

Reading and Writing

Module 2

(33 questions)

QUESTION 1

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of the microbiologists’ research on bacteria in coral reefs. In this context, “identify” means to recognize and distinguish something based on its characteristics. The text indicates that the team “classified the bacteria by looking at differences in their DNA.” This detail, which provides information about *how* the microbiologists categorized the bacteria, supports the earlier claim that the team succeeded at identifying—that is, recognizing and distinguishing—as many as 3 million different species of bacteria.

Choice A is incorrect because saying that the team was able to “repair,” or fix, 3 million species of bacteria wouldn’t make sense in context. The text describes the team studying and classifying bacteria, not fixing them. *Choice B* is incorrect because saying that the team was able to “build,” or construct, 3 million species of bacteria wouldn’t make sense in context. The team discovered and classified existing bacteria; they didn’t create new species. *Choice C* is incorrect because saying that the team was able to “command,” or direct or control, 3 million species of bacteria wouldn’t make sense in context. The text describes scientific observation and classification, not an effort to direct bacteria for some purpose.

QUESTION 2

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of why people prefer human-created art over AI-generated art. In this context, “value” means to consider important or hold in high regard. The text presents a hypothesis explaining why people prefer human-created art: people appreciate art more when they believe more work went into its creation. This supports the idea that people value the effort behind a piece of art—that is, they regard the artist’s effort as important when determining their appreciation of an artwork.

Choice A is incorrect because saying that people “prevent,” or stop, the effort behind a piece of art wouldn’t make sense in context. The text is discussing how people’s perception of effort affects their appreciation of art, not how people stop effort from occurring. *Choice B* is incorrect because saying that people “neglect,” or fail to give proper attention to, the effort behind a piece of art wouldn’t make sense in context. The text indicates that people do pay attention to effort—in fact, their appreciation of art increases when they believe more work went into it. *Choice C* is incorrect because saying that people “perform,” or carry out, the effort behind a piece of art wouldn’t make sense in context. The text is discussing how people perceive the effort that went into creating art, not how they themselves carry out that effort.

QUESTION 3

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of a particular hypothesis about kangaroo extinction. In this context, “revise” means to reconsider and alter based on new information. The text indicates that paleontologists had a hypothesis linking a “shift toward an arid climate” to the extinction of several species of kangaroos, but “new evidence” shows that the shift “occurred well before” the extinction. This context supports the idea that the new evidence is forcing paleontologists to revise—that is, reconsider and modify—their original hypothesis.

Choice A is incorrect because saying that paleontologists are forced to “recollect,” or remember, the hypothesis wouldn’t make sense in context. The text indicates that new evidence contradicts the hypothesis, which would require the paleontologists to reconsider rather than simply remember their earlier hypothesis. *Choice B* is incorrect because saying that paleontologists are forced to “introduce,” or present for the first time, the hypothesis would contradict the text. The phrase “some paleontologists thought” indicates the hypothesis was already being entertained by paleontologists, so it wouldn’t need to be introduced. *Choice D* is incorrect because saying that paleontologists are forced to “interpret,” or explain the meaning of, the hypothesis wouldn’t capture the effect of the new evidence. The text indicates that the evidence contradicts the hypothesis, which means the hypothesis needs to be revised or modified, not merely explained.

QUESTION 4

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of cicada emergences in 2024. In this context, “a convergence” means a coming together or co-occurrence. The text indicates that in 2024, the emergences of two different cicada broods “coincided,” or occurred at the same time, in the Midwest and Southeast United States, leading to an unusually large number (a trillion) of cicadas emerging across sixteen states that year.

Choice B is incorrect because describing the event as “a division,” or a separation into parts, would contradict the text. The text describes two different broods emerging at the same time, not diverging in terms of their emergences. *Choice C* is incorrect because describing the event as “a succession,” or a sequence of

things or events, wouldn't accurately describe what the text depicts. The text indicates that the emergences happened at the same time ("coincided"), not one after another. *Choice D* is incorrect because describing the event as "an expiration," or end point, wouldn't make sense in context. The text describes the simultaneous emergence of two cicada broods; this is the result of a rare overlap in the cicadas' life cycles and does not point to the conclusion of anything.

QUESTION 5

Choice B is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of how ancient Greek and Roman sculptures depicted human subjects. "Unflattering" means unappealing or less than ideal. The text establishes a contrast, signaled by the phrase "but in fact," between the common characterization of Greco-Roman sculpture as idealizing human subjects and the reality that many such sculptures depict people in highly unglamorous ways. Since idealizing involves enhancing a subject's good qualities, the logical contrast would be to depict them in an unflattering, or unfavorable, light.

Choice A is incorrect because "implausible" means not believable or unlikely to be true. While the text does establish a contrast with the idea that Greco-Roman sculptures idealize human subjects, the established contrast concerns how subjects are presented aesthetically, not whether the depictions are believable. *Choice C* is incorrect because "superficial" means lacking depth, substance, or seriousness. The text contrasts the characterization of Greco-Roman sculpture as idealizing human subjects with the acknowledgment that many such sculptures depict humans in a different way. This contrast is about whether humans are presented in a flattering light, not about whether the sculptures have depth or meaning. *Choice D* is incorrect because "imprecise" means lacking accuracy, exactness, or attention to detail. The text contrasts the characterization of Greco-Roman sculpture as idealizing human subjects with the observation that many sculptures highlight subjects' imperfections. This contrast addresses the artistic choice of how to portray subjects—in an idealizing versus an uncomplimentary manner—not the technical execution of the sculpture.

QUESTION 6

Choice C is the best answer because it states the main purpose of the text. In their exchange, Andrew and Robert present contrasting descriptions of one another. Andrew characterizes Robert as disliking farmwork and not having it in his "nature," or character. Robert agrees with this description of himself and, in turn, characterizes Andrew as "wedded to the soil" and a "product" of it—that is, devoted to the land and shaped by farmwork as a way of life. Andrew also characterizes Robert as more strongly identified with their farming family ("a Mayo through and through") and especially with their father, whose "life-work" is the farm. Thus, the main purpose of the text is to emphasize a difference between the two characters—namely, a difference in how they relate to the family farm.

Choice A is incorrect because no mystery is presented or solved in the dialogue between the two brothers; instead, they explore their contrasting feelings about the family farm. *Choice B* is incorrect because in the dialogue, the two brothers

discuss the family farm, not a vacation destination; indeed, they mention no other location besides the farm. *Choice D* is incorrect because in the dialogue, the two brothers never mention any goals they may share; instead, they focus exclusively on the difference in their respective feelings about the farm.

QUESTION 7

Choice D is the best answer because it most accurately states the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole. The text first establishes that there is a copy of *The Great Gatsby* with notes made by Sylvia Plath and that “Plath marked favorite passages and wrote down some of her thoughts.” The underlined sentence then provides a specific example of one such note: next to a description of a character’s feelings, Plath wrote the French phrase “L’Ennui.” Thus, the underlined sentence gives an example of one of Plath’s notes in the margins of *The Great Gatsby*.

Choice A is incorrect because nothing in the underlined sentence or in the text as a whole explains why Plath decided to become a poet; rather, the text describes her notes in a copy of *The Great Gatsby* and mentions a poem she later wrote. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text indicates Plath wrote the poem “Ennui” after reading *The Great Gatsby*, not before. *Choice C* is incorrect because, as the text explains, the phrase “L’Ennui” refers not to excitement but to “weariness and boredom.” So even if Plath may have found Fitzgerald’s writing exciting, the underlined sentence doesn’t indicate that.

QUESTION 8

Choice A is the best answer because it presents a statement about many new albums that the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with. The author of Text 1 begins by explaining that in the past when music albums were recorded on physical formats like records, musicians and music producers were limited in how many minutes of music they could include on an album. The text goes on to state that the amount of music artists can include on an album is no longer limited by physical formats. Text 1 then concludes by stating that this allows today’s artists to make longer albums than artists in the past could. Similarly, the author of Text 2 notes that streaming services “remove the limitations of physical formats.” Text 2 then argues that this explains why many new albums that were created for streaming services are longer than albums made for physical formats. Because both authors come to similar conclusions about how changes to album formats have affected album length over time, they would most likely agree with the statement that many new albums are longer than albums generally used to be.

Choice B is incorrect because neither text mentions anything about the loudness of albums. Both texts focus on album length and the constraints imposed by physical formats, not on album volume. *Choice C* is incorrect because neither text discusses artwork associated with albums. Rather, both texts address changes in album length resulting from the shift away from physical formats. *Choice D* is incorrect because neither text makes any claims about album sales. The author of Text 1 discusses how physical formats affected album length, and the author of

Text 2 discusses how music streaming services have affected album length and focus, but neither author addresses whether album sales have increased or decreased over time.

QUESTION 9

Choice C is the best answer because it presents a statement about He and colleagues' conclusion that is supported by the text. The text indicates that He and colleagues studied how a small change to a food-delivery phone app—making the default choice for each order “no cutlery”—affects how frequently customers request plastic cutlery. The text then says that the researchers' results led them to conclude that “small changes to the app could reduce plastic waste in China” by up to 3.26 million metric tons per year. In other words, the researchers concluded that small changes to how a food-delivery app works can greatly lower plastic waste.

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn't discuss the popularity of food-delivery apps, nor does it discuss apps that prevent customers from requesting cutlery. Although the app that was studied can be adjusted so that “no cutlery” is the default option, the text implies that customers using the app can still request cutlery. *Choice B* is incorrect. Although the text discusses an environmentally friendly change to a food-delivery app, this reflects a choice made by researchers, not by consumers. In addition, the text doesn't address customers' understanding of how food-delivery phone apps work. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text doesn't address whether plastic waste in China is projected to increase in the future. Instead, the text describes how plastic waste in China could be reduced by making a small change to a food-delivery phone app.

QUESTION 10

Choice A is the best answer because it presents a reason for the scientific value of simulants that is supported by the text. The text explains that scientists who will send exploration devices to Mars can use simulants (materials that simulate different surfaces of planets) to better understand “how well their devices will handle the surface” when they are actually operated on Mars. This suggests the scientists are trying out the devices on a simulation of Mars's surface before actually sending them to Mars. Thus, simulants are important because they allow scientists to test the ability of equipment to withstand some of the conditions it will encounter during a real mission.

Choice B is incorrect. Although the text indicates that simulants can include soil from Earth, it indicates that scientists are using the materials to better understand how equipment will handle conditions on Mars, not on Earth. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text makes no mention of chemical properties or of tracking changes in planetary soils over time; it focuses instead on how planetary soil physically affects equipment (for example, sand and dust on Mars clogging filters). *Choice D* is incorrect. The text explains that scientists use simulants to study aspects of Mars's surface and how equipment will operate on Mars, but it doesn't address comparing those aspects to aspects of Earth's surface.

QUESTION 11

Choice C is the best answer because it presents a statement about the artist's beliefs that is supported by the text. The speaker describes the artist's thoughts after completing the sculpture, stating that the artist "proudly thought" two things: "And surely this shall last!" and "Fixed in immortal marble is my fame!" These lines indicate that the artist believed his sculpture would endure over time ("this shall last") and that this permanence would in turn secure his lasting reputation (he asserts that his fame is "fixed in immortal marble"). In other words, the artist believed the sculpture would bring him enduring fame by withstanding time.

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn't indicate that the artist believed the sculpture would need repair. On the contrary, the artist believed the sculpture would "surely...last" and that his fame was "fixed in immortal marble," quotations that emphasize the work's permanence rather than its potential deterioration and restoration. **Choice B** is incorrect because the text doesn't indicate that the artist believes that his sculpture would be recognized as more beautiful than other images of Venus. The artist's thoughts focus on the permanence of the sculpture and his enduring fame, not on comparisons to other works. **Choice D** is incorrect because the text doesn't indicate that the artist believed the sculpture would be praised for its intricate details. Although the text mentions "the last touch of his chisel," the artist's statements emphasize the sculpture's permanence and his lasting fame, not its detailed craftsmanship.

QUESTION 12

Choice D is the best answer because it most accurately conveys the effect of omitting certain aspects of Alexander Hamilton's political beliefs from the musical. The text indicates that the musical depicts Hamilton as a "compelling and well-defined protagonist," but other aspects of Hamilton's life—such as his elitism and how he mistrusted others' democratic politics—were obscured, or left out. The text goes on to say that the musical's portrayal of Hamilton doesn't convey his ideological complexity. The fact that obscuring Hamilton's elitism and mistrust of democratic politics results in a "well-defined protagonist" who lacks complexity suggests that these aspects were omitted to create an unambiguous thematic presentation of Hamilton's life—one that presents him as simply a self-made success story rather than as the more complicated figure he really was.

Choice A is incorrect. Although the text points out that some important information about Hamilton's views has been left out of the musical, the text doesn't address whether Hamilton's contributions to US history have been overlooked more generally or suggest that the omissions from the musical were made in an attempt to highlight such an oversight. **Choice B** is incorrect because the text doesn't mention any prevailing historical consensus about Hamilton. Instead, the text indicates that the musical omitted certain aspects of Hamilton's views, not that it challenged established views about him. **Choice C** is incorrect. The text doesn't suggest that the musical's omissions were intended to encourage audiences to emulate Hamilton's politics. Rather, the text indicates that the omissions created a "compelling" protagonist, but it doesn't suggest the purpose was to promote Hamilton's political views, which the text says were partly omitted from the musical.

QUESTION 13

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a finding that, if true, would most directly support the underlined claim that the effect of product announcements fades quickly and companies therefore need to be careful in timing announcements and releases of new products. The text explains that announcing a new product before its release can increase consumer excitement, which can lead to more purchases. If, however, consumer surveys show low excitement for products that were announced long before their release, that would indicate that the excitement generated by an announcement diminishes over time, thereby supporting the claim that the effect fades quickly and timing of the announcement is therefore important.

Choice A is incorrect because a finding that consumers prefer new products over older products would have no bearing on the underlined claim. The underlined claim focuses on how the timing of product announcements and releases affects consumer excitement for new products; a finding about preferences for certain products wouldn't indicate anything about how the timing of product announcements affects these preferences. **Choice B** is incorrect. The existence of a link between the kinds of information companies provide about new products and purchase likelihood of those products wouldn't support the underlined claim. The underlined claim and the text as a whole focus on the link between consumer excitement and the timing of new product announcements, not on the link between the kinds of information contained in those announcements and purchase likelihood. **Choice C** is incorrect because a finding that consumers are more likely to buy from companies they already use would address brand loyalty, which is unrelated to the claim about the fading effect of new product announcements and the importance of timing those announcements well. This finding would reveal nothing about whether consumer excitement for new products diminishes over time.

QUESTION 14

Choice C is the best answer because it most effectively uses data from the graph to complete the statement that the degree to which spoilers increased enjoyment varied across stories. In the graph, "A Chess Problem" shows a relatively large difference between spoiled and unspoiled enjoyment ratings, with the spoiled rating at approximately 7 and the unspoiled rating at approximately 6, a difference of about 1 point. In contrast, "Owl Creek Bridge" shows a difference that is close to zero, with spoiled and unspoiled ratings both at approximately 5. This contrast between the two stories' ratings illustrates the variation in the degree of the spoiler effect on enjoyment ratings described in the text.

Choice A is incorrect because it does not effectively use data from the graph to complete the text's statement about variation in the degree to which spoilers increased readers' enjoyment of stories. In the graph, both "Blitzed" and "A Chess Problem" show relatively large differences between spoiled and unspoiled ratings (each close to a 1-point difference). Because the differences are comparable in size, these two stories' ratings do not clearly illustrate variation in the magnitude of the spoiler effect across stories. **Choice B** is incorrect because it does not

effectively use data from the graph to complete the text's statement about variation in the degree to which spoilers increased readers' enjoyment of stories. In the graph, "The Calm" and "Plumbing" show differences between spoiled and unspoiled ratings that are relatively similar (each a little under 1 point); these two stories' ratings therefore do not clearly illustrate variation in the magnitude of the spoiler effect across stories. *Choice D* is incorrect because it does not effectively use data from the graph to complete the text's statement about variation in the degree to which spoilers increased readers' enjoyment of stories. In the graph, both "Blitzed" and "Plumbing" show relatively large differences between spoiled and unspoiled ratings (each close to a 1-point difference). Because the differences are comparable in size, these two stories' ratings do not clearly illustrate variation in the magnitude of the spoiler effect across stories.

QUESTION 15

Choice C is the best answer because it best describes data from the table that support the conclusion that the mating environment hypothesis is not well supported by the researchers' observational data. The hypothesis predicts that plants adjust their sex allocation to compensate for reduced mating opportunities, which should increase the probability of successful pollination (that is, reproduction). The table shows that the proportion of male flowers changed substantially over the observation period. The proportion of male flowers was 0.45 on day 5, 0.50 on day 10, and 0.48 on day 15, and then it dropped to 0.13 on day 20 (meaning it had become overwhelmingly female biased by day 20). However, despite this dramatic shift in sex allocation, the estimated reproductive success rate of male flowers remained constant at 0.29 throughout the observation period. If the hypothesis were supported, the changes in sex allocation would be expected to affect reproductive success. However, the data show no such pattern, indicating that the hypothesis is not well supported.

Choice A is incorrect because a comparison of sex allocations over the course of the observational period doesn't address whether the described sex allocation patterns were associated with changes in reproductive success, which is what the mating environment hypothesis predicts. Moreover, while the table indicates that the proportion of male flowers on day 20 was 0.13 (meaning it was clearly female biased on that day), the table also indicates that the proportion of male flowers was 0.45 on day 5, 0.50 on day 10, and 0.48 on day 15—values that are all relatively close to an even split, with day 5 and day 15 being especially similar. A statement that sex allocation is "female biased" on days 5 and 20 and "largely evenly distributed" on days 10 and 15 therefore makes for an imprecise description of the data in the table. *Choice B* is incorrect because an observation about the relationship between the total number of open flowers and reproductive success doesn't address whether changes in sex allocation positively affect reproductive success, which is what the mating environment hypothesis predicts. *Choice D* is incorrect because it provides information that is largely irrelevant to the researchers' conclusion about the mating environment hypothesis. An observation about the timing of peaks in the total number of open flowers and in the proportion of male flowers doesn't address whether changes in sex allocation positively affect reproductive success, which is what the mating environment hypothesis predicts.

QUESTION 16

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of methods for removing microplastics from water. The text establishes that filtration is widely used but presents a problem: it is typically unable to capture very small microplastics. The text then describes a sound wave treatment system that can remove very small microplastics, including those 0.01 mm wide. Because the sound wave system successfully removes the very small microplastics that filtration can't capture, it may help solve the problem associated with filtration—namely, its inability to capture very small microplastics.

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn't compare the ability of filters and sound waves to remove large microplastics. The text states that filtration is often used to remove microplastics (less than 5 mm wide) but is typically unable to capture very small microplastics, implying that it can capture and remove larger ones, but the text doesn't suggest that filters are superior to sound waves for removing large microplastics. **Choice B** is incorrect. Although the text states that the sound wave system causes microplastic particles in water flowing through a metal tube to gather in different parts of the tube, which allows for clean and polluted water to exit through different outlets, this system is presented as an alternative to filtration. Tubes and outlets aren't explicitly characterized as components of filtration systems. **Choice D** is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that combining filtration with sound waves enhances efficiency. The text presents the sound wave system as an alternative approach that addresses a limitation of filtration, not as an approach that should be combined with filtration.

QUESTION 17

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the importance of bark water for lichens. The text establishes that lichens in the control simulation had access to all water sources, whereas lichens in the experimental simulation had access to all water sources except bark water. The text then states that the experimental simulation predicted that certain species of lichens would experience decreased survival during summer due to evaporative water loss. In contrast, the control simulation, which provided access to bark water, did not predict decreased survival for these lichen species. Taken together, these findings suggest that access to bark water helped these lichen species survive during summer despite the effects of evaporative water loss. In other words, access to bark water may help offset the effects of seasonal (summer) water loss for some lichen species.

Choice A is incorrect. Although the text identifies multiple sources of water for lichens, it doesn't provide information about the proportions or amounts of absorbed water that come from each source. The text therefore doesn't support the inference that most of the water lichens absorb is bark water. **Choice B** is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that only specialized lichen species can absorb bark water. The text indicates that within the control simulation, in which lichens had access to bark water, no species were found to experience a decrease in survival in the summer, whereas in the experimental simulation (in which bark water was excluded) certain species were predicted to experience a

decrease in survival in the summer. While these findings suggest that these lichen species benefit from absorbing bark water during dry seasons, they don't suggest that only some specialized species can absorb bark water. *Choice C* is incorrect because it reverses the relationship described in the text. The text indicates that the experimental simulation (in which bark water was excluded) predicted that some lichen species would experience decreased biomass production, meaning that access to bark water is associated with higher biomass production.

QUESTION 18

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verb forms within a sentence. A main clause requires a finite (tensed) verb to perform the action of the subject (in this case, "historians"), and this choice supplies the finite present tense verb "believe" to indicate what historians think.

Choice A is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The nonfinite to-infinitive "to have believed" doesn't supply the main clause with a finite verb. *Choice B* is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The nonfinite to-infinitive "to believe" doesn't supply the main clause with a finite verb. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The nonfinite participle "believing" doesn't supply the main clause with a finite verb.

QUESTION 19

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation use within a sentence. No punctuation is needed between the preposition "from" and its complement "the private collections of French aristocrats." The complement completes the meaning of the preposition in the phrase "confiscated from the private collections," and any punctuation between them results in an ungrammatical sentence.

Choice A is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the preposition and its complement. *Choice B* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the preposition and its complement. *Choice D* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the preposition and its complement.

QUESTION 20

Choice B is the best answer. The convention being tested is end-of-sentence punctuation and syntax. This choice correctly uses a period to punctuate a declarative sentence in which the linking verb "is" is followed by a fused relative clause ("what has earned him his enduring fame") that completes the sentence and makes a statement about what earned Machito his enduring fame.

Choice A is incorrect. The structure requires a clause that completes the declarative sentence that begins with "the fusion...is," not an interrogative clause that introduces a direct question, such as "what has his enduring fame earned him?" The word "what" functions not as a question word but as a fused relative pronoun (meaning "the thing that") to help explain what earned Machito his enduring fame. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a confusing and ungrammatical sentence that fails to complete the sentence with a logical

statement about what earned Machito his enduring fame. *Choice D* is incorrect. It's unconventional to use a question mark in this way to punctuate a declarative sentence that makes a statement, such as "However...fame." The word "what" functions not as a question word but as a fused relative pronoun (meaning "the thing that") to help explain what earned Machito his enduring fame.

QUESTION 21

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of punctuation within a sentence. This choice correctly uses a comma to mark the boundary between the introductory phrase ("In addition...crack") and the main clause ("mountain goats...cliffs").

Choice A is incorrect because it fails to mark the boundary between the introductory phrase ("In addition...crack") and the main clause ("mountain goats...cliffs") with appropriate punctuation. *Choice B* is incorrect. Including the conjunction "or" would illogically extend the series "groove or crack," making "mountain goats" appear to be another thing that hooves can dig into. Additionally, it fails to mark the boundary between the introductory phrase and the main clause with appropriate punctuation. *Choice D* is incorrect. Including the conjunction "or" would illogically extend the series "groove or crack," making "mountain goats" appear to be another thing that hooves can dig into.

QUESTION 22

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is end-of-sentence punctuation. This choice correctly uses a period to punctuate a declarative sentence that makes a statement about Leopold's perspective ("For...development").

Choice A is incorrect. The structure requires a declarative clause that makes a statement about Leopold's views, not an interrogative clause that asks a direct question, such as "what did he view as unnecessary development." *Choice B* is incorrect. The structure requires a declarative clause that makes a statement about Leopold's views, not an interrogative clause that asks a direct question, such as "what did he view as unnecessary development?" *Choice D* is incorrect. It's unconventional to use a question mark in this way to punctuate a declarative sentence that makes a statement.

QUESTION 23

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is pronoun-antecedent agreement. The plural pronoun "they" agrees in number with the plural antecedent "two oil landscape paintings," and clearly indicates that both paintings were displayed.

Choice B is incorrect because the singular pronoun "this" doesn't agree in number with the plural antecedent, which refers to two paintings. *Choice C* is incorrect because the singular pronoun "it" doesn't agree in number with the plural antecedent, which refers to two paintings. *Choice D* is incorrect because the indefinite pronoun "some" is vague in this context; it doesn't clearly indicate whether one painting or both paintings were displayed.

QUESTION 24

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is subject-modifier placement. This choice makes the noun phrase “these personas” the subject of the sentence and places it immediately after the modifying phrase “fictional yet realistic.” In doing so, this choice clearly establishes that the personas—and not another noun in the sentence—are being described as fictional yet realistic.

Choice B is incorrect because it results in a dangling modifier. The placement of the noun phrase “UX designers” immediately after the modifying phrase illogically suggests that the UX designers are fictional yet realistic. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a dangling modifier. The placement of the noun phrase “actual users” immediately after the modifying phrase illogically suggests that the users are fictional yet realistic. *Choice D* is incorrect because it results in a dangling modifier. The placement of the noun phrase “specific details” immediately after the modifying phrase illogically suggests that the specific details are fictional yet realistic.

QUESTION 25

Choice B is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of punctuation within a sentence. This choice correctly uses a comma to mark the boundary between the main clause (“It explores...century”) and the supplementary element (“revealing...US”) that provides additional information about the documentary.

Choice A is incorrect because it fails to mark the boundary between the main clause and the supplementary element with appropriate punctuation. Without a comma, “revealing” could be misread as a restrictive (essential) modifier of “century,” suggesting that the sentence is describing a specific type of century rather than introducing additional information about the documentary. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a rhetorically unacceptable sentence fragment beginning with “revealing.” *Choice D* is incorrect because a semicolon can’t be used in this way to join the main clause (“It explores...century”) and the supplementary element (“revealing...US”). A semicolon is conventionally used to join two main clauses, not a main clause and a supplementary phrase.

QUESTION 26

Choice B is the best answer. “To that end” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that A. Philip Randolph planned a large anti-segregation march—describes an action taken to achieve the goal stated in the previous sentence: to persuade President Roosevelt to ban racial segregation in the military.

Choice A is incorrect because “in some cases” illogically signals that the information about Randolph planning a march represents one of several possible scenarios related to the activists’ efforts. Instead, the march was a specific action taken to achieve the activists’ goal. *Choice C* is incorrect because “apart from that” illogically signals that the information about Randolph planning a march is separate from or in addition to the previous information about activists seeking to persuade the president. Instead, the march was an action taken to achieve the

activists' goal. *Choice D* is incorrect because "by comparison" illogically signals that the information about Randolph planning a march is being compared to the previous information about activists seeking to persuade the president. Instead, the march was an action taken to achieve the activists' goal.

QUESTION 27

Choice C is the best answer. "To be exact" logically signals that the information in this sentence—that echinoderms are classified as macrobenthic organisms—provides more specific, precise details elaborating on the previous general information about echinoderms being benthic organisms.

Choice A is incorrect because "as a result" illogically signals that the information about echinoderms being macrobenthic organisms is a consequence of the previous information about them being benthic organisms. Instead, the sentence provides more specific details about their classification. *Choice B* is incorrect because "in other words" illogically signals that the information about echinoderms being macrobenthic organisms is a paraphrase or restatement of the previous information about them being benthic organisms. Instead, the sentence provides more specific details about their classification. *Choice D* is incorrect because "by contrast" illogically signals that the information about echinoderms being macrobenthic organisms contrasts with the previous information about them being benthic organisms. Instead, the sentence provides more specific details about their classification.

QUESTION 28

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence describes the process of chroma keying, noting that it involves filming two videos and then using video editing software to replace the blue or green background of one video with the desired background of the other.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence explains why blue and green backgrounds are preferred; it doesn't describe the chroma keying process. *Choice C* is incorrect. The sentence defines chroma keying in general terms, noting only that it is "often used to replace the background in a video" without describing the process. *Choice D* is incorrect. The sentence notes that chroma keying can be used to "replace the background in a video"; it doesn't describe the process of chroma keying.

QUESTION 29

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between Macready and Keene, noting that both were actor-managers who managed theaters where they also performed.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence does emphasize a similarity between Macready and Keene, it misrepresents information from the notes: Keene managed Laura Keane's Theatre in New York, not the Covent Garden Theatre in London. *Choice B* is incorrect. The sentence doesn't emphasize a similarity between Macready and Keene; instead, it uses Keene as an example of an

actor-manager. *Choice C* is incorrect because the sentence emphasizes a difference between Macready and Keene (the locations of their theaters) rather than emphasizing a similarity between them.

QUESTION 30

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence explains Cummings and Knapp's contribution to Lullfitz's study, noting that they provided information about their ancestors transporting youlk plants, which supported Lullfitz's hypothesis about the plants.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that Cummings and Knapp assisted with Lullfitz's study, it doesn't explain what their specific contribution was. *Choice B* is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes; Cummings and Knapp confirmed Lullfitz's hypothesis about the plants' transportation, not her finding about the plants' DNA sequences. *Choice D* is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that Cummings and Knapp had information that was relevant to Lullfitz's study, it doesn't explain what that information was or how it contributed to her study.

QUESTION 31

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence specifies Percival Lowell's contributions to the discovery of Pluto, noting that he began the search in 1905 and left money to upgrade the observatory where Pluto was later discovered.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes; Clyde Tombaugh, not Lowell, recorded the first photographic evidence of Pluto in 1930. *Choice C* is incorrect. The sentence describes Tombaugh's contribution to the discovery of Pluto and merely mentions that it occurred at Lowell's observatory; it doesn't specify Lowell's contributions to the discovery. *Choice D* is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that Lowell was honored for his contributions, it doesn't specify what those contributions were.

QUESTION 32

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence makes a generalization about how word order is employed across languages, noting that the majority of languages place the subject before the verb and object (since 87% use SVO or SOV order).

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence defines the term "word order"; it doesn't make a generalization about how word order is employed across languages. *Choice B* is incorrect. The sentence describes how linguistic typologists use word order; it doesn't make a generalization about how word order is employed across languages. *Choice C* is incorrect. The sentence describes what linguistic typologists do; it doesn't make a generalization about how word order is employed across languages.

QUESTION 33

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between carbon nanotubes and graphite, noting that the graphene sheets in graphite are stacked, whereas the graphene sheets in carbon nanotubes form a cylinder.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes by describing graphite as cylindrical and by attributing the flat honeycomb pattern to nanotubes rather than to graphene sheets. *Choice B* is incorrect. The sentence doesn't emphasize a difference between nanotubes and graphite; while it states that there is a contrast between the two, it describes graphite only as "a carbon allotrope composed of graphene sheets," which is also true of carbon nanotubes.

Choice C is incorrect because, in mentioning only that graphite and carbon nanotubes are "composed of stacked or wrapped graphene sheets," the sentence doesn't emphasize the difference between the two structural forms (graphite is stacked, while carbon nanotubes are wrapped).