

Reading and Writing

Module 2

(33 questions)

QUESTION 1

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of *carte de visite* photos. To "popularize" a technology is to allow it to be used and appreciated widely. The text explains that unlike the photos produced by earlier forms of photographic technology, *carte de visite* photos were inexpensive and could easily be obtained by "everyday people," who enjoyed exchanging the images. Therefore, *carte de visite* photos helped popularize photography.

Choice A is incorrect because the text indicates that instead of weakening the emerging technology of photography, *carte de visite* photos allowed it to be more widely accessed and enjoyed by people. *Choice B* is incorrect. The text establishes that large numbers of people enjoyed using *carte de visite* photos, so it can be inferred that these photos caused photography to be praised, or celebrated. However, it wouldn't make sense to say that inanimate objects—in this case, photos—had praised photography; instead, *carte de visite* consumers themselves would have praised it. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text explains that rather than isolating photography, or limiting its availability, *carte de visite* technology made photography more widely accessible to people.

QUESTION 2

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of painter Alma W. Thomas's work. In this context, "influenced" means to have had an effect on something's development. The text indicates that there is a connection between Thomas's work and the flowers and trees in her home's garden, giving the example of Thomas's brushstrokes being inspired by light shining through the leaves of a tree in front of her house. This context conveys that Thomas's work was influenced by the flowers and trees in the garden.

Choice A is incorrect because the text conveys that Thomas drew inspiration for her work from the plants in her garden, which suggests that the flowers and trees contributed positively to her work, not that they "restricted," or limited, her work.

Choice B is incorrect because it wouldn't make sense to suggest that flowers and trees in a garden could have "announced," or made known, a painter's work.

Choice C is incorrect because the text conveys that Thomas drew inspiration for her work from the plants in her garden, which suggests that the flowers and trees contributed positively to her work, not that they were a distraction. Further, it's not clear how an artist's work could itself be "distracted."

QUESTION 3

Choice C is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the conservationists' efforts to increase Azores bullfinch's numbers. In this context, "successful" means accomplishing a goal or purpose. According to the text, conservationists planted more than 500,000 native trees in an Azores bullfinch habitat in order to boost the bird's population size. The text then indicates that the population size did indeed grow as a result of the planted trees. Thus, in this context, the conservationists' approach of planting native trees was successful because it achieved the goal of increasing the bird's population size.

Choice A is incorrect because the text gives no indication that the conservationists' approach of planting native trees to increase Azores bullfinch's numbers was "amusing," or comical or entertaining. Instead, the approach was seriously undertaken and ultimately accomplished. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text doesn't address how much it cost to achieve the goal of planting native trees to increase Azores bullfinch's numbers. The text indicates that the approach was beneficial and successful rather than "costly," or expensive or harmful.

Choice D is incorrect. According to the text, the conservationists' approach of planting native trees to increase Azores bullfinch's numbers was beneficial and successful rather than "disastrous," or damaging or unsuccessful.

QUESTION 4

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the duration of gamma ray burst GRB 230307A. In this context, "an oddity" is something that is odd or unusual. The text explains that the burst lasted for 200 seconds and that other bursts generated by neutron mergers have usually lasted fewer than 2 seconds. In other words, the duration of gamma ray burst GRB 230307A was unusual.

Choice A is incorrect because the text focuses on a difference between the duration of gamma ray burst GRB 230307A and the typical duration of bursts caused by neutron mergers, not "a coincidence," or a point of correspondence, between them; the text indicates that GRB 230307A lasted much longer than what is typical of other bursts. *Choice B* is incorrect. In this context, "a reprieve" would be either a temporary relief from something or a delay of a punishment, neither of which would make sense as something that the duration of a gamma ray burst could provide to the burst itself. *Choice C* is incorrect. Although it would make sense to refer to gamma ray burst GRB 230307A itself as "an incident," or a thing that occurred, the missing word describes the duration of the burst, and it doesn't make much sense to describe a length of time as an incident. Further, the sentence emphasizes that the burst's duration was very unusual, not simply that the burst occurred.

QUESTION 5

Choice B is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of Benjamin Franklin's popularity in France. In this context, "esteem" means high regard. The text indicates that Franklin was very popular, or highly regarded, in France, where he sought the country's support for the United States in its fight for independence, and indicates that his status helped him achieve his goal. The context therefore suggests that being held in high regard by the people likely helped Franklin convince France to help the United States.

Choice A is incorrect because the text directly indicates that it was Franklin's popularity that likely helped him convince France to help the United States, not his "thoughtfulness" (which in this context would mean either his careful reasoning and attention or his kind consideration of others' needs). *Choice C* is incorrect because the text doesn't suggest that there was any "controversy," or dispute, about Franklin's presence in France; instead, the text states that Franklin was very popular in France and directly indicates that this status likely helped him convince France to help the United States. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text directly indicates that it was Franklin's popularity that likely helped him convince France to help the United States, not his "sincerity," or his honesty.

QUESTION 6

Choice A is the best answer because it most accurately describes how the underlined sentence functions in the text as a whole. The first sentence of the text establishes that scientists didn't know much about the ocean floor in the 1950s. The second sentence, which is underlined, describes what many scientists thought at the time—that the ocean floor was mostly flat. The remainder of the text establishes that the ocean floor is far from flat, citing research conducted by Marie Tharp and Bruce Heezen. Thus, the purpose of the underlined sentence is to identify a scientific belief that Tharp and Heezen showed to be wrong.

Choice B is incorrect. Although Tharp and Heezen's work with sonar data in the Atlantic Ocean is mentioned later in the text, the underlined sentence doesn't describe the design of their experiment. Instead, it identifies a belief held by scientists that Tharp and Heezen demonstrated to be wrong. *Choice C* is incorrect because the underlined sentence presents a belief held by many scientists in the 1950s; nowhere does the text mention a disagreement between Tharp and Heezen, whom the text describes as research partners working together to map the ocean floor. *Choice D* is incorrect because the underlined sentence doesn't present data in support of a claim; instead, it presents a scientific belief that Tharp and Heezen's work showed to be wrong.

QUESTION 7

Choice B is the best answer because it accurately describes the function of the underlined phrase in the text as a whole. According to the text, advertisers were reluctant to support television in its early days. The underlined phrase then indicates that this reluctance was partly due to the US's involvement in World War II, which hindered television production. Thus, the underlined phrase identifies a specific reason behind some advertisers' hesitance to support television.

Choice A is incorrect. The text merely mentions that television was expected to be financed through advertising, as radio was at the time. Nothing in the text compares the origins of radio and television. *Choice C* is incorrect. The underlined phrase focuses on a reason advertisers were reluctant to support television, not measures taken to convince advertisers to support television. *Choice D* is incorrect. The underlined phrase focuses on a reason advertisers were reluctant to support television, not what types of television programming were popular.

QUESTION 8

Choice B is the best answer because it most accurately describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole. The text discusses the Bayeux Tapestry, making the point that the workers who produced the huge tapestry in the eleventh century might not have ever produced a tapestry so large before. The text goes on to suggest that because of this lack of previous experience, the workers developed and refined the process of joining the tapestry's panels over time as they worked. The last sentence of the text then provides an example of an observation that suggests the workers' process changed: clear misalignment of the borders of the two panels the workers joined first and virtually invisible joins completed later. Thus, the underlined sentence serves to support an argument about the workers who produced the tapestry.

Choice A is incorrect because the example given in the last sentence of the text has to do with how the panels of the Bayeux Tapestry were joined by the workers, not with what is depicted in those panels; the text never identifies any people or places depicted in the tapestry. *Choice C* is incorrect because the last sentence compares how early panels in the Bayeux Tapestry were joined with how later panels in the same tapestry were joined; it doesn't make any comparison between the Bayeux Tapestry and other tapestries from the same time in France. *Choice D* is incorrect because the last sentence doesn't address the location where the Bayeux Tapestry was created; the first sentence of the text presents it as a given that the tapestry was created in France, but nothing in the text indicates how that origin was determined.

QUESTION 9

Choice D is the best answer because it reflects how the author of Text 2 would most likely respond to what the researchers mentioned in Text 1 contend. Text 1 discusses the lack of knowledge of how plate tectonics on Earth began. Text 1 also mentions researchers who contend that movements of tectonic plates began around 3 billion years ago. As support for this assertion, these researchers cite computer models (which are simulations, not empirical evidence) of the temperature in Earth's mantle that show that at that time, the mantle would have been sufficiently molten for plates to move. However, the author of Text 2 asserts that empirical evidence from the geological record is necessary to make plausible claims about when tectonic movement began. Text 2 mentions an analysis performed by Wriju Chowdhury and his team of the geochemistry of zircon crystals (which would constitute empirical evidence). Chowdhury and his team argue, based on this analysis, that tectonic plates may have begun to move as early as 4.2 billion years ago. Therefore, since the author of Text 2 would consider

Chowdhury et al.'s empirical evidence to be more conclusive than the computer models cited in Text 1, the author of Text 2 would most likely assert that a more definitive form of evidence than the computer models suggests a different timeline for the onset of plate tectonics on Earth.

Choice A is incorrect because the author of Text 2 makes no claims about the temperature of Earth's mantle and therefore wouldn't argue that the temperature of Earth's mantle 3 billion years ago was insufficient to allow tectonic movement. *Choice B* is incorrect because the author of Text 2 claims that empirical evidence is needed to fix the earliest date of tectonic movement. Computer models are simulations, not empirical evidence, so the author of Text 2 wouldn't distinguish between different kinds of computer models but would instead argue that no computer models can reliably predict the onset of plate tectonics. *Choice C* is incorrect because the author of Text 2 wouldn't consider any computer model to be able to provide evidence to support a plausible claim about tectonic movement, no matter how much such models were improved. The author of Text 2 would only accept empirical evidence.

QUESTION 10

Choice B is the best answer because it most accurately states what feature of *Hevea brasiliensis* is helpful for the process of making rubber. According to the text, this tree species produces latex, which is used to make rubber, and its inner bark contains a "network of tubes" that, when cut, enables the latex to flow out. The text explicitly states that this feature of *Hevea brasiliensis* is "helpful for the process of making rubber."

Choice A is incorrect because the text doesn't mention the quality of the rubber produced from the latex of *Hevea brasiliensis* or compare its quality to that of rubber produced from other sources. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text never discusses the climates in which *Hevea brasiliensis* grows. Moreover, the text mentions only one region where this tree is found: the Amazon rainforest. *Choice D* is incorrect. Because the text states that *Hevea brasiliensis* is the world's "main source of natural rubber," it can be inferred that there is at least one other source. However, the text doesn't specify whether that other source is also a tree species and, if so, whether that species grows in the Amazon rainforest.

QUESTION 11

Choice B is the best answer because it best states the main idea of the text: that nature-based approaches can be effective for achieving conservation goals. The text indicates that in many cases where conservationists are trying to protect ecosystems, their methods depend on natural processes or features. The text then gives an example of this phenomenon, a project with the Quinault Indian Nation that allowed logjams to form naturally in a river, creating spawning habitats for blueback salmon.

Choice A is incorrect. Although the text does suggest that the partnership with the Quinault Indian Nation was beneficial, this is not the central aim of the text; the text primarily argues that nature-based approaches to conservation can be effective. *Choice C* is incorrect. Although the text indicates that logjams are

helpful to blueback salmon, the example of the blueback salmon project is included to illustrate the larger point made earlier in the text: that nature-based approaches to conservation are often effective. *Choice D* is incorrect. There is no evidence in the text to support a direct comparison of the efficacy of nature-based conservation approaches to other types of approaches. The text merely indicates that nature-based approaches can often be effective.

QUESTION 12

Choice D is the best answer because it effectively uses data from the table to complete the student's claim about the highest percentage of bus stops with shaded shelter in the areas represented. The table shows the highest average surface temperature of five areas and the percentage of bus stops with shaded shelter in each area, and 29% is the highest percentage listed.

Choice A is incorrect because the list of percentages of bus stops with shaded shelter does not include 50%; the highest percentage in the table is 29%.

Choice B is incorrect because 15% is the lowest value in the listed percentages of bus stops with shaded shelter, not the highest value. *Choice C* is incorrect because the list of percentages of bus stops with shaded shelter does not include 90%; the highest percentage in the table is 29%.

QUESTION 13

Choice C is the best answer because it states the total area of Bahrain that is indicated in the table. The table presents the total area (in square miles) and population for Bahrain, Qatar, and Kuwait, and it indicates that the total area of Bahrain is 304 square miles.

Choice A is incorrect because the table indicates that 4,268,873 is the population of Kuwait, not the total area of Bahrain. *Choice B* is incorrect because the table indicates that 4,471 square miles is the total area of Qatar, not of Bahrain.

Choice D is incorrect because the table indicates that 6,880 square miles is the total area of Kuwait, not of Bahrain.

QUESTION 14

Choice C is the best answer because it presents the quotation that most effectively illustrates the claim that Echelman's sculptures appear delicate but are in fact quite durable. The text explains that Echelman's sculptures include flowing shapes that mimic the wind. If it is true that the materials she uses are both flexible and strong, that would help explain why the works are durable even though they appear delicate.

Choice A is incorrect because the claim in the text is not about how Echelman models her work before sculpting. *Choice B* is incorrect because the claim in the text is not about the planning and design phases of Echelman's work. *Choice D* is incorrect because the claim in the text is not about how the sculptures relate to their locations.

QUESTION 15

Choice D is the best answer because it presents a finding that, if true, would most directly support the researchers' conclusion that the transition from a stagnant lid regime to a tectonic plate regime occurred around 3.2 billion years ago. The text explains that early in Earth's history, Earth exhibited a stagnant lid regime in which there's no interaction between the lithosphere and the underlying mantle. The text further explains that, by contrast, once Earth began to exhibit a tectonic plate regime, its lithospheric and mantle material began to mix. If mantle-derived rocks younger than 3.2 billion years contain material not found in older mantle-derived rocks, that material must have originated somewhere other than the mantle. And if this material is found in both older and contemporaneous lithospheric rocks, that would imply that the lithosphere was able to mix with mantle material beginning around 3.2 billion years ago, as the researchers concluded.

Choice A is incorrect. The text gives no basis for comparing the quantities of lithospheric and mantle-derived rocks. **Choice B** is incorrect. The text gives no basis for comparing the material makeup of lithospheric rocks to that of mantle-derived rocks. **Choice C** is incorrect. A positive correlation between the age of lithospheric rocks and these rocks' chemical similarity to mantle-derived rocks would mean that the oldest rocks would be the most similar, which contradicts the text's claim that lithospheric and mantle-derived rocks were completely separate until 3.2 billion years ago. If the researchers' conclusion about the onset of tectonics on Earth is correct, then younger lithospheric rocks would show greater chemical similarity to mantle-derived rocks than older lithospheric rocks do.

QUESTION 16

Choice D is the best answer because it most logically completes the discussion of Uto-Aztec languages. The text explains that the northern and southern branches of the Uto-Aztec language family descended from a single language (believed to have originated in what is now the US Southwest), resulting in similarities across the family's languages; however, the branches don't have similar vocabulary for maize, even though maize has been cultivated by all Uto-Aztec tribes. The text also indicates that maize originated in Mexico and spread northward into what is now the US Southwest—the area where the Uto-Aztec language family originated. It follows, then, that the language family had already divided into northern and southern branches before maize reached that area; if maize had been present before the division occurred, the family's origin language would have had terminology for it that likely would have been reflected in the branches, meaning they would have had similar vocabulary for maize. If maize arrived after the division occurred, however, the tribes in the two regions likely would have developed vocabulary pertaining to maize separately, at the times when they acquired the crop.

Choice A is incorrect because the text focuses on vocabulary pertaining to maize in the branches of the Uto-Aztec language family, and referring only to how some Uto-Aztec tribes obtained maize wouldn't directly address the role of language. Moreover, if northern Uto-Aztec tribes had acquired maize from a southern Uto-Aztec tribe, it's reasonable to assume that the northern tribes

might have also picked up southern Uto-Aztecan terminology for maize in that exchange. *Choice B* is incorrect because the text discusses the fact that the northern and southern branches of the Uto-Aztecan language family don't have shared vocabulary pertaining to maize, not the idea that there are variations in such vocabulary within each branch—that is, the text focuses on differences between the two branches, not on differences between languages within a branch. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text focuses on vocabulary pertaining to maize in the branches of the Uto-Aztecan language family, and referring only to the timing and source of maize acquisition wouldn't directly address the role of language. Furthermore, the text implies that southern Uto-Aztecan tribes probably acquired maize before the northern tribes did, given the evidence that maize originated in Mexico—the location of the best-known representative of the southern branch of the Uto-Aztecan language family—before spreading to the north.

QUESTION 17

Choice B is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of the sediments found at the Gale Crater's Murray Formation on Mars. The text states that data gathered by the *Curiosity* rover suggest that bodies of water deposited sediment on Mars's surface long ago. The text goes on to say that studying the sediment, Rivera-Hernández et al. found some coarse grains they believe are sandstone, which tends to be left by flowing water, and many more fine grains they believe are mudstone, which tends to slowly sink in low-flow water. The text further indicates that the researchers noted cracks in the fine grains that suggest there were cycles of desiccation, or drying, at the site. Taken together, this information suggests that a lake (a body of low-flow water) existed at the site for a prolonged period but occasionally experienced drying and that there were periods in which one or more streams (flowing water) were present, since the extended existence of a lake would account for the abundance of fine grains, periods of drying would account for the cracks in the fine grains, and periods with streams would account for the sections of coarse grains.

Choice A is incorrect because the text indicates that an abundance of fine grains of sediment was found at the Murray Formation site, which suggests that a low-flow water source (such as a lake) was present. Further, the text makes no mention of where the water at the site may have originated from. *Choice C* is incorrect because the evidence described in the text doesn't support the idea that there were streams at the Murray Formation for an extended period and a lake for just a short time. The abundance of fine grains suggests that a lake (a body of low-flow water) was present for an extended time, not just a short time, and the sections of coarse grains suggest that one or more streams (bodies of flowing water) were intermittently present while the lake existed, not at a separate time. *Choice D* is incorrect. Although the text suggests that both a low-flow body of water (such as a lake) and flowing water (such as streams) existed at the Murray Formation site, meaning that there could have been a stream-fed lake, the text explains that the fine grains that signify the presence of a lake exhibit cracking that indicates periods of desiccation, or drying, which suggests that a lake was present but did occasionally dry out.

QUESTION 18

Choice B is the best answer because it most logically completes the text's discussion of Sidonian coins. As the text explains, researchers determined that Sidonian coins were made of silver and copper and that from 450 BCE to 367 BCE, the percentage of silver in each coin decreased from 98% to 74.2% while the percentage of copper increased from 1% to 24.7%. The text indicates that because the coins containing less than 80% silver weren't considered suitable for trade (suggesting that copper was less valuable than silver) and looked different from coins containing more silver, the researchers suspect there was a serious loss in confidence in the currency in Sidon in 367 BCE when the copper content was high. It's reasonable to assume that it wasn't possible to boost confidence simply by devoting a greater amount of valuable silver to the currency, since Sidon was under significant and ongoing financial pressure; however, keeping the total amount of silver the same and reducing the amount of copper in the coins would have resulted in smaller coins with a higher percentage of silver. Therefore, it makes sense to suggest that Abd'aštar I (the ruler after 367 BCE) likely restored confidence in the currency by deciding to keep the amount of silver in Sidonian coins consistent with that in coins minted in 367 BCE but to decrease the coins' weight.

Choice A is incorrect because the text conveys that a crisis in confidence in the currency of Sidon likely occurred around 367 BCE because the percentage of silver in coins had fallen below 80% (presumably because Sidon's financial pressures meant that less silver was available for currency), making the coins unsuitable for trade. Thus, announcing that the threshold for the percentage of silver in coins would be raised—that is, that coins would need to contain even more than 80% silver to be suitable for trade—likely would have worsened the crisis rather than relieved it. *Choice C* is incorrect because the text strongly suggests that a crisis in confidence in the currency of Sidon was caused by the proportion of silver to copper in the coins in 367 BCE, with 74.2% being too little silver for the coins to be considered suitable for trade; therefore, it's unlikely that minting coins with a similar proportion of silver to copper (that is, still around 74.2% silver) would have restored confidence, even if the coins were heavier. *Choice D* is incorrect because the text gives no indication that funding the mining of more copper would have relieved a crisis in confidence in the currency of Sidon. The text establishes that Sidonian coins that visibly contained copper weren't considered suitable for trade, so Abd'aštar I wouldn't have wanted to add even more copper to them, and it's unclear how else copper mining would affect views of the currency.

QUESTION 19

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verb forms within a sentence. The nonfinite to-infinitive verb "to include" is correctly used to form a subordinate clause that indicates what the Olympic committee decided (to include tug-of-war as an Olympic event).

Choice A is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The finite verb "included" can't be used in this way to form a subordinate clause that

indicates what the Olympic committee decided. *Choice B* is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The nonfinite participle “including” can’t be used in this way to form a subordinate clause that indicates what the Olympic committee decided. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in an ungrammatical sentence. The finite verb “include” can’t be used in this way to form a subordinate clause that indicates what the Olympic committee decided.

QUESTION 20

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of verbs to express tense. In this choice, the past tense verb “malfunctioned” is consistent with the other past tense verbs (“ignited” and “was”) used to describe the destruction of the original Globe Theatre.

Choice A is incorrect because the present tense verb “malfunctions” isn’t consistent with the other past tense verbs used to describe the destruction of the original Globe Theatre. *Choice B* is incorrect because the future tense verb “will malfunction” isn’t consistent with the other past tense verbs used to describe the destruction of the original Globe Theatre. *Choice C* is incorrect because the present perfect tense verb “has malfunctioned” isn’t consistent with the other past tense verbs used to describe the destruction of the original Globe Theatre.

QUESTION 21

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is punctuation use between a subject and a verb. No punctuation is needed when, as in this case, a subject (“Her portrait of novelist Zadie Smith”) is immediately followed by a main verb (“is displayed”).

Choice A is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb. *Choice B* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb. *Choice D* is incorrect because no punctuation is needed between the subject and the verb.

QUESTION 22

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is pronoun-antecedent agreement. The singular pronoun “it” agrees in number with the singular antecedent “industry” and clearly indicates that the industry consists of just one or two suppliers per municipality.

Choice A is incorrect. The plural pronoun “these” neither agrees in number with the singular antecedent “industry” nor clearly indicates that the industry—not another plural noun in the sentence, such as “start-up costs” or “barriers”—consists of just one or two suppliers per municipality. *Choice B* is incorrect because the plural pronoun “they” doesn’t agree in number with the singular antecedent “industry.” *Choice D* is incorrect because the singular pronoun “this” is ambiguous in this context; the resulting sentence leaves unclear what consists of just one or two suppliers per municipality.

QUESTION 23

Choice C is the best answer. The convention being tested is the punctuation of elements in a complex series. It's conventional to use a semicolon to separate items in a complex series with internal punctuation, and in this choice, the semicolon after "items" is conventionally used to separate the first item ("overseeing...items") and the second item ("managing...law") in a list of Hayden's responsibilities.

Choice A is incorrect because it fails to use appropriate punctuation to separate the first item and the second item in the complex series. *Choice B* is incorrect because a comma after "items" doesn't match the semicolon used later to separate the second and third items in the series ("managing...law" and "and appointing the US poet laureate"). *Choice D* is incorrect because it results in a rhetorically unacceptable sentence fragment beginning with "Managing."

QUESTION 24

Choice A is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of punctuation within a sentence. The comma after "work" pairs with the comma after "though" to separate the supplementary element "though" from the rest of the sentence. This supplementary element signals that what follows is an exception to Chen using software tools to create illustrations, and the pair of commas indicates that this element could be removed without affecting the grammatical coherence of the sentence.

Choice B is incorrect because the comma after "work" must be paired with a comma after "though" to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence. *Choice C* is incorrect because a semicolon can't be paired with a comma in this way to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence. *Choice D* is incorrect because a semicolon can't be paired with a comma in this way to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence.

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 separate the supplementary adverb "though" from the preceding main clause ("They are hardly pristine") and uses a semicolon to join the two main clauses ("They... though" and "many...objects"). Further, placing the semicolon after "though" indicates that the information in the preceding main clause (chondrites are far from pristine) is contrary to what might be assumed from the information in the previous sentence (chondrites have been generally unaltered by their environment).

Choice A is incorrect because placing the comma after "pristine" and using "though" as a subordinating conjunction illogically indicates that the information in the next main clause (many chondrites have experienced damage) is contrary to the information in the previous clause (chondrites are far from pristine).

Choice C is incorrect because placing the semicolon after "pristine" illogically

indicates that the information in the next main clause (many chondrites have experienced damage) is contrary to the information in the previous clause (chondrites are far from pristine). *Choice D* is incorrect because it results in a comma splice. Without a conjunction following it, the comma after “though” can’t be used in this way to join two main clauses.

QUESTION 26

Choice D is the best answer. The convention being tested is the use of punctuation within a sentence. This choice uses a semicolon in a conventional way to join the first main clause (“That the...involved”) and the second main clause (“establishing...divisive”). Further, the semicolon is the most appropriate choice when joining two separate, parallel statements, such as here, where the information following the semicolon contrasts with the information before.

Choice A is incorrect because placing a colon after “involved” illogically indicates that the information in the second main clause (the precise location was the subject of disagreement) explains or amplifies the information in the previous main clause (the general location was agreed upon by all). Instead, the information in the second clause contrasts with the previous information. *Choice B* is incorrect because it results in a comma splice. Without a conjunction following it, a comma can’t be used in this way to join two main clauses. *Choice C* is incorrect because it results in a run-on sentence. The two main clauses are fused without punctuation and/or a conjunction.

QUESTION 27

Choice B is the best answer. “As a result” logically signals that the action described in this sentence—closing the area around Garisenda Tower to explore stabilization solutions—occurred as a consequence or result of measurements revealing the tower’s concerning rotation.

Choice A is incorrect because “similarly” illogically signals that the action of closing the tower area is similar to the discovery of concerning rotation described in the previous sentence. Instead, closing the area around the tower to explore solutions occurred as a result of the measurements revealing the rotation.

Choice C is incorrect because “for example” illogically signals that the action of closing the tower area serves as an example of the tower’s concerning rotation described in the previous sentence. Instead, closing the area around the tower to explore solutions occurred as a result of the measurements revealing the rotation.

Choice D is incorrect because “in comparison” illogically signals that the action of closing the tower area is being compared to the discovery of concerning rotation described in the previous sentence. Instead, closing the area around the tower to explore solutions occurred as a result of the measurements revealing the rotation.

QUESTION 28

Choice D is the best answer. “Specifically” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that the Local Bubble’s expansion trapped clouds of gas and dust that formed new stars—provides specific, precise details elaborating on the more general information in the previous sentence about the relationship between the Local Bubble’s expansion and the formation of new stars.

Choice A is incorrect because “hence” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is a result of the information in the previous sentence about the relationship between the Local Bubble’s expansion and the formation of new stars. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details elaborating on that information. *Choice B* is incorrect because “however” illogically signals that the information in this sentence contrasts with the information in the previous sentence about the relationship between the Local Bubble’s expansion and the formation of new stars. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details elaborating on that information. *Choice C* is incorrect because “admittedly” illogically signals that the information in this sentence provides an exception or caveat to the previous information about the relationship between the Local Bubble’s expansion and the formation of new stars. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details elaborating on that information.

QUESTION 29

Choice A is the best answer. “In particular” logically signals that the information in this sentence—that maize and wheat supply chains transformed North American foodways into a global food system—provides specific, precise details elaborating on the more general information in the previous sentence about the transformation of North American foodways (with maize and wheat the “certain grains” at the center of it).

Choice B is incorrect because “alternatively” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is an alternative option to the previous information about the transformation of North American foodways. Instead, the roles of maize and wheat in creating a global food system are specific, precise details elaborating on that information. *Choice C* is incorrect because “by comparison” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is being compared to the previous information about the transformation of North American foodways. Instead, the roles of maize and wheat in creating a global food system are specific, precise details elaborating on that information. *Choice D* is incorrect because “second of all” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is a second, separate claim from the previous claim that North American foodways were transformed. Instead, the roles of maize and wheat in creating a global food system are specific, precise details elaborating on that information, rather than a separate claim.

QUESTION 30

Choice D is the best answer. “To that end” logically signals that the information in this sentence—the students’ creation of a show with six starring female roles—is the product of a goal or desire in the previous sentence (the students’ wish to develop a musical with roles for female actors).

Choice A is incorrect because “in other words” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is a paraphrase or restatement of the previous information about the students’ wish to develop a musical with roles for female actors. Instead, the students’ show is the product of that desire. *Choice B* is incorrect because “in summary” illogically signals that the information in this sentence summarizes the previous information about the students’ wish to

develop a musical with roles for female actors. Instead, the students' show is the product of that desire. *Choice C* is incorrect because "for example" illogically signals that the information in this sentence is merely an example of the previous information about the students' wish to develop a musical with roles for female actors. Instead, the students' show is the direct product of that desire.

QUESTION 31

Choice C is the best answer. "More often" logically signals that the claim in this sentence—that new via ferratas favor recreation over utility—explains a difference between the new "sporting activity" routes and the older "mode of travel" routes. In so doing, it emphasizes and reinforces the previous claim ("modern via ferratas are rarely designed to simply reach a summit").

Choice A is incorrect because "additionally" illogically signals that this sentence's claim about new via ferratas adds a new, separate point to the previous claim ("modern via ferratas are rarely designed to simply reach a summit"). Instead, the second claim—that new routes favor recreation over utility—emphasizes and reinforces the previous one. *Choice B* is incorrect because "on the other hand" illogically signals that this sentence's claim about new via ferratas contrasts with or opposes the previous claim ("modern via ferratas are rarely designed to simply reach a summit"). Instead, the second claim—that new routes favor recreation over utility—emphasizes and reinforces the previous one. *Choice D* is incorrect because "nonetheless" illogically signals that this sentence's claim about new via ferratas is true despite the previous claim ("modern via ferratas are rarely designed to simply reach a summit"). Instead, the second claim—that new routes favor recreation over utility—emphasizes and reinforces the previous one.

QUESTION 32

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence indicates the title of a novel that won a Nebula Award, noting that *Babel-17* by Samuel Delany won the award in 1967.

Choice B is incorrect because the sentence identifies the year that Samuel Delany published a science fiction novel; it doesn't indicate the novel's title or that it won a Nebula Award. *Choice C* is incorrect because the sentence provides an introduction of Samuel Delany; it doesn't indicate the title of a novel that has won a Nebula Award. *Choice D* is incorrect because the sentence indicates that one of Samuel Delany's novels met the qualification for a Nebula Award; it doesn't indicate the novel's title or that it won an award.

QUESTION 33

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence indicates the year *Yosemite Falls* was completed, stating that it was completed in 1930.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates where Obata created black ink paintings; it doesn't indicate when the painting was completed. *Choice B* is incorrect. While the sentence identifies Obata as an artist who created a notable painting, it doesn't indicate when that painting was completed. *Choice D* is incorrect. The sentence identifies the method Obata used; it doesn't indicate when the painting was completed.