

# Question ID 340ca188

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 340ca188

Shimmering is a collective defense behavior that researchers have observed in giant honeybee colonies. When shimmering, different groups of bees flip their bodies up and down in what looks like waves. This defense is initiated when hornets hover near a colony, serving to deter the hornets from approaching the bees. Researchers hypothesize that this behavior is a specialized defense response to hornets, as it is not observed when other, larger predators approach the colony.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Researchers are unsure how giant honeybees defend against predators larger than hornets.
- B. Researchers think that shimmering in giant honeybees is a specific defense against hornets.
- C. Hornets are known to be the main predator of giant honeybees.
- D. Several different species of insects use shimmering to defend against hornets.

# Question ID e42ac57f

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: e42ac57f

When Kenyan writer Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o, who had previously published four novels in English, began writing in his native language, Gĩkũyũ, in the 1970s, several fellow writers and critics cautioned that doing so might make his works inaccessible outside his own community. Some noted that Kiswahili—widely spoken in Kenya and elsewhere in Africa—would be a more practical choice. Rejecting their arguments, Ngũgĩ went on to author dozens of acclaimed works in Gĩkũyũ that have been translated into a total of more than thirty languages.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. The reaction to Ngũgĩ’s rejection of English illustrates that some literary experts believe that fame is most easily gained by writing in a widely understood language, such as Gĩkũyũ.
- B. Although Ngũgĩ insisted on publishing his first works in Gĩkũyũ, they have since been translated into many other languages.
- C. Although Ngũgĩ’s decision to write in Gĩkũyũ was met with some skepticism, it didn’t prevent him from achieving literary success.
- D. In the 1970s, Ngũgĩ became convinced that literature ought to be written in authors’ native languages, and he proceeded to publish many works in Gĩkũyũ.

# Question ID fd6b755e

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: fd6b755e

The following text is adapted from Edith Nesbit’s 1906 novel *The Railway Children*.  
Mother did not spend all her time in paying dull [visits] to dull ladies, and sitting dully at home waiting for dull ladies to pay [visits] to her. She was almost always there, ready to play with the children, and read to them, and help them to do their home-lessons. Besides this she used to write stories for them while they were at school, and read them aloud after tea, and she always made up funny pieces of poetry for their birthdays and for other great occasions.

According to the text, what is true about Mother?

- A. She wishes that more ladies would visit her.
- B. Birthdays are her favorite special occasion.
- C. She creates stories and poems for her children.
- D. Reading to her children is her favorite activity.

# Question ID 307021b1

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 307021b1

Microplastics are pieces of plastic that are smaller than a grain of rice. These small plastics can be found in large quantities in ocean waters. Ecologist Jessica Reichert and her team are studying the role reef-building corals have in capturing microplastics from ocean waters. Through research, her team has found that these corals may be storing up to 20 million kilograms of microplastics each year in their skeletons and tissues.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Ecologists are interested in learning more about how certain corals build large reefs.
- B. Questions remain around the impact certain corals have on ocean ecosystems.
- C. Microplastics are small pieces of plastic that can be found in ocean waters.
- D. Ecologists predict that corals store large amounts of microplastics from ocean waters.

# Question ID 29112b53

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 29112b53

The following text is from Beatrice Harraden’s 1894 novel *Ships that Pass in the Night*.

In an old second-hand bookshop in London, an old man sat reading Gibbon’s *History of Rome*. He did not put down his book when the postman brought him a letter. He just glanced indifferently at the letter, and impatiently at the postman. Zerviah Holme did not like to be interrupted when he was reading Gibbon; and as he was always reading Gibbon, an interruption was always regarded by him as an insult.

Based on the text, how did Zerviah Holme most likely feel when the letter was delivered?

- A. He felt relieved because he had been expecting an important letter.
- B. He felt excited because the letter was from a good friend.
- C. He felt sad because the postman did not stop to talk with him before leaving.
- D. He felt annoyed because he was interrupted while reading his favorite author.

# Question ID 30a50d8c

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 30a50d8c

In the 1960s, Gloria Richardson led a movement to promote racial equality. Her involvement in this effort was inspired by her daughter, Donna Richardson. In 1961, Donna joined protests organized by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Cambridge, Maryland. Following her daughter, Gloria joined these protests too. Gloria soon became the cochair of the Cambridge Nonviolent Action Committee. She was also the leader of what became known as the Cambridge movement.

According to the text, what did Gloria Richardson lead?

- A. The Cambridge movement
- B. Her daughter Donna’s high school
- C. Protests to support environmental protections
- D. A new business in Cambridge, Maryland

# Question ID 999bc294

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 999bc294

The following text is adapted from Ann Petry’s 1946 novel *The Street*. Lutie lives in an apartment in Harlem, New York.

The glow from the sunset was making the street radiant. The street is nice in this light, [Lutie] thought. It was swarming with children who were playing ball and darting back and forth across the sidewalk in complicated games of tag. Girls were skipping double dutch rope, going tirelessly through the exact center of a pair of ropes, jumping first on one foot and then the other.

©1946 by Ann Petry

Which choice best describes what is happening in the text?

- A. Lutie is observing the appearance of the street at a particular time of day and the events occurring on it.
- B. Lutie is annoyed by the noise of children playing games on her street.
- C. Lutie is puzzled by the rules of certain children’s games.
- D. Lutie is spending time alone in her apartment because she doesn’t want to interact with her neighbors.

# Question ID a74645a0

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: a74645a0

The following text is from Edith Nesbit’s 1902 novel *Five Children and It*. Five young siblings have just moved with their parents from London to a house in the countryside that they call the White House.

It was not really a pretty house at all; it was quite ordinary, and mother thought it was rather inconvenient, and was quite annoyed at there being no shelves, to speak of, and hardly a cupboard in the place. Father used to say that the ironwork on the roof and coping was like an architect’s nightmare. But the house was deep in the country, with no other house in sight, and the children had been in London for two years, without so much as once going to the seaside even for a day by an excursion train, and so the White House seemed to them a sort of Fairy Palace set down in an Earthly Paradise.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Although their parents believe the house has several drawbacks, the children are enchanted by it.
- B. The children don’t like the house nearly as much as their parents do.
- C. Each member of the family admires a different characteristic of the house.
- D. The house is beautiful and well built, but the children miss their old home in London.

Question ID 4500066c

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 4500066c

Scrapbooks of saved fabric pieces were commonly kept by women in the nineteenth-century United States, but few are as meticulously detailed as Hannah Ditzler Alspaugh’s work. Alongside each piece of fabric, Alspaugh recorded intimate memories, such as dressmaking with her sister. Additionally, she listed the prices and how she used the fabric. Historians note that by representing fifty years of changing textures, patterns, and dress styles, the scrapbook is a record of nineteenth-century textiles and dressmaking as well as Alspaugh’s life.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Alspaugh inspired other women to save pieces of fabric in scrapbooks and provide historical records of nineteenth-century fashions in the United States.
- B. Historians rely on fabric scrapbooks to understand how fashions changed throughout the nineteenth-century United States.
- C. Fabric scrapbooks were a popular hobby for many women in the nineteenth-century United States.
- D. Alspaugh’s scrapbook provides a detailed account of her life and historical record of fashion trends in the nineteenth-century United States.

# Question ID ce4dc739

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: ce4dc739

The following text is adapted from Edgar Allan Poe’s 1849 story “Landor’s Cottage.”

During a pedestrian trip last summer, through one or two of the river counties of New York, I found myself, as the day declined, somewhat embarrassed about the road I was pursuing. The land undulated very remarkably; and my path, for the last hour, had wound about and about so confusedly, in its effort to keep in the valleys, that I no longer knew in what direction lay the sweet village of B—, where I had determined to stop for the night.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. The narrator remembers a trip he took and admits to getting lost.
- B. The narrator recalls fond memories of a journey that he took through some beautiful river counties.
- C. The narrator describes what he saw during a long trip through a frequently visited location.
- D. The narrator explains the difficulties he encountered on a trip and how he overcame them.

# Question ID 2aba329f

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 2aba329f

Arthropods—brine shrimp, hawk moths, and many other invertebrate animals—have a nervous system made up of a brain, nerve cord, and other nerves. Researchers have gained insights about this system in ancient arthropods from traces found in various fossils. For example, in a study of two fossils of the extinct arthropod species *Mollisonia symmetrica*, Javier Ortega-Hernández, James Weaver, and team observed clear signs of a nerve cord. They also saw possible indications of a synganglion, a brain-like mass of nerves. Researchers hope to identify more features of the nervous systems of prehistoric arthropods as additional fossils are found.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. There are several similarities between the brains of hawk moths and the brains of brine shrimp.
- B. Fossil evidence can contribute to the understanding of the nervous system in ancient arthropods.
- C. Newly discovered fossils suggest that ancient hawk moths and ancient brine shrimp had spines.
- D. Researchers need to focus on finding more fossils of ancient arthropods.

# Question ID 4c16d345

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 4c16d345

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

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

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

# Question ID 9f093125

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ID: 9f093125

Bicycles were first mass-produced in the late nineteenth century throughout Europe and North America, allowing individuals remarkable freedom to travel longer distances quickly and comfortably. This freedom, coupled with the affordability of the vehicle, made the bicycle immensely popular. Individuals were able to live farther from their workplaces, easily visit neighboring towns, and participate in new leisure and sport activities. Bicycling quickly became a popular social endeavor, with enthusiasts forming local cycling clubs to enjoy these newfound activities with others.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. The widespread adoption of the bicycle in the late nineteenth century provided new opportunities for people.
- B. The affordability of the bicycle in the late nineteenth century made it the preferred way to travel.
- C. The popularity of the bicycle in the late nineteenth century gave rise to the first cycling clubs.
- D. The mass production of the bicycle in the late nineteenth century made it safer for people to use.

# Question ID a1991af1

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ID: a1991af1

The following text is from Laila Lalami’s 2019 novel *The Other Americans*. The narrator is a member of her middle school’s jazz band.

One day the jazz band was invited to perform at the Summer Festival in Palm Springs. Walking across the stage to the piano, I did what my teacher had advised. Pretend you’re only playing for one person. That way you won’t be so nervous. I glanced at my father, who sat in the front row, leaning his head just so, waiting. Then I closed my eyes, and began to play.

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According to the text, what does the narrator do as she walks across the stage?

- A. She thinks about the differences between playing the piano alone and playing in a band.
- B. She feels excitement about playing in a music festival for the first time.
- C. She remembers how hard she has practiced for the performance.
- D. She follows her teacher’s advice about managing her nervousness.

# Question ID 5056dbd3

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 5056dbd3

The following text is adapted from Frances Hodgson Burnett’s 1911 novel *The Secret Garden*. Mary, a young girl, recently found an overgrown hidden garden.

Mary was an odd, determined little person, and now she had something interesting to be determined about, she was very much absorbed, indeed. She worked and dug and pulled up weeds steadily, only becoming more pleased with her work every hour instead of tiring of it. It seemed to her like a fascinating sort of play.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Mary hides in the garden to avoid doing her chores.
- B. Mary is getting bored with pulling up so many weeds in the garden.
- C. Mary is clearing out the garden to create a space to play.
- D. Mary feels very satisfied when she’s taking care of the garden.

# Question ID 91b912ec

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ID: 91b912ec

In 2014, Amelia Quon and her team at NASA set out to build a helicopter capable of flying on Mars. Because Mars’s atmosphere is only one percent as dense as Earth’s, the air of Mars would not provide enough resistance to the rotating blades of a standard helicopter for the aircraft to stay aloft. For five years, Quon’s team tested designs in a lab that mimicked Mars’s atmospheric conditions. The craft the team ultimately designed can fly on Mars because its blades are longer and rotate faster than those of a helicopter of the same size built for Earth.

According to the text, why would a helicopter built for Earth be unable to fly on Mars?

- A. Because Mars and Earth have different atmospheric conditions
- B. Because the blades of helicopters built for Earth are too large to work on Mars
- C. Because the gravity of Mars is much weaker than the gravity of Earth
- D. Because helicopters built for Earth are too small to handle the conditions on Mars

# Question ID 271e41b6

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 271e41b6

NASA's *Cassini* probe has detected an unusual wobble in the rotation of Mimas, Saturn's smallest moon. Using a computer model to study Mimas's gravitational interactions with Saturn and tidal forces, geophysicist Alyssa Rhoden and colleagues have proposed that this wobble could be due to a liquid ocean moving beneath the moon's icy surface. The researchers believe other moons should be examined to see if they too might have oceans hidden beneath their surfaces.

- Which choice best states the main idea of the text?
- A. Rhoden and colleagues were the first to confirm that several of Saturn's moons contain hidden oceans.
  - B. Research has failed to identify signs that there is an ocean hidden beneath the surface of Mimas.
  - C. Rhoden and colleagues created a new computer model that identifies moons with hidden oceans without needing to analyze the moons' rotation.
  - D. Research has revealed that an oddity in the rotation of Mimas could be explained by an ocean hidden beneath its surface.

# Question ID dd8473ca

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: dd8473ca

Oluwaseyi Moejoh cofounded U-recycle Initiative Africa when she was only a teenager. Moejoh and her team founded the organization to teach young people how their actions affect the environment and why recycling is important. For example, the organization put on an exhibit of art made using recycled materials.

According to the text, what is one reason Moejoh and others founded U-recycle Initiative Africa?

- A. To bring attention to overlooked African artists
- B. To teach young people why recycling is important
- C. To help adults gain important outdoor skills
- D. To give teenagers advice about starting businesses

# Question ID 742f5d5c

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 742f5d5c

The following text is adapted from Oscar Wilde’s 1891 novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. Dorian Gray is taking his first look at a portrait that Hallward has painted of him.

Dorian passed listlessly in front of his picture and turned towards it. When he saw it he drew back, and his cheeks flushed for a moment with pleasure. A look of joy came into his eyes, as if he had recognized himself for the first time. He stood there motionless and in wonder, dimly conscious that Hallward was speaking to him, but not catching the meaning of his words. The sense of his own beauty came on him like a revelation. He had never felt it before.

According to the text, what is true about Dorian?

- A. He wants to know Hallward’s opinion of the portrait.
- B. He is delighted by what he sees in the portrait.
- C. He prefers portraits to other types of paintings.
- D. He is uncertain of Hallward’s talent as an artist.

# Question ID 4f24cbbe

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ID: 4f24cbbe

Archaeologist Veronica Waweru visited the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy in Kenya. While exploring there, Waweru noticed many rows of shallow pits carved into stone. Waweru believed the pits could have been used as game boards to play ancient versions of mancala, a two-person strategy game that is still popular today. Some of the more recent pits were carved on top of older pits. This led Waweru to think that the game was played at the site for a long time.

According to the text, why does Waweru think that mancala was played at the site for a long time?

- A. Some of the newer pits were carved on top of the older pits.
- B. She noticed many rows of shallow pits carved into stone.
- C. She discovered the pits at the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy.
- D. Some of the pits were shallow and others were quite deep.

# Question ID 72c86ca1

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 72c86ca1

Psychologists wanted to test how young children think about rewards and fairness. In an experiment, two teachers handed out rewards while children (ages four to six) watched. The teachers gave out the same number of rewards, but one of them counted the rewards out loud. The children were then asked who was fairer. 73% chose the teacher who counted. The psychologists think that counting showed the children that the teacher wanted to be fair. The children may have believed that the teacher who did not count did not care about fairness.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Psychologists think children cannot understand the concept of fairness until they are six years old.
- B. An experiment found that counting out loud is the best way to teach mathematical concepts to children.
- C. Psychologists think young children expect to be rewarded when the children show that they care about fairness.
- D. An experiment showed that the way rewards are given out may affect whether young children think the situation is fair.

# Question ID 3827b106

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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ID: 3827b106

The following text is adapted from Johanna Spyri’s 1881 novel *Heidi* (translated by Elisabeth Stork in 1915). Eight-year-old Heidi and her friend’s grandmother are looking at some illustrated books.

Heidi had come and was looking with wondering eyes at the splendid pictures in the large books, that Grandmama was showing her. Suddenly she screamed aloud, for there on the picture she saw a peaceful flock grazing on a green pasture. In the middle a shepherd was standing, leaning on his crook. The setting sun was shedding a golden light over everything. With glowing eyes Heidi devoured the scene.

- Which choice best states the main idea of the text?
- A. Heidi is upset until she sees a serene image of a pasture in one of Grandmama’s books.
  - B. Heidi is delighted and fascinated by an image she sees in one of Grandmama’s books.
  - C. Heidi is initially frightened by an image in one of Grandmama’s books but quickly comes to appreciate its beauty.
  - D. Heidi is inspecting an image in one of Grandmama’s books because she has never seen a shepherd with his sheep before.

# Question ID 8f05b1ab

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ID: 8f05b1ab

When fashion designer Lloyd Henri Kiva New opened his store in Scottsdale, Arizona, in 1945, he quickly became known for creating delicately crafted leather goods, like belts and hats. He was perhaps most renowned for his colorful handbags, which he made by hand using a long and painstaking process. As he gained more customers, New began using sewing machines and other tools to help him produce bags more efficiently, though he continued to handcraft the crucial details that made each bag unique.

Based on the text, what would have been the most likely consequence if New had not begun using sewing machines?

- A. He would have been unable to ensure that each bag included unique, handcrafted details.
- B. He would have struggled to meet the increasing demand for his bags.
- C. He would have had to individually design each bag he produced.
- D. He would not have been able to generate as much interest in his bags.

# Question ID 1977388d

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ID: 1977388d

Ruth Asawa was an accomplished artist who worked in many art forms, including her unique tied-wire sculptures, but she was dedicated to more than the creation of art. Asawa also wanted to bring art to children in her hometown of San Francisco, California. To that end, in 1968 she cofounded the Alvarado School Arts Workshop, which brought works of art and artists into public schools, and in 1982 she helped found a San Francisco public arts high school, which was later named after her.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Asawa inspired many other artists to share their work with students in public schools.
- B. Asawa’s unique sculptures were appreciated more by local art communities than they were nationwide.
- C. Asawa’s interest in art education prompted her to create art programs for students in San Francisco.
- D. Asawa left a promising career as a sculptor to work as an art teacher in San Francisco schools.

# Question ID 2647b53b

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ID: 2647b53b

To make her art more widely available, graphic artist Elizabeth Catlett turned to linocuts. In linocut printing, an artist carves an image into a sheet of linoleum to create a stamp that is used to mass-produce prints. In the linocut series *The Black Woman* (1946–1947), Catlett depicts the everyday experiences of Black women alongside the achievements of well-known Black women. This pairing invites the viewer to draw connections among the women. The linocut process enabled Catlett’s work to reach a wide audience and supported her aim to unite Black women through her art.

- According to the text, what is significant about Catlett’s use of linocut printing?
- A. Linocut printing involved using materials that were readily available to Catlett.
  - B. Linocut printing helped Catlett use art to connect people, especially Black women.
  - C. Catlett became commercially successful once she started using linocut printing.
  - D. Catlett was one of the first Black artists to use linocut printing.

# Question ID cdf5d7e2

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ID: cdf5d7e2

It has long been thought that the original author of the US Pledge of Allegiance was Francis Bellamy, who said that he wrote the pledge one evening in August of 1892. But a historian recently discovered a newspaper article that was published several months before August 1892. The article describes students reciting the same pledge that Bellamy claims he first wrote in August. This means that Bellamy may not have created the pledge after all.

Based on the text, what piece of knowledge about the Pledge of Allegiance has recently become uncertain?

- A. How many changes were made to the pledge in the 1900s
- B. The identity of the person who first wrote the pledge
- C. The name of the newspaper that first published the pledge
- D. Which part of the pledge students liked best in 1892

# Question ID c74e460e

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
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| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: c74e460e

Xin Wang and colleagues have discovered the earliest known example of a flower bud in a 164-million-year-old plant fossil in China. The researchers have named the new species *Florigerminis jurassica*. They believe that the discovery pushes the emergence of flowering plants, or angiosperms, back to the Jurassic period, which occurred between 145 million and 201 million years ago.

According to the text, how old was the fossil that Wang and colleagues discovered?

- A. 150 million years old
- B. 145 million years old
- C. 164 million years old
- D. 201 million years old

# Question ID 4d49c58f

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 4d49c58f

Having written the impassioned call to arms “Letter to the Spanish Americans” in 1791, Peruvian intellectual Juan Pablo Viscardo y Guzmán is often considered a forerunner for the independence movements in Latin America. But Viscardo’s role in history would have remained insignificant were it not for Venezuelan revolutionary Francisco de Miranda, who was handed the unpublished letter after Viscardo’s death. Miranda not only helped circulate the letter, but his edits and footnotes to the text position Miranda as a central figure in the text’s creation.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. The original authorship of “Letter to the Spanish Americans” is disputed by contemporary historians.
- B. The majority of the most eloquently stated arguments in “Letter to the Spanish Americans” were written by Miranda.
- C. Miranda played a crucial role in influencing the content and distribution of “Letter to the Spanish Americans.”
- D. “Letter to the Spanish Americans” persuaded many people in Latin America to pursue national independence.

# Question ID 9cfd222f

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 9cfd222f

In 2022, researchers rediscovered ancient indigenous glyphs, or drawings, on the walls of a cave in Alabama. The cave’s ceiling was only a few feet high, affording no position from which the glyphs, being as wide as ten feet, could be viewed or photographed in their entirety. However, the researchers used a technique called photogrammetry to assemble numerous photos of the walls into a 3D model. They then worked with representatives of tribes originally from the region, including the Chickasaw Nation, to understand the significance of the animal and humanoid figures adorning the cave.

According to the text, what challenge did the researchers have to overcome to examine the glyphs?

- A. The cave was so remote that the researchers couldn’t easily reach it.
- B. Some of the glyphs were so faint that they couldn’t be photographed.
- C. The researchers were unable to create a 3D model of the cave.
- D. The cave’s dimensions prevented the researchers from fully viewing the glyphs.

# Question ID bb571b13

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: bb571b13

In 1935 Hallie Flanagan was chosen to lead the Federal Theatre Project (FTP). This project was part of the new Works Progress Administration (WPA), a program created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to provide jobs for unemployed people during the Great Depression. As the director of the FTP, Flanagan created jobs for over 12,500 performers, designers, and other theater professionals across the country. She also kept ticket prices low for the shows they staged, which meant that many people could afford to experience theater for the first time.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

- A. Jobs provided by the FTP were intended mainly for performers, designers, and other theater professionals.
- B. President Roosevelt created the WPA to provide jobs for unemployed people.
- C. During the Great Depression, many people couldn't afford to buy theater tickets.
- D. As the director of the FTP, Flanagan succeeded in creating many jobs and introducing people to theater.

# Question ID 8114c6fa

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: 8114c6fa

Few animals are known to spit: among them are humans, cobras, and camels. But in January 2022 at a nature preserve in southern England, bird-watcher Clare Jacobs observed a gray seal spitting a jet of water at a white-tailed eagle flying overhead. Seals had never been seen spitting before. Biologist Sean Twiss, who studies gray seals, believes that the seal may have been attempting to scare the eagle away from a food source or that the seal may have just been playing.

Which choice best states the main topic of the text?

- A. Bird-watching in southern England
- B. A previously unseen behavior of gray seals
- C. How white-tailed eagles defend their territory against other predators
- D. Differences between gray seals and white-tailed eagles

# Question ID cf249983

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: cf249983

Stores often play background music to create a pleasant shopping experience. Based on a survey, Amir Manzoor found that such music was linked to reduced enjoyment among customers. Manzoor thinks that one explanation for this result is that the surveyed customers may have wanted to finish their shopping as quickly as possible. They therefore weren't focused on enjoying the experience. It's possible that background music could improve the experience of other customers whose main goal is to have a good time while they shop.

Based on the text, which research question was Manzoor's study most likely intended to answer?

- A. Does the volume of a store's background music affect how much time customers spend in the store?
- B. How does the use of background music in stores affect customers' shopping experience?
- C. Do customers spend more money when shopping for music in stores or online?
- D. What genres of music do customers prefer to listen to while they are shopping?

# Question ID ce0780fd

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: ce0780fd

Scent is tightly interwoven with our daily lives, often evoking significant memories and important social events. This connection is of growing interest to archaeologists who hope to use it to better understand ancient rituals, trade, social hierarchies, and medicine. Although the speed at which odor molecules dissipate makes identifying ancient scents challenging, advancements in biomolecular technologies show promise in unlocking ancient aromas from preserved artifacts. Archaeological studies making use of these advancements may provide new insights into past societies.

According to the text, what is one reason some archaeologists are interested in recovering scents from ancient artifacts?

- A. They are investigating whether people’s sense of smell has declined in recent centuries.
- B. They believe the scents could illuminate important aspects of ancient life.
- C. They think that ancient scents would be enjoyable to people today.
- D. They hope to develop new medicines using ancient scent molecules.

# Question ID b9d7e8ce

| Assessment | Test                | Domain                | Skill                     | Difficulty                                   |
|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| PSAT 8/9   | Reading and Writing | Information and Ideas | Central Ideas and Details | <div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> |

ID: b9d7e8ce

Artist Justin Favela explained that he wanted to reclaim the importance of the piñata as a symbol in Latinx culture. To do so, he created numerous sculptures from strips of tissue paper, which is similar to the material used to create piñatas. In 2017, Favela created an impressive life-size piñata-like sculpture of the Gypsy Rose lowrider car, which was displayed at the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles, California. The Gypsy Rose lowrider was famously driven by Jesse Valadez, an early president of the Los Angeles Imperials Car Club.

According to the text, which piece of Favela’s art was on display in the Petersen Automotive Museum in 2017?

- A. A painting of Los Angeles
- B. A sculpture of a lowrider car
- C. A painting of a piñata
- D. A sculpture of Jesse Valadez