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

In Peru, young Quechua and Aymara artists are _____ a new music genre. Two Indigenous artists creating this new sound are Cay Sur and Renata Flores, who rap in the Quechua language and blend hip-hop rhythms with traditional Andean instruments and themes.

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

A) developing
B) repeating
C) correcting
D) remembering

2

Building additional road capacity may seem like an obvious solution to traffic congestion, but numerous studies have cast doubt on the _____ of that approach. Not only does additional road capacity often fail to relieve congestion, but it can also make traffic worse by encouraging more people to drive.

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

A) aesthetics
B) popularity
C) efficacy
D) originality

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

3

In some of his sculptures, Allan Houser uses abstract geometric shapes to depict his subjects rather than portraying them in realistic detail. For instance, his 1989 work *Embrace* is highly abstract and therefore differs strikingly from some of his other pieces in which the viewer can easily _____ familiar objects.

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

A) reveal
B) remember
C) ignore
D) identify

4

Native Hawaiian fiber artist Marques Hanalei Marzan creates art using the techniques of lauhala weaving. Lauhala weaving is a traditional Hawaiian art form that uses leaves of the hala tree. Often, Marzan doesn't have a specific _____ what the final product will look like when he starts a new piece. Instead, he makes up his designs as he weaves, allowing inspiration to take him in unexpected directions.

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

A) intention for
B) acceptance of
C) admiration for
D) imitation of

5

Geomagnetic storms can disturb Earth's ionosphere, causing the models underlying the Global Positioning System (GPS) to produce inaccurate calculations. This illustrates the effect that space weather events can have on the _____ of GPS and other systems that are dependent on satellite navigation.

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

A) extent
B) complexity
C) reliability
D) significance

6

Saturn is the first planet in our solar system to be discovered to have more than 100 moons orbiting around it. A team of astronomers using the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT) in Hawaii detected 62 undiscovered moons that were previously too small or too dim to see. Saturn now outranks Jupiter as the planet in our solar system with the most observed moons.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To explain how the CFHT works
B) To note a new finding about the number of Saturn's moons
C) To discuss the history of Hawaii
D) To describe the atmospheric conditions of Jupiter

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

7

The following text is adapted from Susan Glaspell's 1917 play *The People*. Oscar, a writer at a newspaper called *The People*, is writing at a table when a woman enters the office to speak to the editor.

THE WOMAN: This *is* the office of *The People*?

OSCAR: Um-hum.

THE WOMAN: (*Excitedly.*) I came to see the author of those wonderful words.

OSCAR: (*Rising.*) Which wonderful words?

THE WOMAN: About moving toward the beautiful distances.

OSCAR: (*Loses interest and returns to his writing.*) Oh. Those are Mr. Wills' wonderful words.

THE WOMAN: Could I see him?

OSCAR: He isn't here yet. He's just back from California. Won't be at the office till a little later.

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

A) To show Oscar's brief hope that the woman is fond of his writing
B) To indicate that Oscar had been expecting the woman to come to the office
C) To suggest that Oscar is annoyed that the woman's visit has interrupted his work
D) To depict Oscar as a polite and professional representative of the newspaper

8

Researchers examining data from the New Horizons space probe, which passed Pluto in 2015, were puzzled by a 27-mile-long crater on Pluto's icy surface. Although Pluto is mostly covered in frozen methane and nitrogen, the surface near the crater seemed to show the presence of water ice and ammonia—both of which are associated with eruptions from ice volcanoes. Additionally, the shape and appearance of the crater did not suggest that it was formed by impact. Based on this evidence, scientist Dale Cruikshank and his team hypothesized that the crater was likely once a massive ice volcano.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

A) It identifies a misconception that the researchers had about the crater when they were first studying the data.
B) It introduces previous findings that suggested a research method for Cruikshank and his team.
C) It implies that the research team eliminated an alternative explanation for the crater based on available evidence.
D) It emphasizes the importance of the New Horizons space probe to researchers.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

9

Text 1
Customers, whether due to brand loyalty or convenience, may be uninterested in searching for less expensive options when repeating a purchase. This tendency, known as consumer inertia, can be advantageous to companies. Setting low initial prices (in the form of an introductory offer, for example) to attract customers and then raising those prices once consumer inertia is likely to have set in can be a successful strategy for increasing revenue.

Text 2
A research team from the University of Chicago claims that introductory offers for subscription-based services like newspapers can backfire if the initial reduced pricing is followed by an automatic renewal of the service at a higher price. They found that pricing strategies that capitalize on consumer inertia by locking customers into a recurring membership may result in fewer subscribers than introductory offers ending with a cancellation of the service.

Which choice best describes a difference in how the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 view consumer inertia?

A) The author of Text 1 asserts that introductory offers are most effective at eliciting consumer inertia, whereas the author of Text 2 concludes that automatic renewal services are more likely to cultivate consumer inertia.

B) The author of Text 1 proposes that consumer inertia can be found in the behaviors of all types of consumers, whereas the author of Text 2 claims that consumer inertia is only present in some product markets.

C) The author of Text 1 emphasizes that business strategies that take advantage of consumer inertia may be beneficial to companies, whereas the author of Text 2 warns against a particular method of exploiting consumer inertia.

D) The author of Text 1 argues that brand loyalty is the primary source of consumer inertia, whereas the author of Text 2 demonstrates that the causes of consumer inertia are likely too complex to be identifiable.

10

The following text is from a translation of María Dueñas's 2009 novel *The Time in Between*. The narrator has just rented an apartment and is entering it for the first time.

> Over the years there have been many times when my destiny has delivered me unexpected moments, unforeseen twists and turns that I've had to handle on the fly as they appeared. Occasionally I was ready for them; very often I wasn't. Never, however, was I so aware of entering a new stage as I was that afternoon in October when I finally dared to cross the threshold and my steps sounded hollowly in the unfurnished apartment. Behind me was a complicated past, and in front of me, like an omen, I could see a space opening out, a great empty space that time would take care of filling up.

©2009 by María Dueñas. Translation ©2011 by Daniel Hahn.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) The narrator feels optimistic about the future success of a new business.

B) The narrator has always had a plan for how to handle big moments in her life.

C) The narrator recognizes that a particular moment marks a major shift in her life.

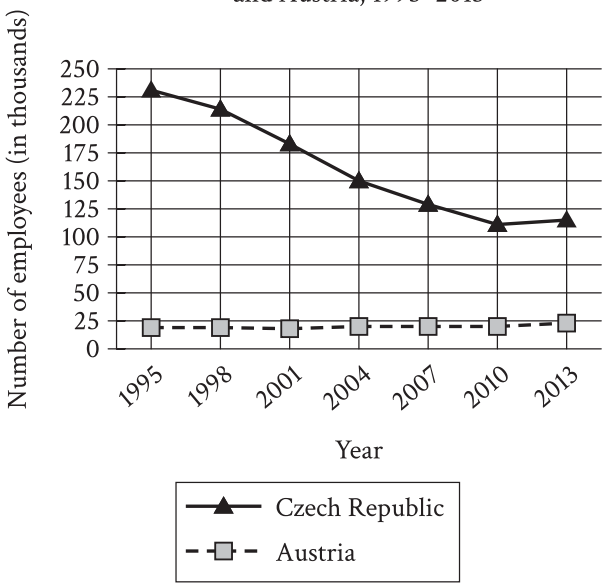
D) The narrator wants to express her gratitude for the people who have helped her.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

11

Employment in Agriculture, Hunting, and Forestry in the Czech Republic and Austria, 1995–2013



A student is using the graph for a class presentation on historic employment trends in the agriculture, hunting, and forestry sectors in two European countries. The student notes that from 1995 to 2007 _____

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

A) the number of employees working in these sectors decreased in the Czech Republic while remaining relatively steady in Austria.

B) the number of employees working in these sectors increased in the Czech Republic.

C) the majority of employees in Austria were working in these sectors.

D) employment in these sectors remained stable in both Austria and the Czech Republic.

12

Known as the "mother of modern weaving," Dorothy Liebes was an influential designer and textile weaver of the mid-twentieth century. Some people have claimed that Liebes's use of bold colors, textured fabrics, and metallic threads resulted in some of the most influential designs of the time.

Which quotation from a biography of Liebes would best illustrate the underlined claim?

A) "Liebes started her career by making handwoven textiles. She later partnered with a cloth manufacturer and used power looms to adapt her handwoven styles for mass production at lower costs."

B) "After working as an art teacher for many years, Liebes opened a design studio in California. The studio was so successful that she eventually opened a second studio in New York."

C) "In addition to selling her fabrics, Liebes worked on many textile collaborations with architects, fashion designers, and film producers."

D) "Liebes was known for unexpected color and fabric combinations that resulted in designs so striking and sought-after that they became known as the 'Liebes Look.'"

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

13

"The Selfish Giant" is an 1888 short story by Oscar Wilde. In the story, a group of children play in a local garden after school. The children appreciate the garden because it allows them to experience nature.

Which quotation from "The Selfish Giant" most effectively illustrates the underlined claim?

A) "'My own garden is my own garden,' said the Giant; 'any one can understand that, and I will allow nobody to play in it but myself.' So he built a high wall all round it, and put up a notice-board."

B) "The birds sat on the trees and sang so sweetly that the children used to stop their games in order to listen to them. 'How happy we are here!' they cried to each other."

C) "The poor children had now nowhere to play. They tried to play on the road, but the road was very dusty and full of hard stones, and they did not like it."

D) "Then the Spring came, and all over the country there were little blossoms and little birds. Only in the garden of the Selfish Giant it was still winter."

14

To help combat the growing rate of microplastic pollution, a team of researchers developed a synthetic sponge that can soak up microplastic particles from liquid. The sponge, composed mainly of starch and gelatin, does this by trapping the tiny particles within its pores. Guoqing Wang, one of the researchers, says that the formula for the sponge can be adjusted to best suit the size of particle the sponge is intended to trap, making it versatile in its potential applications. Chemist Christian Adlhart, however, claims that this sponge would be difficult to mass-produce.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Adlhart's claim?

A) Textiles are one of the largest sources of microplastic pollution in our oceans.

B) The sponge created by Wang and his team has a relatively light weight for its volume, making it potentially easy to ship to different locations.

C) The absorption capabilities of the sponge created by Wang and his team varied depending on the liquid solution used in the team's experiments.

D) The worldwide supply of starch and gelatin is in high demand from the food industry, so those substances would be difficult to source in significant quantities.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

15

Average Monetized Productivity Loss at Two Points After Programs Began, in Australian Dollars

Type of training	12 weeks	12 months
EET	268	171
EHP	282	436

Michelle Pereira et al. hypothesized that introducing health improvements into workplaces would increase productivity by reducing absenteeism (sick employees not working) and presenteeism (sick workers working less productively due to illness). Pereira's team enrolled groups of Australian workers in two programs: one that gave employees exercise training (EET) and one that enrolled employees in health promotion seminars (EHP). They then calculated the productivity loss of those groups at 12 weeks and 12 months after the programs began (based on the 28 days preceding each point). They concluded that exercise training was more effective at restraining productivity loss than health promotion seminars were, though this result took time to become apparent.

Which choice best describes data from the table that most effectively strengthen Pereira and colleagues' conclusion?

A) Productivity loss was largely due to absenteeism for the EHP group at 12 months after the program began, while productivity loss was largely due to presenteeism for the EET group at 12 months after the program began.

B) Productivity loss was consistently higher for the EHP group than for the EET group over the twelve months that it was measured, though the size of the difference between the two decreased over that time.

C) Productivity loss for the EET group barely decreased between 12 weeks and 12 months after the program began, while productivity loss for the EHP group significantly increased during the same time period.

D) Productivity loss was fairly similar for the EET and EHP groups 12 weeks after each program began, but at 12 months afterward it had significantly increased for the EHP group and significantly decreased for the EET group.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

16

Organic Compounds Detected in Sequential Extracts from A0106

Solvent (sequence #)	Alkanes	Dimethyl sulfides	Naphthalene
Hexane (1)	present	absent	absent
Dichloromethane only (2)	present	absent	present
Methanol only (3)	absent	present	present
Dichloromethane and methanol (4)	present	absent	present

After sample A0106 was retrieved from the asteroid Ryugu, a portion of it was subjected to an extraction protocol in which small amounts of pulverized material were rinsed, sequentially, with hexane, dichloromethane, methanol, and finally a mixture of dichloromethane and methanol. Each rinse created a separate extract suitable for spectral analysis. Based on the table, both alkane and dimethyl sulfide compounds must have been present in the pulverized sample before the methanol-only extraction, because _____

Which choice uses data from the table to effectively complete the text?

A) the second extract in the sequence contains alkanes but no dimethyl sulfides.

B) the fourth extract in the sequence contains alkanes but no dimethyl sulfides.

C) the third extract in the sequence contains dimethyl sulfides and the fourth contains alkanes.

D) three of the four extracts contain alkanes but only one of the four contains dimethyl sulfides.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

17

Electricity Capacity Trends (in megawatts) for Four Renewable Technologies in Indonesia (2017–2020)

Energy	2017	2018	2019	2020
Geothermal	1,808	1,948	2,131	2,131
Renewable hydropower	5,703	5,773	5,976	6,141
Solar	97.4	65.5	155	185.3
Wind	1.5	143.5	154.3	154.3

Indonesia is trying to increase its electricity capacity (the maximum amount of electricity that can be generated) for renewable energy in order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, which can be costly financially and environmentally. From 2017 to 2020, Indonesia's use of four renewable technologies has trended upward, but not uniformly: the electricity capacity of solar power fell from 97.4 megawatts in 2017 to 65.5 megawatts in 2018, and the electricity capacity of _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the assertion?

A) both wind and solar never surpassed that of renewable hydropower throughout the four-year period.
B) both geothermal and wind neither increased nor decreased from 2019 to 2020.
C) renewable hydropower was much higher than that of solar for all four years.
D) wind was much lower in 2017 than it was in 2018, 2019, or 2020.

18

Coffee farming around the world has changed greatly over time. Originally, coffee plants grew in the shade of tropical forests. Today coffee is often grown without shade cover. This is because full-sun coffee farms can produce more coffee beans. But the lack of trees on such farms means a lack of spaces for many species of birds to roost. Therefore, compared with full-sun coffee farms, shaded farms tend to _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) have better soil quality.
B) be home to a more diverse range of birds.
C) have fewer problems with insects and other pests.
D) experience generally milder weather conditions.

19

Shirley "Cha Cha" Muldowney is famous in the world of automotive sports. She was the first person to win the Top Fuel championship, the most prestigious title in drag racing, three _____ in a row.

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

A) times:
B) times
C) times;
D) times,

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

20

Kwesi Joseph is an urban garden specialist in New York City. Working with local communities and schools, Joseph uses his expertise to help people _____ healthier gardens.

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

A) grow
B) grow,
C) grow;
D) grow:

21

Most people are familiar with the song "Happy Birthday" because _____ Few, however, may know the song's origin. The tune began as "Good Morning to All," a song written by sisters Mildred and Patty Hill in the early 1890s.

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

A) it is the most frequently sung song in the English language?
B) it is the most frequently sung song in the English language.
C) is it the most frequently sung song in the English language?
D) is it the most frequently sung song in the English language.

22

Pavlova, a cream-topped dessert cake with a marshmallow center, is a source of controversy. Sweet tooths around the world agree pavlova is delicious, so why _____ The answer is that two countries—New Zealand and Australia—both claim to be pavlova's country of origin.

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

A) it is considered controversial?
B) is it considered controversial.
C) it is considered controversial.
D) is it considered controversial?

23

The Okavango Delta is a vital water source and hub for biodiversity in southern Africa. Koketso Mookodi, a director of the National Geographic Okavango Wilderness Project (NGOWP) in Botswana, helps educate the public about _____ important place.

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

A) those
B) both
C) these
D) this

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

24

Contrasting a high saturation color palette against dark paper and stoneware, Atlanta-based artist Jiha Moon creates fused pieces, wherein Korean folk art, Western contemporary art, and global popular culture mix. New York's Derek Eller Gallery _____ her work in a solo exhibition that ran in early 2022.

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

A) will feature
B) features
C) featured
D) has been featured

25

When _____ founded in 1846, the small town of Elkader, Iowa, was named after the Emir Abdelkader. The town's residents wished to honor Abdelkader, a famous Algerian resistance fighter and human rights advocate who fought against the French colonial rule of Algiers.

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

A) he was
B) they were
C) it was
D) these were

26

The International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) is one of many sports organizations that collect and analyze data on player performance. Coaches in the IWBF _____ these data to help them develop game strategies that have a high probability of success.

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

A) use
B) uses
C) is using
D) has used

27

When languages are no longer spoken, they are considered extinct. _____ the Umbrian language went extinct around the first century BCE, though it was once widely spoken in parts of central Italy.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Admittedly,
B) Therefore,
C) For example,
D) In conclusion,

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

28

Using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) technology, Tulane University archaeologists scanned and mapped the ancient Maya city of Tikal, which lies deep in the Guatemalan rainforest. Some of Tikal's old stones are intertwined with the roots of surrounding trees, rendering parts of the complex physically inaccessible to researchers. _____ the LiDAR's penetrating light waves were the only way to reveal some previously unknown aspects of the Maya city.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Afterward,
B) Similarly,
C) Specifically,
D) Hence,

29

According to the free electron model, metals, such as copper and silver, do not maintain bonds by sharing and exchanging electrons. _____ metals are held together by a system of valence electrons that travel freely, interacting with the ions but not with each other. This framework for understanding the subatomic relationships within metals can be used to help explain heat and electrical conductivity.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Likewise,
B) Accordingly,
C) Rather,
D) For example,

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

30

In the early 1900s, sculptor and collector Gertrude Whitney was one of the foremost champions of avant-garde art, helping many US avant-garde artists gain publicity and exposure. _____ Whitney offered to donate more than 500 avant-garde works to be displayed at a leading New York museum, but the museum said no—so she opened her own, the Whitney Museum of American Art.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) In other words,
B) In contrast,
C) Granted,
D) To this end,

31

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

- In 2010, several enormous whale bones were found in a desert in Peru.
- A team led by Dr. Mario Urbina reconstructed the skeleton and named the whale "Perucetus."
- Urbina's team estimated that Perucetus had weighed 200 tons.
- In 2024, Dr. Nicholas Pyenson analyzed Urbina's team's estimate and claimed that it didn't "make any sense."
- Pyenson estimated that Perucetus had weighed 60 to 70 tons.

The student wants to contrast the two estimates of Perucetus's weight. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) In 2024, Pyenson claimed that Urbina's team's 2010 estimate—that Perucetus weighed only 60 to 70 tons—didn't "make any sense."
B) Pyenson estimated that Perucetus had weighed 60 to 70 tons, much less than Urbina's team's original estimate of 200 tons.
C) In 2010 and 2024, Perucetus's weight was estimated based on the whale's bones.
D) Enormous whale bones found in a desert in Peru in 2010 were later estimated to weigh 200 tons.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

CONTINUE

32

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

- Soap forms as the result of a chemical reaction between fats and either sodium or potassium hydroxide.
- One end of a soap molecule is hydrophobic (water repelling), and one end is hydrophilic (water attracting).
- The hydrophobic ends of soap molecules adhere to hydrophobic surface contaminants, such as dirt and oils.
- The soap molecules form circular structures (micelles) around contaminants.
- The hydrophilic ends of the molecules encase the micelles in water, lifting the micelles and contaminants off surfaces.

The student wants to explain how soap removes a surface contaminant. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Dirt, an example of a hydrophobic surface contaminant, can be removed from a surface by soap, which forms as the result of a chemical reaction between fats and either sodium or potassium hydroxide.

B) Micelles are circular structures created when soap molecules attach themselves to dirt or oils.

C) To remove dirt from a surface, soap molecules form a circular structure, or micelle, around the contaminant; next, the molecules encase the micelle in water, lifting it—and the dirt—off the surface.

D) Surface contaminants like dirt and oils are hydrophobic, not hydrophilic—meaning they repel water rather than attract it.

33

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

- Kumiko is a Japanese woodworking technique in which thin strips of wood are interlaced to create latticed panels that incorporate intricate patterns.
- These wooden strips are fit together without the use of nails or other fasteners.
- Many of the geometric patterns used in kumiko designs are inspired by elements from nature.
- The overlapping hexagons of the kikko pattern resemble a tortoise's shell.
- The curved fan shapes of the seigaiha pattern resemble ocean waves.

The student wants to make and support a claim about the inspiration for kumiko patterns. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Often resembling elements from nature, kumiko patterns are formed by fitting thin strips of wood together without the use of nails.

B) Like the seigaiha pattern's curved fan shapes, which resemble ocean waves, many of the geometric patterns used in kumiko designs are inspired by elements from nature.

C) The tortoiseshell-like overlapping hexagons of the kikko pattern are inspired by wooden strips from nature.

D) The kumiko woodworking technique is used to create latticed panels with geometric designs, like overlapping hexagons, out of thin strips of wood.

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.

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.