “critics of recent research policies,” the first blank will be a negative activity; denigrated (C) and decried (E) are both actions associated with critics. The policies “require” certain practices, and the second blank should take the mandatory nature of the policies into account. Here, directives is the best fit.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The blank requires a word that is associated with “being moved profoundly.” Pathos, or a heightened emotional reaction, would be the best fit. Levity (B) means light and happy emotion and is not a direct match for the clues; voracity (D) means consuming hunger or desire; whimsicality (E) means fancifulness or flippancy.

6. Correct Answer: (A)

The two blanks map directly onto phrases used to describe Helen. Because Helen “is able to discern her own errors,” she is self-critical; because she is “quick to take corrective action,” she is expeditious or fast and practical. Both blanks will be positive, and all other answer choices can be eliminated because they contain negative words.

7. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 1 describes the various advantages to attending a movie alone, whereas the author of Passage 2 focuses on how movie-going alone limits us in that we do not have friends with whom to share and discuss the film. Thus, the answer is (C) – the first author sees movie watching alone as rewarding, while the second author sees it as limiting.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

The correct answer is (E). The author of Passage 2 references the film *Sunset Boulevard*, whereas the author of

Passage 1 does not mention any specific films.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

By characterizing moviegoers in their seats as barnacles clinging to rocks, the author is employing the use of metaphor. The correct answer is (E).

10. Correct Answer: (E)

The first paragraph introduces us to the topic; namely, movie-going alone. The second paragraph discusses the advantages of movie-going alone by describing various hypothetical situations – “Imagine, for once, a moment in which...” Thus, the correct answer is (E). (A) is incorrect, in that the first paragraph does not record a number of complaints. While the first paragraph does conclude with a paradox (the social stigma of movie-going alone despite living in an individualistic society), the second paragraph does not present us with a case study, so (B) is incorrect. (C) is incorrect, because the second paragraph is not ambivalent about movie-going alone—it is clearly in favor of it. Lastly, (D) is incorrect because the first paragraph does not present us with rhetorical questions.

11. Correct Answer: (C)

The author has already once employed the metaphor of barnacles to refer to moviegoers. Now, the phrase “out of thin air” indicates that seats in the theater can fill up in a very short amount of time. Thus, the answer is (C). The other answer choices are inconsistent with the context of the passage.

12. Correct Answer: (D)

The correct answer is (D). The author of Passage 1 is in favor of movie-going alone, due to the various advantages or benefits this entails. Answer (A) is incorrect, as the passage mentions nothing about aesthetic standard. (B) is incorrect, as the author would find nothing peculiar about movie going alone. (C) is incorrect, because discussing movies in online forums is not seen as the primary benefit of going to movies alone. (E) is incorrect, because the author views movie-going alone in a positive light, whereas the adjective problematic is negative.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

Pay attention to the clues in the sentence, which describes how viewers will be “limited” (line 82) and never hear “another person’s viewpoint” (line 83). These phrases line up with myopic (A), or small and limited in perspective. Tightened (B) is too literal of a meaning; all the other choices are irrelevant to the idea of a limited viewpoint.

14. Correct Answer: (D)

In the lines for this question, the author states that “it had seemed that the proper etiquette would be to bring friends” to the film event (lines 92-93); however, this expectation contrasts sharply with the “solitary” (line 95) nature of the film event itself. While answer (D) correctly summarizes the author’s description, answers (B) and (C) misrepresent the content of the passage. The reaction to the film event is in fact negative, but mostly entails disappointed expectations, not a strong stance such as cynicism or misanthropy.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

Read around in order to find what the author suggests about Sunset Boulevard. Earlier in the passage, it is established that Sunset Boulevard is unlike the “poorly constructed films” (line 85) that the author mentions; in fact, Sunset Boulevard is described as a “black-and-white classic” (line 87). It can thus be inferred that



Sunset Boulevard is a well-constructed film (B). All the other answers remain unsubstantiated. While choices (A) and (D) may be true, the author nowhere provides the information necessary to confirm these statements.

16. Correct Answer: (C)

In the final paragraph of Passage 2, the author argues that “critiquing a bad movie together can lead to deeply intellectual discussions” (lines 79-80). However, the author also presents Sunset Boulevard as an example of a high-quality film that can be enjoyed collectively. This evidence supports answer (C). Although solitary movie-going is presented in a negative light, this phenomenon is not linked to decreased appreciation for great cinema (A) or the habits of film journalists generally (E). Both (B) and (D) are trap answers: the film event described does eschew sub-par films and does take place in a big city, yet it would be wrong to assume that such is the case with film events generally.

17. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 2 speaks positively of “heated coffee-shop discussions” (lines 68-69) and more generally promotes connection and dialogue as essential to rewarding movie-going. This evidence supports answer (D), while answers (A), (C), and (E) are much closer to the opinions voiced by the author of Passage 2. Answer (B) is a trap; while the author of Passage 2 is a professional film critic, this author nowhere discusses how professional film critics have influenced the phenomenon of movie-going.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In the final paragraph of Passage 1, the author describes an “online forum” (line 49) as a way around the one real disadvantage of solitary film-going—the need to keep your opinions to yourself. This positive tone can be used to eliminate (A) and (B). Answer (C) misconstrues the content of the passage; the author of Passage 1 encourages intolerance for low-quality films, but does not argue that online debates facilitate this. Answer (D) is nowhere supported by the passage’s analysis of online forums. Only answer (E) properly states the position indicated by the passage itself.

19. Correct Answer: (D)

Passage 1 lists many of the discomforts and disadvantages that attend collective film-going, and presents solitary viewership as a mostly-desirable alternative. Passage 2 does not at any point criticize the major discomforts of seeing a film as a member of a group, thus creating a major point of disagreement with Passage 1 (D). None of the other answers correctly capture the relationship between the passages; the author of Passage 2 is aware of the prevalence of solitary film-going (A) and prefers to vigorously analyze films, but in collective formats (B). Neither passage compares film to other forms of entertainment (C). The author of Passage 2 is, however, aware that certain film audiences could feel socially stigmatized, but never justifies such stigmatization and instead promotes collective film viewing (E).

## Test 5

### Test 5, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence sets up a contrast between what bees do “in the heat of the summer months” and “in the fall.” If bees travel far from their hives during the summer, they will thus stay close during the fall. Venture for the first blank and close to for the second thus establish the correct relationship.

2. Correct Answer: (E)

The context clues in the sentence (“needlessly,” “haughtiness”) indicate that Veer’s attitude as bandleader should be described using a negative word. Supercilious or pompous is the most effective adjective for the haughtiness he displays. Dignified (A) fits some of the context but is a positive word; (D) euphoric means overjoyed.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

As described in the sentence, the group of musicians “wanders across America.” Itinerant or traveling would be the best way to describe such a group of wanderers. None of the other words are directly backed up by the clues in the sentence. Transitory (B) means not lasting long.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence contrasts the human reaction to Theobromine with the reactions of other species. If this ingredient is “harmless” to humans, it can be concluded that it is harmful or deleterious to “dogs and cats.” Disgusting (A) does not directly fit the clues described above; recriminatory (E) means involving angry and mutual accusation.

5. Correct Answer: (A)

In this sentence, the businessman is described as able to “deal shrewdly” when making bargains. The word for the first blank should refer to this quality, which is why astute is an effective fit. It can then be inferred that other businessmen would be involved in the negotiations mentioned: entrepreneurs (A), executives (B), and tycoons (D) are all appropriate, but only entrepreneurs lines up with an appropriate choice for the first blank.

6. Correct Answer: (A)

The first blank should describe the action of coconut crabs, which is to steal or pilfer materials. The crabs will do this instead of taking or extracting such items from natural sources. Both blanks, in other words, require words that roughly mean “to take.” To garner (B) means to earn; to supplant (D) means to remove and replace.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

The idea that capital punishment “is the only effective way to punish criminals” is contrasted with the “valid arguments.” Thus, this idea is best described as invalid or myopic (short-sighted and often inaccurate). None of the other words directly fit this contrast; pugnacious (C) means inclined to quarrel; punitive (E) means involving punishment.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

“Eliminating fats and sugars” would naturally improve or mitigate the patient’s diet. Because the patient is unwilling to take these measures to ensure a healthy lifestyle, it can be inferred that “weight loss surgery” would be futile; the patient would only re-gain the weight after the surgery. Imperative (A) means urgent or necessary; corroborate (B) means to support or substantiate; curtail (C) means to limit; exasperate (D) means to irritate or annoy.

9. Correct Answer: (A)

The author leads into the discussion of the California Gold Rush by stating that immigration “has been and always will be a point of contention in American society” (lines 1-2). It can be inferred that the California Gold Rush is one time when immigration was a divisive issue, since this issue was “always” divisive in America. The other answers touch on topics that the passage neglects, such as mass immigration (B) and venture capitalism (E). The accumulation of wealth could have been a pervasive social value during the Gold Rush, but the passage does not openly and directly make this case (C); there is no information about how people at large have perceived the Gold Rush, only about the author’s stance, eliminating the possibility that the Gold Rush has been unjustly glorified (D).

10. Correct Answer: (D)

Because the author states that immigration “has been and will always be” a point of contention in America, the author would DISAGREE that immigration has only been relevant for a few decades: this issue has always been relevant. The author substantiates many of the other claims; Chinese laborers found employment by immigrating (A) and immigration stirs disagreement even among contemporary Americans (C). The author does not openly discuss either regulations (B) or the true causes of salary problems (E); because there is insufficient information to infer the author’s opinions on these issues, these answers must be eliminated.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

The first sentence of the passage presents essential facts about the Humboldt squid, including the details of its size and anatomy. Informative (A) is a perfect description. A faulty interpretation of the passage could yield one of the other answers: although the Humboldt squid is dangerous, the sentence does not explicitly caution the reader against anything (B); although the squid may be seen as an impressive animal, the author nowhere voices admiration or celebration of this creature (D).

12. Correct Answer: (E)

In the final sentence of the passage, the Humboldt squid is described as a “ruthless killer” that is coming closer to human habitats (line 12). The author thus presents the Humboldt squid as a danger that humans will be forced to deal with, so that (E) is the most appropriate answer. The other answers rely on false logic or faulty assumptions. The passage describes the Humboldt squid as deadly, but nowhere says that it is more dangerous than all other marine animals (A); the giant squid could be a more ferocious predator than the Humboldt squid, but the author only states that it is larger, not more deadly overall (B); overfishing of the Humboldt squid would most likely decrease the squid population, not increase it (C); global warming and other factors seem to be pushing the squid north from Central and South American into colder waters near Canada, not into warmer waters (D).

13. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 1 is clearly distressed with what he sees as the inevitable conclusions of quantum theory. He refers to some of the implications as “nothing short of depressing” (line 30), and the passage concludes with the hope that “the quantum theory will one day be disproven.” The author of Passage 2, on the other hand, does not share these same concerns, concluding his passage with the line “As it stands, the implications of quantum theory are far more liberating than its detractors seem to realize.” Therefore, (C) is the correct answer. (A) is incorrect, because the author of Passage 1 does not point out a problem with the theory itself, but only takes issue with what he sees as a distressing repercussion of that theory. (B) is incorrect, because Passage 2 is not concerned with discussing the modern applications of the theory. (D) is incorrect because Passage 2 does not relate a personal account. (E) is incorrect because Passage 1 is not presenting a balanced overview; it takes a very clear stance against the implications of quantum theory.

14. Correct Answer: (C)

In the second paragraph of Passage 1, the author gives an account of how the universe was viewed before the development of quantum theory, and then how this perception was radically changed after the development of the theory. Thus, the statement “absolute certainty...uncertainty” is in reference to this evolution in scientific thought. (A) is incorrect because the quote is in reference to a specific view of the universe, and to the behavior of the universe itself. (B) is incorrect; although subatomic particles were used to illustrate the author’s point, the paragraph as a whole is concerned with the broader implications of quantum theory. (D) and (E) are both incorrect, as the author does not even address issues of personal accountability and random behavior until later in the passage.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

While the author does state that quantum theory implies that our behavior is “unpredictable and random,” he concludes paragraph 3 with the statement, “As such, I cannot be accountable for my failures, nor can I take credit for any of my successes.” In the final paragraph, he again makes reference to the fact “that quantum physics seemed to nullify any responsibility that we might have for our actions.” The author is therefore most distressed by the prospect that he might not have any control over his life and his destiny, and (B) is correct. While the author would agree with answer (A), this is not the primary thing he finds most depressing about quantum theory, and therefore it is not the best answer. The author might also agree with (C), but again, because his main concern has to do with personal agency and responsibility, it is not as good of an answer as (B). (D) and (E) are both incorrect as neither is supported by the passage.

16. Correct Answer: (E)

The sentence “By extension...selves?” is used to link the findings of quantum physics with our own understanding about ourselves and our behavior. As such, (E) is the best answer, as it links quantum theory with personal insights. (A) is incorrect, because the author never calls into question the applicability of the theory; rather, he assumes it to be so. (B) is incorrect because the author does accept the facts of the theory, despite the fact that he wishes it were otherwise. (C) is incorrect as “innovative approach” implies a positive connotation, whereas the tone of the passage is clearly negative in regard to the ramifications of quantum theory. (D) is incorrect because the author is not emphasizing a similarity in structure, but a similarity in behavior.

17. Correct Answer: (D)

The author cites Einstein as a scientific expert who shared his same frustrations with quantum theory. Therefore, (D) is correct. Einstein is both frustrated with the findings, and emphatic in his opinion of them – he expresses himself forcefully and clearly. While Einstein could also be characterized as outraged, there is nothing in the passage to support the idea of him being irresponsible, so (A) is incorrect. Answers (B), (C), and (E) are incorrect as they all have a positive tone, whereas the tone of the passage and that of Einstein are clearly negative.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

The author of Passage 2 uses the example of the coin toss to show how something can be both random and predictable at the same time, thereby refuting the point of the first author. As such, (E) is the correct answer, because the coin toss example is used to illustrate the author’s main point. (A) is incorrect, because the focus here is too narrow – the passage as a whole is concerned with more than the outcome of an equal probability experiment. (B) is incorrect because the passage is concerned only with quantum theory, and no second theory is ever mentioned. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not concern itself with practical applications of quantum theory. (D) is incorrect, because the author is writing in support of quantum theory, and is not seeking to disprove it.

19. Correct Answer: (E)

In context, the “probability functions” mentioned are ways of modeling and predicting the behavior of

subatomic particles; therefore (E), models, is the best answer.

20. Correct Answer: (A)

The scientists mentioned in Passage 1 would understand that quantum theory implies a random and unpredictable universe; therefore, they would agree with the sentiment that our behaviors are “akin to the erratic spins of a roulette wheel,” which are also random and unpredictable.

21. Correct Answer: (A)

The misunderstanding of quantum theory, according to Passage 2, is highlighted by the example of the coin toss. Over time, with many thousands of coin tosses, the behavior of the coin is very predictable, despite the fact that any one single coin toss is random. The author argues that misunderstandings around quantum theory arise when viewing events only in isolation (in terms of a single coin toss) rather than taking into account long-term behavior patterns. This view, Passage 2 argues, is too narrow, and (A) is the correct answer. (B) is incorrect, because it gets things backwards – the author is discussing the application of a complex theoretical model to a simplistic case (a coin toss). (C) is incorrect, because the author does not make a miscalculation regarding the coin toss (it’s 50/50). (D) and (E) are both incorrect because they completely contradict the question; while the question asks us about a misunderstanding, choice (D) mentions “a correct interpretation” while choice (E) mentions a “logical conclusion”— neither of which makes any sense in light of the question stem.

22. Correct Answer: (C)

The final paragraph of Passage 2 concludes with the statement that “the implications of quantum theory are far more liberating than its detractors seem to realize.” The author of Passage 1 is clearly one of these “detractors” who believes that quantum theory implies a lack of control over our own destinies. Therefore the perspective presented in the last paragraph of Passage 2 most directly contradicts choice (C), the idea that “I cannot be accountable for my failures,” or that I do not have responsibility for my own actions.

23. Correct Answer: (D)

In the last paragraph of Passage 2, the author describes a hypothetical scenario in which his choices change depending on his situation. The purpose of this example is to show that our choices can change based upon external factors, and therefore choice (D) is the best answer. Choice (C) mentions the hypothetical scenario, but nowhere in the passage does the author discuss “the relative unpredictability of natural occurrences,” so (C) is incorrect. Choices (A) and (E) are both incorrect because they imply agreement with the author of Passage 1, which is clearly not the case. Choice (B) is not supported by the passage.

24. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of the second passage argues that the implications of quantum theory are “liberating,” while the author of the first passage thinks that they reduce him to little more than a “random number generator.” Their disagreement is quite pronounced, making (D) the best answer. Because there is no evidence that the author of Passage 1 is any more correct than the author of Passage 2, author 1 cannot be “righteous” in his indignation, and choice (E) is incorrect. (C) is incorrect because it is not forceful enough in its disagreement. Lastly, (A) and (B) are both incorrect as they imply positive agreement between the authors.

## Test 5, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (A)

The applications described must involve a concept of “many,” since the author is discussing physics experiments that improves “the entirety of the discipline” rather than “a single area of thought.”

Multitudinous is the best word. Although the applications could in reality be unorthodox (B) or unprecedented (E), neither of these words fits the clues provided directly in the sentence.

2. Correct Answer: (B)

Fans of a show would be likely to take a positive attitude; as a result, find a positive word for the first blank. The sentence also indicates early on that the show described uses “standard characterizations,” so that the “people” the show depicts should be described using a synonym for standard. The only choice that fits both of these conditions is (B). Quotidian (A) means unremarkable; cogent (E) means forceful.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

Because the first blank should describe how “adverbs” are used, try to find a synonym for “descriptive,” such as evocative (A) or vivid (E). The second part of the sentence describes what happens when adverbs are overused, and should contrast with the first; on account of these requirements look for a negative word. Only dilute (A), meaning to water down or to thin out, fits these conditions. Banal (B) means common and undesirable; permeate (B) means to soak through; disseminate (C) means to spread or disperse; temper (D) means to tone down or balance out.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

If the policy is “controversial,” it can be inferred that the professors had a “prolonged” negative reaction. For the second blank, find a word that successfully shows why the professors’ reaction would be prolonged; the professors would remain incited if “conciliatory administrative gestures” failed to please, propitiate (C), or placate (D). Only answer (D) correctly describes the professors’ action as an insurrection or rebellion and fulfills the conditions for the second blank. A suspension (C) would be an official gesture, not the act of a rebellious group of professors.

5. Correct Answer: (D)

A stronger “flu vaccine” would be needed to fight a stronger strain of the flu. As a result, it can be inferred that a more robust (D) or hardy strain of the flu is expected to break out. The other difficult vocabulary words directly contradict the meaning of the sentence: salubrious (B) means healthful; flaccid (C) means limp and weak; innocuous (E) means harmless.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 1 is interested in finding out why the title character of Anna Karenina “acts the way she does” (lines 6-7) and lists several possible explanations. Passage 2, in contrast, refers to the character Milly Theale but describes possible explanations of Milly’s ailment, not possible explanations for Milly’s behavior. Answer (C) best describes this discrepancy; both passages are arguably concerned with (A), while neither passage devotes considerable analysis to (C), (D), or (E).

7. Correct Answer: (C)

For the author of Passage 1, medical and psychiatric ambiguity in fiction leads to questions that get in the way of “basic enjoyment” (line 12). It is thus likely that the author of Passage 1 would regard the ambiguity mentioned in Passage 2 as a source of irritation, or as a vexing (C) aspect of reading. However, there is no proof that such ambiguity is inappropriate or unwarranted (E) in fiction, only that the author of Passage 1 finds ambiguity problematic. Antediluvian (A) means extremely ancient; rudimentary (B) means basic or fundamental.

8. Correct Answer: (C)

The questions in lines 7-11 are best seen as different possibilities that the author of Passage 1 has devised to explain Anna Karenina; similarly, the “critics” described in Passage 2 (line 19) have devised possibilities to explain The Wings of the Dove. Thus, answer (C) is the best choice. The other answers either refer to the

wrong kind of activity, as in (A) and (B), or describe a kind of analysis that dismisses the possibilities mentioned in Passage 1, as in (D) and (E).

9. Correct Answer: (D)

While the author of Passage 1 describes the personal experience of reading and frequently uses the pronoun “I,” the author of Passage 2 presents “My own possibility” (line 22) as the passage nears its end. These instances of personal voice indicate that answer (D) is correct. None of the other devices provided in the other answers appear prominently in either passage.

10. Correct Answer: (B)

The author describes how a person will get upset and angry when robbed, while suggesting that that same person has most likely stolen something at one time in his or her life. The correct answer will illustrate a situation in which people are upset with others for committing an act that they themselves have also committed. (B) is the only option that satisfies this requirement. (C) might be a tempting answer, but here the person commits an act for revenge, which is not mentioned in the line reference.

11. Correct Answer: (E)

Right before the rapid succession of questions, the author says that there is “no use denying” the fact that we have all stolen something. Thus the questions probe the readers to think hard about whether they are truly innocent, and in doing so, cause them to remember a time when they stole something, however insignificant. (C) is incorrect because it is too specific about “people in the food industry.” (B) is incorrect because the questions do not progress to more “serious crimes.” (D) is wrong because the author does not discuss “finance and family values.” Finally, (A) is incorrect because the author is not encouraging the reader to rebel, but rather trying to remind the reader of when he or she has rebelled in the past.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

The biggest clue in the line reference is the first half of the sentence: “You can be quite honest here”. The author is trying to assure the reader that he or she can honestly answer the questions above, because the likelihood is that many readers would admit to having stolen in the past. Thus (C) is fully supported. (A) (B), (D), and (E) are incorrect because the author does not mention America specifically, the “psychological effects of dishonesty” or “meaningful companionship,” and does not claim that honesty is a “drawback.”

13. Correct Answer: (A)

During the line reference, the author cites examples of theft at the supermarket, in check writing, and at hotels, suggesting that stealing is very common. The only word that means common is “ubiquitous.”

14. Correct Answer: (D)

Here, the reader tells a personal story, or “anecdote.” None of the other answer options are supported.

15. Correct Answer: (A)

The old piece of advice starts with seemingly good intentions: it tells the reader not to steal, lie, or cheat. The second part of the advice, however, changes the tone to a more cynical one, implying that the government does all three of these activities. Thus (A) is supported because the quote does employ dry humor by suggesting that dishonesty is common, which the author would agree with. (B) is incorrect because it does not pick up on the sarcasm of the quote. (C) is incorrect because the quote supports, rather than undermines, the “inevitability of theft.” (D) is incorrect because the author does not mention the usefulness of dishonesty here. (E) is incorrect because although humor, or comedy, is involved in the answer, the quote is not intended to “absolve readers of guilt.”

16. Correct Answer: (C)

In the passage, the author describes the relatively new field of science called genomics, and then goes over its benefits and risks. Since the author does not give a clear position on whether he or she agrees with pursuing the field, (A) and (D) are eliminated. (E) can be eliminated because the author never indicates that genomics “contradicts” the scientific method. (B) is incorrect because the author does not relate genomics to “a well-known historical scenario.”

17. Correct Answer: (D)

In context, the parenthetical statement directly follows and explains the term “genomics,” which supports (D). (A) is incorrect because there is no thesis statement within the parenthesis. (B) is incorrect because there is no debate about what genomics is. (C) is incorrect because there is no reference to time in the line reference. (E) is incorrect because there is no support for the word “incongruity”.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In beginning of the sentence, the author explains that “it only takes about 25,000 genes to make a human a human.” Thus, the word “this” refers to the discovery. (A), (C), and (D) can be eliminated because they do not refer to a discovery. (E) is more supported than (B) because the author goes on to explain that the discovery was “striking” and important, which supports “compelling”.

19. Correct Answer: (D)

Major clue words and phrases in the fourth paragraph that describe the discovery are “striking,” “whopping,” “startling,” and “best possible confirmation of modern evolutionary theory.” In short, the discovery was extremely important, or remarkable. (B) and (E) are too negative to be correct, and (A) is incorrect because there is no indication that the discovery was accidental. (C) is incorrect because there is no suggestion that the discovery came at an inappropriate time.

20. Correct Answer: (C)

In order to answer this question, the reader must look before and after the line reference. Before the line reference, the author discusses a remarkable discovery in a positive way. After the line reference, the author delves into the moral issues and “bad potentialities” surrounding the “amazing advances.” Thus, the sentence marks a transition from discussion of a discovery to the effects of that discovery. (C) is fully supported. (A), (D) and (E) can be eliminated because they do not properly describe the content before the line reference. (B) can be eliminated because it does not properly describe the content after the line reference.

21. Correct Answer: (E)

In the line reference, the author discusses how genomics may some day eliminate the process of aging, and “permanently warp human-influenced ecosystems all over the world.” Thus (E) is supported. (D) is incorrect because the author does not mention who is intrigued by genomics, (C) is incorrect because the author does not mention the scientific method, and (A) is incorrect because the author does not mention morality in this line reference. (B) is incorrect because although the author does discuss aging, he or she does not indicate that genomics is responsible for a “new theory” of aging.

22. Correct Answer: (B)

When the author refers to “primitive creatures,” he or she goes on to say “we do not understand the many implications that accompany the modification of a single gene.” Thus the correct answer must reflect this idea. (B) is fully supported. (A), (D) and (E) are incorrect because they do not address human knowledge, a key idea in the answer. Between (C) and (B), (B) matches what the author indicates more closely.

23. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, the author is discussing the interconnectedness of genes in a particular genome, and indicates that the relationships between genes are something we do not yet understand. Thus the only word that is



supported is “complex.”

24. Correct Answer: (D)

The overall passage discusses an emerging scientific field and its potential effects on society at large. The author is not for or against genomics, but rather neutral, providing both the advantages and possible risks of genomics. Thus (A), (B), and (C) are eliminated because they are not neutral enough. “Thoughtful” is more supported than “ingenuous.”

### Test 5, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (B)

If the people have replaced their ruler, they would need to have removed him first: overthrew (B), usurped (C), and deposed (E) would all fit the context of removing a totalitarian or dictatorial ruler. However, this sentence must also involve an “irony,” or an unexpected reversal. It would be expected that a more positive or democratic ruler would replace a totalitarian leader, but it would be ironic for one totalitarian leader to replace another totalitarian leader. Draconian (A), despotic (B), and dictatorial (D) all fit the second blank. Only answer (B) fits the needed conditions for both blanks.

2. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence presents a contrast between Norman’s “impartiality and evenhandedness” and his “overbearing style of management.” The words for the blank should preserve this contrast or incompatibility; Norman’s merits would coexist with his adherence to negative qualities, which could be described as constant or unwavering. Answer (C) is a trap answer; although Norman’s adherence would be stubborn, his merits could not genuinely negate his negative qualities of Alexandra notices these negatives.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

The phrases after the colon define the blank: unequivocal means “undeniably straightforward” and would accurately describe the blogger’s work and style. Holistic (B) means involving the whole of a person or situation; officious (D) means busy and overbearing; byzantine (E) means complex and difficult.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The first blank describes an action relating to “clues” that employers would want to understand, which is why analyzing (A) and studying (D) are both appropriate fits. The second blank requires a positive word, since employers would want to “successfully” institute effective workplace policies. Punctuality (B) and productivity (D) would both fit. Only in answer (D) do both words meet the requirements for the blanks.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

In the sentence, the new chairwoman is described as “tending to react unpredictably to new proposals and routine assignments alike.” The best description for such behavior would be erratic or uncertain. Facetious (D) means funny and clever; meticulous (E) means attentive to detail.

6. Correct Answer: (E)

Use the two parts of the sentence to determine the correct words for the blank. The tradesmen from the Middle Ages are posed against modern-day “swindlers,” from which it can be inferred that the older tradesmen would be seen as fakes, charlatans (A), deceivers (C), or mountebanks (E) for certain actions. But unlike these tradesmen, who experienced excessive “luck,” today’s fakes don’t need the same quality: synonyms for luck would be fortune (B), serendipity (D), and chance (E). Only in answer (E) do the two required words line up properly.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

Overall, the author discusses female authors, and how they eventually became respected and famous by the nineteenth century. In the end, the author states that female authors were responsible for the novel coming to “fruition.” Thus (B) is supported. (A) is incorrect because the author’s discussion is not limited to the nineteenth century. (C) is incorrect because although the author discusses some famous Gothic horror authors, this is not the primary purpose of the passage. (D) is incorrect for two reasons: the entire passage is not about Jane Austen, and she was not influential in the eighteenth century, but rather the nineteenth century. (E) is incorrect because the author agrees that “few female authors wrote actively before the nineteenth century.”

8. Correct Answer: (C)

The biggest clue for the answer here is “not completely accurate.” Thus, “flawed,” in (C) is fully supported, while none of the other options are.

9. Correct Answer: (A)

In the line reference, the author points out that Aphra Behn’s popularity declined sharply after her death, which supports (A). (B), (C), and (E) are incorrect because they misinterpret the line reference. (D) is incorrect because the author does not discuss Behn’s lifestyle here.

10. Correct Answer: (D)

The most significant clue that establishes George III’s tone is the word “sneer” in line 24. Thus, the tone must be negative. The only option is (D).

11. Correct Answer: (E)

In the line reference, the author describes the picaresque novel as “a series of unrelated actions” that is only unified by “the presence of the central character” and an “omnipresent” author who tells “the reader what to think.” Thus, one or all of these clues will support the correct answer. (A), (B), (C), and (D) all contradict at least one of the clues in the line reference.

12. Correct Answer: (A)

This sentence directly follows the description of the popular literary genre in which the author makes “moral judgments” and tells “the reader what to think.” The sentence in the line reference starts with the phrase “one may well understand why,” which indicates that the sentence is giving a reason for a particular phenomenon. Thus (A) is supported. (B) is incorrect because the author does not discuss his or her own “motivation” for writing. (C) is incorrect because this statement is not a counterargument, it supports the author’s point. (D) is incorrect because the evidence for the claim is found just above the sentence. (E) is incorrect because it is not a “researched conclusion,” but merely a possible explanation.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

Horace Walpole is mentioned as the progenitor of the gothic horror genre, which included “inexplicable happenings...and the presence of the supernatural.” Thus the correct answer will agree with this description of the gothic horror genre. (A) is the only supported answer.

14. Correct Answer: (C)

In context, Jane Austen wrote a book that pointed out the “posturing absurdity of the Gothic genre with a hard dose of common sense.” Thus, the correct answer will be negative, but will not be a physical puncturing. Thus (A) and (B) are incorrect, and (E) is incorrect because it is not negative. In context, (C) fits into the sentence better than (D).

15. Correct Answer: (B)

In context, the author discusses how the book “Northanger Abbey” marked a shift in women becoming more eminent as authors, and was a turn away from the “absurdity” of gothic horror toward “common sense.” Thus, an answer will be correct if it addresses any or all of these considerations. (B) is supported. (A) is incorrect because the book is a new style, so it does not conform to old practices. (D) is incorrect because Austen’s book exerted influence into the nineteenth century, not the “eighteenth century.” (E) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the book includes other authors. (C) is incorrect because although males were dominant authors, the gothic horror genre also included women authors.

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The major point the author makes in this paragraph is that Jane Austen does not tell “her reader what to think.” (line 81-82). Instead, she focuses on the reactions of her characters to events that they have heard about. Thus, the correct answer must mention these ideas. (C) is fully supported. (A) and (B) are incorrect because they do not mention the author’s style. (D) and (E) discuss the author’s style, but do not explain the line reference.

17. Correct Answer: (A)

This line reference explains that Austen changed the style of novel by not telling her reader what to think, and not patronizing her reader. Thus (A) is fully supported. (C) is incorrect because it directly contradicts the author’s statement about Austen. The remaining options are incorrect because they do not discuss the narrative voice.

18. Correct Answer: (B)

The author states that reading the novels gives insight into the real lives of women in the eighteenth century. Thus the author assumes that Austen gave a realistic portrayal of the lives of women, which supports (B). (A), (C), and (E) are incorrect because they do not mention the lives of women, which is a central point in the line reference. (D) is incorrect because the author does not mention the inadequacy of male authors here.

19. Correct Answer: (B)

The last paragraph explains that a small group of women authors are responsible for the “fruition” of the novel. In addition, the author mentions that these authors depicted women as “independent individuals,” despite the inequality of the times. (A) is incorrect because the author does not mention “male bureaucracy.” (C) and (D) are incorrect because the authors did not write “Gothic horror novels” or “picaresque” novels. (E) is incorrect because the author does not indicate that the female authors “taught the men of their generation.” Thus the only answer that is left is (B).

## Test 6

### Test 6, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The information after the semicolon defines the blank, should signify a variety of plant life.

2. Correct Answer: (D)

The information after the semicolon defines the two blanks. Notice that the words “and” are parallel: streamlined and original best define the meaning for the blanks.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

The information after “thus”—something that is complete—most directly defines the second blank.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

Camouflage (hidden) and dangerous are the context clues for the blanks. Since “animals cannot distinguish camouflage,” the hunters are hidden and susceptible to other hunters, which can be dangerous. The first blanks for (A), (C), and (E) all refer to hidden, but only perilous means dangerous.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The information after “based” defines the blank as questionable or as NOT verifiable. This eliminates (A), (B), and (E). Convoluted (D) means complex, but something that is complex is not necessarily questionable.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

The main idea of the passage is that animals can survive in solitude: lines 4-5 (“Yet, there... solitude.) However, the key words in the question are “collective living,” or thriving in a group. Since the passage supports that “thriv[ing] in solitude” as plausible, it is implied that survival in the animal world is not limited to “collective living.”

7. Correct Answer: (C)

Because the family groups of solitary animals “seldom grow beyond a single mother” and her offspring (lines 9-10), it would be false to state these family groups always consist of a mother and her offspring.

8. Correct Answer: (A)

The uses of common objects like a “snow shovel,” “hat rack,” or “bicycle” (lines 7-8) imply that the Duchamp intended to question the standards for “art” and “non-art” (lines 9-10).

9. Correct Answer: (D)

Lines 13-14 indicate that the author believes that Duchamp intended to have the viewer “find moments of artistic beauty” (subtle reverence) “where we least expect them” (the inconspicuous).

10. Correct Answer: (E)

In the line reference, the “last hour” is a figurative expression referring to the couple’s own demise and the “terrible crash” before the reference also refers to the fear of something fatal, or something that they would “not expect to survive.”

11. Correct Answer: (D)

(D) disturbing yet mostly harmless best reflects the “terror” the couple experienced from the thunderbolt, while still being “quite unhurt” (lines 24-26).

12. Correct Answer: (C)

The lines represent the end of the thunderbolt story from the first two paragraphs, eliminating (A), (D), and (E). While (B) and (C) refer to endings, the trap in (B) is moralistic: the story lacks a lesson or moral.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

Keeping in mind that the question states “in context,” the statements before the line reference associate “spirited” with “thievery” (line 43) and “snatch” (line 44).

14. Correct Answer: (C)

The line reference indicates that the cases of lightning described in the passage are “jovial” (cheerful) and “innocuous” (harmless). (A) is incorrect because there is no text evidence to support that lightning is “never” harmful. (B) is incorrect because the lines preceding the reference do not refer to “inexplicable” (or unable to explained) occurrences as these disappearances are all accounted by lightning. (D) is incorrect because there aren’t any words that refer to “doubt” or casting suspicion. (E) is incorrect because there is no “scientific investigation” to account for the cases described in the paragraph.

15. Correct Answer: (C)

There is no “quoted dialogue” evident in the passage.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

For the first two paragraphs, the author begins the passage with a couple’s experience with strange phenomena (lightning) before telling several, smaller, and similar instances (lines 39-61). (B) is incorrect because there is no scientific information present. (C) is incorrect because the author does not offer advice at any point in the passage; the text is primarily informational about a strange phenomena. (D) is incorrect because the author does not pose a theory to account for this strange phenomena. (E) is incorrect because the author does not question (doubt) the phenomena.

17. Correct Answer: (A)

Lines 10-13 (“But there . . . thought”) indicate that the “classic [children’s] tale” (line 8) about Johnny Appleseed has another side that “may not be as suitable for children as” (lines 12-13) originally believed.

18. Correct Answer: (B)

In the line reference, “classic” is most directly associated with “always” “in classrooms” and “always a delight to tell around a lively campfire,” indicating that it is well-liked or popular.

19. Correct Answer: (B)

Lines 32-33 (“was that...frontier”) states that Michael Pollan accounted for Chapman’s legacy because Chapman brought “the gift of alcohol.”

20. Correct Answer: (D)

In the context of its paragraph, the author further explains that “Pollan’s theory” about “bringing the gift of alcohol” is “gaining clout” or strong influence (lines 33-35). However, the author uses quotes around the word “philanthropy” to cast doubt on Pollan’s theory as “alcoholism” became a “common malady” (line 46) and not a “gift” as Pollan suggests.

21. Correct Answer: (E)

The line reference supports (corroborates) the author’s notion as stated in lines 45-50 that Michael Pollan’s theory on John Chapman’s contributions were actually problematic, as many of the military men were dismissed due to “excessive drinking and disorder” (lines 52-53).

22. Correct Answer: (A)

In the fifth paragraph, the author characterizes John Chapman's contributions as "wrecking both the physical and mental state of those caught in its throes" (lines 48-50), which heavily implies that the alcohol was very problematic or a widespread social problem.

23. Correct Answer: (C)

Because the question asks about the paragraph's function, take into account how the paragraph is operating in context of the whole passage. From the previous paragraph, the author implies that John Chapman's contributions actually pose social difficulties. However, in this paragraph, the author acknowledges that John Chapman "was a gentle man and a profound teacher" (lines 57-58), which serves to lessen or mitigate the author's previous criticism.

24. Correct Answer: (B)

The last sentence characterizes John Chapman as "never settling" (line 68) and "rarely claiming any town as his true home" (line 70-71), suggesting that he consistently travelled and had a mobile lifestyle. The word sojourner refers to one who temporarily stays.

## Test 6, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (D)

The information after the semicolon defines the blank, which is a reworded duplication. The word imitative comes from imitate or copy.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

The phrases "even though" and "now being" indicate that the relationship between the two blanks should be opposite. The words thrive (to grow vigorously) and eradicated (destroyed) are the most opposite of each other.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

The information after the second comma defines the blank as splitting into different political groups, which best fits fractured.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The context clue for the blank is unpredictable and sudden whims.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

The context clue for the blanks is once-optimistic. Notice the parallel structure between "once" and "initial," which defines the first blank as "optimistic," or something that is strong and active. The second blank is defined as once-optimistic or the opposite of optimistic.

6. Correct Answer: (E)

The information after the colon defines the blank, which is pioneered, or developed first.

7. Correct Answer: (D)

The context clue for the blank is a lifetime spent studying, which suggests that the blank must refer to knowledge.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

The context clues French culture and anti-European sentiment suggest that the blanks should be opposite of each other since it is impossible to treat (blank) both French Culture and anti-European sentiment in the same way. The words espoused (support) and rebuking (disapproving) best fit this relationship.

9. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 2 contends that video games lack an “intimacy” (line 16) that can only be achieved through physical books. However, the author of Passage 1 supports the notion that video games are also stories in their own way in which the “hero faces his deepest fear” and “conquers that fear” (lines 10-11).

10. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 2 is nostalgic or “wistful” for physical books: “brushing your hand on paper, by hearing the subtle tear of a page...author’s words” (lines 16-19). The descriptions in these lines represent an idealized view of the author’s thoughts about books.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 supports the claim in lines 4-5 that “video games carry within them the kind of stories and episodes that are present in all literature” by providing an example in lines 6-11 that liken the arrangement of elements or structure between a book and a video game.

12. Correct Answer: (B)

The author of Passage 2 describes in detail that “intimacy” with a book can only be achieved if it is physical: “brushing your...words” (lines 16-19). The author of Passage 1 would disagree with the claim in Passage 1 because it suggests that the “bound pages” (line 4) are not necessary.

13. Correct Answer: (E)

The correct answer is (E), a meeting with an eccentric individual. That eccentric individual, is, of course, Mr. Dutton. (A) is incorrect, because the narrator does not get into a dispute with Mr. Dutton. (B) is incorrect, as the narrator does not debate with Mr. Dutton, but merely listens to him rant. (C) is incorrect, as the visit is neither disappointing, nor is Mr. Dutton the narrator’s friend. (D) is incorrect, as Mr. Dutton and the narrator are two people addressing individual needs, and they are not collaborating together.

14. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, “installed” most nearly means put or positioned, and (A) is the best answer.

15. Correct Answer: (D)

The fact that the clematis has a few “timid” shoots and the apple tree “looks hesitant” serve to emphasize the fact that the garden is not thriving. This is due to the fact that the narrator is a self-admitted poor gardener: in line 12, he says, “I am a terrible gardener, really...” (D) is the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (B)

The lines mentioned give a detailed visual description of Mr. Dutton’s appearance, capturing aspects of both his physical look (cropped haircut, stocky build, overhanging belly) as well as his attire (small earring, heavy boots, saggy jeans). Thus (B) is the best answer.

17. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, “Mr. Dutton works out the estimated price for the job” refers to Mr. Dutton’s calculation of how much it will cost to store the narrator’s belongings. Therefore, the best answer is (A), calculates.

18. Correct Answer: (C)

The phrase “all the while pursuing a monologue that requires few interventions on my behalf” tells us that Mr. Dutton is so talkative that he doesn’t even allow his listener time to chime in. The words being spoken are a monologue (one person speaking only) as opposed to a dialogue, or conversation. Therefore, Mr. Dutton is extremely garrulous, or talkative, and (C) is the best answer.

19. Correct Answer: (C)

The parenthetical phrases given by the narrator provide us with a humorous, down-to-earth contrast to the unorthodox ravings of Mr. Dutton. As such, these phrases serve to highlight the absurdity of Mr. Dutton’s outlandish opinions, and (C) is the best answer. (A) is incorrect, as the phrases are the thoughts of the narrator alone, and do not represent common objections by a group of people. (B) is incorrect, as the phrases largely are not in the form of hypothetical questions. (D) is incorrect, as the phrases are the narrator’s own musings, and are not quotations from other sources. (E) is incorrect, as the phrases serve to downplay Mr. Dutton’s opinions, and not substantiate (support) them.

20. Correct Answer: (D)

The overall sentence tells us that just as the narrator manages to figure out Mr. Dutton’s strange and questionable logic, “Mr. Dutton has moved on to his interest in pre-Roman history.” The implication here is that Mr. Dutton’s frantic mind moves quickly from one topic to the next, and therefore (D) is the correct answer. (A) is incorrect, as Mr. Dutton does not allow the narrator time to speak; therefore, it’s not possible for the narrator to display either competence or incompetence at conversation. (B) is incorrect, as the narrator is clearly trying to follow the logic of Mr. Dutton’s words. (C) is incorrect, because although the author is skeptical of Mr. Dutton, he does not dispute the accuracy of Mr. Dutton’s explanations. (E) is incorrect, as Mr. Dutton’s reasoning is clearly not subtle, but rather boisterous in its explanations of various issues.

21. Correct Answer: (E)

The sentence, “We would turn to cannibalism, since we import all our food,” refers to what Mr. Dutton believes would happen if the UK were to collapse. As such, it is a conjecture, or prediction, about a possible future, and (E) is the answer.

22. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence referenced begins with, “That, he says, is the future...” which serves to wrap up Mr. Dutton’s previous thoughts regarding humanity’s future colonization of Mars and the Moon. (Mr. Dutton believes space colonization is a good solution to the imminent collapse of society.) The end of the sentence (“storage for one year will be 1055 pounds sterling”) transitions back to the real pressing reason why Mr. Dutton has shown up at the narrator’s house; namely, to quote the narrator a price for storing his belongings. Therefore, the correct answer is (B), for Mr. Dutton goes from postulating a grand solution (the colonization of space) to dealing with daily matters (quoting the narrator a price for storage).

23. Correct Answer: (A)

Throughout the passage, the narrator continually distances himself from what he sees as Mr. Dutton’s wild and outlandish predictions about the future. Therefore, the phrase “in view of the cataclysmic future” is said with a wry, mocking tone, since the narrator doesn’t really buy into anything Mr. Dutton has said. As such, (A) is the correct answer.

24. Correct Answer: (C)

Due to his renegade appearance and his outlandish opinions, Mr. Dutton is characterized as (C), idiosyncratic. (Idiosyncratic means peculiar, or uniquely individual in style and/or behavior).

25. Correct Answer: (D)



The key phrase here is that the narrator “shrugs his shoulders” before going back indoors. Clearly, the narrator is neither giving much more thought to Mr. Dutton (and therefore answer (C) and (E) are both incorrect), nor is he much bothered by Mr. Dutton’s strange intrusion (which makes (D) the correct answer). (A) is incorrect, as the garden is secondary in importance to the author’s overall encounter with Mr. Dutton. (B) is entirely unsupported by the passage.

### Test 6, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (D)

The information after the colon defines the blank, which is felt better.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

The information after the second comma defines the context for both blanks, which is winning accolades, or earning honor.

3. Correct Answer: (B)

The blank is defined as referring to psychics, or individuals who have knowledge of events before they happen.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

The information after the colon defines the first blank as talkative, which also defines the second blank as being sociable.

5. Correct Answer: (D)

“Because” defines the blank as he alone [who] knows every recipe...and can recall each ingredient, which suggests that the individual is the best.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

The phrase “difference between” suggests that the blank must be the opposite of the context clue common individual or someone who is powerful.

7. Correct Answer: (A)

In the first paragraph, the author summarizes the central conflict in *Meet Me in St. Louis*, which was choosing between moving to New York City or staying in St. Louis, Missouri. Ultimately, line 14 illustrates the social “panacea,” or solution to the family’s conflict that staying home would be the best choice.

8. Correct Answer: (C)

The author characterizes the film as “popular” in the “United States” and “everywhere else in the Western world” (lines 16-19), or ubiquitous, which means universal or present everywhere.

9. Correct Answer: (D)

According to the author of Passage 1, a critic might sneer at *Meet Me in St. Louis* because the film presents us with an unrealistic, whitewashed version of that Midwestern city. According to the author: “everyone in St. Louis [in the film] was financially well-off. There were no mortgages to worry about, no strikes, no protests, no pollution, no conflicts...no acts of violence.” Therefore, the best answer is (D) – the film fails to take into account the harsh realities of American life.

10. Correct Answer: (A)

The correct answer is (A). As mentioned in the previous answer, the author is critical of the fact that *Meet Me in St. Louis* presents an unrealistic, whitewashed version of St. Louis, which lacks all varieties of actual, day-to-

day problems faced by working Americans. Therefore, the list in lines 24-27 serves to underscore, or emphasize, common and various social problems that were neglected or ignored by the film.

11. Correct Answer: (B)

At the end of the second paragraph (just past the lines referenced in the question), the author writes, “Like critics of this film, the sarcastic Voltaire was wary of such optimism, implying that ill-advised and ill-fated beliefs lead to self-destructive impracticality.” Therefore, Voltaire was highly skeptical of unbridled optimism, for he saw it as being at odds with having a pragmatic or realistic outlook on the world. As such, (B) is the correct answer.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

In the lines referenced, the author of Passage 1 calls for restraint in ridiculing and dismissing *Meet Me in St. Louis*. However, the author of Passage 2 clearly thinks that the film has little if any aesthetic value, and is therefore deserving of ridicule and dismissal. As such he would respond to the claim with (C), disagreement. (A) is incorrect, as “outrage” is too strong of a word. The other answer choices do not make sense in context.

13. Correct Answer: (B)

The author writes that the film *Meet Me in St. Louis* “is a piece of stringy bacon wrapped in a bow.” A comparison between two unlike things that uses the linking word “is” defines a metaphor, and (B) is the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (A)

Just after he describes *Meet Me in St. Louis* as a “gentle” escape, the author goes on to say that the film is “pounded into the mind by the jackhammering of musical overtones.” The language here hardly conveys gentleness, and therefore the quotation marks around “gentle” serve to show the author’s skepticism about the word’s aptness, or appropriateness, to describe the film. As such, (A) is the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (E)

The author writes that “the conflict is really not a conflict at all, but a trivial struggle.” Thus, the author feels that the central problem faced by the family in the film is really of only very minor significance. As such, he is proposing that *Meet Me in St. Louis* exaggerates a rather everyday dilemma (whether or not one should move from the suburbs to the big city). Thus, (E) is the correct answer. The other answer choices are not supported by the passage.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

In the last paragraph of Passage 2, the author states, “It would behoove us to consider watching films that reflect the modern realities of life that remind us that glimmers of hope are the greatest gifts because they lie in the palms of our hands, in our direct control.” Answer choice (A) most directly paraphrases this sentence: the author feels we should watch films that “present realistic visions of life but still cause us to value hope and independence.” Therefore, (A) is the correct answer; answers (B) through (E) are unsupported by the passage.

17. Correct Answer: (B)

The correct answer is (B): Both authors agree that *Meet Me in St. Louis* ultimately supports the idealistic values of everyday Americans. This is most directly supported in Passage 1 in the very opening sentence: “*Meet Me in St. Louis* is a film that, for middle-class Americans, depicted the quintessential goals and pleasures of family life in the wake of the Second World War.” In Passage 2, the author tells us, “Every Christmas, this film musical airs on some family channel to extol idealistic middle class values.” Therefore, both authors are in agreement that the film upholds the values of everyday (middle class) Americans. Both authors would disagree with all of the other answer choices.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

The author of Passage 1 views the film as inaccurate (it gives a pristine, whitewashed version of St. Louis that is devoid of any real social problems) but popular (the film still appears on TV some eighty years after it premiered). The author of Passage 2 views the film as mawkish, or overly sentimental (“sentimentality is the film’s essence,” lines 91-92) as well as inauthentic; he states that the film’s central conflict “is really not a conflict at all,” (lines 79-80) and that the film is guilty of exaggerating a largely trivial dilemma. Therefore, (E) is the correct answer.

## Test 7

### Test 7, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (A)

Since Regina’s costume design was “innovative,” you should expect another clearly positive word for the first blank. The word for the second blank will be a negative, because “misgivings” regarding Regina’s past have been forgotten. “Accolades” (praises) and “blunders” (mistakes) are the words that fit best.

2. Correct Answer: (D)

The clue in the sentence is the phrase “execute complex finger exercises.” The word “dexterity” means skill, particular skill in using one’s hands, and indicates exactly the quality that Rufus would possess.

3. Correct Answer: (E)

Because there are few (or is a “dearth of”) documentary records, the investigators were forced to rely on some other source dealing with “the quotidian activities of the king and his attendants.” The investigators would “reconstruct” the activities based on “anecdotal” (live or direct testimonial) reports. Quotidian means everyday.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

After the colon, the sentence describes the many conflicting and apparently incompatible types of “humans.” Paradoxical, a word that indicates something seemingly illogical or contradictory yet fundamentally true, is the word that best fits this content.

5. Correct Answer: (B)

The legislation described would “provide free technical and scientific training” to improve or upgrade the “state workforce.” Because such training is necessary, it can be inferred that the workforce is currently in a negative state; substandard is the most effective description.

6. Correct Answer: (D)

Since Mabel found herself in a state of “disoriented melancholy,” she would best be described as unmoored (without stability or control). Resilient (B) is inappropriately positive; eclectic (C) means “made up of different types” and is irrelevant; aghast (A) and vengeful (E) can be negative but do not fit the context of the sentence.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

The proponents described list “individual and specific reasons,” or enumerate their reasons. Truncate (A) means to shorten; rescind (C) means to take back; proselytize (D) means to promote a position in the hopes of converting others; descry (E) means to see or discern.

8. Correct Answer: (C)

The clue “nevertheless” indicates that the sentence describes a contrast. It can be inferred that the first blank is positive, since the sentence here describes the “liberation of the oppressed nation,” while the contrasting second blank is negative. Providential (fortunate) and ramifications (complex and often harmful consequences) are the best words for the respective blanks.

9. Correct Answer: (C)

In this passage, the author contrasts her social media habits (particularly her use of Facebook) to the social media habits of her “fifteen year-old” niece (line 2). An effective answer would account for the themes of age difference and communication technology. Since the passage does not set forward a broadly applicable thesis

about social media, answers (B) and (D) can be eliminated; for (A), the word aspersions (or slander) is too strong for the narrator's approach; for (E), the passage is not directly used to generate sympathy for multiple individuals.

10. Correct Answer: (E)

The narrator spends the passage discussing forms of technology that have supposedly replaced or overshadowed Facebook, but nonetheless makes use of Facebook at the end of the passage. The author is aware that using Facebook would not win the approval of the niece; her use of this technology, despite all that has been said against it, is an irony with a somewhat negative (or self-deprecating) tone. Although (B) is a tempting answer, the passage only indicates that Facebook is falling into unpopularity, not that it is genuinely obsolete.

11. Correct Answer: (E)

The author begins the passage by stating that "the human ear is an amazing mechanism" (line 1) and goes on to detail the ear's most important functions. Because the author's tone when describing the ear is never negative, all answer choices except for (E) can be eliminated. The word bemusement (C) means "confusion."

12. Correct Answer: (B)

In the passage, the ear's task of "keeping the body in equilibrium" is described as a "more essential" task than hearing. Thus, keeping the body in balance is more significant than hearing. The word ancillary means incidental, secondary or accompanying. The trap answer here is (C); while this answer yields a true statement, this answer does not explain why hearing is ancillary for the ear.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 discusses the importance "around the world today" (line 44) of ideas such as "survival of the fittest" and "the invisible hand." The same theories are cited by name and criticized for their inapplicability to specific cases in Passage 2. Thus, Passage 1 takes a positive stance on theories that Passage 2 presents in a more negative fashion. However, Passage 2 is concerned with broad ideas rather than an antagonism between thinkers (C), with the practical flaws in ideas rather than the unpopularity of ideas (D), and with the accuracy of ideas rather than their ethical value (E). Thus, answer (A) best describes the relationship between the passages.

14. Correct Answer: (B)

Because monumental discoveries are "groundbreaking" (line 3) and "jarring to our sensibilities" (line 5), such discoveries can be described as provoking human sensitivities (B). Answer (A) misuses the author's geology metaphor, while answer (C) is too negative. While monumental discoveries are important, they are not necessarily indisputable (D). And while Darwin's idea of "natural selection" is presented as a monumental discovery, it cannot be assumed that the other findings in Darwin's book fit this description (E).

15. Correct Answer: (B)

The passage states that passing along "genetic information" will lead to "optimized traits" (lines 11-14). In other words, physical characteristics or "traits" are determined by genetic information (B). Other answers misrepresent this process; while successful evolution involves the fittest members of a species (A), positive progress (C), and successful adaptation (E), the lines for this question do not indicate that these phenomena are inevitable or universally applicable. Nowhere in the lines is learning mentioned (D).

16. Correct Answer: (D)

The author first introduces the biological concept of "survival of the fittest" in line 16, then explains in the two paragraphs that follow how such "survival" applies to economics. Thus, answer choice (D) is accurate. The term "survival of the fittest" simply sums up an idea; it does not support a concept (A) or indicate the

popularity of Darwin's ideas. While Darwin's theory is complex, it cannot be inferred that the phrase "survival of the fittest" is colloquial or conversational; if anything, this is a formal phrase used by scientists and economists. Answer (E) is much too negative for the passage.

17. Correct Answer: (A)

The word "open" is used in the context of "free-market capitalism" (lines 26-27) in a structure in which forces such as supply and demand (rather than strong rules and regulations) determine economic exchange. "Open" thus means free or unrestrained (A) as used in the passage. Such competition may in fact be candid (B) or active (D), yet there are not sufficient context clues to make either of these answers an appropriate fit.

18. Correct Answer: (C)

The passage describes a process that benefits producers but also yields "the best products for consumers, manufactured and sold at the lowest possible prices" (lines 28-30). In lines 33-34, the author introduces the phrase "invisible hand" to explain a central mechanism of this process (B). The invisible hand describes a market mechanism, not an actual economy (A), (E). Answers (B) and (D) both misrepresent the content of the passage: the invisible hand is an idea that was actually substantiated by the weakening of communism (B) and is an economic theory, not a scientific theory (D).

19. Correct Answer: (D)

In this paragraph, the author shows how certain expectations were disappointed: a high-achieving student did not have a brilliant career, while two "carefree" students (line 65) became successful in life. The author has thus been relying on the assumption that school performance indicates career potential, and indicates that this assumption has been disproven (D). Answers (A), (C), and (E) misconstrue the math and science content of the passage. Answer (B) is a trap; the author is interested in the correlation between attitude and career success, not attitude and academic success.

20. Correct Answer: (E)

After introducing the ideas cited, the author of Passage 2 notes that these ideas "aren't exactly applicable to the modern job market" (lines 78-79) and provides a few different reasons for this stance. In this manner, the author argues against "social Darwinism" and "survival of the fittest" (E). Nowhere are the theories named designated as new (B); in fact, Passage 1 indicates that these theories are old. And while the author's arguments later in Passage 2 may cast the validity of Darwin's ideas in doubt, the references to "social Darwinism" and "survival of the fittest" do not themselves undermine Darwin's authority (C). Answers (A) and (D) are both applicable to Passage 1, but not to Passage 2.

21. Correct Answer: (C)

For this question, try to find a statement in Passage 1 that states that Darwin's ideas ARE applicable to the modern job market. Answer (C) refers to lines that support the validity of Darwin's and Smith's, which the author of Passage 1 connects to contemporary economics. It can be inferred that that the statement in Passage 2 would most directly contradict and disprove this aspect of Passage 1. Answer (E) is a trap; although the statement in lines 40-41 supports Darwin's ideas, it supports ideas about the "weaker populations in nature," not about the economic forces that interest the author of Passage 2.

22. Correct Answer: (D)

These lines refer to the "preferences of employers, businessmen, and deal-makers" (lines 83-84); as the passage progresses, it becomes clear that these preferences go against the expected social preference for forms of strength. As a result, it can be inferred that (D) is the correct answer. Answers (A), (B), and (C) rest on assumptions that the passage never substantiates in its discussion of hiring preferences; answer (E) misstates the passage's argument. The motives of employers may be mysterious to the author, but the "most educated commentators" may in fact be aware of these motives.

23. Correct Answer: (C)

The phrase “traits that are typically marks” (line 85) indicates that words “traits” and “marks” are being used similarly: features (C) would be a good third synonym. Designs (A) and gradations (B) are not supported by the context. Motifs (D) and symbols (E) refer to analysis and interpretation, not to characteristics or traits.

24. Correct Answer: (D)

The first passage provides an overview of Darwin’s theories and their applications, without the intrusion of a partisan position or a personal voice; the second passage takes a strong position, but uses reflections, anecdotes and “weird” cases (line 90) to make its points. Informative and colloquial (D) correctly captures this contrast. The advanced vocabulary can make this question difficult, though many of the difficult words can be readily eliminated as irrelevant: sanguine (B) means hopeful, grandiloquent (C) means speaking in a grand fashion; flippant (E) means whimsical and unconcerned.

## Test 7, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence uses the words “although even” to establish a contrast. The first blank must describe a group of people that contrasts with the “scientists” described later; laymen or non-experts is an effective fit. Because the earlier part of the sentence describes genetics as accepted, the later part should involve a contrasting word: inscrutable or impossible to figure out fits effectively.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

The word in the blank should contrast with “frenetic and wild,” behavior that Kayla is “departing” from; composed is the best fit. Contrite (C) or sorry is a tempting choice, but does not line up directly with the clues in the sentence.

3. Correct Answer: (B)

Because it includes the words “rather than,” this sentence involves a contrast. An exceptional show would be unlike the lackluster or unimpressive program that viewers were expecting. The positive phrase “necessary risks” also indicates that the first blank should contain a positive word.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The first blank indicates a quality for which Jeff Koons is “esteemed,” and thus requires a positive word. To get the second blank, find a word that would accurately describe the activities of a “satirist.” The only answer that fulfills these conditions for the blanks is (D), since finesse means “talent and subtlety” and flouts means “makes fun of.”

5. Correct Answer: (D)

The blank calls for a positive word to describe the overture; the “amateur senior citizen chorus” achieved a surprising (non-amateurish, and thus positive) effect. Impeccable (flawless) is the only positive word in the answers. Soporific (A) means inducing sleep; cacophonous (B) means harsh sounding; syncopated (C) means involving an offset or delay in rhythm.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 1 directly states that Greenberg and his followers “forever changed the way we think about art” (lines 14-15), while the author of Passage 2 argues that Greenberg was “a critic of real talent” (line

17) but that his followers have had a negative influence. Both authors would agree that Greenberg has shaped current views of art history, but would most likely differ over the extent to which his influence has been positive.

7. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 describes the “deft precision” of Greenberg and his followers. On account of this positive description, the author of Passage 1 would most likely argue against Passage 2, arguing that Greenberg’s followers were apt (appropriate, talented) in applying Greenberg’s practices. The trap answer is (B); contention would be the direct response, but the author of Passage 1 only states that Greenberg and his followers “changed” thinking about art (line 14), not that they improved the way we think about art.

8. Correct Answer: (B)

The author of Passage 2 ends with the proverbial statement, “As they say, vinegar is the son of wine” (lines 27-28). The phrase “as they say” indicates that what follows is a commonly-used or proverbial expression. Neither author uses the rhetorical devices offered in the other answer choices.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

Greenberg’s disciples, particularly art historian Michael Fried, are openly criticized in Passage 2. Because of this, the author of Passage 2 would find the phrase “deft precision” unduly laudatory or involving undue praise when applied to both Greenberg and his disciples, as this phrase is in Passage 1. There is no evidence that the statement in Passage 1 is unusually shortsighted compared to other judgments, thus eliminating (B); there is no evidence that the author of Passage 1 is unaware of information, only that Passage 2 would disagree with the interpretation given, thus eliminating (D).

10. Correct Answer: (A)

The passage is primarily concerned with the process of re-creating “an animal’s natural habitat” (lines 1-2) and discusses at length the conditions at Kruger National Park, which uses “recreated biomes” (line 43) to simulate natural environments for different species. In other words, effective environments will approximate the natural habitats of animals (A). The author does not argue that habitats should alter the lives of animals in improving ways, so that (C) and (E) can be eliminated; adherence to veterinary standards (B) and high expenses (D) may be involved in some habitats, but are not necessary conditions.

11. Correct Answer: (E)

In the first sentence, the author asserts that “it is an utterly complicated feat to replicate an animal’s natural habitat” (lines 1-2), then lists different cases and scenarios in the lines designated in this question. The list thus shows how broadly the earlier claim or assertion can be applied. Answer (A) is a trap; while the different habitats cited may entail different levels of difficulty, the author does not provide evidence that they do.

12. Correct Answer: (E)

The lines indicate that the presence of the light bulb seemed insignificant (“mere”) but had major consequences for the animal (“considerable”). Answer (E) correctly sums up this contrast between a minor oversight and a conspicuous ramification. The other sentences contain false words: there is no evidence that the installation of the light bulb was altruistic or generous (B) or that the weight gain was a problem beyond this one case (D). Avoid (A) and (C); the animal’s response was a poor reaction, not an adaptation, and the light adjustment was an oversight, not something purposeful and well-advised.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

The “anomaly” was produced by the “disorientation and stress induced by the extra bulb” (line 27). Because the passage notes that “considerable weight gain” (lines 16-17) was the result of this lighting situation, it can be inferred that the anomaly was the animal’s weight gain (C). Answers (A) and (B) refer to the wrong



elements of the prairie dog scenario, while answers (D) and (E) refer to problems addressed in other case studies in the passage.

14. Correct Answer: (B)

In each of the cases mentioned, the author points to a harmful change in habitat: the light bulb for the prairie dog and the concrete flooring for the piglets. These changes seem slight to human creators of artificial habitats, so that (B) is the best answer. Because the emphasis is on describing each animal's individual problems as illustrated in specific cases, (A) is irrelevant and (D) and (E), which require information about the opinions of habitat creators and ecologists, are out of scope. Answer (C) is a trap; although the environments described may in fact be cost efficient, there is not sufficient information to substantiate this point.

15. Correct Answer: (A)

The hyena population that may experience anxiety and fury is described as "residing too close to a pride of lions" (lines 47-48). This is the only possible cause that is designated for the hyena population's reaction, so that (A) is the correct answer. The trap answers rely on faulty assumptions; natural prey may be unavailable (D) and the lions may be a natural predator (E), but the passage does not provide evidence for either of these ideas.

16. Correct Answer: (D)

The author states that the habitats at Kruger National Park are "expensive to create" (line 53) and "necessitate remarkable man-power, time, and energy" (lines 54-55). These clues indicate that creating such habitats is demanding. Make sure not to misinterpret evidence from elsewhere in the description: although there are controlled forest fires at the park, these occurrences are not genuinely dangerous (A) and serve valuable ecological purposes.

17. Correct Answer: (A)

The passage discusses the activities and ideals of the English and French at the time of the Battle of Waterloo, which is described as a "turning point in European history" (lines 72-73). Such evidence best supports answer (A). Other answers, such as (C) and (E), refer to elements of the passage but not to its primary purpose or overall topic. The author places very little emphasis on actual battle tactics, so that (B) and (D) can be readily eliminated.

18. Correct Answer: (C)

In the sentence that deals with the "juxtaposition" or contrast, the author discusses an "evening of revelry" (line 13) alongside "ensuing days of bloody maneuvers and relentless battle" (lines 13-14). On account of this, the "juxtaposition" poses celebration and jubilation against relentless struggle, so that answer (C) is correct. Answer (A) refers to a juxtaposition presented in the final paragraph, but not here; answer (E) correctly poses diversion against warfare, but introduces a second contrast (evanescence and finality) that the passage does not directly support.

19. Correct Answer: (E)

The content "in the journals" refers to the "opulence" (line 17) of the Duchess of Richmond, particularly as displayed at her ball. In other words, the accounts portrayed her as a generously rich or munificent host (E). The only other answer that refers to the Duchess is (D), and this choice completely distorts the significance of her ball.

20. Correct Answer: (B)

War and Peace and Vanity Fair are only two of "several historical novels" (line 21) that appeared after the ball and revisited its events. As such, these works indicate an enduring interest in the ball (B). The lives of the authors of these novels are never analyzed by the author of the passage, so that (A) can be eliminated, and the

more general tendencies of authors are never discussed, so that (C), (D), and (E) can all be eliminated.

21. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “actually” begins an analysis that refutes misconceptions surrounding Waterloo by providing historical facts; “famously” begins a summary of a legendary account that is shown to be inaccurate. Only answer (C) correctly indicates a contrast between differing accounts and information. Although much of the rest of the passage contrasts the French and the English, the lines in question do not, so that (A) and (E) must be eliminated.

22. Correct Answer: (C)

The word “romanticized” occurs within a paragraph that shows how the events of the Duchess’s ball were exaggerated to seem more positive and impressive than they really were (C). There is not sufficient context for the other answers. It is never clear that the actual events have gained popularity (B) or been immortalized (E); rather, a distorted image of the ball is what has been most widely circulated.

23. Correct Answer: (E)

In the third paragraph, the author refers to “a letter from a young girl” (line 58) and “another guest’s letter” (line 62) as sources of information; these quotations serve as evidence for (E). Although (A) and (B) are tempting, there is no evidence that the letters were written long after the ball or that they at any point appeared in the Duchess of Richmond’s private collection.

24. Correct Answer: (A)

While the French are described as “impetuous” and “desperate” (line 76), the English are described as displaying “equanimity” or supreme calmness (line 78). These descriptions line up directly with answer (A): “ardently pertinacious” means energetically determined. The author’s intent here is not to praise one side over the other, so that (B), (C), (D), and (E) can all be eliminated.

25. Correct Answer: (D)

The Duke’s “nonchalance” or lack of concern is mentioned in line 24, and he is described as “seemingly unworried” in line 79. This evidence supports the idea that the Duke was composed in his approach (D). The more difficult vocabulary choices do not line up with evidence from the passage: sycophantic (A) means following and flattering; refractory (C) means stubborn.

### Test 7, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence indicates that “winning a series of pivotal games” is surprising. In order to establish an effective contrast, choose a negative word for the blank; inauspicious (unfortunate or unpromising) is the best fit.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

Because “sustainable architecture” is meant to deal with “environmental conservation,” its approach to this issue should be described using a positive word. The intent of “conservation” would be to ensure or improve good conditions for “future generations,” or to make sure that negative effects are avoided. Such an approach would be conscientious and would not damage future living conditions.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

This sentence directly contrasts Raj and his wife Jemima in their approaches to “playing board games.” While Raj cannot tolerate playing board games, his wife loves an opportunity to display her winning strategies. None

of the other answer choices establish directly opposite attitudes for Raj and Jemima.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

Dominic's propensity (or taste) for "outrageous fashions" would be conflict with the tastes of "more conservatively-dressed employees." His taste would not be endorsed by these employees. Pay attention to the clues in the sentence; the blank requires a positive word (on account of the "not") in order to yield the correct meaning.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

Although the word "excellent" indicates that the first blank should be a positive, the phrase "even though" adds a qualification to the sentence. Herbal tea could be a palliative (to palliate means "to sooth or improve"), even though it does not entirely eliminate pain. Answer (A) is a tempting choice, but does not fit the clues in the sentence; a cure would remove pain entirely, not be contrasted with something that removes pain entirely.

6. Correct Answer: (D)

The word ostensibly in the sentence itself means "seemingly." If comments are "ostensibly cooperative and approving," it can be inferred that the comments are "actually" different in intent. Subversive means destructive in a subtle or cunning way, and contrasts directly with "cooperative and approving." Dilatory (A) means putting off duties or procrastinating; inquisitive (B) means questioning but takes a positive tone that is inappropriate for the sentence.

7. Correct Answer: (C)

Throughout the passage, the author presents us with some of the most striking social, economic, and political changes in 1960s Britain. Socially, we are told that the draft finally ended, and that people were traveling more widely than before, which resulted in an increase in diversity (note the "Irish accents" in Birmingham, as well as the Jamaican bus conductor). Economically, the country was being rebuilt from the Second World War (the author describes Birmingham as "chaotic" with "dust and scaffolding and cranes"), and there was also a transportation boom, as new motorways, high-speed trains, and inexpensive air travel were all becoming widely available. Lastly, in the fifth paragraph, we find a British populace fed up with their controlling, lackluster government; ultimately, the population would demand political change. Therefore, the best answer is (C): the author's primary purpose is to "survey the political, economic, and social upheaval in 1960s Britain."

8. Correct Answer: (A)

The "flippant remark" mentioned "helps to perpetuate the clichés of flower power, Beatle-mania, and free love;" that is, it propagates a very superficial understanding of the social impact of the era. Therefore, (A) is the correct answer. The other choices are unsupported by the passage.

9. Correct Answer: (C)

The lines referenced give us a series of contrasts. The author lists some of the various freedoms and abilities that he had at age twenty: "I could buy cigarettes and I could join the army...I could go to the cinema and watch any kind of film..." while also telling us of the various limitations that still affected him, due to his young age: "I could not buy alcohol or vote for the government...intimate education was...not...something that I would be introduced to at school." Therefore, the correct answer is (C): highlight the opportunities and limitations faced by young people in the 1960s.

10. Correct Answer: (C)

The author mentions feeling unnerved due to the "chaotic" city center of Birmingham, "for it was being redesigned and rebuilt, finally, fifteen years after the war, and dust and scaffolding and cranes and Irish accents were everywhere." The inclusion of "Irish accents" shows that the author was also unnerved by the

diversity in Birmingham. Therefore, the correct answer is (C): he witnessed chaos and diversity of a type he had never seen before.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

In the lines referenced, the author states that he was “surprised when I got on the bus...to find that the conductor was an affable Jamaican woman: I had never encountered anyone who wasn’t born and bred in Yorkshire before.” Therefore, the aspect of Birmingham that most surprised the author was choice (A), its diversity.

12. Correct Answer: (D)

The author argues that “the changes people today make such a fuss about” – i.e., “flower power, Beatlemania, and free love”(lines 4-5) – “were not the changes that were actually influential.” Therefore, the author believes that people today “focus too heavily on unimportant changes from the 1960s,” and (D) is the correct answer. The other choices are not supported by the passage.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

The author mentions that before the sixties, Britain did not have “motorways, high-speed trains, and inexpensive air travel,” which made the various parts of Britain more isolated. Therefore, Britain has become less isolated due to these advanced in transportation technology, and (C) is the correct answer.

14. Correct Answer: (A)

The author’s statement that “television, radio, and print—were satellites of the government,” explicitly tells us that the government maintained control of the media. Therefore, (A) is the correct answer.

15. Correct Answer: (B)

In the lines referenced, the author mentions that there were “rumblings of discontent” among the British populace even before the 1960s. He then goes on to list various problems in British society: the UK was lagging behind other countries such as Germany, British films were outdated and not in Technicolor, and the BBC-controlled radio was not playing the new rock’n’roll music (lines 72-82). Therefore, the passage suggests that because the UK was lagging behind in so many areas, the people of 1960s Britain “were unhappy with the state of affairs before change was demanded,” and (B) is the correct answer.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

The author continually repeats the phrase “that does not seem right” to emphasize the thinking among the general populace in the UK as they woke up to the fact that their country and their government were increasingly lagging behind current trends. Therefore, (A), “emphasize the dissatisfactions that catalyzed social change” is the correct answer.

17. Correct Answer: (C)

The author mentions that the radio show “had not been scripted and rehearsed in the usual manner”(italics added for emphasis). Thus, he is implying that the show became a hit because it did not abide by the contemporary, outmoded conventions that were becoming an increasing source of dissatisfaction among the British public. As such, (C) is the correct answer: the show “refused to be bound by contemporary conventions.”

18. Correct Answer: (A)

(A) is the correct answer. In the context of the passage as a whole, the author is arguing that the radical changes of the 1960s were borne out of the evolving views of a large number of British citizens. As these citizens saw the world changing around them, and how their own country and government were failing to keep pace with those changes, the British eventually grew frustrated enough to ultimately demand real

change. Thus, answer choice (A) is correct: “a large number of individual changes in perspective can lead to political and social changes across a nation.”

## Test 8

### Test 8, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (A)

It is plausible that Lenny would be swayed by his relationship to his daughter, not by objective or unbiased considerations, if his daughter is a contestant. As a result, he is best described as hardly impartial as a member of the judging panel.

2. Correct Answer: (E)

This sentence must contrast the façade of the “recently refurbished” train station with the station’s interior; because the exterior has been renovated, it can best be described as new (C) or modern (E). The interior, in contrast, would be faithful to the historic origins of the building. The phrase at odds with (C) would defeat the contrast between new and old.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

James “superlative rhymes” would distinguish him as a consummate or highly talented poet. Note the trap answer prolific (E); although James is talented and difficult to imitate, he is nowhere described as producing poetry in abundance.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The clue “wide commercial appeal” indicates that the BMW roadster should be described as a highly desired good. It would thus be acclaimed (A), celebrated (C), or even coveted (D). The second blank should refer to the “precisely engineered systems,” which would be a positive feature (B), trait (D), or characteristic (E) of the roadster. Only in answer choice (D) do the required word choices match.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

Because she is in an environment “harshly critical of high-profile egoism,” Claudine Campbel would be interested in avoiding such criticism. Choosing to “shun the public spotlight” would demonstrate practicality or pragmatism in achieving this goal. The second blank should contrast with the first; a pragmatic pose would contrast with a real and genuine adherence to humility.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence describes mathematical models that function as “forecasting programs.” Such programs could calculate (A), predict (B), or estimate (C) future revenues. The second blank requires a positive word, since it is preceded by the clue “desirable: windfall (B) and profit (D) both fit. Only in answer (D) do the choices for the two blanks line up.

7. Correct Answer: (C)

If there is an “impending calamity,” then it can be inferred that the “recent outbreak” could be a sign of worse things to come. This event would thus herald or indicate future events. To stymie (A) means to stunt or limit; to circumvent (D) means to go around.

8. Correct Answer: (A)

The phrases after the colon define the blank. Of the choices, the word that most directly lines up with “detail oriented while maintaining an air of ease” is aplomb, which means self-confidence in stressful situations. Pretension (C) means haughtiness or pompousness; panache (E) means flair or high emotion.

9. Correct Answer: (C)

While the author of Passage 1 focuses exclusively on the conventions of Western theatre, the author of

Passage 2 is openly critical of the emphasis that is placed on Western drama. In other words, the author of Passage 2 would see Passage 1 as provincial or closed-minded (C) since it does not take Eastern art forms into account. Other answers are in fact negative, but there is no explicit evidence that the author of Passage 2 would find the opinions in Passage 1 subversive (A), condescending (D), or divisive (E). For both authors, it is entirely possible that the opinions of theatre in Passage 1 are too traditional and broadly accepted to be described as undermining or insulting.

10. Correct Answer: (B)

Passage 1 discusses the “gigantic debts” (line 14) that Western storytellers in drama and film owe to Aristotle’s Poetics; this clue supports answer (B). Other answers misrepresent the author’s ideas. Although influential, the Poetics is not necessarily referenced often (A) and was not necessarily subjected to study, since its conventions could have been passed on indirectly (D). Moreover, although Western conventions are dominant in different media, it is not clear that the Poetics caused other theatrical traditions, which are never mentioned, to be overshadowed (C) or was designed to have an influence across media (E).

11. Correct Answer: (D)

The author uses quotation marks around the phrases “theatre” (line 16), “standard” (line 27), and “celebrates culture” (lines 28-29). In each case, the author finds the usage cited to be inappropriate: for example, the understanding of “theatre” that the author describes is shown to be incomplete, since it leaves out essential Eastern forms of art. Thus, the author questions how apt or appropriate the terms in quotation are (D). Nowhere is published commentary (A), the reader’s comprehension (C), or technical jargon (E) presented in the passage; although the author encourages a negative attitude regarding traditional definitions by using quotations, there is no evidence that such definitions will in fact decrease in popularity.

12. Correct Answer: (E)

While the author of Passage 1 discusses the influence of Western theatre in an informative and relatively unbiased manner, the author of Passage 2 criticizes common understandings of theatrical art, particularly understandings that underplay or ignore Eastern theatre (E). Passage 2 involves too strong of an opinion to be described as ambivalent (C), and libelous or involving slander (A) is too negative. Make sure not to misread the question, since the tone of Passage 1 may seem more impartial (B) or meticulous (D) than the tone of Passage 2.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

Early in the essay, the author introduces the topic of “our feelings towards the fertile earth” (lines 10-11); as the essay progresses, the author considers the history of gardening and the symbolic meanings of keeping a garden. This information best supports answer (A). Answer (B) is close to some ideas in the passage, but the word “desperate” gives this answer an inappropriately negative tone. (C) and (D) also present negative stances that the passage nowhere supports, while (E) refers to only one aspect of the narrator’s much broader discussion.

14. Correct Answer: (D)

The “real aficionados” are aware of “soil needs” (line 21), know “Latin” names for plants (line 19), are interested in “planning layouts” (line 12), and understand the “variations” of an original breed of plant (line 20). These pieces of evidence can be used to eliminate (A), (B), (C), and (E), respectively. Although the author does refer to “mass planting” (D), this is a gardening concept and is not necessarily the same as agricultural “crop rotation.”

15. Correct Answer: (B)

The passage explains that “real aficionados” are aware of small and nuanced classifications; like the “more professional gardeners” (line 35), these aficionados would be likely to be displeased by Kennedy’s nonchalant

“approach to nomenclature” (lines 36-37). They would thus view Kennedy negatively and find him to lack learning and refinement. Uncultured (B) is an appropriate answer. Illiterate (E) is tempting but incorrect: it is nowhere indicated that Kennedy cannot read.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

In the second paragraph, the narrator expresses a taste for “color and contrast, light and shade” (line 39) as key elements of his garden; in contrast, the English Cottage gardens in the third paragraph featured plants with medicinal and nutritional values. Aesthetics (form and beauty) and pragmatism (practicality) is the best contrast (A). Answer (E) is a trap: even though the narrator’s garden is prized for its beauty in the second paragraph, there is not any information that definitively indicates that this garden was useless.

17. Correct Answer: (C)

The narrator notes that “you no longer see the poles of peas that used to flourish in every garden” (lines 60-62); instead, peas and other vegetables are now widely obtained at supermarkets. Since supermarkets have replaced gardens in providing food, answer (C) is the best choice. Destroyed (D) appears to be close in meaning but is ultimately too extreme; gardens still exist, and supermarkets have not had any active role in destroying the gardens that have disappeared.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

The narrator asserts that “freshly plucked peas are a thing of the past” (line 62), then uses this rhetorical question to indicate that frozen peas are the peas that most readers would know. The question serves to emphasize the point that freshly-plucked peas have disappeared. Oddly enough, the narrator does not actually question the reader (B): the assumption in the passage is that the reader has had little or no recent experience with freshly-plucked peas.

19. Correct Answer: (E)

In this sentence, the narrator discusses what conditions were like “when I was a child” (line 64). The narrator is here sharing a personal anecdote (E) about how peas were once prepared. There is nothing about this content that would directly and unambiguously be described as whimsical (A), artistic (B), or hyperbolic (D) or exaggerated. While there is arguably some cause-and-effect in the narrator’s description of how the peas are cooked (D), the lines would not be “notable” for this feature; in contrast, the phrase “when I was a child” immediately establishes the lines as anecdotal.

20. Correct Answer: (D)

The narrator describes the peas as leaving strong impressions: they were “fat, deep-green” (line 67) and were “gently cooked” (line 68). The taste of such peas would also be memorable or distinct (D). Answers such as (A) and (E) are tempting but cannot be substantiated, since there is nothing to indicate that the taste of the peas was always the same.

21. Correct Answer: (A)

As the author states, the “sequence” that “we recognize and feel in the deepest parts of our souls” (lines 83-84) is the metaphor in question. This sequence involves the changing seasons, and the only answers that directly relate to seasonal changes are (A), (C), and (D). Because life returns after winter (C) and because the passage does not discuss human attempts to escape the weather (D), answer (A) is the best choice. Answers (B) and (E) discuss life cycles, which cannot be assumed to be identical with seasonal cycles.

22. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence that contains the phrase “powerful force” describes the human bond with natural processes; in fact, people “recognize and feel” natural sequences in the “deepest parts” of their souls (lines 83-84). It can be thus be inferred that the powerful force involves a connection between humans and nature (A). This is



both the first and the last mention of the powerful force, so that (C) and (E) can be eliminated. Both (B) and (D) take a negative tone that the passage does not support at this point.

23. Correct Answer: (A)

The author states that humans rival the “creation of the first garden” (line 88) by planting gardens of their own. On account of this, humans imitate or emulate an earlier act (A). Answers (B) and (E) can be eliminated because a positive word is needed to fit the context, while evaluate (C) and revere (D) would not directly describe the primary action that people would perform in creating their own gardens.

24. Correct Answer: (A)

In the final paragraph, the author explains that humans imitate Mother Nature “on a smaller scale” (line 93). This quotation directly supports answer (A): answers (C) and (E) make points about nature and humanity that are never addressed in this paragraph. Answer (B) involves an assumption about human history that the paragraph does not address, while answer (D) continues the personification of Mother Nature in a manner that the passage does not explicitly support.

## Test 8, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (E)

The word in the blank should create a contrast with the idea of expounding “at length about minor points,” and should be a synonym for “direct.” Concise (E) or short and to the point is the best fit. Provocative (A) is irrelevant to the clues; convoluted (B), discursive (C), and comprehensive (E) all contradict the idea of avoiding minor points and being extremely direct.

2. Correct Answer: (B)

Each blank lines up directly a description of “the dolphin provided later in the sentence. Because the dolphin displays “a rare intelligence” and “a mild temperament,” it can be described as both clever (intelligent) and docile (mild and agreeable). Elucidating (B) means clarifying; perspicacious (C) means perceptive; obtuse (D) means dull; preternatural (E) means exceptional.

3. Correct Answer: (E)

The word for the blank should be a strong positive, since Anastasia’s feeling that “her speech would be received positively” was fulfilled. Accolades, or praises, is the best fit. Choices (A), (B), and (D) involve negative words, while salutation (C) or greeting is irrelevant to the sentence.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

For this sentence, it can be inferred that “pet licensing” was once an “onerous” or burdensome process, but no longer is. As a result, the first blank should be a positive, while the second blank should be a negative on account of the word “less.” If pet licensing has been improved (C) or facilitated (D), then the process has become less difficult (A), arduous (D), or burdensome (E). Only in answer choice (D) do the words line up to fit the blanks.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

Because the first blank refers to “protracted delays,” try to find a negative word; the word for the second blank must refer to a facility that has experienced “mechanical problems” and should also be negative. Answer (C) is the only one that offers the required negatives for both blanks. Answer (E) is tempting, but bureaucratic refers to office formalities and does not fit the context as well as beleaguered or beset by troubles.

6. Correct Answer: (D)

The author critically notes “how alike everything looked” (lines 7-8) in different countries, and explains how this phenomenon can be a source of disappointment. In other words, the author encountered a sameness or homogeneity (D) that was disheartening. Stereotypes (A), other sightseers (B), and disorientation (E) do not explain the author’s primary complaint. Note also that (C) is a trap answer: the author can tell apart the different “old buildings and castles” (line 8) but finds the people and gift shops identical.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

In the final sentence of the passage, the author discusses “the kind of gift shop you are likely to find in the United States, or Canada, or probably everywhere in the world” (lines 13-15). There are thus nearly interchangeable features in these different countries (B). These countries are not mentioned with reference to cultural appreciation (C) or future destinations (E), and the author can see significant differences in global architecture (D). Answer (A) relies on faulty logic: although cultural exchange may account for similar sites in different countries, it is impossible to say whether such exchange has accelerated in the recent past based on the information in the passage.

8. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of the passage discusses a “new theory” (line 3) that regarding superstition, so that answer (D) is an accurate synopsis of the passage. The passage never presents such theories in a truly negative light, so that (B) and (C) can be eliminated. In addition, the author never urges new changes or practical measures, since the passage is primarily informative: this allows for the elimination of (A) and (E).

9. Correct Answer: (C)

Throughout the passage, the author employs the pronoun “we” and its variations: this rhetorical device is known as collective voice, or speaking for a group (C). Answer (E) is tempting on account of the passage’s anthropological content, yet the author does not utilize any specialized terminology, or jargon, that relates to anthropology.

10. Correct Answer: (E)

In the first two paragraphs of the passage, the author establishes that “miching maleccho” (line 2) is an obscure term that refers to mischief; subsequent paragraphs discuss the broader role of such mischief in society, both in Shakespeare’s time and in the present day. Linguistics as a whole (A) is not the author’s focus. The other answers, however, do not reflect the content of the passage: “miching mallecho” is not a recently-discovered concept (B), was not a vernacular or common term either in Shakespeare’s time or at present (C), and is defined using explanations and examples, not specialized terminology or jargon (D). Answer (E) remains after such elimination and fits the content of the passage.

11. Correct Answer: (B)

The author provides examples of words that are similar in meaning to “miching” and that can be found “in the North of England” (line 8) and “in Wales” (line 10). These usages come from different cultures, so that (B) is the best answer. Although geographical locations are specified, these references do not define the exact scope of the word “miching” (E). The first literary use of the word (A), the opinions of scholars (C), and the history of specifically modern variations (D) are not of interest to the author at this point.

12. Correct Answer: (E)

The author notes that “miching” involves “a spirit of mockery for the accepted order of society” (lines 15-16); this evidence directly supports (E). All of the other answers mention possibilities that could be associated with “miching,” but that the author does not present as essential to the passage’s definition of the word. For instance, “miching” could involve contempt for aristocracy (A) or neglect of an obligation (B), but could also take other forms that are not compatible with these.

13. Correct Answer: (D)

“Etymology” involves the study of origin words and root words; in the lines in question, the author explains that “mallecho” comes from roots that mean bad (mal) and repetition (echo), so that answer (D) is an excellent fit. No famous scholar is named (A); cultural usages are compared for “miching,” not for “mallecho” (B). The passage demonstrates that the term was not used commonly or colloquially and that the term’s inventor has not been successfully identified, so that (C) and (E) can be eliminated.

14. Correct Answer: (B)

The author provides a reason for seeing “miching mallecho” as a fabrication: a character in Hamlet explains what the word means, and “this elucidation would not be needed if the phrase were in general use” (lines 32-33). This evidence directly fits answer (B). Answer (A) is impossible, since Hamlet clearly defines “miching mallecho,” while (C) refers to an earlier part of the passage that is not relevant to the question. The English royalty is not discussed here (D) and the phrase “miching mallecho” is construed as too uncommon to have an accepted meaning (E).

15. Correct Answer: (A)

Because the phrase requires definition for its audience and is not easily understood, it can be inferred that “miching mallecho” is not accepted, widely used, or legitimate. This logic supports answer (A). Answers (B), (C), and (E) consider issues that are not related to audience awareness and the definition of “miching mallecho.” Answer (D) is too absolute: although the passage itself seems to suggest that “miching mallecho” is a concoction, it would be wrong to assume that the word is universally understood as a concoction.

16. Correct Answer: (E)

The author explains typical reactions to modern mischief: “children get up to mischief” (line 36) and adults indulgently remember the mischievous things “they themselves used to do when they were young” (line 38). In other words, mischief is allowed because it induces nostalgia in adults (E). Other answers attribute much too positive (A), (C), and much too negative (B) effects to the mischief in question. Answer (D) relates the idea of memory, but the adults in the passage remember their own mischievous younger selves, not their parents.

17. Correct Answer: (B)

First, the author explains a kind of mischief that was “benevolent in intent” (line 43); then, the author discusses mischief that appeared to be a “manifestation of evil” (line 55). The only answer that correctly describes both a highly positive and a highly negative form of mischief is (B); other answers offer synonyms (A) or only capture one word in the contrast (D).

18. Correct Answer: (D)

As the author explains in the discussion of the dangers of “miching mallecho,” “the fear Shakespeare’s contemporaries had of mischief involved never knowing to what ends it might lead” (lines 59-61). This evidence indicates that dangerous mischief had

19. Correct Answer: (E)

In the passage, the author considers how Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Treasure Island* relates to “actual pirate lore and methodology” (line 13). The different examples presented serve as demonstrations that this popular book has created false conceptions of pirate life and customs: in other words, the author uses the passage to dispute a series of assumed, ultimately questionable facts (E). The author does not pay attention to the artistry of Stevenson’s book (B). Modern day pirates are only mentioned in the final paragraph to illustrate the idea that *Treasure Island* creates false conceptions of pirate life; this allows for answers (A), (C), and (D) to be eliminated.

20. Correct Answer: (A)

The author mentions “mutiny and assassination” (line 5) and “plundering cape towns” (lines 5-6) as forms of “general mayhem.” Another form of general mayhem would be an aggressive or destructive activity. The only answer choice that does not involve chaos or aggression of some sort is (A); the pirates may be hiding to plan further mayhem, but hiding itself is not a type of mayhem.

21. Correct Answer: (D)

In the passage, the “black spot” is described as “a custom that was already terrible in all respects and to which Stevenson added a horrific twist” (lines 21-23). This evidence supports answer (D), since Stevenson’s version of the black spot is more fearsome and dramatic than the real-life version. Answer (A) is possible, since Stevenson could not appropriate and modify a custom that had escaped his awareness; answers (B) and (C) are contradicted by the evidence in the passage; answer (E) involves “another author,” yet the passage only discusses Stevenson’s fiction.

22. Correct Answer: (B)

The passage argues that readers have formed misconceptions about pirate life as a result of *Treasure Island*; the sentence in italics voices a misconception about the use of peg-legs, and serves as the assumed response or supposition of one of these misinformed readers (B). *Treasure Island* is referenced throughout the passage, but is not mentioned by name in this sentence (A); the author challenges the appropriateness of a conception using the phrases in quotations, not the use of a term (D).

23. Correct Answer: (D)

The author states that the peg-leg was used for “all sorts of injuries” (line 41). Earlier, the author also explains that eye-patches were used by many types of people who were not pirates; the peg-leg was used similarly. This evidence and reasoning indicates that (D) is the best answer. Both (A) and (E) contradict the content of the passage; access across genders is not the reason why peg-legs were not piratesque (B), and (C) can be eliminated both because wages are nowhere mentioned and because peg legs were probably relatively affordable if people from very different professions could all afford these implements.

24. Correct Answer: (C)

This sentence describes the “little jaunt” (line 44) taken by Stevenson’s pirates; the author then goes on to critically compare Stevenson’s fiction to the very real threat of modern piracy. In other words, the author is criticizing the *Treasure Island* and showing how this work contrasts sharply with reality. Sardonic (C) or biting sarcasm would be the best description for the tone. Taking the sentence out of the context of the passage could result in jubilant (D), since context is necessary to see that the author takes a negative tone when describing the pirates’ “little jaunt.”

25. Correct Answer: (A)

The author begins the passage by analyzing the conceptions that surround Stevenson’s *Treasure Island*, then takes an impassioned stance on the drawbacks of such misconceptions and the dangers of modern piracy (A). Answers (B) and (C) flip the beginning and ending tones of the passage, while the passage can be described as neither solemn (D) nor nostalgic (E).

## Test 8, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (C)

The correct answer should establish a contrast between the food critic’s action and the actions of the customers. Even if the critic’s review is negative, the frequent customers will nonetheless continue to take

some action of a positive sort. Scathing and loyal to fit the structure of the sentence; the other answer choices do not fulfill the necessary contrast.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, Gretchen’s “outward calm and collected manner” is contrasted with her “inner nervousness.” Her “shaky hands” would indicate this nervousness, or betray her real feelings. The trap answer here is *belied* (B), which means to conceal and is the exact opposite of the word that the sentence requires.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

An effective answer for this sentence would establish a contrast between what the “newest project” is said to be and what “the committee feels” this endeavor lacks. Two positive words are needed, since the committee would naturally desire a positive quality to the “arguments” described. The best answer is (A), since the project could be promising yet lack cogent or forcefully effective arguments. There is not direct contextual evidence for *synthetic* (D), although *meritorious* would be an appropriate fit for the second blank.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence establishes that Charles “forced himself to avoid” a decadent dessert. He would thus avoid or eschew unhealthy eating habits. *Repudiate* (C) is a tempting choice, but means “to argue against or nullify completely” and thus does not fit the context.

5. Correct Answer: (B)

The status report was completed in way that involved “careless factual errors” from even “seasoned statisticians.” The best description of the way in which it was completed would be *cavalier*, meaning careless or unconcerned. *Frenetic* (D) means frenzied and does not directly fit the context clues.

6. Correct Answer: (D)

This sentence contrasts the initial perception of the rash with the reality of the situation, which indicated “the need for immediate medical attention.” The word for the first blank should be less negative than the word for the second: *innocuous* means harmless, while *flagrant* means very obvious or severe. Answers (C) and (E) feature more negative words for the first blank, while (A) and (B) involve synonyms.

7. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 2 indicates that only a “small cadre of diehards” (line 78) views nuclear power as a clean and thus safe option; it can be inferred from this that nuclear power has been widely construed as dangerous. The author of Passage 1 would agree that nuclear power has received “negative press” (line 14), but would disagree about the safety and usefulness of nuclear power. This evidence justifies answer (D). Only the author of Passage 1, who is biased in favor of nuclear power, would be likely to support answer (A), (B), or (C); only the author of Passage 2 discusses the incomprehensibility of nuclear power (E), but is mostly concerned with the viewpoint of neuroscientist John C. Lilly, not with the ability of the public to comprehend nuclear power.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

The author begins the first paragraph by discussing the “more and more pressing” issue of global warming. Later, he goes on to endorse nuclear power—an energy source with a controversial history of numerous problems and disasters. Therefore, (E) is the best answer, since the paragraph describes the problem, and then endorses a divisive (controversial) solution. (A) is incorrect, as the author is not pushing for regulations, but for a particular type of energy. (B) is incorrect, as the author is not summarizing the problem of global warming, and not any particular policy; (C) is incorrect, as the author does not disavow nuclear power, but endorses it; (D) is incorrect, as nuclear power has been used before, and therefore it cannot be described as unprecedented.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

The author writes, “This accident made headlines all over the globe, sparking a host of alarmist theories...” implying that the negative coverage of the incident was primarily responsible for the theories; therefore, (E) is the best answer. (A), (B), and (C) are all incorrect, as none of them have any explicit support in the passage. (D) is incorrect because the disagreements among policymakers have to do with how to address the issue of global warming, and are unrelated to the incident at Fukushima.

10. Correct Answer: (B)

The “aberrant gasp of nature” refers to the tsunami itself – a natural occurrence that is aberrant, i.e., that is out of the ordinary, or does not happen all the time.

11. Correct Answer: (A)

(A) is the best answer. The last paragraph of Passage 1 downplays the history of nuclear accidents (the “relatively minor drawbacks” mentioned in the answer choice) by citing statistics showing that, by and large, nuclear power is relatively safe. He then outlines several benefits of nuclear power – namely, that it is affordable and clean – and argues in favor of it. (B) is incorrect, as he doesn’t argue in favor of other forms of alternative energy. (C) is incorrect, as the passage mentions nothing in regard to “the earlier acceptance of nuclear power.” (D) is incorrect, as the argument is not against other energy sources, but is solely in favor of nuclear power. (E) is a trap answer in that the author does mention “the rarity of nuclear power accidents,” but he doesn’t contrast this with the “enormous scope of the resulting destruction;” indeed, the author hopes to draw attention away from this aspect of nuclear accidents.

12. Correct Answer: (B)

The author of Passage 2 brings up Three Mile Island and Chernobyl to point out the fact that even before Fukushima, there had been evidence that nuclear power was unsafe. Therefore, (B) is the best answer. (A) is incorrect, as the passage has to do with the safety of nuclear power, and not its regulation. (C) is incorrect, as the passage mentions nothing about the acceptance or the rejection of nuclear power by any particular government; (D) is incorrect as the passage does not mention anything having to do with public opinion; (E) is incorrect as the passage mentions Three Mile Island and Chernobyl in order to inform or remind the reader of these events, and not to challenge or call the reader’s knowledge into question.

13. Correct Answer: (A)

Going up one sentence from the line mentioned in the question, the author mentions the large amounts of radioactive material that was “released into the air and sea” on the day of the Fukushima accident, and that because of this, it is “impossible to say...what the full extent of radioactive contamination is...both for Japan and for the Pacific Ocean at large.” Therefore, (A) is the best answer, because the meltdown may have affected the entire Pacific Ocean and surrounding environment, and not just Japan. (B) is incorrect, because the wording “will have a destructive influence” implies a definite occurrence, while the author of the passage is only implying a possibility of contamination, and highlighting the fact that we cannot say for certain what the extent of contamination will be. (C) is incorrect, as the passage mentions “the best cleanup efforts of the Japanese government,” which implies an efficient response; (D) is incorrect, as the passage does not link the problems of climate change with the problems of radioactive waste; (E) is incorrect, because the passage makes no attempt to compare the disaster of Fukushima to earlier nuclear accidents.

14. Correct Answer: (E)

In regard to nuclear power, John C. Lilly is quoted as saying that “we’re playing around with something we don’t know anything about.” The tone is clearly negative, so answers (A) (exhilarating, which has a positive tone), (B) (inevitable, which has a neutral tone), and (C) (inexplicable, which has a neutral tone) are all incorrect. (D) is incorrect, because Lilly is arguing for self-restraint, and implying that we shouldn’t meddle with

things we know little about. This leaves (A), which is correct – Lilly thinks the use of nuclear power is irresponsible, since we know so little about it.

15. Correct Answer: (D)

The author concludes by referring to nuclear power as “a risky and unsafe technology.” His attitude and the tone of the paragraph is very clearly disapproving, so (D) is the correct answer. The other answer choices all have an appropriately negative tone, but they have incorrect connotations; (A), feckless, implies a lack of responsibility, which is not the case; (B), cantankerous, implies a level of crankiness or bad-temperedness that is lacking in the paragraph; (C), distraught, implies an agitation that is also not present in the overall tone; (E), importunate, implies a rudeness that is not applicable.

16. Correct Answer: (A)

Both passages agree that climate change is a growing problem, and that greenhouse gas-emitting fossil fuels must be replaced by cleaner alternatives. Therefore, (A) is the best answer. The authors might agree on choice (B), but neither of them states this explicitly in either passage, so (B) is incorrect. (C) is incorrect, as nothing about voters is mentioned in either passage. (D) is incorrect, as only the author of Passage 2 mentions the cost of cleanup efforts. (E) is incorrect, as neither author explicitly links Fukushima with new research initiatives.

17. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 2 refers to the data in Passage 1 as “questionable statistics indicating the amount of radioactive core material released into the atmosphere” (lines 60-62). He then goes on to argue that the real impact of the disaster was arguably much greater than what was indicated by the data. As such, answer (C) is the best answer choice. (A) and (B) are both incorrect, as the author of Passage 2 mentions nothing about a verifiable authority, nor does he mention anything regarding statistical methods; (D) is incorrect, as the author is not making an argument in favor of fossil fuels; (E) is incorrect, because the data cited in Passage 1 refers to Fukushima only, and has nothing to do with Three Mile Island or Chernobyl.

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In the last paragraph, Passage 1 mentions the number of nuclear power plants in operation around the world, whereas Passage 2 makes no mention of this; therefore, (E) is correct. (A) is incorrect as only Passage 2 mentions meltdowns prior to Fukushima (Three Mile Island and Chernobyl); (B) is incorrect because only Passage 1 mentions the presumed benefits of nuclear power – namely, that it is affordable and clean; (C) is incorrect, because neither passage mentions the estimated annual cost of a nuclear power plant, and (D) is incorrect, because only Passage 2 references a specific chemical (cesium-137) that was released in the meltdown.

## Test 9

### Test 9, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (B)

Facultative bacteria are described as “having the ability to modify their metabolic activities.” From this, it can be directly inferred that these organisms are adaptive or capable of change. None of the other answer choices are directly supported by the context; the false assumption that “bacteria” always engage in negative activities could lead to threatening (D).

2. Correct Answer: (D)

“Lucid and forthright” answers would allow the suspect to counter-act an appearance of guilt, since indirect and nervous responses would be associated with guilt. To dispel or do away with the appearance of guilt would be the best answer.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

The sentence calls for a direct contrast between the activities of “most scholars” and of Alice Earle. Only (C) offers two contrasting words, detached (passive) and champions (active). Although answers (D) and (E) could correctly describe the activities of scholars, these choices do not fulfill the contrast that the sentence involves.

4. Correct Answer: (E)

As described in the sentence, the company would naturally use the ads mentioned to work against its current image, since it has “a reputation of serving unhealthy and artificial food.” Mend (A) and counteract (E) both fit the first blank, while salubrious or healthy (C) and appealing (E) fit the second; only answer choice (E) fulfills the necessary conditions.

5. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence involves a contrast between the once-small audience for kale and this food’s current status in “the culinary industry in the last several years.” It can be inferred that kale has gained popularity to become a mainstay or a major element of the culinary industry. A paragon (B) is a model of excellence; a luminary (C) is a celebrated public figure; a verity (E) is a truth. Although many of the answer choices take positive signs, only mainstay directly fits the context clues.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

After noting that he “had explained to him the intimate details,” the author goes on to tell the man the particulars of the situation. Thus, it can be inferred that the word intimate refers to such particulars and means specific (B) in this context. There is no context to indicate that the details involve secrecy, thus eliminating (A) and (E), or that the details are already familiar to the man, thus eliminating (C).

7. Correct Answer: (A)

In the final sentence of the passage, the man decisively tells the narrator that “There’s nothing good past Kansas.” Such a statement would best be described as a conviction (A) or a firm statement of belief. Although some of the other answers can seem appropriately negative, they do not accurately describe how the statement in lines 10-11 functions; it is tempting to interpret the statement as broad or exaggerated (E), yet there is no explicit evidence within the passage to indicate that the statement should be understood as an overstatement.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

The passage directly states that “nonlinear storytelling” is seen in Quentin Tarantino’s films; thus, Tarantino is an example of a filmmaker who uses non-linear storytelling. All of the other answers involve false words or



faulty assumptions. Tarantino uses nonlinear storytelling in his own works, but nowhere is it clear that he actively or purposely promoted nonlinear film as a broader necessity (A); he may be a pivotal figure in the rise of nonlinear film, but the passage neither confirms nor denies this status (B). Film controversy is not mentioned at all in the first sentence of the passage (C), and while Tarantino's films may be nontraditional, the author is not interested in promoting a particular view of Tarantino's larger thinking (D).

9. Correct Answer: (B)

Nonlinear storytelling is described as "always leaving more to be discovered" (line 15); this description makes answer (B), which simply uses different words to express the same idea, the best answer. While nonlinear film may have an unusual structure, it "engages" viewers because it leaves issues open to inquiry, not simply because it is unusual or non-traditional (A); its structure is discussed in portions of the passage that do not relate directly to the line reference. Nonlinear film forces its audience to question meanings and choices within the film, as indicated by lines 10-13 ("Was there . . . clearly"), not the nature of reality (C); the opinions of film aficionados (D) and the possibility of personal intrigue (E) are never discussed in the passage.

10. Correct Answer: (D)

The author uses the word "planting" to refer to what the mother does with her signature. (A) and (B) refer to agricultural planting. One cannot introduce (C) or establish (E) a signature, leaving (D).

11. Correct Answer: (A)

This LR does not make a comparison (B), tell a story (C), or substitute milder words for a harsher statement (D). The mother's statement is not a reprimand (E), leaving (A), which is supported by lines 61-64 ("When I...signature").

12. Correct Answer: (A)

In context, above the LR, the author's mother fills out the "school forms" for the author who, at the time, is in grade school. Below the LR, the author's mother asks the author, who is now older and in high school, to fill out the "online questionnaire" for her. Therefore, the function of this LR is to "introduce a role reversal" (A) that has taken place.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

In this LR, the author writes that her mother "asks [her] to proofread an e-mail," and "to look over her resume," and "help her answer questions." In the sentence following the LR, the author writes, "And one day, I muse, I'll be helping her sign that for me too," suggesting that the aforementioned are tasks or "responsibilities" that the narrator has taken on or "assumed" (C).

14. Correct Answer: (E)

The author comes to the "realization" that she is experiencing a "gradual transition" from "always asking for help" to "always giving help." This "change in her lifestyle" (E) makes her feel "cheated." The narrator is not now the "head of the family" (A) nor is she "experiencing uncontrollable anger" (B). Her "circumstances" are not considered "absurd" (C) nor is she "horrified" (D).

15. Correct Answer: (D)

Because this is an "in order to", you must read around the LR to understand why the author poses the questions. In lines 83-90 ("It's a...responsibilities"), the author explains how the reason her mother had passed all these tasks on to the author and now seems "helpless" is that the author "must take care of [her] parents" now that she has grown up. But, at times, the author "get[s] frustrated" or "laments" these new "family obligations" (D).

16. Correct Answer: (A)

The frustration the author feels is in response to writing the e-mail, which, in lines 85-90, the author describes as “a responsibility that grows with the children...when you grow up...you must accept a series of new revelations and responsibilities,” or “duties within [one’s] family” (A).

17. Correct Answer: (B)

These moments do not reflect “contention” (A) or any “impending doom” (C). They are not “exaggerated” (E) and there is no support in the passage that “helplessness” is “an inevitable outcome of aging” (D). Remember, “filial” means family.

18. Correct Answer: (A)

This line reference starts off by saying that “We have all been there.” The word “there” refers to the previous statement in which the author writes, “We have all had to consider the consequences that may follow from a conflict-inducing course of action.” This is simply another way of saying that we have “had to think about the possible outcomes of our decisions,” (A).

19. Correct Answer: (C)

This line reference concludes with “We hear a new expression of the truth in our own lives,” meaning that “drama reminds us” of things that happen to us “everyday,” (C). While (D) looks similar to this answer choice, the passage does not support that we “relate to the struggles that the actors face,” but rather that the characters face.

20. Correct Answer: (B)

The author does not mention anything about “fantasy” (A). Nor does the author explain in anyway how “mirrors operate” (C). While the author mentions a common occurrence “at the fair,” he does not bring up a specific “childhood memory,” (D) and there is no support for (E). The author writes that “a mirror does not present an exact truth.” The author goes on to write that “all mirrors distort to a greater or lesser degree” or, in other words, “underscore[s] the limitations” of the mirror (B).

21. Correct Answer: (B)

In this line reference, the author starts out every sentence with “We know” or “We are aware” suggesting that these statements are “acknowledged by theater-goers” (B).

22. Correct Answer: (B)

The author writes in the sentence preceding the line reference that “In order for the dramatist to make us believe,” or overcome our skepticism (B), “he must first make us ‘suspend our disbelief.’ Shakespeare does this ... by touching on the half-hidden fears of his audience.”

23. Correct Answer: (D)

In the context of the passage, the author writes in line 35 that when we watch a play, “we know that we are not in a real world.” But a dramatist must “make us believe” by making us “suspend our disbelief.” Shakespeare does this “by touching on” “fear”, “uneasiness”, and “insecurity” or “invoking primal emotions” (D). Thus, ultimately, “we have suspended our disbelief” or forgotten “that the actors are not real” (D).

24. Correct Answer: (B)

Before posing this question, the author writes, “We have suspended our disbelief.” Then he calls into question what Shakespeare has done and suggests that it can compare to “sleight of hand, an angling of the mirror” both of which “disorient” the viewer. He goes on to say that ultimately it doesn’t matter because what’s important is that Shakespeare’s work “has hooked us” or “captivate[d]” (B) us and “made us want to know what lies ahead at the end of the play.”

25. Correct Answer: (E)

Throughout the passage, the author discusses how theater audiences suspend their disbelief and illustrates how this phenomenon works by citing the works of Shakespeare. Answer (E) most effectively sums up the author's method of presenting the passage's argument. The other answers feature false words or distort the content of the passage. The only authority quoted is T.S. Eliot, and Eliot's ideas are used to lend support to the author's (A); however, Eliot's plays are never mentioned or compared to Shakespeare's. The author is interested primarily in explaining how suspension of disbelief operates, not in establishing a practical position in a double-sided argument (C) or in evoking fear and superstition (D).

## Test 9, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (A)

The information after the colon defines the actress's "behavior" as negative; thus, you should go with a negative word such as vindictive (A) or laughable (E). However, only vindictive directly describes the actress's serious actions, which involved "compromising the integrity of other celebrities by spreading horrific rumors.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

The first blank should involve an "exposing" action of some sort, such as retreats (B) or recedes (C). If the rocks are exposed, they would initially need to be covered by water; words that fit this context include submerged (C), immersed (D), and inundated (E). Only answer choice (C) fits the clues for both blanks.

3. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence describes a covert operations initiative, while the blank should accurately refer to secretive "infiltration." Of the answer choices provided, only surreptitious (A) is a direct fit for the idea of secrecy. Inchoate (D) means unformed or incomplete; acrimonious (E) means involving ill will or harsh feelings.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence characterizes Twister as a game that promotes "depravity," or decadent and immoral behavior; it can be inferred from this that adults would have a negative reaction and would denounce (A), criticize (B), or lambast (C) the game. The second blank requires a synonym for "depravity" itself, and could be appropriately filled using licentiousness (A) or debauchery (E). Only answer (A) meets all the needed conditions for the blanks. To exonerate (E) is to free from blame.

5. Correct Answer: (D)

The word for the blank is indicated by the description that follows and should be synonymous with "leaving room for varying interpretations." Ambiguous or open to uncertainty (D) is the correct answer. Excoriating (B) means harshly critical; innocuous (C) means harmless.

6. Correct Answer: (A)

In this sentence, the phrase "purging negative emotions by presenting harrowing events" directly indicates the word needed for the blank. Cathartic (A), a word that means involving emotional release through the resolving of tension, is the best answer. Bilious (B) means ill-tempered; salient (C) means evident or prominent; enervating (D) means having a weakening effect; didactic (E) means relating to instruction.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

The sentence involves a contrast signaled by "despite." Some element of the politician's activity contradicted by her real "track record," so appropriate choices for the first blank would be oration (A) and rhetoric (B); the

politician's real deeds would be contradicted by her words of promotion. Such "posturing" would be compromised (B) or disproven (C) by a track record of "voting against bills that supported wildlife preservation." Answer (B) is the only choice that fits the blanks. A conjecture (C) is a speculation or logical guess; predicated (E) means based on or dependent on.

8. Correct Answer: (B)

The phrase after the semicolon indicates the words required in the blanks: Nina Simone's songs are "seemingly forlorn" (negative, first blank) yet "replete with hope" (positive, second blank). Despair (A) and melancholy (B) line up with the first blank, while buoyancy (B), courage (C), and exuberance (E) are all plausible choices for the second. Only in answer (B) do both words fit the requirements for the blanks.

9. Correct Answer: (E)

The final sentence of Passage 1 follows a speculative discussion of the roots of inspiration; the final sentence of Passage 2 describes the author in the act of "wondering what it would be like to create a rocket that could reach past the clouds, past the atmosphere" (lines 26-28). Each sentence takes a positive tone when considering these issues, so that appreciative musing (E) is the best description for such commentary. The absence of any negative tone disqualifies bemusement or confusion (A), reluctant (C), and wry or drily sarcastic (D). Answer (B) is a trap; while the content of the passages can seem fanciful, nothing fanciful is created by the final sentences.

10. Correct Answer: (A)

In Passage 1, the author talks about visiting "planetariums and science fairs" (lines 8-9); in Passage 2, the author describes his dedication to model rocketry. Each passage would thus use personal anecdote or some sort of personal story. Although both passages use quotation marks, they do so to offset questionable items of vocabulary, not to provide direct quotations from sources (B). With its reference to "western Maryland farmland" (line 15), only Passage 1 describes a geographical location. Neither passage employs scientific jargon (though Passage 1 does make a passing reference to "obscure terms" in line 5), thus eliminating (D), and neither uses allegorical references (E).

11. Correct Answer: (C)

In lines 21-25, the author of Passage 2 describes the process of building, designing, and launching model rockets. Answer (C) is the best fit. There is no negative content to this section of the passage, so that answers (A) and (D) can be eliminated. In addition, while the author's involvement in rocketry can be seen as a meaningful experience, it is never certain that such involvement was a turning point (B) or that such involvement relates directly to professional activity (E).

12. Correct Answer: (D)

Lines 19-25 of Passage 2 ("I chose . . . field") describe the author's intense commitment to model rocketry and provide evidence for answer (D). Because Passage 2 is set up as an activity of only one activity from author's childhood, this passage offers no evidence for (A) or (D); it would be wrong to make assumptions about the author's life or opinions beyond his dedication to model rocketry. The author of Passage 2 would also be likely to argue against answer (B), since dedication to a task leads to new inspirations in the passage, and against answer (C), since the author is inspired to create model rockets even when alone.

13. Correct Answer: (B)

According to the author, "Freedom" or "a sense of autonomy" (B) is something we all want. The author then says that when someone "drills you in this or that order, it's natural if you have the inexplicable urge to defy that order," or to "instinctively disobey" (B) that "order."

14. Correct Answer: (D)

In this line reference, the author is saying that if you've decided on a course of action, "when you hear other people telling you to do it," that same course of action becomes "their not-so-brilliant" course of action. This in turn means that we would rather "make [our] own choices" (D) than have someone else tell them to us (even if those choices are two of the same!).

15. Correct Answer: (E)

The author is emphasizing that what was originally "your brilliant idea" has been turned into "their not-so-brilliant idea" or there has been a "change in the origin of an idea" (E). According to the author, the original owner of the idea would find this change in ownership "undesirable" (E).

16. Correct Answer: (A)

In this line reference the author writes, "this reaction is called teenage rebellion." Since the question asks how the author defines "teenage rebellion," you must read up. In the previous paragraph, the author writes that "When someone drills in you this or that order, it's natural if you have the inexplicable urge to defy that order." This "order" can also be considered "advice" and the "urge to defy" can also be considered a "propensity to shun" or (A).

17. Correct Answer: (C)

In this line reference, the author write that "one possible reason" for "teenage rebellion" is "that the emotional region of the brain matures faster than the region that controls rational thought." In other words, "a teenager's logical development and emotional development" happens disproportionately (C).

18. Correct Answer: (E)

In the line reference the author writes that similar to a dog who "must sniff every corner of the room before feeling safe," teenagers "must try everything for themselves before they can become comfortable" or "explore their limitations before they can feel secure" (E).

19. Correct Answer: (A)

The question is in response to many schools' actions against teenage rebellion. The author writes that schools include "lectures against everything a teenager could possible do wrong." The question then arises, if teenagers have a tendency to rebel against what they are asked to do, by doing that same behavior they are asked not to do, then "just how effective are [the] efforts" that the schools put forth. This suggests that "measures" such as these lectures, "are ultimately promoting [the] same behavior" that they are trying to combat (A).

20. Correct Answer: (E)

In this line reference, according to the author, teenagers believe that they "can still prevail" in the instances "when the rule has even a slim chance of being evaded" or "there exists the slightest chance" that they can get away with their actions and "avoid the negative outcomes" (E).

21. Correct Answer: (B)

The author writes that "these organizations simulate a bullying environment and twist the situation until each student in the group has had a taste of what it feels like to be bullied." In other words, the organizations create "situation[s] in which the bullies feel the effects of bullying" (B).

22. Correct Answer: (C)

The "schools" in this question "have increased their efforts to spread awareness" of activities that teenagers participate in to act out their rebellion. In the line reference of the question, the author suggest to "let them taste the grass [on the other side] for themselves...If the grass is poisonous, they'll naturally come back to where it's safe." The schools would find this to go against what they believe, or to be "counterintuitive" (C).

23. Correct Answer: (D)

The author writes that we should “let [the teenagers] taste the grass [on the other side] for themselves” or allow them to participate in a potentially dangerous behavior and, according to the author, “If the grass is poisonous, they’ll naturally come back to where it’s safe.” Only in (D) does the teenager try something (“drugs”) and not stop even though it was “poisonous.” Instead the activity becomes a “lifelong” problem of “abusing drugs.”

24. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, the author has not given up (A). The author is not going back and forth between more than one idea (B) and is not emitting an air of self-importance (E) in anyway. The tone is not academic (D). The author does make his statement with a sense of certainty or confidence (C).

### Test 9, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (E)

Since the sentence describes the professor’s remarks as “seemingly arrogant but actually informed by veiled kindness,” try to find similar words to fit the blanks. Haughty or arrogant and solicitous or kind are the best fits. Answer (D) is close, but there is no direct evidence that professor’s remarks were bombastic (or expressive) and reassuring.

2. Correct Answer: (A)

Ms. Jones’s remark is meant to create non-competitive feelings among her students; she discourages them from thinking of tests as contests. In other words, she is trying to hobble or impair the “excessively competitive nature of her students.” All of the other answer choices are positive and would indicate encouragement. To expedite (B) means to quicken; to galvanize (E) means to bring together and move to action.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

Because the sentence involves a cause-and-effect reaction, it can be inferred that the blanks should be both positive or both negative. Only answers (D) and (E) offer the appropriate tones for the words in the blanks, but only answer (D) offers a logical meaning; dithering (or refusing to commit) would lead to an unsatisfactory relationship, yet perpetuating (or prolonging) a budget would create a frustrating and negative effect, not a lucrative or profitable situation.

4. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence establishes that the students’ behavior involves “egregious disrespect,” a characteristic that would be insolent or unpleasantly rebellious. Cynical (A) or sarcastically doubting is a tempting choice, but does not directly fit the context clues; maladroit (B) means unskilled; shrewd (C) means practical and clever.

5. Correct Answer: (C)

The sentence sets up a contrast involving “police officers” and how they are addressed. Because police officers are “authority figures,” they should be treated in a positive manner; it can be inferred from this that the first blank requires a negative word, while the second requires a directly contrasting positive word. Impudent or rude and deference or obedience are the best fits. Truculence (A) means harsh anger; reticence (B) means unwillingness to socialize; obsequious (D) means obedient and servile.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, clues for the proper word for the blank can be found after the semicolon: the unending debate would only serve to make new altercations “continue to arise.” Thus, the debate would serve to engender or cause further controversy. Gerrymander (A) means to divide up an area for political gain;

obfuscate (E) means to make confused or unclear.

7. Correct Answer: (D)

Passage 2 disagrees with (A). Passage 1 disagrees with (B). Neither passage says (C), with the false word being “sole”, or (E), with the false word being “foundation”.

8. Correct Answer: (D)

Earlier in the paragraph the author tells us what “egoism” is. In this line reference, the author breaks egoism down further using words like “postulates,” “posits,” and “decrees,” suggesting that he is “presenting a few specialized uses of [the] term” egoism (D).

9. Correct Answer: (E)

In this line reference, the author writes, “such interrelations” which means you must read up in order to understand what the author is referring to. In the previous sentence the author writes, “Animals adapt to their surroundings and to one another, attesting that other forms of life are necessary for their own survival.” So when the term “interrelations” is used, the author is referring to the “interactions between different forms of life” (E).

10. Correct Answer: (C)

The author writes, “We, humans, are the only species that possesses the arrogance to claim that we are above such mundane strictures.” Here “strictures” refers to “an acceptance of the structure of life.” He says we call the “results of such a claim ‘civilization’.” In other words, we feel “superior to the members of all other species” because we “possess a unique form of sophistication” (C). Here “sophistication” refers to “civilization.”

11. Correct Answer: (B)

The author writes, “there are two combatants: the body and the spirit” which he then further defines, “The spirit suggests what we are capable of,” or our “capacity” and “the body demands immediate satisfaction,” or “gratification” (B).

12. Correct Answer: (A)

In this line reference, Nietzsche’s claim corroborates, or “substantiate[s]” the author’s claim (A) in the previous sentence, in which the author writes, “For an action to be morally right, it is essential that the action maximize one’s own self-interest.” Nietzsche’s quote is essentially another way of saying this.

13. Correct Answer: (C)

In this line reference, the first sentence starts with, “Our evolution does not operate on,” and the following sentence starts with, “Our evolution operates on.” This creates a “parallel” in sentence structure (C).

14. Correct Answer: (A)

In this line reference, the author writes, “Some may argue...” pointing out a “counterargument” to the argument he has made thus far (A).

15. Correct Answer: (A)

The author writes in the final sentence that the “contemplations,” of “those who rail against ‘egoism’,” are simply “the by-products of forces that we are often powerless to discern.” This suggests that “those who rail against” egoism are “unconscious” of why they commit this “behavior” (A).

16. Correct Answer: (A)

Since the example of the “mother bear” starts with “take for example,” you must read up to see what the

example is of. In the previous paragraph, the author writes, “We are creatures dictated by our genetics and our most basic self-interest: to continue being replicated.” The “mother bear” is an example of this “self-interest” (A).

17. Correct Answer: (D)

Jefferson writes, “Self-interest...is no part of morality.” The author of Passage 2 writes, “For an action to be morally right, it is essential that the action maximize one’s own self-interest.” Therefore, the author or Passage 2 would find Jefferson’s definition to be “inaccurate” (D).

18. Correct Answer: (B)

According to the author of Passage 2, “Those who rail against ‘egoism’ are simply following a genetic predisposition . . . not—as many are fooled into believing—from an explicit ‘sense of superiority’.” Therefore, the author would argue that the phenomenon of humans feeling “superior” is a “by-product of forces that we are often powerless to discern,” or that are “incidental” (B).

## Test 10

### Test 10, Section 1

1. Correct Answer: (D)

It can be inferred that Mrs. Rose is worried that her son will return to his “earlier, uncaring attitude” and hires a series of tutors to prevent this from happening. The best description of the son’s possible action would be regress to, or return to an earlier, undesirable state. To abscond from (B) means flee from or run from.

2. Correct Answer: (D)

The sentence establishes that George is kind, but not “garrulous” or talkative. For the first blank, try to find a word that is the opposite of garrulous: reticence (D) is the only effective fit. It would be possible to mistake George’s quiet ways for antagonism (B) or hostility (D); however, only answer choice (D) employs appropriate words for both blanks.

3. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, the phrases that follow the semicolon provide clues for the blanks: the audition was “short” and “original.” Choose an answer that lines up directly with these words; succinct (A), laconic (B), and pithy (C) all mean short or to the point, though only unprecedented (C) means original. Thus, answer (C) is correct. Nascent (A) means coming into being; impromptu (D) means spontaneous; cavalier (E) means unconcerned or reckless.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The blank should describe the characters of Thomas Mann, who have abjured or rejected “the demands of steady careers.” The lives of these characters would be distinguished by the opposite quality, which would best be described as dilettantism or the pursuit of leisure and pleasure. Acerbity (B) is sharp sarcasm; vapidness (C) is an absence of meaningful content; euphoria (D) is extreme happiness; mawkishness (E) is excessive sentimentality.

5. Correct Answer: (E)

This sentence contrasts Sean’s approach to “the little authority that he wields” with how his superiors perceive him. If Sean sees himself as a powerful figure (positive), it can be inferred that his superiors see him as powerless (negative); the negative stance of the superiors is established by the phrase “little more than.” There is no context that indicates an extremely unpleasant personality on Sean’s part, so he would not



be regarded as a lout (A) or curmudgeon (C). To fulfill both the context and the main contrast, Sean could flaunt or show off his authority but still be regarded as a lackey or powerless follower by his superiors.

6. Correct Answer: (B)

Although the passages take different overall tones (Passage 1 negative, Passage 2 positive to neutral), both passages discuss how being in a coffee shop can influence an author's work. Answer (B) is thus the only choice that applies to both readings. Neither author would agree with (A), while only the author of Passage 2 would support (D) and only the author of Passage 1 would support (E). Passage 2 never mentions the different kinds of novelists known to dramatize café life and focuses largely on a single author, J.K. Rowling, so that (C) can be eliminated.

7. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 2 explains that J.K. Rowling "imagined and envisioned her magical world" (lines 18-19) by drawing on coffee shop events. This imaginative process is accurately described in answer (D) and is one possible reason why someone would go to a coffee shop to write. Answers (A), (B), and (C) offer general rules that the author of Passage 2 never directly endorses; the author of Passage 1 would be likely to agree with (E), but not the author of Passage 2, whose view of coffee shop writing is much more positive.

8. Correct Answer: (E)

As indicated by the question in lines 24-26 ("While some . . . cares?") the author of Passage 2 is not concerned that writers appropriate the lives of other people. This attitude lines up with dispassion (A) and indifference (E), but only answer (E) is appropriate; "narrative vampirism" can in fact have a profitable effect on the lives of authors such as J.K. Rowling. The real reason why "narrative vampirism" should not cause concern is that writers are free to take individual lives and subject them to "dramatization and reimagining" (line 27).

9. Correct Answer: (C)

Throughout Passage 1, the author takes a dismissive tone, occasionally citing opinions that are held up to contradiction and ridicule. Passage 2, in contrast, takes a mostly positive tone. This sarcasm is used to indicate that a café is not a place of true creativity, so that answer (C) is the best choice. Neither passage uses an extended analogy (A), both use rhetorical questions (B), and only Passage 2 directly alludes to a work of literature, the Harry Potter series (D). Answer (E) is tempting but inaccurate: the author's writing style may seem extreme to some readers, but there is no evidence that the author is exaggerating the disadvantages of writing in a coffee shop. In fact, the author is convinced that a coffee shop is a terrible place to write and simply uses vivid language to make this point.

10. Correct Answer: (B)

The author ends the passage with "Nowadays, I laugh at the naïveté of those Saturday morning films. Yet they achieved their purpose. Nyoka reminded us children of the necessity of resilience in life." The Saturday morning films, or "a branch of culture," are what "shaped the author's childhood" by reminding him "of the necessity of resilience in life" (B).

11. Correct Answer: (D)

The author uses words and phrases like, "I joined the squirming line of small boys...each jostling to be the first...The noise in the cinema was intense..." She then goes on to call the people there "rowdy." All of these bits of description suggest that the atmosphere of the movie theater was "rambunctious" (D).

12. Correct Answer: (E)

The author describes the "dragon ladies" as "disciplinarian[s]." This is most similar to the description of the "usherettes": "stern and powerful" (E).

13. Correct Answer: (B)

The author writes that the “short informative film” was usually “about something encouraging for a country not long out of a war which is synonymous with “raise the moral of a weary society” (B).

14. Correct Answer: (B)

Gene Autry’s singing received a “groan from all” suggesting that “the audience was frustrated by this” (B).

15. Correct Answer: (D)

The author writes that “Our hero was left in dire peril and we had to wait until the next week to discover that he had escaped and that liberty was allowed to survive.” Another word for this is “suspense” (D).

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The author writes that Nyoka, Jungle Girl “was resourceful, tough and intelligent: no problem discouraged her for long.” Remember, “indomitable” means strong and resolute (C).

17. Correct Answer: (E)

In this sentence the author is adding light humor, or “levity” (E).

18. Correct Answer: (D)

The passage starts with “As a child growing up...” and ends with “Nowadays, I laugh...” The first part of the passage starts out as a “reminiscence” and, ultimately, ends with “a present-day perspective” (D).

19. Correct Answer: (B)

In this line reference, the author first writes that the hormone “Oxytocin...is found in...both cats and dogs.” He then goes on say that the presence of this hormone “indicate[s] that the emotion connection between man and pet stems from a deep biological foundation.” In other words, the author provides a “scientific explanation” for the “wide-ranging phenomenon” of the strong connection between pet and owner (B).

20. Correct Answer: (C)

The author writes that “left-side bias facial recognition ... [is used by dogs] to determine the subtle changes that directly relate to human feelings.” Remember “nuances” are subtle differences (C).

21. Correct Answer: (D)

The author states that this ability stems from the “hunter-retriever alliance,” in which “the submissive beast locates the rewards of the hunt in exchange for food and shelter,” making the relationship one of “necessity” (D).

22. Correct Answer: (E)

The author writes that Bleyaev had “set out to do with a few generations...what it had taken other dog domesticators thousands of years to accomplish,” making his goal quite an “ambitious” one (E). Remember, ambitious also means impressive or large-scale.

23. Correct Answer: (E)

The author writes that “learned behavior,” or “taming,” is “the result of selective breeding: those personality attributes that are most compatible with human lifestyles and needs are singled out and passed on.” Only in (E) is the “taming” learned through means outside of “selective breeding.”

24. Correct Answer: (E)

In the final paragraphs of the passage, the author calls attention to the exhaustive and authoritative nature of Bleyaev’s experiment; faulting “Bleyaev’s methods” would be extremely or forbiddingly (E) hard. Other

answers such as (A), (B), and (D) provide inappropriate contexts; Bleyaev's accomplishment may seem excellent or unapproachable, but the act of faulting his methods (C) would not be described in this manner.

25. Correct Answer: (C)

In this passage, the author simply relays information about animal, specifically dog, behavior (C) without taking a strong stance. Colloquial (B) means related to informal speech; maudlin (E) means excessively sentimental

## Test 10, Section 2

1. Correct Answer: (B)

The two blanks link up directly with words from elsewhere in the sentence. Anna Wintour wants designers to create aesthetics that are both "new and exciting" and "profitable." The synonyms for "new and exciting" are visionary (A), innovative (B), and groundbreaking (D), while the synonyms for "profitable" are practical (B) and remunerative (C). Only answer choice (B) offers appropriate words for both blanks. Demure (E) means submissive.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

This sentence requires a direct contrast, as signaled by the word "although." Use two words that describe opposite personality types to describe how Francis was "thought to be" and the "side of his personality" displayed at the video game convention: the words that fit best are diffident (shy or timid.) and confident. All of the other choices involve words that are almost synonyms, as in (A) and (E), or that take similar positive or negative signs, as in (C) and (D).

3. Correct Answer: (D)

Because a review of a play must be "evenhanded" and never "give way to extremely biased opinions," such a review must deal with both positive and negative aspects. The sentence already refers to a playwright's "creative shortcomings," so that the blank requires a positive word to balance this out. Of the answer choices, only faculties or abilities (D) is a strong positive. Mentalities (C) is neutral.

4. Correct Answer: (A)

The main clue here is the phrase "deeper meanings," which describes the professor's priorities. The first blank requires a word or concept opposed to "deeper meanings," since the professor is unwilling to settle for "interpretations" of this sort: superficial (A), facile (B), and insignificant (C) are all appropriate. The second blank should describe the act of finding deeper meanings; plumb (A), examine (D), and explicate (E) are the words that would fit such activity. Only in answer (A) do both words fit the conditions for the blanks.

5. Correct Answer: (A)

The sentence involves a contrast between "independent screenwriters" and "studio movies," which often resort to "timeworn formulas." It can thus be inferred that independent would stay away from such formulas, which could be described as clichés (A) or platitudes (E). However, if the studios have a reason for using such formulas, then it can also be inferred that the studios would regard these "storytelling devices" in a positive manner; popular (A), compelling (B), and invaluable (C) are all positive. Only answer (A) meets the required conditions.

6. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, this writer is described as penning "one or two articles each month" for a publication that demands substantially more. The blank describes what his articles would NOT be considered: only prolific or abundant (C) is an direct and appropriate fit. Voluntary (A) means done by one's own will; prosaic (B) means

everyday or unremarkable; economical (D) means frugal and efficient.

7. Correct Answer: (B)

For this sentence, find a word that fits the clue “unconventionally cacophonous,” since the blank must describe how Clint Mansell’s film scores are perceived. The only word that is a direct fit is iconoclastic (B), which means radically unconventional. It is possible that some listeners would regard the film scores as absurd (C) or misguided (D), but there is not explicit evidence for these choices in the sentence. Ironically, many listeners could be pleased or exhilarated by something unconventional. The word “cacophonous” means sudden and harsh sounding.

8. Correct Answer: (C)

The blank in this sentence should describe the dressmaker’s collection, which makes use of “cuts and patterns that had gone out of fashion decades earlier.” Note also that the blank requires a strong negative: only superannuated or out of date (C) fits both the meaning and the tone. Classic (B) and timeless (E) are both positives. Sordid (A) means lowly or revolting; hallowed (D) means earning honor and respect.

9. Correct Answer: (A)

As described by the author, the partisans “seem to have forgotten what the proper purpose of government is” (lines 5-6). The author thus disagrees sharply with the ideology of these partisans, or is antagonistic to them (A). Answers (B) and (D) can be eliminated because they are positives; answers (C) and (E) would not accurately describe the strong opposing stance that the author takes.

10. Correct Answer: (B)

In these lines, the author distinguishes between an apparently wrongheaded idea of government activity (producer of goods) and the correct idea of how government functions (protector of its citizens). This meaningful distinction makes (B) the best answer. Although there is a debate surrounding government roles, there is not sufficient evidence to prove that the comparison itself is controversial (A). On account of the debate, the positions presented cannot be described as undisputed (C) or widely accepted (D); the sentence itself helps to define the stance of the passage, and is by no means a digression (E).

11. Correct Answer: (E)

The play Oedipus Rex is mentioned after a discussion of tragedy and portrays “downfall through a personal tragic flaw” (line 9). Thus, Oedipus Rex is an example of tragedy, a particular form of playwriting (E). Nowhere does the author argue that all tragedies are flawed (B) or indicate whether Oedipus Rex is ancient or modern (C). Although the passage does try to limit the misuse of the word “tragedy” (A) and does discuss drama (D), the reference to Oedipus Rex is not directly related to either of these elements of the writing.

12. Correct Answer: (A)

The author opens the passage by discussing the “blatant misconception” that surrounds the use of the word “tragedy” (line 3), then attempts a more rigorous definition of the term. This evidence supports (A). It is never indicated that tragedy is obsolete (B), forgotten (C), or related to film (E); the author would be most likely to reject modern, broad re-conceptions of “tragedy,” not to support such ideas (D).

13. Correct Answer: (C)

In this sentence, the author writes that the artist “has been subjected to much critical discussion,” but by the general public, “he has always been venerated.” So, we are looking for the opposite of being criticized, which is to be “revered,” (C). Remember, to be “revered” is to be respected or admired.

14. Correct Answer: (D)

In the previous sentence, the author writes that “Hopper himself rarely discussed his work publicly.” He then

goes on to write, “However, he did once remark...” The remark provides “an important exception” to the previous statement, which states that he did not generally discuss “his work publicly” (D).

15. Correct Answer: (A)

In this paragraph, the author quotes one of Hopper’s teachers, writing, “It isn’t the subject [of the painting] that counts, but what you feel about it.” In this line reference, the author writes that “Hopper seems to have taken this advice to be equally applicable to anyone who wanders into an art gallery.” The author then goes on to write, “Hopper’s paintings create within the observer a feeling of instant recognition.” This “recognition” and what the viewer “feel[s] about” the painting can also be called “subjectivity” (A).

16. Correct Answer: (D)

The author of Passage 1 writes, “Hopper’s paintings create within the observer a feeling of instant recognition not only of what is clearly presented in the depiction, but also of all the implications and questions that lie behind what is actually shown.” This “instant recognition” of “the implications and questions” suggest that Hopper wanted the viewer to think and was trying to cultivate “meaningful uncertainty” (D).

17. Correct Answer: (E)

In the beginning of the last paragraph, we can get an understanding of the primary purpose of this passage. The author writes, “Above all else, in every one of Hopper’s paintings, the contrast between darkness and illumination forces us to consider the truth of his pictures.” In other words, in this passage, the author ruminates over how “a viewer may respond to” Hopper’s art. Hopper, according to the author, is “a renowned painter” (E).

18. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 2 argues that Edward Hopper’s art, in terms of social and psychological meaning, is relatively insignificant. It can be reasonably inferred that this author would view Hopper’s “ambiguities” as something of minor importance, certainly compared to the “meaning” (line 86) offered by Reinhardt (C). The author of Passage 1 would be more likely to regard the ambiguities as appealing (A), (B), or complex (D). Temporal (E) means related to time and is irrelevant to the elements of the passage in question.

19. Correct Answer: (A)

In this description of the cartoon, the author writes that “A leaf with the name ‘Hopper’ can be seen on a branch that’s ready to crack, pulled down by a grim black weight that bears the words ‘Subject Matter’.” This statement is something the author expands on at the end of the second and third paragraphs, essentially saying that “Hopper’s paintings offer one picture-perfect representation after another,” but because this was during “an age that had already lost its innocence,” “Hopper’s works make almost no sense at all.”

20. Correct Answer: (D)

The author writes, “Hopper’s paintings offer one picture-perfect representation after another. But what else do they offer?” This suggests that the author feels they should offer more, which means as they are, “picture-perfect representation[s]” are “wanting” (D). Remember, “wanting” also means lacking or inadequate.

21. Correct Answer: (A)

In this line reference, the author is trivializing how in 1910, Hopper’s work “would have made sense,” but in a world devastated by so much turmoil, “Hopper’s works made almost no sense at all.” Another word for trivializing, is to be “dismissive” (A).

22. Correct Answer: (C)

The author of Passage 2 finds “meaning” in Reinhardt’s paintings because Reinhardt is aware that “America could never be the same after so much social and political trauma,” and therefore, “neither could its art.” The

author believes that paintings, in their meanings, should reflect the societal turmoil that is the backdrop of its painter's life. So the author of Passage 2 would say, about Office in a Small City, that "it does not offer a response to social upheavals" (C).

23. Correct Answer: (D)

The author writes that Reinhardt's paintings are "forbidding and threatening" or "austere and daunting" (D). But then he goes on to say that "there is meaning in this," or that they are "expressive" (D).

24. Correct Answer: (A)

The author of Passage 1 uses a word like "cerulean" to describe the color of the sky as Hopper painted it. And the author of Passage 2 describes the colors Hopper uses as "grass greens and sunset oranges." So one thing that the two authors do agree on is that Hopper's "color choices were striking and memorable" (A).

### Test 10, Section 3

1. Correct Answer: (A)

The word "undeterred" means not discouraged or dissuaded; it can thus be inferred that the word for the first blank is positive, if the "head of the laboratory" is trying to be deterred by his colleagues. Admonitions (A), warnings (B), and caveats (C) would all be negative and deterring. For the second blank, establish a contrast: the head of the laboratory prefers "small and confined" groups of test subjects, which would contrast with broad (A), variegated (D), or diversified (E) samplings. Only choice (A) fits both blanks.

2. Correct Answer: (C)

The major clue here is "easygoing." For the first blank, find an opposite of "easygoing" to describe Mr. Peabody's response; for the second, find a synonym. Insouciant (A) and edgy (C) fit the first blank, while imperturbable (C), tranquil (D), and unflappable (E) all fit the second, so that answer (C) is the only choice that fulfills the necessary conditions.

3. Correct Answer: (D)

Because the Plate Tectonic Theory leaves "nothing to be disputed," the "arguments against" it should be described using a strong negative word. An argument against an indisputable theory would be erroneous (D) or in error, since opposing such a theory would not make sense. None of the other words fit the context: equivocal (A) means uncertain; halcyon (B) means peaceful and prospering; parsimonious (C) means cheap or thrifty; transient (E) means not lasting long.

4. Correct Answer: (C)

The first blank requires a word that is a synonym for "uninvolved," so that indifferent (C) and lax (E) are effective fits. The second blank should simply refer to the action of someone who passes responsibility on to others in an "uninvolved" manner: relying on (A) and deferring to (C) are the only effective fits. As a result, answer (C) is the only choice that features appropriate words for both blanks; words such as persuading (D) and supplicating or begging (E) indicate too much passion and activity on the father's part and do not fit the clue "uninvolved."

5. Correct Answer: (A)

The blank should describe the medical staff's activity of promulgating or spreading "the facts at its disposal." To disseminate (A) means to spread and often refers to information or ideas. To diffract (D) means to break apart and normally refers to phenomena such as light waves or sound waves.

6. Correct Answer: (E)

Solve for each blank using a nearby clue. The physician's error is described as "dire" or fatefully bad, so that pernicious (A), heinous (D), and egregious (E) all fit the first blank. Then, the hospital administrator's evaluation includes "a thorough investigation of all procedures," so that vigilant (C) and scrupulous (E) both fit the second blank. Answer (E) is the only appropriate choice. Cosmopolitan (A) means having a sophisticated and global outlook; venial (B) means involving relatively minor sins.

7. Correct Answer: (C)

The narrator uses dry humor to describe Mr. Walby's creation of the timetable, but also presents Mr. Walby as an honest and encouraging individual (C). This balance in Mr. Walby's qualities can be used to eliminate (E), while the other answers refer to broad problems and issues in education, not to the personal stories that are essential to this passage.

8. Correct Answer: (B)

This paragraph introduces how he decided "to try [his] hand at teaching in a vocational school." This is also where the author introduces the main person this whole passage is about, "Mr. Walby was the head of the English Department and my very first boss." All this can also be considered "background information" (B).

9. Correct Answer: (A)

The author describes Mr. Walby as "a man of great girth," or of "immense size" (A). And he goes on further to say that the man looked "like a walrus at ease," or that he had a "placid demeanor" (A).

10. Correct Answer: (D)

The author describes the timetable as "absolutely inviolable," which means that it cannot be changed or challenged, or, in other words, "not open to negotiation" (D).

11. Correct Answer: (D)

The author writes that these inspectors "demanded that Mr. Walby revise his system." And in response, "Mr. Walby nodded his head in grave agreement." But as soon as the inspectors left, he "continued to pass his day...and the memory of the invaders became no more." Remember, "appeasement" is the act of pacifying.

12. Correct Answer: (C)

The context clue in this sentence is the word "realized," which points to "discovering."

13. Correct Answer: (A)

The author writes, "He was adept at divining what makes individuals tick," or he is very "perceptive" (A). He also writes, "He quietly worked to puncture pomposity and to prick the paltry pride of the college principal, taking particular delight in waging this quiet, constant offensive." This shows that he is "not easily intimidated by authority" (A).

14. Correct Answer: (B)

Here the author characterizes his voice as "a trembling, timid sound," conveying "his apprehension" (B).

15. Correct Answer: (D)

In this statement, the author quotes his boss writing, "The Welsh quite like foreigners." Given that the narrator isn't Welsh (he's from London), and his students are Welsh, you can then take from Mr. Walby's statement that "the narrator will be attractive to his students" because he's a "non-native" (D).

16. Correct Answer: (C)

The context clue here is in the previous sentence, in which the author writes, "He gave me a stern look." The

word “stern” points to “firmly” (C).

17. Correct Answer: (A)

We know that Mr. Walby is “a man of great girth.” To say that the furniture “seemed dwarfed” when Mr. Walby stood up, means that this “great girth[y]” man “dominates the room” due to his “noteworthy mass” (A).

18. Correct Answer: (E)

Based on the context of the passage, we know that Mr. Walby has faith in the narrator because he tells the narrator, “You’ll be fine,” earlier in the passage. This statement, along with the statement, “You’ll manage,” means that Mr. Walby is “encourage[ing]” the narrator and has “trust” in him (E).