

Reading and Writing

33 QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS

The questions in this section address a number of important reading and writing skills. Each question includes one or more passages, which may include a table or graph. Read each passage and question carefully, and then choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).

All questions in this section are multiple-choice with four answer choices. Each question has a single best answer.

1

Novelist Leon Forrest admired William Faulkner's writing style. Forrest's novel *Divine Days* contains a long passage in tribute to Faulkner that is a perfect _____ of Faulkner's style: anyone familiar with Faulkner's writing would see the resemblance.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) forgetting
- B) rejection
- C) imitation
- D) opinion

2

Shoppers can help keep money cycling within a community by making purchases at small local businesses instead of large retailers. Some cities are _____ programs to encourage this behavior, establishing reward points and other incentives for shopping at small businesses.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) instituting
- B) occupying
- C) underestimating
- D) encountering

3

Economists often assert that countries looking to increase their reliance on solar energy should expand their capacity for storage; having an ample reserve of stored energy can mitigate the effects of _____ solar energy collection caused by unpredictable shifts in cloud cover and haze.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) developments of
- B) fluctuations in
- C) calibrations with
- D) incentives for

4

As discussed by scholar Anna Mladentseva, many artworks produced in the mid-1990s to the early 2000s exclusively for exhibition on the internet, such as Sinae Kim’s *Genesis* (2001), have become inaccessible because viewing them requires the use of _____ software (most notably Adobe Flash, discontinued in 2021).

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) defunct
- B) arcane
- C) ubiquitous
- D) extraneous

5

The following text is from the 1989 novel *The Ancient Child* by Kiowa writer N. Scott Momaday. The main character has achieved tremendous commercial success as a painter.

More and more often he was asked to compromise his art or himself in one way or another, and more often than not he did so, for he was inclined to be passive and naïve; it was difficult for him to say no. Those who exhibited his work, who praised and purchased it, and who demanded its proliferation began to determine it.

©1989 by N. Scott Momaday

As used in the text, what does the word “determine” most nearly mean?

- A) Conclude
- B) Dictate
- C) Evaluate
- D) Select

6

Ordinary soap bubbles usually exist for a minute or less before popping due to either a rupture forced by gravity-induced drainage or the evaporation of the liquid from which the bubble is composed. But physicist Aymeric Roux and colleagues discovered ways to mitigate these factors, resulting in bubbles that can last for a year or more. For example, glycerol tends to adhere to water molecules, so a bubble with a shell that contains both water and glycerol is able to draw additional water molecules from the surrounding air and thereby compensate for evaporation.

Which choice best states the purpose of the underlined portion in the text as a whole?

- A) It describes the effects of a process devised by researchers that increases the longevity of an object discussed in the text.
- B) It details the circumstances that prompted the research discussed in the text.
- C) It presents a reason why the phenomenon discussed in the text that the researchers wanted to avoid will inevitably occur.
- D) It mentions a method discussed in the text that researchers intend to test in future experiments.

7

Generally it takes Tule geese about four days to migrate south for the winter. From their summer breeding grounds in Cook Inlet, Alaska, the birds begin by flying over the Gulf of Alaska, keeping about 100 miles from the Canadian shore. They pause to rest on the Pacific Ocean, then fly toward Summer Lake, Oregon, before finally arriving at their winter destination of Sacramento Valley, California. In 2020, however, it took the geese over twice as long to make their way from Cook Inlet to Sacramento Valley. According to researchers, the reason was airborne pollutants.

Which choice best states the function of the underlined portion in the text as a whole?

- A) It illustrates a change in Tule geese's usual flight behavior.
- B) It suggests an explanation for why Tule geese breed in Alaska.
- C) It describes part of the Tule geese's typical winter migration journey.
- D) It compares Tule geese to other birds that migrate south for the winter.

8

In 1154, Muhammad al-Idrisi completed a collection of maps of the lands known to medieval Arabic and European scholars. This collection was titled *Al-Kitāb al-Rujārī* (*The Book of Roger*), after the Norman king Roger II who hired him to create it. To create the collection, al-Idrisi consulted Arabic and Greek maps and interviewed travelers about the lands they visited. He included these travelers' stories alongside the map illustrations.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A) To discuss the benefits of studying mapmaking
- B) To explain how travelers created maps
- C) To describe a collection of medieval maps and how it was created
- D) To compare medieval Arabic and Greek mapmaking techniques

9

A study by Dr. Paul Hanel and colleagues concluded that people are more likely to behave politely when listening to ideas they disagree with if they think about values before they engage in a discussion. Study participants were assigned to one of two groups. The experimental group spent a few minutes writing about one of their personal values before they had a group discussion on a controversial topic. And the control group spent a few minutes writing about a drink (tea, milk, etc.) before their group discussion on that topic. Hanel and colleagues found that the experimental group's discussion was more civil than the control group's discussion was.

Which choice best describes the main purpose of the text?

- A) To describe a widely held belief and how a study's results support that belief
- B) To argue that researchers were surprised by the results of a certain study
- C) To suggest ways to improve a certain study's experimental design
- D) To explain a study's conclusion and how a research team arrived at that conclusion

10

In the 1960s, Chavela Vargas became an unlikely star in ranchera, a style of traditional Mexican music. Most ranchera singers had clear, polished voices and performed with a full band. But Vargas accompanied her raspy voice with just her guitar. Dressed in men's trousers and a poncho, she would perform classic songs that had been written from a male point of view and were usually sung by men. She also altered those songs by performing them much more slowly than other ranchera singers did. The slower tempo allowed her to express the emotional quality of the lyrics more fully.

According to the text, what is one way that Vargas differed from other ranchera singers?

- A) She possessed a voice that was clear and polished.
- B) She avoided singing songs written from a male point of view.
- C) She disliked performing classic songs.
- D) She altered classic songs by slowing them down.

11

Archaeologists have discovered a runestone in Norway that may contain the earliest example of written words in Scandinavia. Carbon dating at the discovery site revealed that the stone was likely carved between 1 and 250 CE. Runologist Kristel Zilmer believes the stone will be helpful in learning more about the use of runic alphabets in early Iron Age Scandinavia.

Which choice best states the main topic of the text?

- A) Battles of the Iron Age
- B) A runestone found in Norway
- C) A new method for dating rock samples
- D) The research interests of Kristel Zilmer

12

In her 1998 book *Blues Legacies and Black Feminism*, Angela Y. Davis bases her analysis in part on recordings of songs sung in the 1920s by Gertrude "Ma" Rainey and Bessie Smith. Davis focuses on how Rainey and Smith improvised the lyrics—replacing the original lines with mischievous jokes and wordplay. Davis's work was particularly labor intensive because in order to transcribe, or write down, the lyrics as Rainey and Smith sang them, Davis had to listen repeatedly to the vinyl recordings, which weren't very clear.

What does the text most strongly suggest about the songs sung by Rainey and Smith?

- A) The songs have grown in popularity since Rainey and Smith first sang them.
- B) There were more recordings made of Rainey's songs than there were of Smith's.
- C) There were few, if any, reliable transcriptions of Smith's and Rainey's improvised lyrics when Davis began her research.
- D) According to Davis, the songs sung by Rainey were more musically innovative than those sung by Smith typically were.

13

Happy House is a 1920 novel by Jane Abbott. The narrator presents a young woman as being unimpressed with the house she is visiting: _____

Which quotation from *Happy House* most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) "Her first feeling was of disappointment; in the square lines of the house there was little claim to beauty."
- B) "Someone had opened one of the blinds so here there was more light."
- C) "The door, built squarely in the middle of the house, opened almost directly upon a stone-flagged path that led in a straight line to the road."
- D) "She tip-toed through the hall and opened the door on the right."

14

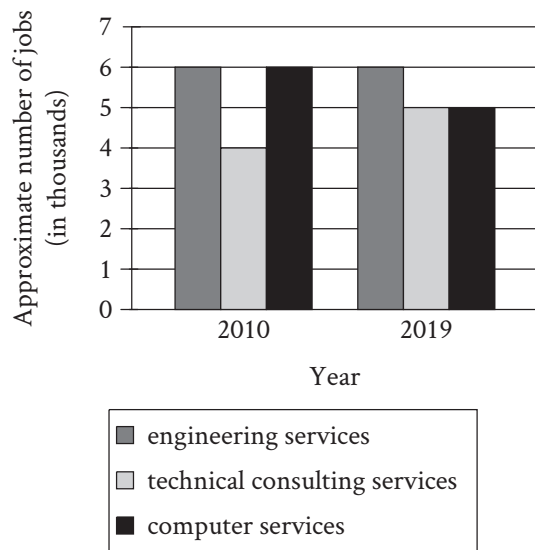
Ochre sea stars live in tidal pools along the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean. At night, they move to higher shore levels in search of prey. But scientists Corey Garza and Carlos Robles noticed that ochre sea stars stayed at lower levels at night after heavy rains. Garza and Robles hypothesized that a layer of fresh water formed by rainfall was a barrier to the sea stars. To test their hypothesis, the scientists did an experiment. They placed some sea stars in a climbable tank of seawater and other sea stars in a similar tank of seawater with a layer of fresh water on top. Then, the scientists watched the sea stars' behavior at night.

Which finding from the experiment, if true, would most directly support Garza and Robles's hypothesis?

- A) None of the sea stars climbed to the tops of the tanks, but sea stars in the tank with only seawater moved around the bottom of the tank more than sea stars in the other tank did.
- B) Sea stars in the tank with only seawater climbed to the top of the tank, but sea stars in the other tank stopped climbing just below the layer of fresh water.
- C) Both groups of sea stars climbed to the tops of the tanks, but sea stars in the tank with only seawater climbed more slowly than sea stars in the other tank did.
- D) Sea stars in the tank with only seawater mostly stayed near the bottom of the tank, but sea stars in the other tank climbed into the layer of fresh water.

15

Employment in Technology in
Hawaii in 2010 and 2019

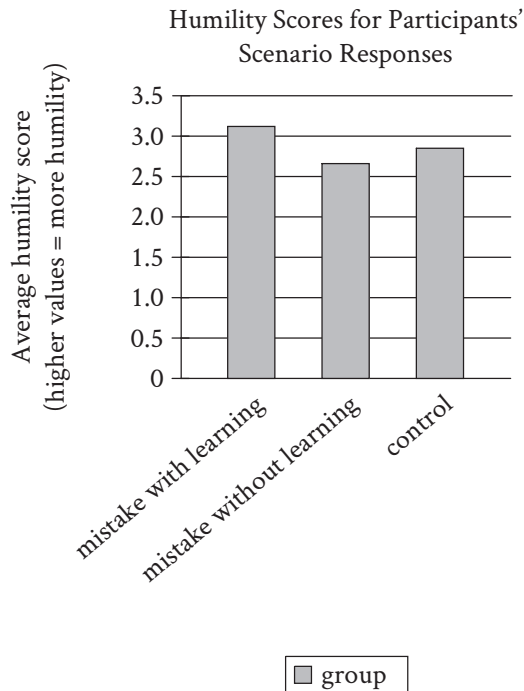


A student in Hawaii is interested in pursuing a career in technology and decides to do some research on local trends. The student notices that the number of jobs in computer services in 2010 was _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the graph to complete the statement?

- A) higher than the number of jobs in technical consulting services, and in 2019 was about the same as the number of jobs in engineering services.
- B) about the same as the number of jobs in engineering services, and in 2019 was about the same as the number of jobs in technical consulting services.
- C) lower than the number of jobs in engineering services, but in 2019 was higher than the number of jobs in engineering services.
- D) about the same as the number of jobs in technical consulting services, but in 2019 was lower than the number of jobs in technical consulting services.

16



Jia Hu and colleagues hypothesized that workplace leaders who reflect on lessons learned from past mistakes are likely to exhibit more humility than leaders who don't engage in such reflection. To test this, the team placed 301 managers in one of three groups. Participants in two experimental groups were asked to reflect on a mistake, one group focusing on a mistake that resulted in learning and the other group focusing on a mistake that didn't result in learning. Participants in a control group were asked to reflect on their daily routine. All the participants then described how they would respond to a workplace scenario. After evaluating the responses for evidence of humility, the researchers concluded that their hypothesis was correct.

Which choice best describes data in the graph that support the researchers' conclusion?

- A) None of the three groups' average humility scores exceeded 3.5.
- B) The managers in the control group exhibited only slightly less humility on average than the managers in the two experimental groups did.
- C) The managers who reflected on a past mistake that resulted in learning exhibited more humility on average than the managers in the other two groups did.
- D) All three groups exhibited less humility on average than the researchers expected.

17

If an animal has been extinct for a long time, how can scientists learn what color it was? One group of scientists came up with a possible answer. When the scientists examined the fossilized feather of an extinct bird, they found melanosomes in it. Melanosomes produce pigment, or grains of color, inside cells. Because melanosomes are shaped differently depending on which colors they produce, the scientists hypothesized that they could _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- A) show how melanosomes can be found in fossils belonging to animals from other extinct species.
- B) determine the colors of the bird based on the appearance of the melanosomes in the feather.
- C) explain why the melanosomes in the feather were so well preserved.
- D) identify the colors of extinct animals whose fossils lack melanosomes.

18

Silicon-based photovoltaic cells account for 95% of the cells used in solar panels worldwide despite converting an average of only 18–22% of the sunlight that reaches them. In a study addressing this relative inefficiency, a team led by Laura Miranda-Pérez demonstrated that the addition of a thin layer of the mineral perovskite—which captures the blue range of light in the solar spectrum, whereas silicon captures the red range—allows the cells to convert 29.5% or more of the Sun’s energy into usable electricity. Cells made with only perovskite, however, are no more efficient than silicon-based ones. It’s reasonable to conclude, then, that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- A) photovoltaic cells with both silicon and perovskite are more efficient because they make use of more of the solar spectrum.
- B) photovoltaic cells with only perovskite and no silicon would likely convert more than 29.5% of the Sun’s energy.
- C) solar power will remain elusive until photovoltaic cells are replaced with a more practical technology.
- D) researchers need to evaluate whether other minerals like perovskite are as effective as perovskite seems to be.

19

In 1953, a fellow performer tripped on legendary jazz musician Dizzy Gillespie's trumpet, bending its bell upward. When Gillespie tested the damaged instrument, he realized that he _____ sound of a bent bell over that of a straight one.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) preferred; the
- B) preferred the
- C) preferred, the
- D) preferred. The

20

From 1912 to 1951, Charlotta Bass owned and operated the newspaper *The California Eagle*. While it was under Bass's leadership, *The Eagle* _____ one of the US's most influential Black-owned newspapers.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) will become
- B) became
- C) is becoming
- D) to become

21

To illustrate Albert Einstein's special theory of relativity, picture two jugglers: one juggling on a steadily moving parade float, the other juggling while standing still on a sidewalk. The laws of physics are identical for both _____ motion relative to each other. But what, Einstein wondered, about the speed of light?

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) jugglers', regardless of they're
- B) jugglers, regardless of there
- C) juggler's, regardless of their
- D) jugglers, regardless of their

22

Horsepower is a unit of measurement used to determine how much power a vehicle produces. The measurement is based on how much and how quickly weight can be _____ one unit of mechanical horsepower is equivalent to the amount of power it takes to lift 550 pounds one foot off the ground in one second.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) moved, for example,
- B) moved,
- C) moved; for example,
- D) moved

23

Solarpunk is an art movement that imagines renewable energy-powered technology infused complementarily into nature. In Paolo Bacigalupi's solarpunk short story "Efficiency," an artificial intelligence that absorbs sustainable energies, redistributing them through intricate networks of weights and generators, _____ Chicago's energy grid.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) have been powering
- B) power
- C) powers
- D) are powering

24

Butterfly is a 1988 painting by the Japanese artist Ay-O. Like many of Ay-O's paintings, *Butterfly*, which portrays a swimmer performing the butterfly stroke, attempts to make use of the entire visual light _____ sporting rainbow-striped goggles, the rainbow-hued swimmer splashes through a wavy rainbow of water.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) spectrum
- B) spectrum:
- C) spectrum while
- D) spectrum, while

25

The relationship between genomes and epigenomes reveals how cells with identical DNA develop different _____ whereas the genome in each cell contains a complete DNA sequence, the epigenome consists of chemical compounds that determine which traits in the sequence will be expressed.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A) functions
- B) functions,
- C) functions and,
- D) functions:

26

In order to create the Global Positioning System (GPS), scientists had to develop an accurate mathematical model of Earth's shape that accounted for various forces, such as tides. _____ it was mathematician Gladys West who wrote the computer program that could perform these necessary calculations.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) Ultimately,
- B) In other words,
- C) Secondly,
- D) In addition,

27

In 1942, the 1,500-mile Alaska Highway was constructed in under nine months, largely due to the skilled work of nearly 4,000 African American soldiers from US Army engineering regiments. The soldiers' contribution was overlooked for decades. _____ in 2017, lawmakers declared October 25 a day of recognition—"Alaska Highway Day"—for the troops who helped build this critical roadway.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) Lastly,
- B) Then,
- C) Similarly,
- D) For example,

28

The Coastal Futures Conservatory in Virginia is known for creating aural representations of ecological data. One such effort combines underwater audio recorded in seagrass beds with data that track rising carbon levels in the seagrass. As carbon levels increase, the audio is correspondingly distorted; _____ listeners can "hear" the changes in the carbon levels.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) furthermore,
- B) by comparison,
- C) for instance,
- D) thus,

29

Observing that a fire in a closed container soon went out, leading eighteenth-century scientists did not conclude that fresh air (specifically, oxygen) is necessary for combustion; instead, many theorized that the container's air had become saturated with a substance called phlogiston. _____ when Joseph Priestley first isolated oxygen gas in 1774, he termed it "dephlogisticated air."

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- A) In other words,
- B) For this reason,
- C) Alternatively,
- D) Nevertheless,

30

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Komodo dragons are the largest lizards in the world.
- They live on four islands in Komodo National Park, Indonesia.
- The park has a total of twenty-nine islands.

The student wants to emphasize how many islands in Komodo National Park have Komodo dragons living on them. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) Komodo dragons, the world's largest lizards, live on islands in Komodo National Park, Indonesia.
- B) The largest lizards in the world are found in Komodo National Park.
- C) Only four of the twenty-nine islands in Komodo National Park have Komodo dragons living on them.
- D) There are twenty-nine islands in Indonesia's Komodo National Park.

31

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Pointillism is a painting technique in which small, distinct dots of color are applied in patterns to form an image.
- Betty Acquah is an artist from Ghana who uses pointillism in her work.
- "By extending dabs of color in the subject matter into the background and vice-versa, an illusion of movement is created," she says about pointillism.
- Her work often portrays Ghanaian women, whom she sees as the "unsung heroines of the Ghanaian Republic."
- Her pointillist painting "Exquisite" (2016) features five dancing women twirling their skirts.

The student wants to provide a quotation from Acquah that explains why she used pointillism in "Exquisite." Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- A) In painting "Exquisite," Acquah applied pointillism to create what she called an "illusion of movement" within the painting's five dancing women and their twirling skirts.
- B) Pointillism, the technique used in Acquah's "Exquisite," involves the application of small, distinct dots of color.
- C) In "Exquisite," Acquah uses a technique that she says involves "extending dabs of color in the subject matter into the background and vice-versa."
- D) "Exquisite" portrays Acquah's fellow Ghanaian women as she sees them: the "unsung heroes of the Ghanaian Republic."

32

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- *The Ramayana* is a Sanskrit epic poem from ancient India.
- In *The Ramayana*, the character Kaikeyi is often portrayed as a villain.
- *Kaikeyi* is a 2022 novel by Vaishnavi Patel.
- The novel is a retelling of the epic poem from Kaikeyi's point of view.
- It often portrays Kaikeyi as heroic.

The student wants to emphasize whose point of view the novel is told from. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- From the point of view of *The Ramayana*, the character Kaikeyi is often a villain.
- Vaishnavi Patel often portrays the character as heroic.
- Kaikeyi* is a retelling of *The Ramayana* from the character Kaikeyi's point of view.
- The Ramayana* is an epic poem that features the character Kaikeyi.

33

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Marcela Guerrero is a curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.
- She curated the Whitney's 2018 exhibition *Pacha, Llaqta, Wasichay: Indigenous Space, Modern Architecture, New Art*.
- This exhibition featured works by seven emerging Latino artists.
- She curated the Whitney's 2020 exhibition *Vida Americana: Mexican Muralists Remake American Art, 1925–1945*.
- This exhibition included nearly 200 works by twentieth-century Latino and Mexican artists.

The student wants to describe the exhibition that Guerrero curated in 2018. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- Held at the Whitney Museum of American Art, the exhibition *Vida Americana: Mexican Muralists Remake American Art, 1925–1945* included nearly 200 works by twentieth-century Mexican and Latino artists.
- Pacha, Llaqta, Wasichay: Indigenous Space, Modern Architecture, New Art*, an exhibition at the Whitney Museum of American Art, featured works by seven emerging Latino artists.
- In both 2018 and 2020, Marcela Guerrero curated exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.
- While one exhibition that Marcela Guerrero curated featured works by emerging artists, another included works by twentieth-century artists.

STOP

**If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this module only.
Do not turn to any other module in the test.**