

Reading and Writing

Module 2

(33 questions)

QUESTION 1

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the writing system created by Sequoyah. In this context, "widespread" means widely accepted or practiced. The text indicates that because Sequoyah's script accurately represented the spoken sounds of the Cherokee language and was easy to learn, nearly all Cherokee people were able to read and write it soon after it was created. This context demonstrates that the script was widely used by the Cherokee people.

Choice B is incorrect. In this context, "careful" would mean exercised with care and attentive concern. Although the work of creating a writing system likely involved great care, the text indicates that the system was "easy to learn," which conflicts with the idea that using this system requires a noteworthy amount of care. *Choice C* is incorrect because in this context "unintended" means not deliberate. The idea that using Sequoyah's script was unintentional conflicts directly with the claim that it was easy to learn and used by "over 90% of the Cherokee people" by 1830. In fact, because one had to learn this system, it's not clear how one could use it unintentionally. *Choice D* is incorrect because in this context "infrequent" means rare or not occurring often, which conflicts directly with the claim that "over 90% of the Cherokee people" were using Sequoyah's script by 1830.

QUESTION 2

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of diaphragm contractions and hiccups. In this context, "involuntarily" means done without any control, or by reflex. The text explains that when a person's diaphragm contracts and results in hiccups (which may be important for infants), those muscle contractions are "uncontrollable." This context indicates that the diaphragm contractions occur without the person's control.

Choice B is incorrect because the text indicates that researchers haven't determined exactly why people hiccup, suggesting that it isn't known that the uncontrollable muscle contractions generally occur "beneficially," or with a good or helpful effect—even if one neuroscientist has found that it's possible hiccups play an important positive role for a specific group of people (infants). *Choice C* is incorrect because the text describes the diaphragm contractions that result in hiccups as "uncontrollable," or happening without the person's control, so it wouldn't make sense to describe them as occurring "strenuously," or in a way that requires great effort or energy. *Choice D* is incorrect because nothing in the text indicates that the diaphragm contractions resulting in hiccups occur "smoothly," or evenly and continuously. The text doesn't describe the quality of the muscle contractions beyond stating that they are "uncontrollable."

QUESTION 3

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the location of the province of Xoconochco within the Aztec Empire. As used in this context, "peripheral" means situated toward the outer bounds rather than the center. The text indicates that Xoconochco was located on a coast, hundreds of kilometers away from the capital of the Aztec Empire. The text also states that trade between the province and the capital required "a long overland journey." This context suggests that Xoconochco was situated toward an edge of the empire's territory rather than near its center.

Choice A is incorrect because it wouldn't make sense in context to refer to Xoconochco's location within the Aztec Empire as "unobtrusive," or not blatant or undesirably prominent; it's not clear how a province's physical location would or wouldn't be blatant. Instead of focusing on how noticeable Xoconochco's location was, the text emphasizes the province's distance from the capital of the empire, pointing out that because of this distance trade between the two required "a long overland journey." *Choice B* is incorrect because the text indicates that the province of Xoconochco was located on a coast far from the capital of the Aztec Empire, not that it was "concealed," or kept out of sight or hidden from view. Nothing in the text suggests that Xoconochco was actually hidden such that people couldn't see it, and being hidden wouldn't necessarily result in trade between the province and the capital requiring "a long overland journey." *Choice C* is incorrect because to say that Xoconochco's location within the Aztec Empire was "approximate" would mean that the location either wasn't precisely correct or was close to some other location. Neither of these meanings would make sense in context because the text indicates that Xoconochco's location is known and that it was far from the empire's capital, so there's no reason to characterize the location as either not precisely correct or close to another location.

QUESTION 4

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the consequences of raising the age at which retirees begin receiving government funds. The text indicates that raising the age for these funds is usually discussed in terms of effects on fund recipients but that Andria Smythe is instead considering the effects on working family members who care

for retirees. Smythe notes that raising the age for the funds would increase the length of time retirees are dependent on financial assistance from working family members. This is suggested to have an effect on wealth creation for those workers, and most logically, that effect would be disadvantageous. Thus, “stymie,” which means to prevent or greatly hinder, is the most logical choice in context.

Choice B is incorrect because in this context, “compound” would most nearly mean multiply or greatly enhance. The text indicates that raising the age at which retirees are eligible for government funds will increase the amount of time retirees are dependent on working family members for financial support. This would likely have a negative rather than a positive effect on wealth creation. *Choice C* is incorrect because in this context, “disparage” would most nearly mean criticize or defame. Nothing in the text suggests that raising the age at which retirees are eligible for government funds would defame wealth creation among working adults. *Choice D* is incorrect because in this context, “outstrip” would most nearly mean to exceed, and nothing in the text indicates that the financial support provided to retirees would exceed the amount of wealth these workers can create. The text does suggest that workers providing funds to retirees works against those workers’ wealth accumulation, but not that the support to retirees exceeds the workers’ accumulated wealth.

QUESTION 5

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text’s discussion of political blogs. In this context, “sanguine” means optimistic. The text begins by noting the rise of political blogs with readily identifiable ideological alignments in the early 2000s. The text then indicates that some commentators saw this as a positive development, citing a reason why (their difference from traditional news). Finally, the text goes on to contrast those commentators with others who have a negative opinion of the rise of political blogs (because they increase political polarization among their readers). This context supports the idea that the second group of commentators is less positive than the first: thus, the second group of commentators is less optimistic, or sanguine.

Choice B is incorrect because it would not make sense in this context to describe those commentators who have a negative opinion of political blogs as less “recalcitrant,” or obstinately uncooperative, than those commentators who supported political blogs. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text gives no indication that those commentators who have a negative opinion of political blogs are less “misanthropic,” or less contemptuous of humankind, than those commentators who have a positive opinion of political blogs—there is no indication in the text that those commentators who like political blogs would be contemptuous of humankind at all. *Choice D* is incorrect because there is no evidence that those commentators who have a negative opinion of political blogs are less “earnest,” or sincere, than those who have a positive opinion of such blogs—presumably, both groups of commentators hold their beliefs with equal conviction.

QUESTION 6

Choice D is the best answer because it most accurately describes the overall purpose of the text. The text indicates that “for as long as he could remember,” Max had “begged” his father to take him to La Reina. This point is later emphasized in the text by indicating that “this summer” his father might “finally take” Max to visit La Reina. Thus, the purpose of the text as a whole is to show how much Max wants to visit La Reina.

Choice A is incorrect. The text does not discuss Papa’s feelings toward Max. Rather, it mentions that Max has long wanted Papa to take him to La Reina and that, unlike Max and some other children, Papa does not believe that La Reina is haunted. *Choice B* is incorrect. The text mentions that Max is “almost twelve” at the time, which suggests anticipation of growing up rather than refusal to. *Choice C* is incorrect. The text indicates that Max hopes to visit La Reina during the current summer, but nothing suggests that Max dislikes summer.

QUESTION 7

Choice B is the best answer because it most accurately states the main purpose of the text, which is to show that Henry’s mother, Mrs. Higgins, wants Henry to leave her house. In the text, Mrs. Higgins complains that Henry offends all her friends and that they stop coming when he’s also visiting. She then tells him directly, “you mustn’t stay.” The overall exchange conveys Mrs. Higgins’s intention for Henry to leave so as not to drive away her friends with his behavior.

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn’t indicate what Henry’s mother does when she’s out with her friends. Instead, it focuses on what goes on when Henry and her friends visit her at the same time, indicating that since her friends find Henry’s company disagreeable, she wishes him to leave before they arrive. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text doesn’t contain an account of what Henry’s home looks like. The setting is established as the house of Henry’s mother, and the dialogue focuses solely on her wish that Henry should depart before her friends arrive. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text doesn’t mention how often Henry visits his mother nor does it provide any explanation for why he visits his mother. Instead, it indicates that she thinks her friends dislike Henry and that she therefore wants him to depart before they arrive.

QUESTION 8

Choice B is the best answer because it most accurately describes how the underlined portion functions in the text as a whole. The text presents the speaker’s experience of viewing the sea. In the underlined portion, the speaker focuses on the idea that the waves hitting rocks on the shore are a relentless and enduring force: they are constantly pushed back (“ever repulsed”) but always return (“ever rushing on”), as though they have an energy that can’t be overcome (“a life that will not know defeat”).

Choice A is incorrect. Although the underlined portion characterizes the waves as a relentless force (always “repulsed” but still “rushing on” and never being defeated), the speaker doesn’t suggest that the surroundings are intimidating.

Instead, the speaker presents the scene in a positive way, describing the “deep delight” of the “gladsome,” or cheerful, waves and feeling “the heart / Leap joyous” while viewing the sea. *Choice C* is incorrect because the underlined portion doesn’t suggest that the speaker is ambivalent, or has mixed feelings about, the natural world. Instead, it presents a single view of one part of the immediate surroundings: the speaker characterizes the sea’s waves as an unstoppable force, since they are constantly pushed back but always return (“ever repulsed, yet ever rushing on”). *Choice D* is incorrect. Although the text later suggests the speaker’s view of her own thoughts by referring to a “clouded brain” and a heart that leaps joyously, this reference neither occurs within the underlined portion nor establishes a clear contrast with the relentless determination of the waves. The underlined portion addresses only the speaker’s view of the waves and doesn’t suggest what her own thoughts might be.

QUESTION 9

Choice D is the best answer because it most accurately states the main idea of the text. According to the text, conceptual artists Gins and Arakawa have designed an apartment building that is disorienting because of several unconventional elements, such as uneven kitchen counters and “a door to nowhere.” The text goes on to suggest that there may be benefits to this kind of design because filmmaker Yamaoka lived in the apartment building for four years and reported health benefits. Thus, although the design is impractical, it may improve the well-being of the apartment building’s residents.

Choice A is incorrect. Although the text mentions that Yamaoka lived in the apartment for four years, it doesn’t address how long someone can beneficially live in a home surrounded by fanciful features or whether doing so can be sustained. *Choice B* is incorrect. Although the text mentions the potential benefits of living in a home with disorienting design features, it doesn’t suggest that this is the most effective method to create a physically stimulating environment. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text refers to Yamaoka to support the claim that Gins and Arakawa’s apartment building design may be beneficial, but the text doesn’t indicate that Yamaoka supports the designs of other conceptual artists.

QUESTION 10

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a statement about how the Lord Chancellor responds to the crowd that is supported by the text. The text indicates that the people in the crowd are roaring and shouting “Bread!” or “Taxes!” and presents them as not knowing what they really want. The Lord Chancellor’s response is to ask what their shouting means but also to observe that they’re shouting with “unanimity,” or total agreement. Clearly, this isn’t the case, which supports the statement that the Lord Chancellor describes the crowd as being united even though it’s not.

Choice A is incorrect because it isn’t supported by the text. Although the text indicates that the Lord Chancellor asks about the meaning of the crowd’s shouting, it doesn’t suggest that he knows what the crowd really wants. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text doesn’t suggest that the Lord Chancellor wants to

speak to the crowd. Furthermore, the text doesn't indicate that the crowd wants to hear from the Sub-Warden. Although the crowd roars when asked "Who roar for the Sub-Warden?" it's unclear what the roaring means. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that the Lord Chancellor knows of or sympathizes with the crowd's demands. In addition, the text doesn't indicate that the crowd's shouting annoys the Lord Chancellor, just that it causes him to keep repeating "What can it all mean?"

QUESTION 11

Choice D is the best answer because it accurately identifies the species with the highest global biomass, the white-tailed deer at approximately 2.7 million metric tons. The graph shows the global biomass for four wild land mammal species with the highest global biomass. The graph indicates that the African bush elephant's global biomass is about 1.3 million metric tons, the eastern gray kangaroo's is about 0.6 million metric tons, and the wild boar's is about 1.9 million metric tons. These values are all lower than the global biomass for the white-tailed deer's approximately 2.7 million metric tons. Thus, the white-tailed deer is the species with the highest global biomass.

Choice A is incorrect because although the graph indicates that the wild boar has a relatively high global biomass of about 1.9 million metric tons, it is not the species with the highest value. The white-tailed deer is the species with the highest global biomass at about 2.7 million metric tons. *Choice B* is incorrect because the eastern gray kangaroo has the lowest global biomass value shown on the graph at about 0.6 million metric tons, not the highest global biomass. The white-tailed deer has the highest at about 2.7 million metric tons. *Choice C* is incorrect because although the African bush elephant has a substantial global biomass of about 1.3 million metric tons, it is not the species with the highest value according to the graph. The white-tailed deer has the highest global biomass at about 2.7 million metric tons.

QUESTION 12

Choice A is the best answer because it most effectively uses data from the table to support the researchers' conclusion about the harvesting of clamshells by Neanderthals for use as tools. The text explains that Neanderthals used clamshells to make tools and that the sturdiest, and therefore the most desirable, shells for this purpose are found on the seafloor, not on the beach. However, the researchers also concluded that the clamshell tools made from shells from the seafloor are rarer than those made from shells from the beach. Meanwhile the table shows that at each depth, the number of tools made from shells from the beach exceeds the number made from the more desirable shells from the seafloor. The fact that the more desirable shells are less common suggests that it was significantly more difficult to harvest shells from the seafloor than from the beach.

Choice B is incorrect because knowing which depth represents the period of time with the highest Neanderthal population does not help answer the question of why the Neanderthals consistently made more tools from the less desirable shells

from the beach than they made from the more desirable shells from the seafloor. *Choice C* is incorrect because it claims that the beach shells are more durable than the seafloor shells, which contradicts the text's description of shells from the seafloor as smoother and sturdier than shells from the beach. *Choice D* is incorrect because knowing which depth has the most artifacts or whether the clam population fluctuated does not help explain why tools made from the less desirable shells from the beach outnumber tools made from the more desirable shells from the seafloor.

QUESTION 13

Choice B is the best answer because it describes data from the graph that support Taylor and colleagues' conclusion that spray coating holds promise for improving the power conversion efficiency of ETLs in perovskite solar cells. The text explains that perovskite solar cells' efficiency at converting light into electricity is diminished by their electron transport layer (ETL), which is applied through spin coating, but that Taylor's team devised a new spray coating method for applying the ETL that improves its power conversion efficiency. The graph displays data on the power conversion efficiency of solar cells in tests conducted by Taylor's team, with bars for both the highest- and lowest-performing ETLs in two data categories: spray coating and spin coating. According to the graph, the lowest-performing ETL applied through spray coating had a power conversion efficiency of between 14% and 16%, while the highest-performing ETL applied through spin coating had a power conversion efficiency of less than 14%. These data confirm that ETLs applied through novel spray coating are more efficient than those applied through traditional spin coating. Thus, the data support Taylor and colleagues' conclusion about spray coating's potential value.

Choice A is incorrect. Although this claim correctly describes the data in the graph by stating that both the lowest-performing ETL applied through spin coating and the lowest-performing ETL applied through spray coating had a power conversion efficiency greater than 10%, this relationship in the data doesn't support or relate to Taylor and colleagues' conclusion that spray coating promises greater efficiency for solar cells than traditional spin coating does.

Choice C is incorrect. This claim does address the greater power conversion efficiency of the highest-performing ETL applied through spray coating, compared with the highest-performing ETL applied through spin coating. However, it also incorrectly cites the value for the efficiency of the highest-performing ETL applied through spray coating as approximately 13%, instead of a value between 14% and 16%, and the value for the efficiency of the highest-performing ETL applied through spin coating as approximately 11%, instead of a value between 12% and 14%, as shown in the graph. *Choice D* is incorrect because Taylor and colleagues' conclusion is based on the difference in the power conversion efficiency of ETLs applied through spray coating and that of ETLs applied through spin coating, not on the difference between the highest- and lowest-performing ETLs applied through just spray coating.

QUESTION 14

Choice A is the best answer because it presents data from the table that most effectively complete the statement about the rates at which employment shifted in France and the United States. The text states that over the last two hundred years employment in the agricultural sector has declined while employment in the service sector has risen in both France and the US, and the data from the table reflect these trends. The text asserts, however, that the transition from agriculture to services “happened at very different rates in the two countries.” This assertion is best supported by a comparison of data from 1900 and 1950: the table shows that in those years, employment in agriculture went from 43% to 32% in France (a decline of 11 percentage points) and from 41% to 14% in the US (a decline of 27 percentage points), and that employment in services went from 28% to 35% in France (an increase of 7 percentage points) and from 31% to 53% in the US (an increase of 22 percentage points). In other words, the rate of change was greater in the US than in France for both sectors.

Choice B is incorrect because comparing the data for 1800 and 2012 would suggest a similar rate of change in the two countries, not very different rates: employment in agriculture went from 64% in 1800 to 3% in 2012 in France, which is close to the change from 68% in 1800 to 2% in 2012 in the US, while employment in services went from 14% in 1800 to 76% in 2012 in France, which is close to the change from 13% in 1800 to 80% in 2012 in the US. **Choice C** is incorrect because comparing the data for 1900 and 2012 would suggest a similar rate of change in the two countries rather than very different rates: employment in agriculture went from 43% in 1900 to 3% in 2012 in France, which is close to the change from 41% in 1900 to 2% in 2012 in the US, while employment in services went from 28% in 1900 to 76% in 2012 in France, which is close to the change from 31% in 1900 to 80% in 2012 in the US. **Choice D** is incorrect because comparing the data for 1800 and 1900 would suggest a similar rate of change in the two countries, not very different rates: employment in agriculture went from 64% in 1800 to 43% in 1900 in France, which is fairly close to the change from 68% in 1800 to 41% in 1900 in the US, while employment in services went from 14% in 1800 to 28% in 1900 in France, which is close to the change from 13% in 1800 to 31% in 1900 in the US.

QUESTION 15

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a finding that, if true, would support Shcherbakova and colleagues’ claim that the outcome of their study is inconsistent with the linguistic niche hypothesis (LNH). The text explains that the LNH holds that there is an inverse relationship between the prevalence of non-native speakers of a language (exotericity) and the grammatical complexity of that language—that is, that as the number of non-native speakers increases, grammatical complexity decreases, and vice versa. According to the text, Shcherbakova and colleagues focused on two positive indications of grammatical complexity—fusion and informativity—and analyzed their occurrence in over 1,300 languages. If the researchers found a slightly positive correlation between fusion and exotericity and between informativity and exotericity—meaning that to some extent, grammatical complexity increases as the number of non-native

speakers of a language increases—their outcome would not be consistent with the assumption that exotericity and grammatical complexity are inversely related (the LNH).

Choice A is incorrect because it wouldn't be possible to say that a finding of a slightly negative correlation between grammatical complexity and both fusion and informativity is inconsistent or consistent with the LNH, since the finding would address only grammatical complexity (given that fusion and informativity are aspects of grammatical complexity) and wouldn't move beyond that factor to address its relationship to the prevalence of non-native speakers of a language (exotericity), which is the relationship the LNH focuses on. *Choice B* is incorrect because a finding of a slightly negative correlation between grammatical complexity and the prevalence of non-native speakers of a language (exotericity)—meaning that as the number of non-native speakers increases, grammatical complexity somewhat decreases, and vice versa—would be consistent, not inconsistent, with the LNH, since the text indicates that according to the LNH, there is an inverse relationship between grammatical complexity and exotericity; a negative correlation reflects an inverse relationship. *Choice C* is incorrect because it wouldn't be possible to say that a finding of a slightly positive correlation between grammatical complexity and fusion is inconsistent or consistent with the LNH, since the finding would address only grammatical complexity (given that fusion is a positive indication of grammatical complexity) and wouldn't move beyond that factor to address its relationship to the prevalence of non-native speakers of a language (exotericity), which is the relationship the LNH focuses on.

QUESTION 16

Choice A is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the evidence found in Queen Merneith's tomb. The text begins by mentioning archaeologists' efforts to excavate the tomb of Queen Merneith, the wife of a pharaoh who some scholars think was actually the first female pharaoh. The text states that a tablet discovered in her tomb suggests she "was in charge of the country's treasury and other central offices," which supports the idea that she had an important role in Egypt's government.

Choice B is incorrect because since the text explicitly states that Merneith's husband was a First Dynasty pharaoh, it can be inferred that she lived during the First Dynasty, not after it. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text does not provide any evidence that Merneith traveled beyond Egypt's borders often. The text is focused on the archaeological discovery in her tomb and the implications about her potential role as a ruler in Egypt but does not mention anything about her traveling habits. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text does not mention anything about Merneith creating a new form of writing in Egypt. The text discusses the discovery of a tablet with writing suggesting her governmental role but does not imply that this writing represented a new form created by Merneith.

QUESTION 17

Choice A is the best answer because it presents the conclusion that most logically follows from the text's discussion of the study of capuchin monkeys' cognitive abilities. The text explains that the study failed to distinguish between outcomes for the tasks performed by the capuchin monkeys, such that simpler tasks requiring less dexterity, or skill, were judged by the same criteria as tasks that demanded more dexterity. Because the study didn't account for this discrepancy, the researchers might have assumed that observed differences in performance were due to the abilities of the monkeys rather than the complexity of the tasks. In other words, the results may suggest cognitive differences among the monkeys even though such differences may not really exist.

Choice B is incorrect because the text focuses on the fact that the tasks assigned to the capuchin monkeys in the study varied in difficulty and that the variety wasn't taken into consideration. The text doesn't suggest that the capuchin monkeys couldn't perform certain tasks, just that some tasks were more difficult to do. **Choice C** is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that the study's results are indicative of the abilities of capuchin monkeys but not of other monkey species; in fact, the text suggests that the results may not even be an accurate reflection of capuchin monkeys' abilities. **Choice D** is incorrect because the text doesn't indicate that the researchers compared results for artificial tasks with those for tasks encountered in the wild, although the tasks described in the text—sliding a panel and putting a straw in a bottle—are presumably artificial.

QUESTION 18

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 "customers."

Choice B is incorrect because the singular pronoun "one" doesn't agree in number with the plural antecedent "customers." **Choice C** is incorrect because the second person pronoun "you" isn't conventional as a substitute for "customers." It suggests that the audience ("you") is the customer. **Choice D** is incorrect because the singular pronoun "it" doesn't agree in number with the plural antecedent "customers."

QUESTION 19

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is end-of-sentence punctuation. This choice correctly uses a question mark to punctuate the interrogative clause "could the blueberries thrive," which asks a direct question at the end of the sentence.

Choice A is incorrect because a period can't be used in this way to punctuate an interrogative clause, such as "could the blueberries thrive," at the end of a sentence. **Choice B** is incorrect because the context requires an interrogative clause. The declarative clause "the blueberries could thrive" incorrectly indicates that it was known that the blueberries could thrive in alkaline soil, whereas Michel had yet to find this out. **Choice C** is incorrect because a question mark can't be used in this way to punctuate a declarative clause, such as "the blueberries could thrive," at the end of a sentence.

QUESTION 20

Choice B is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verbs to express tense in a sentence. In this choice, the present tense verb “reach” is consistent with the present tense verbs “travel” and “are diverted” used to describe how atoms move through the synchrotron.

Choice A is incorrect because the future tense verb “will reach” is inconsistent with the present tense verbs used to describe how atoms move through the synchrotron. Though the atoms’ movement is a recurring action and “will reach” can also be used to indicate a habitual or recurring action, it creates a logical inconsistency in this sentence when paired with the present tense verbs “travel” and “are diverted.” *Choice C* is incorrect because the past perfect tense verb “had reached” is inconsistent with the present tense verbs used to describe how atoms move through the synchrotron. *Choice D* is incorrect because the present progressive tense verb “are reaching” is inconsistent with the present tense verbs used to describe how atoms move through the synchrotron. While both verbs occur in the present, the present progressive tense suggests that the action is currently in progress. This creates a logical inconsistency when paired with the present tense verbs “travel” and “are diverted,” which offer a general description of the tendencies of the atoms’ movement, rather than a description of an action that is currently in progress.

QUESTION 21

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verbs to express tense. In this choice, the present tense verb “is,” used in conjunction with the word “today,” correctly indicates that Paik is currently considered the first video artist.

Choice A is incorrect because the future tense verb “will be” doesn’t indicate that Paik is currently considered the first video artist. *Choice B* is incorrect because the past perfect tense verb “had been” doesn’t indicate that Paik is currently considered the first video artist. *Choice C* is incorrect because the past tense verb “was” doesn’t indicate that Paik is currently considered the first video artist.

QUESTION 22

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is subject-verb agreement. The singular verb “outlines” agrees in number with the singular subject “document.”

Choice A is incorrect because the plural verb “have outlined” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “document.” *Choice B* is incorrect because the plural verb “were outlining” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “document.” *Choice D* is incorrect because the plural verb “outline” doesn’t agree in number with the singular subject “document.”

QUESTION 23

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of punctuation within a sentence. In this choice, the colon correctly introduces the series of goals held by the 1919 Inter-Allied Women's Conference.

Choice B is incorrect because placing a period after "threefold" results in a rhetorically unacceptable sentence fragment beginning with "To." *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a run-on sentence. The main clause ("The conference's goals were threefold") and the series supplement ("to...rights") are fused without punctuation. *Choice D* is incorrect because a semicolon can't be used in this way to introduce a series. A semicolon is conventionally used to join two main clauses, whereas a colon is conventionally used to introduce a series, making the colon the better choice in this context.

QUESTION 24

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is subject-verb agreement. The singular verb "is credited" agrees in number with the singular subject "mathematician Grigori Perelman."

Choice A is incorrect because the plural verb "are credited" doesn't agree in number with the singular subject "mathematician Grigori Perelman." *Choice B* is incorrect because the plural verb "have been credited" doesn't agree in number with the singular subject "mathematician Grigori Perelman." *Choice C* is incorrect because the plural verb "are being credited" doesn't agree in number with the singular subject "mathematician Grigori Perelman."

QUESTION 25

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is colon use within a sentence. A colon used in this way introduces information that illustrates or explains information that has come before it. In this case, the colon introduces the following explanation of why some roundworms in the Southern Hemisphere move in the opposite direction of Earth's magnetic field.

Choice B is incorrect because it results in a comma splice. A comma can't be used in this way to join two long independent clauses ("Researchers...food" and "in...sources") such as these. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a run-on sentence. The two clauses ("Researchers...food" and "in...sources") are fused without punctuation. Furthermore, the conjunction "while" fails to indicate that what follows is an explanation of why some roundworms in the Southern Hemisphere move in the opposite direction of Earth's magnetic field. *Choice D* is incorrect because it results in a run-on sentence. The two clauses ("Researchers...food" and "in...sources") are fused without punctuation and/or a conjunction.

QUESTION 26

Choice A is the best answer. “For instance” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that larch trees lose their needles every fall—is an example supporting the claim in the previous sentence (that not all conifer species keep their leaves or needles year-round).

Choice B is incorrect because “nevertheless” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is true in spite of the claim about conifer species in the previous sentence. Instead, it’s an example supporting that claim. **Choice C** is incorrect because “meanwhile” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is separate from (while occurring simultaneously with) the claim about conifer species in the previous sentence. Instead, it’s an example supporting that claim. **Choice D** is incorrect because “in addition” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is merely an additional fact related to the claim about conifer species in the previous sentence. Instead, it’s an example supporting that claim.

QUESTION 27

Choice B is the best answer. “Next” logically signals that the action described in this sentence—Konkoly recording participants’ eye movements—is the next step in Konkoly’s experiment.

Choice A is incorrect because “specifically” illogically signals that this sentence specifies or elaborates on an aspect of the action described in the previous sentence. Instead, it describes the next step in Konkoly’s experiment. **Choice C** is incorrect because “for instance” illogically signals that the action described in this sentence is an example of the action described in the previous sentence. Instead, it is the next step in Konkoly’s experiment. **Choice D** is incorrect because “in sum” illogically signals that this sentence summarizes or concludes the action described in the previous sentence. Instead, it describes the next step in Konkoly’s experiment.

QUESTION 28

Choice D is the best answer. “Specifically” logically signals that the information in this sentence about Sauer’s argument—that, according to Sauer, cultures play a role in their own development, as opposed to being shaped solely by natural surroundings—provides specific, precise details elaborating on the more general information in the previous sentence about how Sauer challenged prevailing views about how natural landscapes influence human cultures.

Choice A is incorrect because “similarly” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about Sauer’s argument is similar to, but separate from, the more general information in the previous sentence. Instead, it provides specific, precise details elaborating on that information. **Choice B** is incorrect because “finally” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about Sauer’s argument indicates a last step in a process or a concluding summary. Instead, it provides specific, precise details elaborating on the general information in the previous sentence. **Choice C** is incorrect because “therefore” illogically signals that the

information in this sentence about Sauer’s argument is a result of the more general information in the previous sentence. Instead, it provides specific, precise details elaborating on that information.

QUESTION 29

Choice A is the best answer. “Fittingly” logically signals that the naming of an unprecedented radiocarbon surge for Fusa Miyake is appropriate to the situation, since Miyake is the person who identified the surge (through her Yaku Island tree-ring analysis).

Choice B is incorrect because “similarly” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is similar to the previous information about Miyake’s identification of a massive radiation burst through tree-ring analysis. Instead, the naming of the event for its discoverer is a fitting and appropriate outcome. **Choice C** is incorrect because “however” illogically signals that the information in this sentence contrasts with the previous information about Miyake’s identification of a massive radiation burst through tree-ring analysis. Instead, the naming of the event for its discoverer is a fitting and appropriate outcome. **Choice D** is incorrect because “in other words” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is a paraphrase or restatement of the previous information about Miyake’s identification of a massive radiation burst through tree-ring analysis. Instead, the naming of the event for its discoverer is a fitting and appropriate outcome.

QUESTION 30

Choice D is the best answer. “Increasingly” logically signals that the claim in this sentence—that mathematicians are collaborating with their peers—marks a change relative to what was traditionally done. As the previous sentence explains, while mathematicians may have traditionally worked alone, evidence points to a shift in the opposite direction. The claim describes the shift: a rise in collaboration.

Choice A is incorrect because “similarly” illogically signals that the claim in this sentence is similar to, but separate from, the previous claim about the shift away from mathematicians working alone. Instead, the claim about the rise in collaboration elaborates on the previous claim, describing the shift. **Choice B** is incorrect because “for this reason” illogically signals that the claim in this sentence is caused by the previous claim about the shift away from mathematicians working alone. Instead, the claim about the rise in collaboration elaborates on the previous claim, describing the shift. **Choice C** is incorrect because “furthermore” illogically signals that the claim in this sentence is in addition to the previous claim about the shift away from mathematicians working alone. Instead, the claim about the rise in collaboration elaborates on the previous claim, describing the shift.

QUESTION 31

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence uses “both” to emphasize a thematic similarity between Tan’s two books, noting that both *Tales from Outer Suburbia* and *Tales from the Inner City* describe surreal events occurring in otherwise ordinary places.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference (one contains fewer stories than the other), not a similarity, between the two books. **Choice B** is incorrect. The sentence indicates that Tan’s books were published ten years apart; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between the two books. **Choice C** is incorrect. The sentence uses “unlike” to emphasize a difference between *Tales from Outer Suburbia* and *Tales from the Inner City*; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between the two books.

QUESTION 32

Choice A is the best answer. Noting that “guerdon” is of Anglo-French origin and “Laodicean” is of ancient Greek origin, the sentence uses “while” to emphasize a difference in the origins of the two words.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence emphasizes two words used in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, it doesn’t emphasize (or mention) the words’ linguistic origins. **Choice C** is incorrect. While the sentence specifies the linguistic origin of one word used in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, it doesn’t mention the other word or emphasize a difference in the two words’ origins. **Choice D** is incorrect. While the sentence makes a generalization about words used in the Scripps National Spelling Bee, it doesn’t emphasize a difference in the words’ origins.

QUESTION 33

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the two paintings, noting that Leutze’s painting (which measures 149 × 255 inches) and Monkman’s painting (which measures 132 × 264 inches) are both very large.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence mentions that Monkman’s painting was completed in 2019 and Leutze’s was completed in 1851; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between the two paintings. **Choice B** is incorrect. While the sentence acknowledges that one painting was inspired by the other, it emphasizes differences between the two paintings; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between them. **Choice D** is incorrect. The sentence mentions a difference between the two paintings; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between them.