Question ID 3fc42184

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 3fc42184

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

- By interlocking their bodies, ants can form bridges to help fellow ants cross gaps.
- In 2020, Yasemin Ozkan-Aydin was inspired by ant behavior to design collaborative quadruped robots.
- Over the course of a year, she designed, built, tested, and refined her robots.
- Each robot is programmed to send a signal to another robot upon encountering a gap in a path.
- The signaled robot connects to the back of the signaler robot via magnetic sensors and pushes it across the gap.

The student wants to begin a narrative about the creation of the robots. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. When one of Yasemin Ozkan-Aydin's robots encounters a gap in its path, it sends a signal to another robot; the signaled robot connects to the back of the signaler and pushes it across the gap.

B. After a year, Yasemin Ozkan-Aydin had designed, built, tested, and refined her robots.

C. Inspired by ants, which form bridges with their interlocked bodies to help fellow ants cross gaps, Yasemin Ozkan-Aydin set out to design quadruped robots capable of similarly collaborative behavior.

D. Ants, which have inspired the design of robots, form bridges by interlocking their bodies.

ID: 3fc42184 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively begins a narrative about the creation of the robots, explaining that ants' gap-crossing technique inspired Yasemin Ozkan-Aydin to "set out to design" robots that could collaborate in a similar manner.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes how the robots work together to cross gaps; it doesn't effectively begin a narrative about the creation of the robots. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence provides an overview of the steps Ozkan-Aydin took in creating the robots; it doesn't effectively begin a narrative about their creation. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence explains how ants form bridges; it doesn't effectively begin a narrative about the creation of the robots.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ebbfbd5e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ebbfbd5e

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

- Abdulrazak Gurnah was awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature.
- Gurnah was born in Zanzibar in East Africa and currently lives in the United Kingdom.
- Many readers have singled out Gurnah's 1994 book *Paradise* for praise.
- *Paradise* is a historical novel about events that occurred in colonial East Africa.

The student wants to introduce *Paradise* to an audience unfamiliar with the novel and its author. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Abdulrazak Gurnah, who wrote *Paradise* and later was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature, was born in Zanzibar in East Africa and currently lives in the United Kingdom.

B. Many readers have singled out Abdulrazak Gurnah's 1994 book *Paradise,* a historical novel about colonial East Africa, for praise.

C. A much-praised historical novel about colonial East Africa, *Paradise* (1994) was written by Abdulrazak Gurnah, winner of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature.

D. *Paradise* is a historical novel about events that occurred in colonial East Africa, Abdulrazak Gurnah's homeland.

ID: ebbfbd5e Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively introduces *Paradise* to an audience unfamiliar with the novel and its author, describing *Paradise* as a historical novel about colonial East Africa and its author as the winner of the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence introduces Abdulrazak Gurnah to an audience unfamiliar with the author, it doesn't effectively introduce *Paradise*. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence provides background information about *Paradise*, it doesn't effectively introduce the novel to an audience unfamiliar with its author. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides background information about *Paradise*, it doesn't effectively introduce the novel to an audience unfamiliar with its author.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b5cda95f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b5cda95f

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

- *Las sergas de Esplandián* was a novel popular in sixteenth-century Spain.
- The novel featured a fictional island inhabited solely by Black women and known as California.
- That same century, Spanish explorers learned of an "island" off the west coast of Mexico.
- They called it California after the island in the novel.
- The "island" was actually the peninsula now known as Baja California ("Lower California"), which lies to the south of the US state of California.

The student wants to emphasize the role a misconception played in the naming of a place. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The novel *Las sergas de Esplandián* featured a fictional island known as California.

B. To the south of the US state of California lies Baja California ("Lower California"), originally called California after a fictional place.

C. In the sixteenth century, Spanish explorers learned of a peninsula off the west coast of Mexico and called it California.

D. Thinking it was an island, Spanish explorers called a peninsula California after an island in a popular novel.

ID: b5cda95f Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the role a misconception played in the naming of a place, explaining that Spanish explorers mistook a peninsula for an island and, as a result, named the peninsula after a fictional island, California.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence mentions a novel that featured a fictional island, California; it doesn't emphasize the role a misconception played in the naming of a place. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence notes that Baja California was originally named after a fictional place; it doesn't emphasize the role a misconception—specifically, the Spanish explorers' mistaken belief that the peninsula was an island—played in the naming of a place. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence indicates when Spanish explorers learned of the peninsula they called California; it doesn't emphasize the role a misconception played in the naming of a place.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 72df7623

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 72df7623

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

- In 2018 researchers Adwait Deshpande, Shreejata Gupta, and Anindya Sinha were observing wild macaques in India's Bandipur National Park.
- They saw macaques calling out to and gesturing at humans who were eating or carrying food.
- They designed a study to find out if the macaques were intentionally communicating to try to persuade the humans to share their food.
- In the study trials, macaques frequently called out to and gestured at humans holding food.
- In the study trials, macaques called out to and gestured at empty-handed humans less frequently.

The student wants to present the study's results. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Macaques in the study called out to and gestured more frequently at humans holding food than at empty-handed humans.

B. In 2018, researchers who had observed macaques in India's Bandipur National Park calling out to and gesturing at humans designed a study.

C. The researchers hoped to find out if the macaques were intentionally communicating to try to persuade humans to share their food.

D. The researchers studied how macaques behaved around both humans holding food and empty-handed humans.

ID: 72df7623 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. This choice presents the study's results from the last two bullet points.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice describes the background and motivation of the study but not the outcome or findings. Choice C is incorrect. This choice describes the research question or hypothesis of the study but not the evidence or conclusion. Choice D is incorrect. This choice describes the method or design of the study but not the actual results.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 4f23bdeb

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 4f23bdeb

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

- Thailand's annual Songkran Water Festival is held each April.
- It marks Songkran, the traditional Thai New Year.
- People splash and spray each other for fun at the festival's community-wide water fights.
- In Bangkok, thousands gather along Silom Road for the city's largest water fight.
- In Chiang Mai, thousands gather at a historical monument called the Tha Phae Gate for the city's largest water fight.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity in how people in Bangkok and Chiang Mai celebrate Songkran. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The largest water fight in Bangkok takes place along a city street, whereas the largest water fight in Chiang Mai takes place at a historical monument.

B. In both Bangkok and Chiang Mai, thousands gather to celebrate Songkran with water fights.

C. People in both Bangkok and Chiang Mai celebrate Songkran, but they don't do so in exactly the same way.

D. Each April, people in Thailand celebrate Songkran, the traditional Thai New Year.

ID: 4f23bdeb Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity in how people in Bangkok and Chiang Mai celebrate Songkran, indicating that people in both cities gather to celebrate with water fights.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence notes the different locations of the largest water fight in Bangkok and the largest water fight in Chiang Mai; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in how people in Bangkok and Chiang Mai celebrate Songkran. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence indicates that people in Bangkok and Chiang Mai don't celebrate Songkran in exactly the same way; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in how people in the two cities celebrate Songkran. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence explains when people in Thailand celebrate Songkran; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in how people in Bangkok and Chiang Mai celebrate Songkran.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 422d0a22

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 422d0a22

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

- Ukiyo-e woodblock prints were a popular artistic form in Japan from the 1600s through the 1800s.
- Ukiyo-e prints were produced by teams of artisans that included artists, wood-carvers, printers, and publishers.
- Sōsaku-hanga was a popular Japanese printmaking movement that emerged in the early 1900s.
- Sōsaku-hanga prioritized individual artistic expression.
- An artist working in this style typically handled all aspects of print creation, from drawing to wood carving to printing.

The student wants to contrast ukiyo-e and sōsaku-hanga production methods. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. One notable distinction between ukiyo-e and sōsaku-hanga prints is sōsaku-hanga's emphasis on individual artistic expression.

B. Ukiyo-e prints were popular in Japan from the 1600s through the 1800s, while sōsaku-hanga prints emerged later, in the early 1900s.

C. Teams of artisans produced ukiyo-e prints, whereas individual artists typically handled all aspects of sōsaku-hanga printmaking themselves.

D. In contrast to ukiyo-e prints, sōsaku-hanga prints were produced using methods such as drawing and wood carving.

ID: 422d0a22 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence contrasts the two production methods, noting that ukiyo-e prints are produced by teams of artisans, whereas sōsaku-hanga prints are typically produced by an individual artist.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates a difference between the two styles, noting that sōsaku-hanga emphasizes individual artistic expression, but it doesn't provide sufficient information about ukiyo-e prints to contrast the two styles' production methods. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence contrasts when the two styles were popular; it doesn't contrast their production methods. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence mischaracterizes information from the notes: both styles include drawing and wood carving in their production, not just sōsaku-hanga.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 10af0d71

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 10af0d71

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

- A marathon is a long-distance running race that is 26.2 miles long.
- An ultramarathon is a long-distance running race of more than 26.2 miles.
- The Kepler Challenge is a one-day, 37.3-mile ultramarathon in New Zealand.
- The Spreelauf is a six-day, 261-mile ultramarathon in Germany.

The student wants to make a generalization about ultramarathons. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Examples of ultramarathons include the 37.3-mile Kepler Challenge in New Zealand and the 261-mile Spreelauf in Germany.

B. A marathon is 26.2 miles long, but the Spreelauf ultramarathon, at 261 miles, is far longer.

C. Ultramarathons range widely in length, from a few dozen miles to a few hundred.

D. While the Kepler Challenge is a one-day ultramarathon, the Spreelauf is a six-day ultramarathon.

ID: 10af0d71 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This is the only choice that makes a generalization about ultramarathons.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice gives specific examples of ultramarathons but doesn't say anything about them as a category. Choice B is incorrect. This choice compares marathons in general to one specific ultramarathon but doesn't say anything about ultramarathons as a category. Choice D is incorrect. This choice contrasts two specific ultramarathons but doesn't say anything about them as a category.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID d539eaf3

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: d539eaf3

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

- In 2013, paleontology professor Hesham Sallam and his students from Mansoura University in Egypt made a discovery.
- The team found a partial dinosaur skeleton at a site in Egypt's Dakhla Oasis.
- The skeleton belonged to a dinosaur species that lived approximately 80 million years ago.
- The new species was named *Mansourasaurus* to recognize the team that discovered it.

The student wants to explain the origin of the species' name. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. *Mansourasaurus,* a new species discovered in Egypt in 2013, lived approximately 80 million years ago.

B. A partial dinosaur skeleton found in Egypt's Dakhla Oasis belonged to a species named *Mansourasaurus*.

C. *Mansourasaurus,* a species that lived approximately 80 million years ago, was discovered in 2013 by Egyptian paleontologist Hesham Sallam and a team of university students.

D. The new species was named *Mansourasaurus* to recognize the team that discovered it, a professor and students from Mansoura University.

ID: d539eaf3 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. It explains where the dinosaur's name came from.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice does not explain the origin of the dinosaur's name. Choice B is incorrect. This choice does not explain the origin of the dinosaur's name. Choice C is incorrect. This choice does not explain the origin of the dinosaur's name.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2f47ae4c

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2f47ae4c

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

- From Earth, all the meteors in a meteor shower appear to originate from a single spot in the sky.
- This spot is called the meteor shower's radiant.
- The Perseid meteor shower is visible in the northern hemisphere in July and August.
- Like many meteor showers, it is named for the location of its radiant.
- Its radiant is located within the constellation Perseus.

The student wants to explain the origin of the Perseid meteor shower's name. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The Perseid meteor shower is named for the constellation Perseus, the location of the meteor shower's radiant.

B. A meteor shower's name may be linked to a single spot in the sky.

C. The Perseid meteor shower, which has a radiant, is visible in the northern hemisphere in July and August.

D. From Earth, all the meteors in a meteor shower appear to originate from a radiant, such as the one within Perseus.

ID: 2f47ae4c Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence explains the origin of the Perseid meteor shower's name: the constellation Perseus, where the meteor shower's radiant is located.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence makes a claim about meteor shower names in general; it doesn't explain the origin of the Perseid meteor shower's name specifically. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence indicates when and where the Perseid meteor shower is visible; it doesn't explain the origin of the meteor shower's name. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence discusses meteor showers in general; it doesn't explain the origin of the Perseid meteor shower's name.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 3ccc86f9

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 3ccc86f9

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

- Jacob Lawrence was a US painter best known for *The Migration Series* (1940–41).
- *The Migration Series* portrays scenes from the Great Migration of African Americans from the rural South to cities in the North and Midwest.
- The series consists of 60 colorful semiabstract paintings, numbered 1 through 60.
- The odd-numbered paintings are on display at the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC.
- The even-numbered paintings are on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.
- Painting #12 depicts people buying tickets in a crowded train station.

The student wants to indicate where to go to view Painting #12 from Lawrence's *Migration Series*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Depicting a crowded train station, Painting #12 from *The Migration Series* is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

B. In Painting #12 and the other works of *The Migration Series*, Lawrence painted African Americans going from the rural South to cities in the North and Midwest.

C. To view an even-numbered painting from Lawrence's *Migration Series*, such as the one that depicts people buying train tickets, one must go to Washington, DC.

D. The 60 colorful semiabstract paintings of Lawrence's series can be viewed in two places: the Phillips Collection in Washington, DC, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

ID: 3ccc86f9 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence indicates where to go to view Painting #12 from Lawrence's *Migration Series*, noting that this even-numbered painting is on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence describes the subject matter of *The Migration Series*; it doesn't indicate where to go to view Painting #12. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes: even-numbered paintings, such as Painting #12, are on display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, not in Washington, DC. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions both locations where paintings from the series are displayed, it doesn't indicate where to go to view Painting #12 specifically.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 652950b7

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 652950b7

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

- In 1897, African American inventor Andrew Beard invented an automatic coupler.
- It improved on the existing design of train car couplers.
- It made the job of connecting train cars safer.
- In 1938, African American inventor Frederick Jones invented a mobile refrigeration system.
- It improved on the existing design of food transport trucks.
- It enabled trucks to carry perishable foods farther.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between Beard's invention and Jones's invention. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Beard's automatic coupler and Jones's mobile refrigeration system both improved on existing designs.

B. In 1897, Beard invented an automatic coupler, which made the job of connecting train cars safer.

C. Beard's invention made the job of connecting train cars safer, whereas Jones's invention enabled food transport trucks to carry perishables farther.

D. Jones's mobile refrigeration system, which he invented in 1938, made it possible for food transport trucks to carry perishable foods farther.

ID: 652950b7 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. It compares Beard's and Jones's inventions to one another, and emphasizes what they have in common.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize a similarity. It only mentions Beard's invention. It doesn't compare it to Jones's invention. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize a similarity between the two inventions. Instead, it emphasizes a difference. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize a similarity. It only mentions Jones's invention. It doesn't compare it to Beard's invention.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID f7957896

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: f7957896

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

- *Here I Have Returned* is a sculpture by Egyptian American artist Sherin Guirguis.
- It is a large, curved strip of wood inspired by the shape of a sistrum.
- A sistrum is a curved musical instrument played by ancient Egyptian priestesses in ceremonies.
- Guirguis says that the sculpture symbolizes “women who have lifted and supported Egyptian society and culture.”
- Overall, Guirguis wants her works to “engage audiences in a dialogue about power, agency, and social transformation.”

The student wants to use a quotation from Guirguis to explain what the sculpture represents. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Guirguis, whose works include a sculpture that is a large, curved strip of wood, has explained that she wants her work to create a dialogue with audiences.

B. Inspired by the sistrum played by Egyptian priestesses, *Here I Have Returned* symbolizes “women who have lifted and supported Egyptian society and culture,” according to Guirguis.

C. According to Guirguis, the curved strip of wood used in *Here I Have Returned* was inspired by the sistrum, a musical instrument played by ancient Egyptian priestesses in ceremonies.

D. Guirguis, the sculptor of *Here I Have Returned*, wants her works to “engage audiences in a dialogue about power, agency, and social transformation.”

ID: f7957896 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence uses a quotation from Guirguis to explain what *Here I Have Returned* represents, noting that Guirguis said the sculpture symbolizes "women who have lifted and supported Egyptian society and culture."

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence explains what Guirguis says she wants her work to achieve and provides an example of her work; it doesn’t use a quotation to explain what the sculpture represents. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence mentions the instrument whose shape inspired the sculpture but doesn’t use a quotation to explain what the sculpture represents. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence does use a quotation from Guirguis, the quotation explains what she hopes her works in general achieve, not what the sculpture in particular represents.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 737b5f2e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 737b5f2e

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

- John Carver was one of the 41 signatories of the Mayflower Compact.
- The Mayflower Compact was a legal agreement among the pilgrims that immigrated to Plymouth Colony.
- It was created in 1620 to establish a common government.
- It states that the pilgrims who signed it wanted to “plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia” under King James.
- Carver became the first governor of Plymouth Colony.

The student wants to specify the reason the Mayflower Compact was created. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Stating that its signatories wanted to “plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia,” the Mayflower Compact was a legal agreement among the pilgrims that immigrated to Plymouth Colony.

B. Created in 1620, the Mayflower Compact states that the pilgrims wanted to “plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia.”

C. The Mayflower Compact was created to establish a common government among the pilgrims that immigrated to Plymouth Colony.

D. The Mayflower Compact had 41 signatories, including John Carver, the first governor of Plymouth Colony.

ID: 737b5f2e Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence specifies the reason the Mayflower Compact was created, noting that it was created to establish a common government among the pilgrims that immigrated to Plymouth Colony.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence provides background information about the Mayflower Compact and notes the signatories’ goal for the colony, it doesn’t specify why the compact was created. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence provides background information about the Mayflower Compact and notes the signatories’ goal for the colony, it doesn’t specify why the compact was created. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence specifies the number of pilgrims that signed the Mayflower Compact; it doesn’t specify the reason the compact was created.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 9da711a6

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 9da711a6

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

- Albert Einstein's theory of general relativity allows for potential shortcuts through spacetime.
- These hypothetical spacetime tunnels are known as wormholes.
- For matter to travel through a wormhole, it would need to have negative energy density.
- Negative energy density means that the matter would have less energy than empty space.
- Such matter has not been shown to exist.

The student wants to acknowledge a complication affecting travel through wormholes. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Einstein's theory of general relativity allows for potential spacetime shortcuts called wormholes but does not explain how matter with negative energy density could travel through them.

B. For matter to travel through a wormhole, the matter would need to have less energy than empty space; such matter has not been shown to exist.

C. The hypothetical tunnels known as wormholes would be potential shortcuts through spacetime were it not for one complication: they have less energy than empty space.

D. For wormholes to be possible, according to Einstein's theory of general relativity, they would have to allow for potential shortcuts through spacetime.

ID: 9da711a6 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence acknowledges a complication affecting travel through wormholes, noting that the matter traveling through a wormhole would need to have less energy than empty space and that such matter has not been shown to exist.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence notes that Einstein's theory doesn't explain how matter with negative energy density can travel through wormholes; it doesn't acknowledge a complication affecting travel through wormholes. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence acknowledges a complication affecting travel through wormholes, it misrepresents information from the notes; matter traveling through wormholes, not the wormholes themselves, would need to have negative energy density. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence presents a misleading interpretation of Einstein's theory (confusing the definition of a wormhole with a condition a wormhole must fulfill); it doesn't acknowledge a complication affecting travel through wormholes.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2e543111

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2e543111

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

- Generally, an object will heat up when twisted.
- The twisting of an object is known as torsion.
- A 2019 study led by Zunfeng Liu and Ray Baughman tested the torsional heating of various fibers.
- When a 3-millimeter-thick sample of thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) fiber was twisted, its average surface temperature increased by 6°C.
- When a 4-millimeter-thick sample of styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS) rubber fiber was twisted, its average surface temperature increased by 3.5°C.

The student wants to contrast the two samples. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. When the fibers were twisted as part of the 2019 study, the surface temperature of both samples increased.

B. In 2019, researchers studied the effect of torsional heating on various fibers, including samples of SEBS rubber and TPU.

C. Twisting an object will generally cause its temperature to increase, a process known as torsional heating.

D. The SEBS rubber sample used in the 2019 study was thicker than the TPU sample.

ID: 2e543111 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence contrasts the two samples, noting that the SEBS rubber sample, at 4 millimeters thick, was thicker than the TPU sample, which was 3 millimeters thick.

Choice A is incorrect because the sentence mentions a similarity between the TPU fiber and the SEBS rubber; it doesn't contrast the two samples. Choice B is incorrect because the sentence indicates that both the SEBS rubber and TPU samples were part of the 2019 study; it doesn't contrast the two samples. Choice C is incorrect because the sentence describes the process of torsional heating; it doesn't contrast the two samples.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 3a3312ac

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 3a3312ac

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

- Elizabeth Catlett's sculpture *Recognition* (1970) shows two African American figures with rounded, indistinct features.
- The figures reach out to each other in a pose that symbolizes a close, supportive relationship.
- Her sculpture *Students Aspire* (1978) shows two African American figures with sharply defined features.
- The figures hold an equal sign above their heads with one hand and embrace each other with the other hand.
- This pose symbolizes their support for each other in the pursuit of equality.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the two sculptures. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Catlett's *Students Aspire* depicts two figures supporting each other in the pursuit of equality.

B. *Recognition* and *Students Aspire* both show African American figures in poses that symbolize supportive relationships.

C. Catlett completed *Recognition* in 1970 and *Students Aspire* in 1978.

D. The figures in *Recognition* have features that are rounded and indistinct, while the figures in *Students Aspire* have sharply defined features.

ID: 3a3312ac Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the sculptures *Recognition* and *Students Aspire*, noting that both sculptures show African American figures in poses that symbolize supportive relationships.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes one of the sculptures; it doesn't emphasize a similarity between the two sculptures. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence specifies the different years the sculptures were completed in; it doesn't emphasize a similarity between the two sculptures. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the two sculptures, noting that the figures in the sculptures have different feature definition; it doesn't emphasize a similarity between the two sculptures.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID f65de8d2

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: f65de8d2

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

- Muckrakers were journalists who sought to expose corruption in US institutions during the Progressive Era (1897–1920).
- Ida Tarbell was a muckraker who investigated the Standard Oil Company.
- She interviewed Standard Oil Company executives, oil industry workers, and public officials.
- She examined thousands of pages of the company's internal communications, including letters and financial records.
- Her book *The History of the Standard Oil Company* (1904) exposed the company's unfair business practices.

The student wants to emphasize the thoroughness of Ida Tarbell's investigation of the Standard Oil Company. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Ida Tarbell not only interviewed Standard Oil executives, oil industry workers, and public officials but also examined thousands of pages of the company's internal communications.

B. Ida Tarbell, who investigated the Standard Oil Company, was a muckraker (a journalist who sought to expose corruption in US institutions during the Progressive Era, 1897–1920).

C. As part of her investigation of the Standard Oil Company, muckraker Ida Tarbell conducted interviews.

D. Published in 1904, muckraker Ida Tarbell's book *The History of the Standard Oil Company* exposed the company's unfair business practices.

ID: f65de8d2 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. It describes Tarbell's investigation and the lengths she went to complete it.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe how thorough Tarbell was. Instead, it gives a biographical sketch. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe how thorough Tarbell was. Tarbell didn't only conduct interviews—she also "examined thousands of pages of the company's internal communications." Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe how thorough Tarbell was. It describes her book but doesn't include anything about her investigation.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID af2f8b9d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: af2f8b9d

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

- Most, but not all, of the Moon's oxygen comes from the Sun, via solar wind.
- Cosmochemist Kentaro Terada from Osaka University wondered if some of the unaccounted-for oxygen could be coming from Earth.
- In 2008, he analyzed data from the Japanese satellite Kaguya.
- Kaguya gathered data about gases and particles it encountered while orbiting the Moon.
- Based on the Kaguya data, Terada confirmed his suspicion that Earth is sending oxygen to the Moon.

The student wants to emphasize the aim of the research study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. As it orbited the Moon, the Kaguya satellite collected data that was later analyzed by cosmochemist Kentaro Terada.

B. Before 2008, Kentaro Terada wondered if the Moon was receiving some of its oxygen from Earth.

C. Cosmochemist Kentaro Terada set out to determine whether some of the Moon's oxygen was coming from Earth.

D. Kentaro Terada's study determined that Earth is sending a small amount of oxygen to the Moon.

ID: af2f8b9d Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the aim, or goal, of the research study, noting what Terada set out to do: determine whether some of the Moon's oxygen was coming from Earth.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence focuses on how the Kaguya satellite collected data; it doesn't emphasize the aim of the research study. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions what Terada was curious about before conducting the research study, it doesn't emphasize his study's aim. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence presents the research study's conclusion; it doesn't emphasize the study's aim.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 990bd995

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 990bd995

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

- A thermal inversion is a phenomenon where a layer of atmosphere is warmer than the layer beneath it.
- In 2022, a team of researchers studied the presence of thermal inversions in twenty-five gas giants.
- Gas giants are planets largely composed of helium and hydrogen.
- The team found that gas giants featuring a thermal inversion were also likely to contain heat-absorbing metals.
- One explanation for this relationship is that these metals may reside in a planet's upper atmosphere, where their absorbed heat causes an increase in temperature.

The student wants to present the study's findings to an audience already familiar with thermal inversions. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Heat-absorbing metals may reside in a planet's upper atmosphere.

B. The team studied thermal inversions in twenty-five gas giants, which are largely composed of helium and hydrogen.

C. Researchers found that gas giants featuring a thermal inversion were likely to contain heat-absorbing metals, which may reside in the planets' upper atmospheres.

D. Gas giants were likely to contain heat-absorbing metals when they featured a layer of atmosphere warmer than the layer beneath it, researchers found; this phenomenon is known as a thermal inversion.

ID: 990bd995 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. It describes the study's findings in a way that assumes the audience is already familiar with thermal inversions.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't fully describe the findings of the study, because it doesn't include anything about thermal inversions. Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe the study's findings. Choice D is incorrect. This choice isn't suited for an audience already familiar with thermal inversion. A familiar audience wouldn't need to have the term defined.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID cfb5df86

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: cfb5df86

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

- Annie Wu is a prominent American flutist who graduated from the New England Conservatory.
- She has won multiple national flute competitions.
- She is best known for a 2011 YouTube video that has been viewed over two million times.
- The video shows her performing *Three Beats for Beatbox Flute,* an original work by composer Greg Pattillo.
- Wu combines flute playing and beatboxing in the video.

The student wants to emphasize Wu's most well-known achievement. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Annie Wu, who has won multiple national flute competitions, has also combined flute playing and beatboxing.

B. Among her many achievements, prominent American flutist Annie Wu graduated from the New England Conservatory and has won multiple national flute competitions.

C. Annie Wu is best known for a 2011 YouTube video performance of *Three Beats for Beatbox Flute* that has been viewed over two million times.

D. Composer Greg Pattillo's original work *Three Beats for Beatbox Flute* combines flute playing and beatboxing.

ID: cfb5df86 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This describes the achievement for which Wu is best known.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize Wu's most well-known achievement. It mentions some of her general achievements, but not the one for which she is "best known." Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize Wu's most well-known achievement—it describes several of her achievements equally. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize Wu's most well-known achievement. It describes a piece of music featured in her most well-known achievement.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 00bfa92d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 00bfa92d

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

- Ancient Native American and Australian Aboriginal cultures described the Pleiades star cluster as having seven stars.
- It was referred to as the Seven Sisters in the mythology of ancient Greece.
- Today, the cluster appears to have only six stars.
- Two of the stars have moved so close together that they now appear as one.

The student wants to specify the reason the Pleiades' appearance changed. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Ancient Native American and Australian Aboriginal cultures described the Pleiades, which was referred to in Greek mythology as the Seven Sisters, as having seven stars.

B. Although once referred to as the Seven Sisters, the Pleiades appears to have only six stars today.

C. In the time since ancient cultures described the Pleiades as having seven stars, two of the cluster's stars have moved so close together that they now appear as one.

D. The Pleiades has seven stars, but two are so close together that they appear to be a single star.

ID: 00bfa92d Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence specifies the reason the Pleiades' appearance changed, noting that two of the cluster's stars have moved so close together that they now appear as one star.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence specifies how ancient Native American and Australian Aboriginal cultures described the Pleiades; it doesn't specify the reason the Pleiades' appearance changed. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence describes the appearance of the Pleiades today; it doesn't specify the reason the Pleiades' appearance changed. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence explains why two of the Pleiades' stars appear to be a single star; it doesn't specify the reason the Pleiades' appearance changed.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID d9a7677f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: d9a7677f

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

- Planetary scientists classify asteroids based on their composition.
- C-type asteroids are composed primarily of carbon.
- They account for roughly 75 percent of known asteroids.
- S-type asteroids are primarily made up of silicate minerals.
- They account for roughly 17 percent of known asteroids.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between C-type and S-type asteroids. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Planetary scientists classify asteroids into types, two of which are the C-type and the S-type.

B. Planetary scientists consider an asteroid's composition (such as whether the asteroid is composed mainly of silicate minerals or carbon) when classifying it.

C. Roughly 17 percent of known asteroids are classified as S-type asteroids; another percentage is classified as C-type asteroids.

D. C-type asteroids are mainly composed of carbon, whereas S-type asteroids are primarily made up of silicate minerals.

ID: d9a7677f Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between C-type and S-type asteroids, noting that C-type asteroids are mainly composed of carbon, while S-type asteroids are mainly composed of silicate minerals.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence states that C-type and S-type are two types of asteroids, but it doesn't emphasize a difference between them. Choice B is incorrect because it doesn't directly mention C-type or S-type asteroids. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that 17 percent of known asteroids are S-type asteroids, it doesn't identify the percentage of asteroids that are C-type. Therefore, the sentence doesn't emphasize a difference between the two types.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 88c4086d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 88c4086d

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

- Tecozautla is a municipality in the state of Hidalgo, Mexico.
- Municipalities are governmental regions responsible for providing many public services to their residents.
- One service they provide is street lighting.
- Tecozautla covers an area of roughly 535 km².
- Hidalgo is divided into 84 municipalities.

The student wants to emphasize the size of Tecozautla. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The municipality of Tecozautla in Hidalgo, Mexico, covers an area of roughly 535 km².

B. Providing street lighting is just one example of the public services that municipalities provide.

C. Tecozautla is one of 84 governmental regions, known as municipalities, across Hidalgo.

D. Tecozautla—a governmental region in the state of Hidalgo, Mexico—provides many public services to its residents.

ID: 88c4086d Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the size of Tecozautla, noting that it covers an area of roughly 535 km².

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence gives an example of a public service that municipalities provide; it doesn't emphasize the size of Tecozautla. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides information about Tecozautla, it doesn't emphasize Tecozautla's size. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides information about Tecozautla, it doesn't emphasize Tecozautla's size.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID a80b9fe1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: a80b9fe1

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

- Brass is a metal alloy composed primarily of zinc and copper.
- Alpha brass contains less than 35% zinc.
- It is more malleable than beta brass and can be manipulated at room temperature.
- Beta brass contains more than 45% zinc.
- It is harder and stronger than alpha brass but is more difficult to work with because it requires heat to manipulate.

The student wants to specify an advantage of alpha brass. Which choice most effectively uses information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. As a metal alloy composed primarily of zinc and copper, alpha brass has a notable advantage over beta brass.

B. Unlike beta brass, which requires heat to manipulate, alpha brass can be shaped at room temperature.

C. Alpha brass contains less than 35% zinc, whereas beta brass contains more than 45% zinc.

D. With its higher zinc content, alpha brass is a stronger material than beta brass.

ID: a80b9fe1 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence specifies an advantage of alpha brass, noting that unlike beta brass, which requires heat to manipulate, alpha brass can be shaped at room temperature.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that alpha brass has an advantage over beta brass, it doesn't specify what that advantage is. Both alpha brass and beta brass are metal alloys composed primarily of zinc and copper. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence contrasts the zinc content of alpha and beta brass; it doesn't specify an advantage of alpha brass. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence does specify an advantage, it misrepresents information from the notes: beta brass, not alpha brass, has the higher zinc content and is the stronger material.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 3ba08ce1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 3ba08ce1

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

- Maika'i Tubbs is a Native Hawaiian sculptor and installation artist.
- His work has been shown in the United States, Canada, Japan, and Germany, among other places.
- Many of his sculptures feature discarded objects.
- His work *Erasure* (2008) includes discarded audiocassette tapes and magnets.
- His work *Home Grown* (2009) includes discarded pushpins, plastic plates and forks, and wood.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the two works. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. *Erasure* (2008) uses discarded objects such as audiocassette tapes and magnets; *Home Grown* (2009), however, includes pushpins, plastic plates and forks, and wood.

B. Tubbs's work, which often features discarded objects, has been shown both within the United States and abroad.

C. Like many of Tubbs's sculptures, both *Erasure* and *Home Grown* include discarded objects: *Erasure* uses audiocassette tapes, and *Home Grown* uses plastic forks.

D. Tubbs completed *Erasure* in 2008 and *Home Grown* in 2009.

ID: 3ba08ce1 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This choice most effectively emphasizes "a similarity" by identifying a trait the works share: "both Erasure and Home Grown include discarded objects."

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't "emphasize a similarity." Instead, this choice shows how the materials used in the two works are different. Notice the use of the contrast word "however." Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't "emphasize a similarity between the two works." While it says that Tubbs's work "often features discarded objects," it doesn't provide details about the two works in question. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't "emphasize a similarity." Instead, this choice shows how the works were produced at different times.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6800c1cc

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6800c1cc

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

- Cecilia Vicuña is a multidisciplinary artist.
- In 1971, her first solo art exhibition, *Pinturas, poemas y explicaciones*, was shown at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Santiago, Chile.
- Her poetry collection *Precario/Precarious* was published in 1983 by Tanam Press.
- Her poetry collection *Instan* was published in 2002 by Kelsey St. Press.
- She lives part time in Chile, where she was born, and part time in New York.

The student wants to introduce the artist's 1983 poetry collection. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Before she published the books *Precario/Precarious* (1983) and *Instan* (2002), Cecilia Vicuña exhibited visual art at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Santiago, Chile.

B. Cecilia Vicuña is a true multidisciplinary artist whose works include numerous poetry collections and visual art exhibitions.

C. Published in 1983 by Tanam Press, *Precario/Precarious* is a collection of poetry by the multidisciplinary artist Cecilia Vicuña.

D. In 1971, Cecilia Vicuña exhibited her first solo art exhibition, *Pinturas, poemas y explicaciones*, in Chile, her country of birth.

ID: 6800c1cc Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively introduces the poetry collection *Precario/Precarious*, noting that it is a collection by Vicuña that was published in 1983 by Tanam Press.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the 1983 poetry collection *Precario/Precarious*, it focuses mainly on Vicuña's visual art. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence doesn't introduce the 1983 poetry collection *Precario/Precarious*; instead, it introduces Vicuña. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the location of Vicuña's 1971 exhibition *Pinturas, poemas y explicaciones*; it doesn't introduce the 1983 poetry collection *Precario/Precarious*.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 25384355

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 25384355

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

- 2024: Spain and Portugal sponsored a workshop to address recent encounters between Iberian orcas and marine vessels off the Iberian Peninsula.
- Many of the 637 documented incidents involved pods of orcas damaging vessels by ramming, nudging, or biting the rudders.
- Studies of Iberian orcas suggest recent increases in tuna populations have reduced the time the orcas spend hunting by 99%.
- Researchers believe this shift has increased the number of interactions between marine vessels and understimulated orcas.
- The workshop advised mariners to avoid orcas pending further testing of the efficacy of TAST, a harmless acoustic deterrent.

The student wants to make and support a claim about Iberian orca behavior. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The recent destructive behavior of Iberian orcas may be the result of understimulation, given that orcas' interactions with marine vessels have increased as the orcas have spent less time hunting.

B. As supported by the workshop's analysis of 637 encounters between vessels and Iberian orcas, TAST is a harmless and effective acoustic deterrent.

C. In 2024, Spain and Portugal sponsored a workshop that addressed incidents where pods of Iberian orcas were ramming, nudging, or biting the rudders of vessels.

D. Tuna populations have increased by approximately 99% off the Iberian Peninsula due to changes in the hunting behavior of Iberian orcas.

ID: 25384355 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence makes and supports a claim about Iberian orca behavior, claiming that the orcas' destructive behavior may be the result of understimulation and citing as support the fact that as orcas have spent less time hunting (a stimulating activity), encounters with vessels have increased.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence makes a claim about an orca deterrent, it misrepresents information from the notes. The workshop advised avoiding orcas pending further testing of TAST's efficacy; it didn't claim that TAST was effective. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence describes a workshop that addressed the orcas' behavior; it doesn't make or support a claim about their behavior. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence does make a claim about orcas' hunting behavior, it misrepresents information

from the notes; the notes state that increased tuna populations have reduced orcas' hunting time by 99%, not that tuna populations have increased by 99% because of the orcas' behavior.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ee73dd7e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ee73dd7e

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

- *The Ramayana* is a Sanskrit epic poem from ancient India.
- In *The Ramayana*, the character Kaikeyi is often portrayed as a villain.
- *Kaikeyi* is a 2022 novel by Vaishnavi Patel.
- The novel is a retelling of the epic poem from Kaikeyi's point of view.
- It often portrays Kaikeyi as heroic.

The student wants to emphasize whose point of view the novel is told from. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. From the point of view of *The Ramayana*, the character Kaikeyi is often a villain.

B. Vaishnavi Patel often portrays the character as heroic.

C. *Kaikeyi* is a retelling of *The Ramayana* from the character Kaikeyi's point of view.

D. *The Ramayana* is an epic poem that features the character Kaikeyi.

ID: ee73dd7e Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes whose point of view the novel *Kaikeyi* is told from: the character Kaikeyi's.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence does discuss point of view, it focuses on that of the epic poem rather than the novel. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence seems to be referring to Patel's novel, it doesn't establish whose point of view the novel is told from. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence discusses the character Kaikeyi in the context of the epic poem; it doesn't discuss the novel's point of view.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 046c98dd

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 046c98dd

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

- In 1859, the novel *Adam Bede* was published in England.
- According to the novel's title page, the author's name was George Eliot.
- George Eliot was widely assumed to be a pseudonym.
- A pseudonym is a fake name used to conceal an author's identity.
- A woman named Mary Ann Evans later revealed herself as the novel's real author.

The student wants to identify the real author of *Adam Bede*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The real author of *Adam Bede* was Mary Ann Evans, who published the novel using the pseudonym George Eliot.

B. George Eliot, which *Adam Bede*'s title page indicated was the name of the novel's author, was widely assumed to be a pseudonym.

C. The title page of the novel *Adam Bede* indicated that the author's name was George Eliot.

D. A woman who had used a pseudonym to conceal her identity later revealed herself as the real author of *Adam Bede*.

ID: 046c98dd Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence identifies the novel's real author, explaining that Mary Ann Evans published the novel under the pseudonym of George Eliot.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains that George Eliot was assumed to be a pseudonym; it doesn't identify the novel's real author. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence specifies the pseudonym used on the novel's title page; it doesn't identify the novel's real author. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that the novel's real author used a pseudonym, it doesn't identify that author as Mary Ann Evans.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID a846cda0

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: a846cda0

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

- In the early 1960s, the US had a strict national-origins quota system for immigrants.
- The number of new immigrants allowed from a country each year was based on how many people from that country lived in the US in 1890.
- This system favored immigrants from northern Europe.
- Almost 70% of slots were reserved for immigrants from Great Britain, Ireland, and Germany.
- The 1965 Hart-Celler Act abolished the national-origins quota system.

The student wants to present the significance of the Hart-Celler Act to an audience unfamiliar with the history of US immigration. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Almost 70% of slots were reserved for immigrants from Great Britain, Ireland, and Germany at the time the Hart-Celler Act was proposed.

B. Prior to the Hart-Celler Act, new immigration quotas were based on how many people from each country lived in the US in 1890.

C. The quota system in place in the early 1960s was abolished by the 1965 Hart-Celler Act.

D. The 1965 Hart-Celler Act abolished the national-origins quota system, which favored immigrants from northern Europe.

ID: a846cda0 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence presents the significance of the Hart-Celler Act to an audience unfamiliar with the history of US immigration, noting that the 1965 act abolished the national-origins quota system and explaining why that mattered, historically: because the old quota system had favored immigrants from northern Europe.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes an aspect of immigration policy at the time the Hart-Celler Act was proposed; it doesn't present the significance of the Hart-Celler Act to an audience unfamiliar with the history of US immigration. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence describes an aspect of immigration policy before the Hart-Celler Act; it doesn't describe or present the significance of the act to an audience unfamiliar with the history of US immigration. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that the Hart-Celler Act abolished the old quota system, it doesn't explain the act or the quota system to an audience unfamiliar with the history of US immigration.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 1572e3e1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 1572e3e1

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

- As engineered structures, many bird nests are uniquely flexible yet cohesive.
- A research team led by Yashraj Bhosale wanted to better understand the mechanics behind these structural properties.
- Bhosale's team used laboratory models that simulated the arrangement of flexible sticks into nest-like structures.
- The researchers analyzed the points where sticks touched one another.
- When pressure was applied to the model nests, the number of contact points between the sticks increased, making the structures stiffer.

The student wants to present the primary aim of the research study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Bhosale's team wanted to better understand the mechanics behind bird nests' uniquely flexible yet cohesive structural properties.

B. The researchers used laboratory models that simulated the arrangement of flexible sticks and analyzed the points where sticks touched one another.

C. After analyzing the points where sticks touched, the researchers found that the structures became stiffer when pressure was applied.

D. As analyzed by Bhosale's team, bird nests are uniquely flexible yet cohesive engineered structures.

ID: 1572e3e1 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. It describes the reason Bhosale's team wanted to study the structures of bird nests—that is to say, the study's primary aim.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't present the primary aim of the research study. It describes how the study worked, but not why it was done. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't present the primary aim of the research study. It describes a result of the experiment, but not why it was carried out. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't present the primary aim of the research study.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 53ebdec8

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 53ebdec8

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

- In 2019, Emily Shepard and colleagues in the UK and Germany studied the effect of wind on auks' success in landing at cliffside nesting sites.
- They found as wind conditions intensified, the birds needed more attempts in order to make a successful landing.
- When the wind was still, almost 100% of landing attempts were successful.
- In a strong breeze, approximately 40% of attempts were successful.
- In near-gale conditions, only around 20% of attempts were successful.

The student wants to summarize the study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. For a 2019 study, researchers from the UK and Germany collected data on auks' attempts to land at cliffside nesting sites in different wind conditions.

B. Emily Shepard and her colleagues wanted to know the extent to which wind affected auks' success in landing at cliffside nesting sites, so they conducted a study.

C. Knowing that auks often need multiple attempts to land at their cliffside nesting sites, Emily Shepard studied the birds' success rate, which was only around 20% in some conditions.

D. Emily Shepard's 2019 study of auks' success in landing at cliffside nesting sites showed that as wind conditions intensified, the birds' success rate decreased.

ID: 53ebdec8 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence effectively summarizes the study, noting who conducted it, when it was conducted, and what its results showed: that auks' landing success rate decreased as wind conditions intensified.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence presents the methodology of the study—that is, the approach taken by the researchers—it fails to summarize the study as a whole. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence presents the aim, or goal, of the study, it fails to summarize the study as a whole. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence indicates what Shepard studied, it fails to mention a key factor: the effect of wind. It thus fails to summarize the study as a whole.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ecbfe809

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ecbfe809

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

- In astronomy, the mass of stars can be described in units called solar masses.
- One solar mass is roughly equal to the mass of the Sun.
- The mass of the star Proxima Centauri is 0.122 solar masses.
- The mass of the star Sirius A is 2.063 solar masses.

The student wants to emphasize the mass of Sirius A. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The mass of stars, like Proxima Centauri, can be described in units called solar masses.

B. In astronomy, the mass of stars can be described in units called solar masses, and one solar mass is roughly equal to the mass of the Sun.

C. The Sun is more massive than Proxima Centauri, which has a mass of 0.122 solar masses.

D. With a mass of 2.063 solar masses, Sirius A is more massive than the Sun.

ID: ecbfe809 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the mass of Sirius A, noting that it has a mass of 2.063 solar masses and that it is larger than the Sun.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence makes a generalization about how the mass of stars can be measured; it doesn't emphasize the mass of Sirius A. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence introduces solar masses as a unit of measurement; it doesn't emphasize the mass of Sirius A. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the mass of Proxima Centauri, not the mass of Sirius A.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e162b5ae

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e162b5ae

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

- Texture analysis and historical analysis are two approaches to art criticism.
- Texture analysis examines how surfaces are visually represented in an artwork.
- Such an analysis of Giorgione's *Youth Holding an Arrow* might consider how the painting's blended colors make the subject's skin appear smooth in texture.
- Historical analysis considers the historical context in which a work was created.
- Such an analysis of Diego Velázquez's *Las Meninas* might consider how the painting's depiction of the artist with King Philip IV symbolizes art's historical ties to power.

The student wants to present historical analysis to an audience unfamiliar with the concept. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. A texture analysis of *Youth Holding an Arrow* might consider how the painting's blended colors make the subject's skin appear smooth in texture.

B. Texture analysis differs from historical analysis in that texture analysis examines how surfaces are visually represented in an artwork.

C. An approach to art criticism, historical analysis considers the historical context in which a work was created.

D. *Las Meninas*'s depiction of the artist with King Philip IV symbolizes art's historical ties to power.

ID: e162b5ae Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence presents historical analysis to an audience unfamiliar with the concept by defining it as an approach to art criticism that considers the historical context in which a work was created.

Choice A is incorrect because it provides an example of texture analysis; it doesn't present historical analysis to an audience unfamiliar with the concept. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains a difference between texture analysis and historical analysis; it doesn't present historical analysis to an audience unfamiliar with the concept. Choice D is incorrect. It provides an example of historical analysis; it doesn't present historical analysis to an audience unfamiliar with the concept.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 403b0a21

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 403b0a21

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

- Mary Kang is a Korean American portrait photographer.
- She is based in New York City and in Austin, Texas.
- One of Kang's photographs features artist Dominique Fung.
- In the portrait, Fung is seated on the floor.
- Five of Fung's paintings are resting against the wall behind her.

The student wants to describe where Fung is in the photograph to an audience already familiar with Kang and Fung. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Dominique Fung is in a photograph by Mary Kang, a portrait photographer based in New York City and Austin, Texas.

B. Mary Kang is a photographer based in both New York City and Austin, Texas.

C. Five paintings by artist Dominique Fung can be seen in the background of Mary Kang's photograph.

D. In Kang's portrait of her, Fung is seated on the floor, with five of her paintings resting against the wall behind her.

ID: 403b0a21 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence describes Fung's location in Kang's photograph, noting that Fung is seated on the floor. Additionally, because the sentence is intended for an audience already familiar with the artists, it omits the artists' first names and other biographical information about them.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates that Fung appears in Kang's photograph; it doesn't describe Fung's location in Kang's photograph. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence identifies Kang and where she is based; it doesn't describe Fung's location in Kang's photograph. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence describes the background of Kang's photograph; it doesn't describe Fung's location in Kang's photograph.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID d305b5c4

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: d305b5c4

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

- In 1999, astronomer Todd Henry studied the differences in surface temperature between the Sun and nearby stars.
- His team mapped all stars within 10 parsecs (approximately 200 trillion miles) of the Sun.
- The surface temperature of the Sun is around 9,800°F, which classifies it as a G star.
- 327 of the 357 stars in the study were classified as K or M stars, with surface temperatures under 8,900°F (cooler than the Sun).
- 11 of the 357 stars in the study were classified as A or F stars, with surface temperatures greater than 10,300°F (hotter than the Sun).

The student wants to emphasize how hot the Sun is relative to nearby stars. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. At around 9,800°F, which classifies it as a G star, the Sun is hotter than most but not all of the stars within 10 parsecs of it.

B. Astronomer Todd Henry determined that the Sun, at around 9,800°F, is a G star, and several other stars within a 10-parsec range are A or F stars.

C. Of the 357 stars within ten parsecs of the Sun, 327 are classified as K or M stars, with surface temperatures under 8,900°F.

D. While most of the stars within 10 parsecs of the Sun are classified as K, M, A, or F stars, the Sun is classified as a G star due to its surface temperature of 9,800°F.

ID: d305b5c4 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. Noting that the Sun (9,800°F) is hotter than most stars within 10 parsecs of it, the sentence emphasizes how hot the Sun is relative to nearby stars.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains that astronomer Todd Henry determined the classifications for the Sun and several other stars nearby; it doesn't emphasize how hot the Sun is relative to nearby stars. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence explains that the majority of stars near the Sun are classified as K or M stars; it doesn't indicate the Sun's temperature or emphasize how hot it is relative to nearby stars. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that the Sun is classified differently than most nearby stars due to its surface temperature, it doesn't emphasize how hot the Sun is relative to nearby stars.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 03319bf7

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 03319bf7

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

- The Haudenosaunee Confederacy is a nearly 1,000-year-old alliance of six Native nations in the northeastern US.
- The members are bound by a centuries-old agreement known as the Great Law of Peace.
- Historian Bruce Johansen is one of several scholars who believe that the principles of the Great Law of Peace influenced the US Constitution.
- This theory is called the influence theory.
- Johansen cites the fact that Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson both studied the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

The student wants to present the influence theory to an audience unfamiliar with the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Historian Bruce Johansen believes that the Great Law of Peace was very influential.

B. The influence theory is supported by the fact that Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson both studied the Haudenosaunee Confederacy.

C. The influence theory holds that the principles of the Great Law of Peace, a centuries-old agreement binding six Native nations in the northeastern US, influenced the US Constitution.

D. Native people, including the members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, influenced the founding of the US in many different ways.

ID: 03319bf7 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively presents the influence theory to an audience unfamiliar with the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, explaining the theory's position that the Great Law of Peace influenced the US Constitution while avoiding mention of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy itself.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence broadly emphasizes Johansen's ideas about the Great Law of Peace; it doesn't identify the influence theory or effectively present it. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes one fact that supports the influence theory; it doesn't effectively present the theory to an audience unfamiliar with the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence makes a broad generalization about Native people's influence on the founding of the US; it doesn't effectively present the influence theory.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6707da5b

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6707da5b

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

- In 2022, University of Miami researchers discovered brine pools in the Gulf of Aqaba.
- A brine pool is an underwater lake that sits on the ocean floor.
- The water in brine pools is three to eight times saltier than the surrounding ocean.
- The extreme saltiness of this water makes it toxic to most sea life.
- Some forms of bacteria are able to survive in brine pools.

The student wants to explain why brine pools are toxic to most sea life. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Though brine pools are toxic to most sea life, some bacteria can survive there.

B. The water in brine pools is toxic to most sea life because it is three to eight times saltier than the surrounding ocean.

C. The brine pools in the Gulf of Aqaba are toxic to most sea life and were discovered by researchers in 2022.

D. Brine pools are salty underwater lakes that sit on the ocean floor.

ID: 6707da5b Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence explains why brine pools are toxic to most sea life, noting that the water in the pools is three to eight times saltier than the surrounding ocean.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence states that brine pools are toxic to most sea life, it doesn't explain why the pools are toxic. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence states that brine pools are toxic to most sea life, it doesn't explain why the pools are toxic. Choice D is incorrect because the sentence describes brine pools, mentioning that they are salty, but doesn't explain why they are toxic to most sea life.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6df2db05

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6df2db05

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

- J.R.R. Tolkien's 1937 novel *The Hobbit* features two maps.
- The novel opens with a reproduction of the map that the characters use on their quest.
- This map introduces readers to the fictional world they are about to enter.
- The novel closes with a map depicting every stop on the characters' journey.
- That map allows readers to reconstruct the story they have just read.

The student wants to contrast the purposes of the two maps in *The Hobbit*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. *The Hobbit*'s opening map introduces readers to the fictional world they are about to enter, while the closing map allows them to reconstruct the story they have just read.

B. *The Hobbit*, a novel published by J.R.R. Tolkien in 1937, features a reproduction of a map that the characters use on their quest, as well as a map that appears at the end of the novel.

C. *The Hobbit*'s two maps, one opening and one closing the novel, each serve a purpose for readers.

D. In 1937, author J.R.R. Tolkien published *The Hobbit*, a novel featuring both an opening and a closing map.

ID: 6df2db05 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence contrasts the purposes of the two maps in *The Hobbit*, noting that the opening map introduces readers to the book's fictional world, while the closing map helps readers reconstruct the story. The word "while" helps signal a contrast between the purposes of the maps.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the two maps, it doesn't contrast the maps' purposes. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the two maps and notes that each has a purpose, it doesn't specify what those purposes are or how they contrast. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the two maps, it doesn't contrast the maps' purposes.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID cdb5fb80

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: cdb5fb80

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

- Etel Adnan was a Lebanese American poet and artist known for making many leporellos.
- A leporello is an artist's book that is folded accordion style.
- When the book is expanded, the artist's work is revealed, and its zigzag shape allows it to stand on its own.
- Her leporello *December from My Window* (1993) features a panoramic landscape.
- It is painted using ink and watercolor.

The student wants to describe Adnan's *December from My Window* to an audience already familiar with leporellos. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Featuring a panoramic landscape, the 1993 work is one of Adnan's many leporellos, which are accordion-style folded books that when expanded reveal the artist's work.

B. When expanded, Adnan's 1993 leporello *December from My Window* reveals a panoramic landscape painted in ink and watercolor.

C. Known for making many other accordion-style folded books called leporellos, Adnan created *December from My Window* in 1993.

D. A leporello, such as Adnan's *December from My Window*, is folded accordion style, and due to its zigzag shape it is able to stand on its own when fully expanded.

ID: cdb5fb80 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. This choice describes Adnan's *December from My Window* in a way that assumes the audience is already familiar with leporellos and focuses on the specific features of the work—its content and medium.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice isn't suited for an audience already familiar with leporellos. A familiar audience wouldn't need to have the term defined or explained. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe Adnan's *December from My Window*. It mentions the year and the type of work but not the content or the medium. In addition, it provides a simple definition of leporellos, making this an inappropriate choice for an audience already familiar with leporellos. Choice D is incorrect. This choice isn't suited for an audience already familiar with leporellos. A familiar audience wouldn't need to have the term defined.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 062487a9

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 062487a9

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

- In 2013, archaeologists studied cat bone fragments they had found in the ruins of Quanhucun, a Chinese farming village.
- The fragments were estimated to be 5,300 years old.
- A chemical analysis of the fragments revealed that the cats had consumed large amounts of grain.
- The grain consumption is evidence that the Quanhucun cats may have been domesticated.

The student wants to present the Quanhucun study and its conclusions. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. As part of a 2013 study of cat domestication, a chemical analysis was conducted on cat bone fragments found in Quanhucun, China.

B. A 2013 analysis of cat bone fragments found in Quanhucun, China, suggests that cats there may have been domesticated 5,300 years ago.

C. In 2013, archaeologists studied what cats in Quanhucun, China, had eaten more than 5,000 years ago.

D. Cat bone fragments estimated to be 5,300 years old were found in Quanhucun, China, in 2013.

ID: 062487a9 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence presents the study, describing it as a 2013 analysis of Quanhucun cat bone fragments, and its conclusions, indicating what the analysis suggests about cat domestication in Quanhucun.

Choice A is incorrect because the sentence focuses on the study's methodology; it doesn't present conclusions from the study. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides a general overview of the study, it doesn't present conclusions from the study. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence describes a finding from the study; it doesn't present conclusions from the study.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2203a60b

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2203a60b

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

- In a 2020 study, researchers in California investigated how many potential nesting sites female wood ducks visited during the nesting season.
- The researchers placed nest boxes throughout the survey area and tagged 138 female wood ducks with radio frequency ID trackers.
- These trackers recorded how many nest boxes each duck visited.
- 67 ducks (48.5%) visited only one nest box.
- 18 ducks (13.0%) visited 10 or more nest boxes.
- Younger ducks were more likely to visit multiple nest boxes.

The student wants to present the methods used in the 2020 study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. By recording how many nest boxes each duck visited, the researchers discovered that only a relatively small percentage (13.0%) of the ducks visited 10 or more nest boxes.

B. After tracking how many nest boxes the 138 wood ducks visited, the researchers found that the younger ducks tended to visit more nest boxes than the older ducks.

C. The researchers tagged 138 female wood ducks with radio frequency ID trackers and recorded how many nest boxes each duck visited during the nesting season.

D. The researchers investigated each nesting site for signs that it had been visited by the female wood ducks.

ID: 2203a60b Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence presents the methods used in the study, noting that researchers tagged 138 female wood ducks with radio frequency ID trackers and recorded the number of nest boxes each duck visited.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions an aspect of the study's design (that the researchers recorded the number of nest boxes the wood ducks visited), it primarily focuses on a finding of the study rather than the methods the researchers used. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions an aspect of the study's design (that the researchers tracked the number of nest boxes the wood ducks visited), it primarily focuses on a finding of the study rather than the methods the researchers used. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes. The researchers used radio frequency ID trackers to record the ducks' visits; they didn't investigate each site to look for evidence that it had been visited.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 51aa0620

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 51aa0620

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

- Pinnipeds, which include seals, sea lions, and walruses, live in and around water.
- Pinnipeds are descended not from sea animals but from four-legged, land-dwelling carnivores.
- Canadian paleobiologist Natalia Rybczynski recently found a fossil with four legs, webbed toes, and the skull and teeth of a seal.
- Rybczynski refers to her rare find as a “transitional fossil.”
- The fossil illustrates an early stage in the evolution of pinnipeds from their land-dwelling ancestors.

The student wants to emphasize the fossil’s significance. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Canadian paleobiologist Natalia Rybczynski’s fossil has the skull and teeth of a seal, which, like sea lions and walruses, is a pinniped.

B. Pinnipeds are descended from four-legged, land-dwelling carnivores; a fossil that resembles both was recently found.

C. Having four legs but the skull and teeth of a seal, the rare fossil illustrates an early stage in the evolution of pinnipeds from their land-dwelling ancestors.

D. A “transitional fossil” was recently found by paleobiologist Natalia Rybczynski.

ID: 51aa0620 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively emphasizes the fossil’s significance, explaining that the fossil is rare and illustrates an early stage in the evolution of pinnipeds from their land-dwelling ancestors.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes the fossil Rybczynski found; it doesn’t emphasize the fossil’s significance. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence mentions that a fossil resembling both pinnipeds and their ancestors was found; it doesn’t emphasize the fossil’s significance. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence notes a term used to describe the fossil Rybczynski found; it doesn’t emphasize the fossil’s significance.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b591e1a7

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b591e1a7

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

- Iranian scholar Abu Rayhan al-Biruni studied Earth's physical features.
- He theorized that a large landmass existed west of Europe and east of Asia.
- Al-Biruni published his landmass theory in 1037 CE.

The student wants to specify when al-Biruni published his landmass theory. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In 1037 CE, al-Biruni published his theory that a large landmass existed west of Europe and east of Asia.

B. Al-Biruni, who studied Earth's physical features, published a theory about a large landmass.

C. Al-Biruni was an Iranian scholar who studied Earth's physical features.

D. An Iranian scholar who studied Earth's physical features, al-Biruni theorized that a large landmass existed west of Europe and east of Asia.

ID: b591e1a7 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence specifies when al-Biruni published his landmass theory, indicating that it was published in the year 1037 CE.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence notes that al-Biruni published a landmass theory, it doesn't specify when the theory was published. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence identifies al-Biruni as a scholar of Earth's physical features; it doesn't specify when he published his landmass theory. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence describes al-Biruni's landmass theory; it doesn't specify when the theory was published.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID cd75bd44

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: cd75bd44

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

- The popular wood-wide web theory posits that trees can communicate and exchange resources with one another via common mycorrhizal networks (CMNs) of fungi.
- Ecologist Dr. Suzanne Simard first suggested this theory in 1997.
- She described trees as “super-cooperators.”
- In the 2022 study “The Decay of the Wood-Wide Web?,” mycologist Dr. Justine Karst and colleagues evaluated dozens of CMN studies.
- They write that CMNs “have captured the interest of broad audiences. We are concerned, however, that recent claims about CMNs in forests are disconnected from evidence.”

The student wants to use a quotation to emphasize a potential problem with the wood-wide web theory. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Describing trees as “super-cooperators,” Simard first suggested that trees can exchange resources with one another in 1997.

B. In “The Decay of the Wood-Wide Web?,” Karst and colleagues note that common mycorrhizal networks “have captured the interest of broad audiences.”

C. After evaluating dozens of CMN studies, Karst and colleagues expressed concern that recent claims about common mycorrhizal networks are “disconnected from evidence.”

D. Despite the concerns expressed in the 2022 study “The Decay of the Wood-Wide Web?,” the wood-wide web theory remains popular.

ID: cd75bd44 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This choice uses a quotation to convey the authors’ criticism and challenge to the wood-wide web theory due to an absence of evidence.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn’t emphasize a potential problem with the wood-wide web theory. It uses a quotation to introduce the theory and its originator. It doesn’t mention any criticism or challenge to the theory. Choice B is incorrect. This choice uses a quotation, but it doesn’t emphasize a potential problem with the wood-wide web theory. It uses a quotation to describe the appeal and interest of the theory, but it doesn’t indicate why the authors are concerned or what evidence they have. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn’t use a quotation at all. It paraphrases the main idea of the 2022 study, but it doesn’t include any specific words or phrases from the notes. It also doesn’t emphasize a potential problem with the theory, but rather its popularity.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 95db4b9e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 95db4b9e

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

- Gravitational waves are powerful ripples that originate in deep space and eventually pass through Earth.
- The Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO) is a physics study that began in 2002.
- LIGO's goal is to detect and analyze gravitational waves.
- LIGO uses a pair of massive gravitational wave detectors called interferometers that are thousands of miles apart.
- In 2015, for the first time in history, LIGO researchers detected a gravitational wave passing through Earth.

The student wants to present LIGO's aim and methodology. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In 2015, LIGO's massive interferometers detected a powerful ripple that originated in deep space and eventually passed through Earth.

B. Though the physics study LIGO began in 2002, its massive interferometers didn't detect a gravitational wave until 2015.

C. To achieve its aims, LIGO uses a pair of massive interferometers that are thousands of miles apart.

D. A physics study designed to detect and analyze gravitational waves, LIGO uses a pair of massive interferometers that are thousands of miles apart.

ID: 95db4b9e Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence effectively presents the LIGO study's aim, noting that it is designed to detect and analyze gravitational waves, and its methodology (it uses two interferometers to detect the waves).

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes a finding from the LIGO study; it doesn't effectively present the study's aim or its methodology. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence provides background information about the LIGO study's timeline; it doesn't effectively present the study's aim or its methodology. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence touches on LIGO's methodology, noting that it uses two interferometers, but doesn't indicate what the study's aims are.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 21f19050

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 21f19050

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

- In 1971, experimental musician Pauline Oliveros created *Sonic Meditations*.
- *Sonic Meditations* is not music but rather a series of sound-based exercises called meditations.
- Each meditation consists of instructions for participants to make, imagine, listen to, or remember sounds.
- The instructions for Meditation V state, “walk so silently that the bottoms of your feet become ears.”
- Those for Meditation XVIII state, “listen to a sound until you no longer recognize it.”

The student wants to provide an explanation and an example of Oliveros’s *Sonic Meditations*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. *Sonic Meditations* is not music but rather a series of sound-based meditations that consist of instructions; Meditation XVIII, for instance, instructs participants to “listen to a sound until you no longer recognize it.”

B. In 1971, Oliveros created *Sonic Meditations*, a series of meditations that consist of instructions for participants to make, imagine, listen to, or remember sounds.

C. “Walk so silently that the bottoms of your feet become ears” is one example of the instructions found in Oliveros’s *Sonic Meditations*.

D. While both meditations consist of instructions, Meditation XVIII instructs participants to “listen,” whereas Meditation V instructs participants to “walk.”

ID: 21f19050 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. It describes what a “Sonic Meditation” is, and then gives an example in the form of Meditation XVIII.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice describes what a “Sonic Meditation” is, but doesn’t give an example of one. Choice C is incorrect. This choice gives an example of a “Sonic Meditation,” but doesn’t explain what the meditations are. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn’t describe what a “Sonic Meditation” is.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 12956d6b

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 12956d6b

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

- Minnesota defines a lake as an inland body of water of at least 10 acres.
- Wisconsin's definition of a lake doesn't take size into account.
- By its own definition, Wisconsin has over 15,000 lakes, many smaller than 10 acres.
- By Minnesota's definition, Wisconsin has only about 6,000 lakes.

The student wants to contrast Minnesota's definition of a lake with Wisconsin's. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Wisconsin, which doesn't take size into account in defining a lake, claims that it has over 15,000 lakes.

B. Because its definition of a lake is different from Minnesota's, it is unclear how many lakes Wisconsin really has.

C. According to Minnesota's definition of a lake—an inland body of water of at least 10 acres—Wisconsin has about 6,000 lakes.

D. Minnesota's definition of a lake—an inland body of water of at least 10 acres—is more restrictive than Wisconsin's, which doesn't take size into account.

ID: 12956d6b Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence contrasts Minnesota's definition of a lake with Wisconsin's, explaining that Minnesota's definition (which takes size into account) is more restrictive than Wisconsin's definition (which doesn't).

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence notes that Wisconsin's definition of a lake doesn't take size into account, it doesn't contrast Minnesota's definition with Wisconsin's. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence states that Wisconsin's definition of a lake is different from Minnesota's, but it doesn't clarify how they differ. In other words, it doesn't contrast Minnesota's definition with Wisconsin's. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence indicates how many lakes Wisconsin has according to Minnesota's definition of a lake, but it doesn't clarify how the states' definitions differ. In other words, it doesn't contrast Minnesota's definition with Wisconsin's.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 355d0918

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 355d0918

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

- Some US reformers sought to improve society in the 1800s by building utopias.
- A utopia is a community intended to represent a perfect society based on a specific set of principles.
- One such community was Brook Farm near Boston, Massachusetts.
- It was founded in 1841 by writer George Ripley.
- Ripley wrote in a letter that his goal for Brook Farm was “to guarantee the highest mental freedom, by providing all with labor, adapted to their tastes and talents, and securing to them the fruits of their industry.”

The student wants to explain the goal of Brook Farm using a quotation from George Ripley. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In a letter, writer George Ripley explained his goal to “guarantee the highest mental freedom.”

B. Utopias, such as Brook Farm, founded by George Ripley in 1841, were based on a specific set of principles intended to create a perfect society.

C. Founded by George Ripley near Boston, Massachusetts, Brook Farm was part of a trend in the 1800s, when reformers in the United States built utopias.

D. Established in 1841, Brook Farm was a utopian community created to “guarantee the highest mental freedom, by providing all with labor... [and] the fruits of their industry,” according to founder George Ripley.

ID: 355d0918 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. This choice explains the goal of Brook Farm—to provide mental freedom to all by engaging individuals in labor suited to their interests—using a quotation from George Ripley.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice only mentions part of Ripley’s goal, and it doesn’t mention Brook Farm at all. Choice B is incorrect. This choice defines what a utopia is but doesn’t use Ripley’s words to describe his vision for Brook Farm. Choice C is incorrect. This choice provides some background information about Brook Farm, but it doesn’t explain its goals or include Ripley’s words.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e4199e43

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e4199e43

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

- The international Slow Food movement was founded in 1989 with the signing of the “Slow Food Manifesto.”
- The movement promotes universal access to healthy, high-quality food.
- It calls for sustainable food production practices that protect local environments, ecosystems, and biodiversity.
- It advocates for fair treatment of and compensation for food production workers.
- The Slow Food USA organization was founded in 2000.

The student wants to introduce the Slow Food movement to a new audience. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The international Slow Food movement, founded in 1989, promotes universal access to healthy, high-quality food that is produced sustainably by workers who are treated and compensated fairly.

B. The signing of the “Slow Food Manifesto” in 1989 marked the founding of the international Slow Food movement, while the Slow Food USA organization was founded in 2000.

C. The Slow Food movement advocates for food production workers.

D. Goals of the movement include universal access to healthy, high-quality food and sustainable food practices.

ID: e4199e43 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence effectively introduces the Slow Food movement to a new audience, explaining that the movement, which was founded in 1989, promotes universal access to high-quality and healthy food that is produced sustainably by workers who are treated fairly.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence indicates when the international Slow Food movement and the Slow Food USA organization were founded, it doesn’t effectively introduce the movement to a new audience. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence notes that the Slow Food movement includes advocacy for food production workers, it doesn’t effectively introduce the movement to a new audience. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence describes some of the goals of the Slow Food movement, it doesn’t effectively introduce the movement to a new audience.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID f2b3522f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: f2b3522f

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

- Circular particle accelerators known as synchrotrons radiate energy in the form of light.
- Synchrotron light is among the brightest light ever produced.
- Synchrotron light is an ideal tool for researchers investigating the structure of matter.
- The first synchrotron created for the purpose of providing synchrotron light was built in 1968.
- It was called Tantalus and was housed near the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

The student wants to emphasize the location of the first synchrotron built to provide synchrotron light. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Tantalus, the first synchrotron created for the purpose of providing synchrotron light, was built in 1968.

B. Circular particle accelerators known as synchrotrons radiate energy in the form of light, and this light is an ideal tool for researchers investigating the structure of matter.

C. The first synchrotron created for the purpose of providing synchrotron light, Tantalus, was housed near the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

D. Synchrotron light is among the brightest light ever produced, making it an ideal tool for researchers investigating the structure of matter.

ID: f2b3522f Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. After identifying Tantalus as the first synchrotron built to provide light, the sentence emphasizes its location.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence identifies Tantalus as the first synchrotron built to provide light, it doesn't emphasize (or mention) its location. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence describes synchrotrons and how researchers use them; it doesn't emphasize (or mention) the location of Tantalus. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence describes synchrotron light and how researchers use it; the sentence doesn't emphasize (or mention) the location of Tantalus.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 1d5b9a35

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 1d5b9a35

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

- A wok is a cooking pan that originated in China during the Han dynasty (206 BCE–220 CE).
- The wok's round, wide base helps to cook food evenly.
- The wok's high, angled sides help to contain oil splatters.
- Grace Young is a cook and culinary historian.
- Her book *The Breath of a Wok* (2004) traces the history of the wok.

The student wants to describe the wok's shape. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Grace Young's 2004 book, *The Breath of a Wok*, traces the history of the cooking pan.

B. Able to cook food evenly and contain oil splatters, the wok is the subject of Grace Young's 2004 book.

C. A wok is a cooking pan with a round, wide base and high, angled sides.

D. The design of a wok, a type of cooking pan that originated in China during the Han dynasty, helps the pan cook food evenly and contain oil splatters.

ID: 1d5b9a35 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. It summarizes the information that describes the wok's shape from the second and third bullet points.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe the shape of a wok. Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe the shape of a wok, just some of its features. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't describe the shape of a wok, only some of its benefits or functions.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 702d312c

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 702d312c

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

- Mexican tetras are a fish species with two distinct populations.
- Surface-dwelling tetras live on the surface and are able to see.
- Cave-dwelling tetras live in total darkness and have lost the ability to see.
- Cave-dwelling tetras have asymmetrical skulls with more sensory receptors on one side than the other.
- These receptors help cave-dwelling tetras navigate in darkness.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between surface-dwelling and cave-dwelling tetras. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Surface-dwelling and cave-dwelling tetras may belong to the same species, but they are quite different.

B. Cave-dwelling tetras can no longer see but use sensory receptors on their skulls to navigate.

C. Mexican tetras are a fish species with two distinct populations: surface-dwelling tetras and cave-dwelling tetras.

D. Surface-dwelling tetras can see, whereas cave-dwelling tetras cannot.

ID: 702d312c Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between surface-dwelling and cave-dwelling tetras, noting that while surface-dwelling tetras can see, cave-dwelling tetras can't.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence notes that surface-dwelling and cave-dwelling tetras are different, it doesn't emphasize any difference between the two populations of tetras. Choice B is incorrect because the sentence explains that cave-dwelling tetras use sensory receptors on their skulls to navigate; it doesn't emphasize a difference between surface-dwelling and cave-dwelling tetras. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence notes that there are two different populations of Mexican tetras, it doesn't emphasize any difference between the two populations.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 4fb74384

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 4fb74384

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

- Started in 1925, the Scripps National Spelling Bee is a US-based spelling competition.
- The words used in the competition have diverse linguistic origins.
- In 2008, Sameer Mishra won by correctly spelling the word “guerdon.”
- “Guerdon” derives from the Anglo-French word “guerdun.”
- In 2009, Kavya Shivashankar won by correctly spelling the word “Laodicean.”
- “Laodicean” derives from the ancient Greek word “Laodíkeia.”

The student wants to emphasize a difference in the origins of the two words. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. “Guerdon,” the final word of the 2008 Scripps National Spelling Bee, is of Anglo-French origin, while the following year’s final word, “Laodicean,” derives from ancient Greek.

B. In 2008, Sameer Mishra won the Scripps National Spelling Bee by correctly spelling the word “guerdon”; however, the following year, Kavya Shivashankar won based on spelling the word “Laodicean.”

C. Kavya Shivashankar won the 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee by correctly spelling “Laodicean,” which derives from the ancient Greek word “Laodíkeia.”

D. The Scripps National Spelling Bee uses words from diverse linguistic origins, such as “guerdon” and “Laodicean.”

ID: 4fb74384 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

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 Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 1ada3271

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 1ada3271

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

- Edmonia Lewis (1844–1907) was an African American and Mississauga Ojibwe sculptor.
- *Forever Free* (1867) is a marble sculpture by Lewis.
- It depicts a male figure and a female figure gazing upward.
- It commemorates the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation.
- The phrase “forever free” from the text of the Emancipation Proclamation is inscribed on the sculpture’s base.
- Art historian Kirsten Buick describes the sculpture as a “celebration of liberty.”

The student wants to explain the sculpture’s specific historical context. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. According to art historian Kirsten Buick, *Forever Free*, which depicts a male figure and a female figure gazing upward, is a “celebration of liberty.”

B. The base of Edmonia Lewis’s 1867 marble sculpture is inscribed with a historically significant phrase: “forever free.”

C. Completed in 1867, Lewis’s sculpture *Forever Free* commemorates the Emancipation Proclamation, which had been issued four years previously.

D. *Forever Free* (1867) is a marble sculpture by Edmonia Lewis, an African American and Mississauga Ojibwe sculptor who lived from 1844 to 1907.

ID: 1ada3271 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence explains the specific historical context of Lewis’s sculpture, noting that it commemorates the Emancipation Proclamation, which was issued four years before the sculpture was completed in 1867.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence quotes an art historian’s general interpretation of the sculpture’s meaning; it doesn’t explain the sculpture’s specific historical context. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions a historically significant phrase on the sculpture’s base, it doesn’t explain the specific historical context of the phrase or the sculpture. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence provides biographical information about Lewis; it doesn’t explain the specific historical context of the sculpture.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID af728767

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: af728767

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

- In the art world, the term biennial traditionally refers to an art exhibition that takes place every two years in a single location.
- Such biennials are held in New York, Berlin, and Venice.
- In 2006, artists Ed Gomez and Luis Hernandez founded the unconventional MexiCali Biennial.
- The MexiCali Biennial hosts exhibitions in different venues on both sides of the US-Mexico border.
- The MexiCali Biennial has taken place on an uneven schedule, with exhibitions in 2006, 2009–10, 2013, and 2018–20.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the MexiCali Biennial and traditional biennials. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In 2006, artists Ed Gomez and Luis Hernandez founded the MexiCali Biennial, which has taken place in 2006, 2009–10, 2013, and 2018–20.

B. Unlike traditional biennials, the MexiCali Biennial hosts exhibitions in different venues on an uneven schedule.

C. The term biennial traditionally refers to an art exhibition that takes place every two years in a single location, not to exhibitions hosted at a variety of times and venues.

D. Biennial exhibitions have been held in New York, Berlin, and Venice but also on both sides of the US-Mexico border.

ID: af728767 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence effectively emphasizes a difference between the MexiCali Biennial and traditional biennials, stating that the MexiCali Biennial is unlike traditional biennials because it hosts exhibitions in different venues on an uneven schedule.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates who founded the MexiCali Biennial and the years this biennial has taken place; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the MexiCali Biennial and traditional biennials. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence clarifies the traditional meaning of biennial with language that could apply to the MexiCali Biennial, it doesn't mention the MexiCali Biennial by name. Therefore, the sentence doesn't effectively emphasize a difference between the MexiCali Biennial and traditional biennials. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence notes locations where various biennial exhibitions have been held; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the MexiCali Biennial and traditional biennials.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e261a81f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e261a81f

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

- The Million Song Dataset (MSD) includes main audio features and descriptive tags for popular songs.
- Audio features include acoustic traits such as loudness and pitch intervals.
- Many algorithms use these audio features to predict a new song's popularity.
- These algorithms may fail to accurately identify main audio features of a song with varying acoustic traits.
- Algorithms based on descriptive tags that describe fixed traits such as genre are more reliable predictors of song popularity.

The student wants to explain a disadvantage of relying on audio features to predict a song's popularity. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Many popularity-predicting algorithms are based on a song's audio features, such as loudness and pitch intervals.

B. Algorithms based on audio features may misidentify the main features of a song with varying acoustic traits, making such algorithms less reliable predictors of popularity than those based on fixed traits.

C. Audio features describe acoustic traits such as pitch intervals, which may vary within a song, whereas descriptive tags describe fixed traits such as genre, which are reliable predictors of popularity.

D. The MSD's descriptive tags are reliable predictors of a song's popularity, as the traits they describe are fixed.

ID: e261a81f Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. This choice uses relevant information from the notes to explain a disadvantage of relying on audio features to predict a song's popularity—namely, that it may misidentify features of certain songs. It also contrasts audio features with descriptive tags, which are more reliable predictors.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice only states a fact about the algorithms without evaluating their reliability or accuracy. Choice C is incorrect. This choice only describes the difference between audio features and descriptive tags without indicating why this difference matters for predicting popularity. Choice D is incorrect. This choice only mentions descriptive tags, which are not the focus of the student's rhetorical goal.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 1ae47e86

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 1ae47e86

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

- Traditionally, manufacturers have dyed denim jeans blue by dipping them in a solution containing indigo powder.
- Indigo doesn't dissolve in just water, so manufacturers must mix hazardous chemicals with water to dissolve the powder.
- Textile researcher Smriti Rai discovered a process for dyeing blue jeans without chemicals.
- Rai added indigo powder to a hydrogel containing nanocellulose and produced a dye that could be spread directly onto the denim.
- Nanocellulose is a natural, plant-based substance that separates the molecules of indigo powder.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the two approaches to dyeing blue jeans. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Though created using a different process, Rai's dye contains the same ingredient as the dye produced by blue jean manufacturers.

B. Nanocellulose is a natural, plant-based substance that separates the molecules of indigo powder, which doesn't dissolve in water.

C. The traditional approach to dyeing blue jeans is to dip them in a solution containing hazardous chemicals.

D. Rai's approach substitutes a natural, plant-based substance for the hazardous chemicals that manufacturers have traditionally used.

ID: 1ae47e86 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the two approaches to dyeing blue jeans, noting that Rai's approach uses a natural, plant-based substance in place of hazardous chemicals.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the dyes used in the two approaches, noting that the dyes contain the same ingredient; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the two approaches to dyeing blue jeans. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains what nanocellulose is; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the two approaches to dyeing blue jeans. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence explains the traditional approach to dyeing blue jeans; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the traditional approach and Rai's approach.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 4ddf0a1f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 4ddf0a1f

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

- 1926: The US Congress gave the US Commerce Department authority to regulate safety standards in the fledgling commercial airline industry.
- 1938: Congress transferred this authority to a new independent government agency called the Civil Aeronautics Authority (CAA).
- 1958: Congress transferred authority from the CAA to the newly established Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- The FAA's first administrator, Elwood R. Quesada, updated safety standards and technologies for the era of commercial jets.
- The FAA remains the regulatory authority for airline safety.

The student wants to specify the order in which different government entities were given the authority to regulate airline safety in the US. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The CAA had the authority to regulate safety for US airlines from 1938 until 1958, at which point authority was transferred to the US Commerce Department by Elwood R. Quesada.

B. The FAA, CAA, and the US Commerce Department all had the authority to regulate US airline safety, but they possessed this authority at different times.

C. The FAA has regulated airline safety since it was established by the US Congress in 1958.

D. The authority to regulate US airline safety transferred from the US Commerce Department to the CAA in 1938, then from the CAA to the FAA in 1958.

ID: 4ddf0a1f Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence specifies the order in which different government entities were given the authority to regulate US airline safety, noting that this role shifted from the US Commerce Department to the CAA in 1938, then from the CAA to the FAA in 1958.

Choice A is incorrect because it misrepresents information from the notes. The authority to regulate airline safety was transferred to the FAA in 1958, not to the US Commerce Department. Moreover, the sentence misrepresents Quesada's role as described in the notes. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that all three entities had the authority to regulate US airline safety at different times, it doesn't specify the chronological order in which they held that authority. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence only mentions when the FAA began regulating US airline safety; it doesn't specify the order in which different government entities held that authority.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 15dcaac3

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 15dcaac3

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

- Scientists have developed a “freeze-thaw” battery that can retain 92% of its charge after twelve weeks.
- The battery contains molten salt (a type of salt that liquifies when heated and solidifies at room temperature).
- When the salt is in a liquid state, energy flows through the battery.
- When the salt is in a solid state, energy stops flowing and is stored in the battery.
- The stored (frozen) energy can be used by reheating (thawing) the battery.

The student wants to specify how the salt enables energy storage. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Scientists have developed a freeze-thaw battery that contains molten salt, which liquifies when heated and solidifies at room temperature.

B. The stored energy in a freeze-thaw battery, which contains molten salt, can be used by reheating the battery.

C. When the molten salt in a freeze-thaw battery solidifies at room temperature, energy stops flowing and can be stored in the battery.

D. Molten salt allows a freeze-thaw battery to retain 92% of its charge after twelve weeks.

ID: 15dcaac3 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence specifies how the salt in a freeze-thaw battery enables energy storage, explaining that energy stops flowing and can be stored when the salt solidifies at room temperature.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence explains some properties of molten salt; it doesn’t specify how that salt enables energy storage. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence indicates how the energy in a freeze-thaw battery can be released; it doesn’t specify how the salt in the battery enables energy storage. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence specifies how much charge the freeze-thaw battery retains when storing energy; it doesn’t specify how the salt in the battery enables energy storage.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 12b42003

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 12b42003

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

- Physicist Muluneh Abebe was working on a garment suited for both warm and cold conditions.
- He analyzed the emissivity, or ability to emit heat, of the materials he planned to use.
- Abebe found that reflective metal fibers emitted almost no heat and had an emissivity of 0.02.
- He found that silicon carbide fibers absorbed large amounts of heat and had an emissivity of 0.74.
- The amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount of heat it emits.

The student wants to contrast the emissivity of reflective metal fibers with that of silicon carbide fibers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The ability of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers to emit heat was determined by an analysis of each material's emissivity.

B. The amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount it emits, as evidenced in Abebe's analyses.

C. Though the reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers had different rates of emissivity, Abebe planned to use both in a garment.

D. Whereas the reflective metal fibers had an emissivity of just 0.02, the silicon carbide fibers absorbed large amounts of heat, resulting in an emissivity of 0.74.

ID: 12b42003 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence uses "whereas" to contrast the emissivities of the two fibers, noting that the emissivity of the reflective metal fibers was just 0.02, far lower than that of the silicon carbide fibers (0.74).

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the ability of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers to emit heat; it doesn't contrast the emissivities of the two fibers. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence states a law of thermodynamics: the amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount it emits. The sentence doesn't contrast the emissivity of reflective metal fibers with that of silicon carbide fibers. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence includes a generalization about the emissivities of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers, it emphasizes Abebe's plans for their use in a garment; it doesn't contrast the emissivities of the two fibers.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 74cd4ae2

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 74cd4ae2

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

- Pterosaurs were flying reptiles that existed millions of years ago.
- In a 2021 study, Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan analyzed fragments of pterosaur jawbones located in the Sahara Desert.
- She was initially unsure if the bones belonged to juvenile or adult pterosaurs.
- She used advanced microscope techniques to determine that the bones had few growth lines relative to the bones of fully grown pterosaurs.
- She concluded that the bones belonged to juveniles.

The student wants to present the study and its findings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In 2021, Chinsamy-Turan studied pterosaur jawbones and was initially unsure if the bones belonged to juveniles or adults.

B. Pterosaur jawbones located in the Sahara Desert were the focus of a 2021 study.

C. In a 2021 study, Chinsamy-Turan used advanced microscope techniques to analyze the jawbones of pterosaurs, flying reptiles that existed millions of years ago.

D. In a 2021 study, Chinsamy-Turan determined that pterosaur jawbones located in the Sahara Desert had few growth lines relative to the bones of fully grown pterosaurs and thus belonged to juveniles.

ID: 74cd4ae2 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence presents both the study and its findings, noting the study's date and the researcher's name as well as describing what the researcher determined about the jawbones and how she determined it.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence describes the study and the researcher's initial assessment, it doesn't present the study's findings. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence describes the study and its focus, it doesn't present the study's findings or the name of the researcher who conducted it. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the study's methodology and provides information about pterosaurs, it doesn't present the study's findings.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 0cae3b95

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 0cae3b95

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

- Tibetan mastiffs are large dogs native to the Himalayas.
- A mutation in their EPAS1 gene prevents excess hemoglobin production.
- A mutation in their HBB gene boosts hemoglobin's oxygen-carrying ability.
- These mutations enable the dogs to withstand hypoxic (low-oxygen) conditions at high altitudes.
- In a 2016 study, Zhen Wang and colleagues noted that Tibetan wolves' DNA has the same EPAS1 and HBB mutations.
- Wang and colleagues determined that the dogs first acquired these mutations by interbreeding with Tibetan wolves around 24,000 years ago.

The student wants to present the conclusion of Zhen Wang and colleagues' 2016 study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Like Tibetan mastiffs, Tibetan wolves can withstand hypoxic conditions at high altitudes.

B. Both Tibetan mastiffs and Tibetan wolves have mutations in their EPAS1 and HBB genes, which prevent excess hemoglobin production and boost hemoglobin's oxygen-carrying ability, respectively.

C. In addition to preventing excess hemoglobin production, a mutation in Tibetan mastiffs' HBB gene boosts hemoglobin's oxygen-carrying ability.

D. By interbreeding with Tibetan wolves around 24,000 years ago, Tibetan mastiffs acquired the genetic mutations that enable them to withstand hypoxic conditions.

ID: 0cae3b95 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence presents the conclusion of Zhen Wang and colleagues' 2016 study: Tibetan mastiffs are able to withstand hypoxic conditions due to their interbreeding with Tibetan wolves 24,000 years ago (which allowed the mastiffs to acquire the necessary genetic mutations).

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between Tibetan mastiffs and Tibetan wolves; it doesn't present the conclusions of the 2016 study. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the genes of Tibetan mastiffs and Tibetan wolves; it doesn't present the conclusions of the 2016 study. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes by indicating that a mutation in mastiffs' HBB gene prevents excess hemoglobin production; moreover, it doesn't present the conclusions of the 2016 study.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b0c1ea18

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b0c1ea18

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

- When medical students mention their patients on social media, they may violate patient confidentiality.
- Terry Kind led a study to determine how many medical schools have student policies that mention social media use.
- Kind and her team reviewed 132 medical school websites, examining publicly available student policies.
- Only thirteen medical schools had guidelines that explicitly mention social media, and only five defined what constitutes acceptable social media use.

The student wants to emphasize the study's methodology. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The student policies of 132 medical schools can be found online, according to research by Terry Kind.

B. To find out how many medical schools have guidelines about student social media use, Terry Kind and her team examined the student policies of 132 medical schools.

C. Out of 132 medical schools, only thirteen had student policies that mentioned social media, and only five specified what use was acceptable.

D. Terry Kind and her team wanted to know how many medical schools have student social media policies in place about protecting patient confidentiality.

ID: b0c1ea18 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence effectively emphasizes Kind's methodology: examining the student policies of 132 medical schools for guidelines about student social media use.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence specifies how many medical schools' student policies are available online; it doesn't emphasize the study's methodology. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the study's results, not the study's methodology. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the aim of the study, not the study's methodology.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e7156f15

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e7156f15

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

- Sister Rosetta Tharpe (1915–1973) was a gospel musician.
- She was known for her passionate vocals and electric guitar performances.
- In 2018, Tharpe was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for her major impact on the genre.
- According to songwriter Roxie Moore, “[Tharpe] would sing until you cried and then she would sing until you danced for joy.”
- According to guitarist Celisse Henderson, “Tharpe is the unquestioned founding mother of rock ’n’ roll.”

The student wants to use a quotation to support a claim about Tharpe’s contribution to rock ’n’ roll. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Gospel musician Sister Rosetta Tharpe had a major impact on rock ’n’ roll, and she was known for her passionate electric guitar performances.

B. Celisse Henderson believes that Sister Rosetta Tharpe had a major impact on the development of rock ’n’ roll.

C. Sister Rosetta Tharpe had such a major impact on rock ’n’ roll that Celisse Henderson called her “the unquestioned founding mother” of the genre.

D. A gospel musician, Sister Rosetta Tharpe had the ability to “sing until you cried” and also “until you danced for joy,” according to Roxie Moore.

ID: e7156f15 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence uses the quotation from Henderson to support a claim about Tharpe’s contribution to rock ’n’ roll, noting that the impact Tharpe had on the genre led Henderson to call her "the unquestioned founding mother of rock ’n’ roll."

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence makes the claim that Tharpe had a major impact on rock ’n’ roll, it doesn’t use a quotation to support this claim. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence presents Henderson’s opinion that Tharpe had a major impact on rock ’n’ roll, but it doesn’t use a quotation to support this claim. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence includes a quotation about audience reactions to Tharpe’s music, the sentence describes Tharpe as a gospel musician; it doesn’t support a claim about her contribution to rock ’n’ roll.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6fb1f442

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6fb1f442

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

- In the late 1890s, over 14,000 unique varieties of apples were grown in the US.
- The rise of industrial agriculture in the mid-1900s narrowed the range of commercially grown crops.
- Thousands of apple varieties considered less suitable for commercial growth were lost.
- Today, only 15 apple varieties dominate the market, making up 90% of apples purchased in the US.
- The Lost Apple Project, based in Washington State, attempts to find and grow lost apple varieties.

The student wants to emphasize the decline in unique apple varieties in the US and specify why this decline occurred. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish these goals?

A. The Lost Apple Project is dedicated to finding some of the apple varieties lost following a shift in agricultural practices in the mid-1900s.

B. While over 14,000 apple varieties were grown in the US in the late 1890s, only 15 unique varieties make up most of the apples sold today.

C. Since the rise of industrial agriculture, US farmers have mainly grown the same few unique apple varieties, resulting in the loss of thousands of varieties less suitable for commercial growth.

D. As industrial agriculture rose to prominence in the mid-1900s, the number of crops selected for cultivation decreased dramatically.

ID: 6fb1f442 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the decline in unique apple varieties in the US and specifies why this decline occurred, noting that thousands of apple varieties were lost because US farmers started mainly growing the same few unique varieties.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence introduces the Lost Apple Project; it doesn't emphasize the decline in unique apple varieties in the US and specify why this decline occurred. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence emphasizes the decline in unique apple varieties in the US, it doesn't explain why this decline occurred. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the general decline of crop varieties in the mid-1900s; it doesn't emphasize the specific decline in unique apple varieties in the US.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID dbc442ba

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: dbc442ba

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

- Severo Ochoa discovered the enzyme PNPase in 1955.
- PNPase is involved in both the creation and degradation of mRNA.
- Ochoa incorrectly hypothesized that PNPase provides the genetic blueprints for mRNA.
- The discovery of PNPase proved critical to deciphering the human genetic code.
- Deciphering the genetic code has led to a better understanding of how genetic variations affect human health.

The student wants to emphasize the significance of Ochoa's discovery. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Ochoa's 1955 discovery of PNPase proved critical to deciphering the human genetic code, leading to a better understanding of how genetic variations affect human health.

B. Ochoa first discovered PNPase, an enzyme that he hypothesized contained the genetic blueprints for mRNA, in 1955.

C. In 1955, Ochoa discovered the PNPase enzyme, which is involved in both the creation and degradation of mRNA.

D. Though his discovery of PNPase was critical to deciphering the human genetic code, Ochoa incorrectly hypothesized that the enzyme was the source of mRNA's genetic blueprints.

ID: dbc442ba Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the significance of Ochoa's discovery, noting that it proved critical to deciphering the human genetic code, which resulted in a better understanding of how genetic variations affect human health.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence explains what Ochoa discovered, it doesn't emphasize the significance of the discovery.
Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence explains what Ochoa discovered, it doesn't emphasize the significance of the discovery.
Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that Ochoa's discovery was crucial, it emphasizes Ochoa's incorrect hypothesis, not the significance of the discovery.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 82322495

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 82322495

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

- Just like states have state flags, some cities have city flags.
- Over one hundred US cities have redesigned their flags since 2015.
- The city of Pocatello, Idaho, redesigned its flag after it was named the most poorly designed flag in North America.
- Pocatello's new flag better represents the city's mountainous geography and civic priorities.
- Residents consider the new flag to be a meaningful symbol of civic pride.

The student wants to make and support a generalization about the effect of redesigning a city flag. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Over one hundred US cities have redesigned their flags, including Pocatello, whose flag had been named the most poorly designed flag in North America.

B. Pocatello is just one of over one hundred US cities that have redesigned their flags.

C. After it was named the most poorly designed flag in North America, the flag of Pocatello was redesigned to better represent the city's geography and civic priorities.

D. Redesigning a poorly designed city flag can create a meaningful symbol of civic pride, as was the case when Pocatello redesigned its original flag to better represent its geography and civic priorities.

ID: 82322495 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence makes and supports a generalization about the effect of redesigning a city flag, noting that redesigning a city flag can create a meaningful symbol of civic pride, as was the case when the city of Pocatello redesigned its flag.

Choice A is incorrect because the sentence explains that many US cities have redesigned their flags and provides an example; it doesn't make and support a generalization about the effect of redesigning a city flag. Choice B is incorrect because the sentence provides an example of a city that redesigned its flag; it doesn't make and support a generalization about the effect of redesigning a city flag. Choice C is incorrect because the sentence emphasizes why the flag of Pocatello was redesigned; it doesn't make and support a generalization about the effect of redesigning a city flag.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 8884e4b5

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 8884e4b5

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

- A lever is a simple machine consisting of a rigid beam and a fulcrum.
- The fulcrum is the point about which the beam pivots.
- The input force (effort) is the force applied to the lever.
- The output force (load) is the force that the lever exerts on another object.
- In first-class levers, the fulcrum is located between the effort and the load.
- In second-class levers, the load is located between the effort and the fulcrum.

The student wants to contrast first-class levers and second-class levers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In levers, the effort is the force applied to the lever; the load, in contrast, is the force that the lever exerts on another object.

B. In first-class and second-class levers, the fulcrum and the load are in different locations.

C. First-class levers are simple machines consisting of a rigid beam and a fulcrum, but then again, the same is true of second-class levers.

D. In first-class levers, the fulcrum is located between the effort and the load, but in second-class levers, the load is located between the effort and the fulcrum.

ID: 8884e4b5 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence contrasts first-class levers and second-class levers, explaining that the fulcrum in a first-class lever is between the effort and the load, whereas in a second-class lever the load is between the effort and the fulcrum.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence defines two terms associated with levers; it doesn't contrast first-class levers and second-class levers. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence seems to acknowledge a general difference in fulcrum and load locations between first-class and second-class levers, it does not specify what this difference is. Moreover, the sentence could be read as emphasizing a similarity—that in both types of levers, the fulcrum and load are in different locations. The sentence thus fails to effectively contrast the two types of levers. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence describes a similarity between first-class and second-class levers; it doesn't contrast them.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID c32f7659

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: c32f7659

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

- Sam Maloof (1916–2009) was an American woodworker and furniture designer.
- He was the son of Lebanese immigrants.
- He received a “genius grant” from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in 1985.
- The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts, owns a rocking chair that Maloof made from walnut wood.
- The armrests and the seat of the chair are sleek and contoured, and the back consists of seven spindle-like slats.

The student wants to describe the rocking chair to an audience unfamiliar with Sam Maloof. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. With its sleek, contoured armrests and seat, the walnut rocking chair in Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts is just one piece of furniture created by American woodworker Sam Maloof.

B. Sam Maloof was born in 1916 and died in 2009, and during his life, he made a chair that you can see if you visit the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

C. Furniture designer Sam Maloof was a recipient of one of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation’s “genius grants.”

D. The rocking chair is made from walnut, and it has been shaped such that its armrests and seat are sleek and contoured.

ID: c32f7659 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence effectively describes the rocking chair to an audience unfamiliar with Sam Maloof, noting its sleek, contoured armrests and seat and explaining that Sam Maloof (the walnut chair’s creator) was an American woodworker.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence explains who Sam Maloof was and mentions a chair, it doesn’t describe the chair. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence explains who Sam Maloof was, it doesn’t describe the rocking chair. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence describes the rocking chair, it doesn’t explain who Sam Maloof was.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 25a1ac33

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 25a1ac33

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

- 1914: British explorer Ernest Shackleton and a small crew embarked on an expedition to Antarctica.
- 1915: Shackleton's ship *Endurance* became stuck in ice before eventually breaking apart and sinking.
- 1916: After more harrowing sea-ice adventures, the entire crew was rescued.
- 1959: Historian Alfred Lansing wrote a book called *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage*.
- 2001: Filmmaker George Butler released a documentary called *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*.
- 2022: The wreckage of *Endurance* was discovered at the bottom of Antarctica's Weddell Sea.

The student wants to provide a historical overview of the Shackleton expedition. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Leaving in 1914 for Antarctica, Shackleton and his crew underwent many harrowing sea-ice adventures, including losing their ship in 1915, before being rescued in 1916.

B. In 1914, the Shackleton expedition sailed to Antarctica, where, in 1916, they rescued the crew of a ship that had sunk, *Endurance* (the wreckage of which was discovered in 2022).

C. Shackleton's expedition has inspired a 1959 book, a 2001 film, and a 2022 discovery.

D. Alfred Lansing wrote about the history of Shackleton's 1914–16 expedition in the book *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage* (1959); years later, in 2001, George Butler released a documentary about the expedition.

ID: 25a1ac33 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence provides a historical overview of the Shackleton expedition, noting that the explorers left for Antarctica in 1914, lost their ship in 1915, and were rescued in 1916.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents information from the notes; Shackleton and his crew were themselves rescued in 1916—they weren't rescuing others. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence provides examples of works and discoveries inspired by the expedition; it doesn't provide an overview of the expedition itself. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence provides examples of works made about the expedition; it doesn't provide an overview of the expedition itself.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ca5bb6c4

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ca5bb6c4

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

- Little is known about the life of Wong Fei-hung (1847–1925).
- He was born near Foshan, China, and gained local recognition as a physician and Hung Ga (also known as Hung Gar) Kung Fu master.
- He achieved many incredible martial arts feats—some confirmed and some rumored.
- He has become an internationally known folk hero thanks to his depiction in over a hundred films, television shows, and other media.
- In the 1991 film *Once Upon a Time in China*, actor Jet Li portrays Wong Fei-hung using superhuman kung fu abilities to save his community.

The student wants to emphasize the effect media had on building Wong Fei-hung's legacy. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Thanks to his depiction in over a hundred pieces of media, Wong Fei-hung was locally known as a successful physician and Hung Ga Kung Fu master.

B. Though he was known locally during his lifetime, Wong Fei-hung's later depiction in television, film, and other media has turned him into an internationally known folk hero.

C. Various media have depicted Wong Fei-hung, the successful physician and kung fu master who became an internationally known folk hero.

D. Wong Fei-hung's abilities as a kung fu master are depicted in many media, including the 1991 film *Once Upon a Time in China*.

ID: ca5bb6c4 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the effect media had on building Wong Fei-hung's legacy, noting that media depictions after his lifetime turned Wong Fei-hung into an internationally known folk hero.

Choice A is incorrect. While it appears to emphasize the effect of media depictions of Wong Fei-hung, the sentence misrepresents information from the notes. According to the notes, media depictions resulted in Wong Fei-hung becoming an internationally known folk hero, not a locally known physician and kung fu master. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence discusses Wong Fei-hung's legacy, noting that he became an internationally known folk hero, but it doesn't emphasize the effect media had on building that legacy. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence indicates that Wong Fei-hung has been depicted in many media but doesn't emphasize the effect of these media depictions on building his legacy.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID fbb716d4

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: fbb716d4

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

- Hina Hanta is an online archive curated by the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.
- Hina Hanta means “bright path” in Choctaw.
- It features images of cultural artifacts relevant to the history of the Choctaw people.
- It includes a fanner basket (*ufko tapushik* in Choctaw) made from cane.
- It includes a robe (*nita anchi*) made from bear fur.

The student wants to specify the fanner basket’s name in Choctaw. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The Hina Hanta archive features cultural artifacts, such as a fanner basket and a robe, that are relevant to the history of the Choctaw people.

B. The cane fanner basket, which is included in the Hina Hanta online archive, is called an *ufko tapushik* in Choctaw.

C. Hina Hanta, which means “bright path” in Choctaw, includes a fanner basket in its archive.

D. The name of the online archive Hina Hanta means “bright path” in Choctaw.

ID: fbb716d4 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence specifies the fanner basket’s name in Choctaw, noting that it’s called *ufko tapushik*.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the fanner basket, it doesn’t specify its name in Choctaw. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the fanner basket, it doesn’t specify its name in Choctaw. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence doesn’t mention the fanner basket or specify its name in Choctaw.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e37cbd06

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e37cbd06

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

- Meteorites found on Earth are divided into two categories.
- A meteorite that was observed falling to Earth before being recovered is known as a meteorite fall.
- All other meteorites found on Earth are known as meteorite finds.
- There have been about 1,200 recorded meteorite falls.
- There have been over 60,000 recorded meteorite finds.

The student wants to contrast the number of meteorite falls with the number of meteorite finds. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. A meteorite that was observed falling to Earth before being recovered is known as a meteorite fall; all others are known as meteorite finds.

B. Meteorites found on Earth are divided into two categories: meteorite falls and meteorite finds.

C. There have been about 1,200 recorded meteorite falls, or meteorites observed falling to Earth.

D. While there have been only about 1,200 recorded meteorite falls, there have been over 60,000 meteorite finds.

ID: e37cbd06 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence contrasts the number of meteorite falls with the number of meteorite finds, noting that there have been over 60,000 meteorite finds but only about 1,200 recorded meteorite falls.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence explains the difference between meteorite falls and meteorite finds, it doesn't contrast the number of meteorite falls and meteorite finds. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence indicates the two categories of meteorites found on Earth; it doesn't contrast the number of meteorite falls and meteorite finds. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence notes the number of recorded meteorite falls, it doesn't contrast this with the number of meteorite finds.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID c6783904

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: c6783904

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

- Lighthouses send out crucial light signals to help ships and other watercraft navigate at night.
- Before automation, lighthouses were run by lighthouse keepers.
- Maria Younghans was the lighthouse keeper at Biloxi Light in Mississippi.
- She held this position from 1867 to 1918.
- Flora McNeil was the lighthouse keeper at Bridgeport Breakwater Light in Connecticut.
- She held this position from 1904 to 1920.

The student wants to emphasize the order in which the two lighthouse keepers began their careers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. From 1867 to 1918, the nighttime waters of Mississippi were more navigable thanks to lighthouse keepers Flora McNeil and Maria Younghans.

B. Before automation, lighthouse keepers like Maria Younghans and Flora McNeil were crucial to ensuring safe navigation for watercraft.

C. Flora McNeil began her career as a lighthouse keeper years after Maria Younghans did.

D. Maria Younghans's career as a lighthouse keeper ended in 1918, whereas Flora McNeil's ended in 1920.

ID: c6783904 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the order in which the two lighthouse keepers began their careers, noting that McNeil, who became the keeper at Bridgeport Breakwater Light in 1904, began her career years after Younghans, who became the keeper at Biloxi Light in 1867.

Choice A is incorrect because it makes a generalization about the effects of McNeil's and Younghans's work; it doesn't emphasize the order in which the two keepers began their careers. In addition, the sentence misrepresents information from the notes; McNeil was the keeper at a lighthouse in Connecticut from 1904 to 1920, not at a lighthouse in Mississippi from 1867 to 1918. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence claims that Younghans and McNeil were crucial to ensuring the safety of watercraft before lighthouses became automated; it doesn't emphasize the order in which the two keepers began their careers. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes when the lighthouse keepers' respective careers ended; it doesn't emphasize the order in which the two keepers began their careers.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 683b8ee1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 683b8ee1

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

- Researchers Gwangsu Kim et al. sought to explore the relationship between the brain's ability to process natural sounds and its ability to process music.
- They used an artificial deep neural network (DNN) that models how the brain processes auditory information.
- The DNN had been trained to detect natural sounds (excluding music).
- Finding: The DNN spontaneously developed neurons that responded to music but not to other auditory stimuli.
- Conclusion: The brain's ability to process music may arise as a by-product of natural sound processing.

The student wants to present the aim of the study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In their study, the researchers evaluated whether an artificial deep neural network could model how the brain processes auditory information.

B. By training an artificial deep neural network, the researchers aimed to establish that the brain's ability to process natural sounds arises as a by-product of processing music.

C. The researchers used an artificial deep neural network, which spontaneously developed neurons that responded to music but not to other auditory stimuli.

D. Using an artificial deep neural network, the researchers sought to explore the relationship between the brain's ability to process natural sounds and its ability to process music.

ID: 683b8ee1 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence presents the aim of the study, noting that the researchers sought to explore the relationship between the brain's ability to process natural sounds and its ability to process music.

Choice A is incorrect. The researchers used the DNN to achieve their aim of exploring the relationship between the brain's ability to process natural sounds and its ability to process music; evaluating the DNN itself was not their aim. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence misrepresents the researchers' conclusion as their aim and also misrepresents that conclusion. The researchers' aim was to explore the relationship between the brain's ability to process natural sounds and its ability to process music; their conclusion was that the brain's ability to process music arises as a by-product of natural sound processing, not the other way around. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence merely describes a finding from the study; it doesn't present the aim of the study.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID dd18368e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: dd18368e

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

- Archaeologist Dr. Sada Mire founded the Horn Heritage Foundation to preserve the cultural history of regions in the Horn of Africa.
- Horn Heritage has overseen a preservation project to create 3D digital scans of ancient rock art in Somaliland.
- Paintings found at the Laas Geel caves are included in the scans.
- The Laas Geel paintings feature human figures and animals.
- Paintings found at the Dhagah Nabi Galay caves are included in the scans.
- The Dhagah Nabi Galay caves feature what are thought to be the earliest examples of writing in East Africa.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the Laas Geel paintings and the Dhagah Nabi Galay paintings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The earliest examples of writing in East Africa are thought to be featured in the paintings at the Dhagah Nabi Galay caves in Somaliland.

B. The paintings at the Dhagah Nabi Galay caves feature examples of writing, while those at the Laas Geel caves feature humans and animals.

C. In Somaliland, the paintings in the Laas Geel caves feature human figures and animals.

D. The Laas Geel paintings and the Dhagah Nabi Galay paintings are both examples of ancient rock art found in Somaliland.

ID: dd18368e Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. This choice compares the Laas Geel paintings and the Dhagah Nabi Galay paintings to one another and emphasizes what they have in common: they are both ancient rock art found in the same region.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice only mentions the Dhagah Nabi Galay paintings. It doesn't compare them to the Laas Geel paintings. Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize a similarity between the two paintings. Instead, it emphasizes a difference: the type of content they depict. Choice C is incorrect. This choice only mentions the Laas Geel paintings. It doesn't compare them to the Dhagah Nabi Galay paintings.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 40f0633c

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 40f0633c

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

- Pineapple is a fruit that contains ascorbic acid, an essential nutrient for humans.
- Every 100 grams (g) of pineapple contains 48 milligrams (mg) of ascorbic acid.
- Many animals can make ascorbic acid in their bodies, but humans cannot.
- Humans must get ascorbic acid from foods, including fruits and vegetables.
- Ascorbic acid is also known as vitamin C.

The student wants to provide an example of a fruit that contains vitamin C. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Humans cannot make ascorbic acid in their bodies, but they can get it from foods, such as fruits, for example.

B. Vitamin C, also known as ascorbic acid, can be found in pineapple as well as other fruits.

C. Since humans cannot make vitamin C in their bodies, they must get it from food.

D. Many animals can make ascorbic acid, which is also known as vitamin C, in their bodies, but humans cannot.

ID: 40f0633c Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence provides an example of a fruit that contains vitamin C, noting that vitamin C (also known as ascorbic acid) can be found in pineapple as well as other fruits.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence does explain that humans can get vitamin C from fruits, it doesn't provide an example of a specific fruit that contains vitamin C. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence explains why humans must get vitamin C from foods; it doesn't provide an example of a fruit that contains vitamin C. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence compares vitamin C production in animals with vitamin C production in humans; it doesn't provide an example of a fruit that contains vitamin C.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 8412b266

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 8412b266

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

- Grimanesa Amoros is a Peruvian American artist well known for her LED light sculptures.
- Her sculpture *Uros Island* is made of smooth multicolored LED domes.
- It occupies 335 cubic feet of space.
- Her sculpture *Fortuna* is made of entangled blue and white LED tubes.
- It occupies 19,950 cubic feet of space.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between *Uros Island* and *Fortuna*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The smooth LED domes of Grimanesa Amoros's *Uros Island* stand in contrast to the tangled LED tubes of *Fortuna*.

B. At 19,950 cubic feet in size, Grimanesa Amoros's *Fortuna* cuts a larger figure than the 335-cubic-foot *Uros Island*.

C. Grimanesa Amoros is the artist behind *Uros Island*—a sculpture made of smooth multicolored LED domes.

D. *Uros Island* is an LED light sculpture made by Grimanesa Amoros, as is *Fortuna*.

ID: 8412b266 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the sculptures, noting that both *Uros Island* and *Fortuna* are LED light sculptures created by Grimanesa Amoros.

Choice A is incorrect. Noting that *Uros Island*'s smooth LED domes contrast with *Fortuna*'s tangled LED tubes, the sentence emphasizes a difference between the two sculptures rather than a similarity. Choice B is incorrect. Contrasting the respective sizes of *Uros Island* and *Fortuna*, the sentence emphasizes a difference between the two sculptures rather than a similarity. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence describes *Uros Island*, it doesn't mention *Fortuna* or emphasize any similarity between the two sculptures.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 0c373c42

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 0c373c42

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

- The International Center for the Arts of the Americas (ICAA) is directed by Mari Carmen Ramírez.
- Ramírez oversaw an initiative to create an online archive of historical documents related to the history of Latin American and Latino visual art.
- The ICAA digitized over 10,000 documents, including the writings of Latin American and Latino artists and critics.
- The creation of the archive didn't require historical documents to be removed from their countries of origin.
- Scholars now have more access to these documents.

The student wants to explain an advantage of the ICAA's archive being digital. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Over 10,000 documents related to the history of Latin American and Latino visual art are part of the ICAA archive.

B. By offering online versions of historical documents, the ICAA's archive provides more access to these materials without removing them from their countries of origin.

C. Among the historical documents in the ICAA's archive are the writings of Latin American and Latino artists and critics.

D. The ICAA's director, Mari Carmen Ramírez, oversaw the creation of an online archive of historical documents related to Latin American and Latino visual art.

ID: 0c373c42 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence explains an advantage of the ICAA's archive being digital, noting that the archive provides more access to historical documents since they don't have to be removed from their countries of origin.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the number of documents in the ICAA archive; it doesn't explain an advantage of the archive being digital. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence notes the types of historical documents the ICAA's archive contains; it doesn't explain an advantage of the archive being digital. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence identifies who oversaw the creation of the ICAA's online archive; it doesn't explain an advantage of the archive being digital.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID aecc445b

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: aecc445b

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

- Roughly 96% of Australia's estimated 200,000 animal species are invertebrates.
- Invertebrates of the order Hymenoptera, which consists of sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants, are estimated to total 14,800 species in Australia.
- Invertebrates of the order Coleoptera, which consists of beetles and weevils, are estimated to total 28,200 species in Australia.
- Some of these invertebrates' populations are threatened by invasive bird and fish species.

The student wants to emphasize the different orders in which Australia's invertebrate animals are classified. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In Australia, 28,200 species are estimated to be beetles and weevils, both classified as invertebrates of the order Coleoptera.

B. Among Australia's many invertebrates, sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants belong to the order Hymenoptera, while beetles and weevils belong to the order Coleoptera.

C. Many sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants of the order Hymenoptera are threatened by some of Australia's invasive bird and fish species.

D. The order Hymenoptera is estimated to make up 14,800 of Australia's 200,000 animal species.

ID: aecc445b Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the different orders that Australia's invertebrates belong to, specifying that sawflies, wasps, bees, and ants belong to the order Hymenoptera, whereas beetles and weevils belong to the order Coleoptera.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence only mentions one order, Coleoptera; it doesn't emphasize the different orders that Australia's invertebrates belong to. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence only mentions one order, Hymenoptera; it doesn't emphasize the different orders that Australia's invertebrates belong to. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence only mentions one order, Hymenoptera; it doesn't emphasize the different orders that Australia's invertebrates belong to.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID fbb64b41

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: fbb64b41

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

- Claude McKay (1889–1948) was a Jamaican American writer.
- *Songs of Jamaica* (1912) and *Constab Ballads* (1912) are two acclaimed poetry collections that McKay published while living in Jamaica.
- McKay moved to Harlem in New York City in 1914.
- He is best known as a poet and novelist of the Harlem Renaissance, a literary and cultural movement of the 1920s and 1930s.
- His most famous works include the poetry collection *Harlem Shadows* (1922) and the novel *Home to Harlem* (1928).

The student wants to emphasize Claude McKay's accomplishments before moving to Harlem. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Jamaican American writer Claude McKay is the author of works such as *Songs of Jamaica* (1912), *Constab Ballads* (1912), *Harlem Shadows* (1922), and *Home to Harlem* (1928).

B. Although he is best known as a Harlem Renaissance writer, Claude McKay had published two acclaimed poetry collections in 1912 while living in Jamaica: *Songs of Jamaica* and *Constab Ballads*.

C. In 1914, Claude McKay moved to Harlem, where he would become known as a poet and novelist of the Harlem Renaissance (a literary and cultural movement of the 1920s and 1930s).

D. Before moving to Harlem, Claude McKay—author of the poetry collection *Harlem Shadows* (1922) and the novel *Home to Harlem* (1928)—lived in Jamaica.

ID: fbb64b41 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. This choice contrasts McKay's fame as a Harlem Renaissance writer with his earlier achievements as a Jamaican poet, and it names the two collections he published before moving to Harlem.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize McKay's accomplishments before moving to Harlem. It lists some of his works but doesn't distinguish between those he wrote in Jamaica and those he wrote in Harlem. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize McKay's accomplishments before moving to Harlem. It only mentions the year he moved and what he would become known for afterwards. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize McKay's accomplishments before moving to Harlem. It mentions that he lived in Jamaica, but it doesn't name any of the works he published there.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 63c0f101

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 63c0f101

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

- Allan Houser was a Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache sculptor, illustrator, and painter.
- Many of his sculptures featured Native American figures.
- He depicted this subject matter using abstract, modernist forms, developing a distinctive style that influenced many other artists.
- His well-known sculpture *Sacred Rain Arrow* was pictured on the State of Oklahoma license plate.

The student wants to describe the distinctive style of Houser's sculptures. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. A sculptor, illustrator, and painter, Houser developed a distinctive style for portraying Native American figures.

B. Houser's sculptures employ abstract, modernist forms to depict Native American figures.

C. Many other artists have been influenced by the style of Houser's sculptures.

D. The sculpture *Sacred Rain Arrow* is a well-known example of Houser's style.

ID: 63c0f101 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence describes the distinctive style of Houser's sculptures, explaining that the sculptures use abstract, modernist forms to depict Native American figures.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that Houser developed a distinctive style for portraying Native American figures, it doesn't describe this style. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence states that other artists have been influenced by the style of Houser's sculptures, it doesn't describe this style. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the name of a sculpture that's a well-known example of Houser's style, it doesn't describe the sculpture's style.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 0e826457

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 0e826457

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

- Earthquakes start at a point called a “focus” and spread out from there as seismic waves.
- The two types of seismic waves that travel beneath Earth’s surface are primary waves (P waves) and secondary waves (S waves).
- P waves travel more quickly beneath Earth’s surface than do S waves.
- P waves compress and expand the ground, causing it to move backward and forward.
- S waves cause the ground to move from side to side.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between P waves and S waves. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. P waves and S waves both travel beneath Earth’s surface, causing the ground to move.

B. P waves travel away from an earthquake’s starting point at a higher rate of speed than do S waves.

C. Spreading out from the focus of an earthquake, P waves move the ground backward and forward.

D. Although P waves and S waves start at the same point, they behave very differently.

ID: 0e826457 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between P waves and S waves, noting that they both travel beneath Earth’s surface, thereby causing the ground to move.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference between P waves and S waves, noting that P waves travel faster than S waves; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between the two types of waves. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes how P waves move; it doesn’t emphasize a similarity between P waves and S waves. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence acknowledges that P waves and S waves start at the same point, it doesn’t emphasize a similarity; instead, the sentence emphasizes a difference between the two types of waves, noting that they behave very differently.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6b646bda

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6b646bda

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

- Marine biologist Camille Jazmin Gaynus studies coral reefs.
- Coral reefs are vital underwater ecosystems that provide habitats to 25% of all marine species.
- Reefs can include up to 8,000 species of fish, such as toadfish, seahorses, and clown triggerfish.
- The Amazon Reef is a coral reef in Brazil.
- It is one of the largest known reefs in the world.

The student wants to introduce the scientist and her field of study to a new audience. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Located in Brazil, the Amazon Reef is one of the largest known coral reefs in the world.

B. Marine biologist Camille Jazmin Gaynus studies coral reefs, vital underwater ecosystems that provide homes to 25% of all marine species.

C. Providing homes to 25% of all marine species, including up to 8,000 species of fish, coral reefs are vital underwater ecosystems and thus of great interest to marine biologists.

D. As Camille Jazmin Gaynus knows well, coral reefs are vital underwater ecosystems, providing homes to thousands of species of fish.

ID: 6b646bda Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. We're asked to select the sentence that "introduce[s] the scientist and her field of study." This choice introduces scientist Camille Jazmin Gaynus as a marine biologist and explains what marine life she studies.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't mention Camille Jazmin Gaynus, so it fails to "introduce the scientist." Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't mention Camille Jazmin Gaynus, so it fails to "introduce the scientist." Choice D is incorrect. This choice mentions Camille Jazmin Gaynus, but it doesn't identify her as a marine biologist. It says she "knows well" about coral reefs, but doesn't identify her expertise as a "field of study."

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ccfa285e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ccfa285e

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

- Bharati Mukherjee was an Indian-born author of novels and short stories.
- She published the novel *The Holder of the World* in 1993.
- A central character in the novel is a woman living in twentieth-century United States.
- Another central character is a woman living in seventeenth-century India.

The student wants to introduce the novel *The Holder of the World* to an audience already familiar with Bharati Mukherjee. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Bharati Mukherjee's settings include both twentieth-century United States and seventeenth-century India.

B. In addition to her novel *The Holder of the World,* which was published in 1993, Indian-born author Bharati Mukherjee wrote other novels and short stories.

C. Bharati Mukherjee's novel *The Holder of the World* centers around two women, one living in twentieth-century United States and the other in seventeenth-century India.

D. *The Holder of the World* was not the only novel written by Indian-born author Bharati Mukherjee.

ID: ccfa285e Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence effectively introduces *The Holder of the World* to an audience already familiar with Mukherjee, explaining that the novel centers around two women and mentioning the author without providing any other identifying information.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence provides a detail about Mukherjee's settings; it doesn't introduce, or even mention, the novel. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence provides introductory information about Mukherjee; it doesn't effectively introduce her novel to an audience already familiar with the author. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence provides introductory information about Mukherjee; it doesn't effectively introduce her novel to an audience already familiar with the author.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6ce90b76

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6ce90b76

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

- If a moon orbiting a planet comes close enough to that planet, tidal forces can cause the moon to break apart.
- In a 2022 study, researchers proposed that Saturn was once orbited by a large moon they named Chrysalis.
- Their simulations indicated that Chrysalis would likely have come very close to Saturn around 160 million years ago.
- At that distance, Chrysalis would have been broken apart by tidal forces.
- The researchers hypothesized that the resulting debris formed Saturn's rings.

The student wants to recount the sequence of events proposed by the researchers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. According to researchers' simulations, two events likely occurred around 160 million years ago: first, Chrysalis came very close to Saturn, and second, debris from Saturn's rings caused the moon to break apart.

B. If a moon orbiting a planet (like Saturn) comes close enough to that planet, tidal forces can cause the moon to break apart.

C. Around 160 million years ago, a large moon (Chrysalis) came close enough to Saturn that tidal forces broke the moon apart; its debris then formed the planet's rings.

D. First, researchers proposed that Saturn was orbited by a large moon (Chrysalis); next, they conducted simulations; and, finally, they formed a hypothesis.

ID: 6ce90b76 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence recounts the sequence of events proposed by the researchers: a large moon orbiting Saturn came close enough to the planet that it was broken apart by tidal forces, and the resulting debris formed Saturn's rings.

Choice A is incorrect because the sentence misrepresents information from the notes; according to the notes, tidal forces, not debris, caused the moon to break apart. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence offers information relevant to the 2022 study but doesn't recount the sequence of events proposed by the researchers. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence recounts a sequence, but it's a sequence of the researchers' activities, not the sequence of events proposed by the researchers.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID cedea32c

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: cedea32c

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

- In 1851, German American artist Emanuel Leutze painted *Washington Crossing the Delaware*.
- His huge painting (149 × 255 inches) depicts the first US president crossing a river with soldiers in the Revolutionary War.
- In 2019, Cree artist Kent Monkman painted *mistikôsiwak (Wooden Boat People): Resurgence of the People*.
- Monkman's huge painting (132 × 264 inches) was inspired by Leutze's.
- It portrays Indigenous people in a boat rescuing refugees.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the two paintings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Monkman, a Cree artist, finished his painting in 2019; Leutze, a German American artist, completed his in 1851.

B. Although Monkman's painting was inspired by Leutze's, the people and actions the two paintings portray are very different.

C. Leutze's and Monkman's paintings are both huge, measuring 149 × 255 inches and 132 × 264 inches, respectively.

D. Leutze's painting depicts Revolutionary War soldiers, while Monkman's depicts Indigenous people and refugees.

ID: cedea32c Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

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.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID d600f35e

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: d600f35e

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

- Some powerful works of literature have so influenced readers that new legislation has been passed as a result.
- *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* (1789) is the autobiography of a man who endured slavery on both sides of the Atlantic.
- Equiano's book contributed to the passage of the Slave Trade Act of 1807.
- *The Jungle* (1906) is a fictional work by Upton Sinclair that describes unsanitary conditions in US meatpacking plants.
- Sinclair's book contributed to the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act in 1906.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the two books. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Although both are powerful works of literature that contributed to new legislation, Equiano's book is an autobiography, while Sinclair's is fictional.

B. They may have written about different topics, but Equiano and Sinclair both influenced readers.

C. The 1807 Slave Trade Act resulted in part from a book by Equiano, while the 1906 Pure Food and Drug Act resulted in part from a book by Sinclair.

D. *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* and *The Jungle* are two works of literature that contributed to new legislation (concerning the slave trade and food safety, respectively).

ID: d600f35e Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. This choice emphasizes a difference between the two books by using relevant information from the notes to contrast their genres.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice mentions a difference between the books (their different topics), but it emphasizes a similarity between the books (their influence on readers). Choice C is incorrect. This choice provides information about the books that reflects both a similarity (both resulted in new laws) and a difference (the specific laws that resulted), without emphasizing either. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize a difference between the two books. Instead, it *emphasizes a similarity*.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 8bc1f7d7

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 8bc1f7d7

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

- Gaspar Enriquez is an artist.
- He specializes in portraits of Mexican Americans.
- A portrait is an artistic representation of a person.
- Enriquez completed a painting of the sculptor Luis Jimenez in 2003.
- He completed a drawing of the writer Rudolfo Anaya in 2016.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the two portraits. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The portraits, or artistic representations, of Luis Jimenez and Rudolfo Anaya were both completed by Enriquez in the early 2000s.

B. Enriquez has completed portraits of numerous Mexican Americans, including sculptor Luis Jimenez and writer Rudolfo Anaya.

C. While both are by Enriquez, the 2003 portrait of Luis Jimenez is a painting, and the 2016 portrait of Rudolfo Anaya is a drawing.

D. Luis Jimenez was a Mexican American sculptor, and Rudolfo Anaya was a Mexican American writer.

ID: 8bc1f7d7 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the portraits, noting that one is a painting and the other is a drawing.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the two portraits rather than a difference. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence makes a generalization about Enriquez's portraits; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the portraits of Jimenez and Anaya. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence notes a difference between Jimenez and Anaya, it doesn't emphasize a difference between, or even mention, their portraits.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 91b4ab70

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 91b4ab70

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

- In 1965, Yale University historians claimed that a world map called the Vinland Map was drawn in the fifteenth century.
- Since that time, the map's age has been the subject of debate.
- In 2021, researchers conducted a study to analyze the elemental composition of the map's ink.
- Their analysis revealed that the ink contains a titanium compound not used in inks until the 1920s.
- The researchers concluded that the map was drawn in the twentieth century.

The student wants to present the study and its findings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Given the debate about the Vinland Map's age, researchers in 2021 conducted a study to analyze the elemental composition of the map's ink.

B. A 2021 study of the Vinland Map's ink revealed that it contains a titanium compound not used in inks until the 1920s, indicating that the map was drawn in the twentieth century.

C. The Vinland Map, believed by some to have been drawn in the fifteenth century, was the focus of a 2021 study.

D. Aware that a certain titanium compound was not used in inks until the 1920s, researchers in 2021 studied the elemental composition of the Vinland Map's ink.

ID: 91b4ab70 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence effectively presents the study and its findings, providing relevant information: a 2021 study of the Vinland Map found that the map's ink contains a compound not used in inks until the twentieth century.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence introduces the study, it does not present the study's findings. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the study, it does not effectively present the study or its findings. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence introduces the study, it does not present the study's findings.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 68609a2d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 68609a2d

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

- Soo Sunny Park is a Korean American artist who uses light as her primary medium of expression.
- She created her work *Unwoven Light* in 2013.
- *Unwoven Light* featured a chain-link fence fitted with iridescent plexiglass tiles.
- When light passed through the fence, colorful prisms formed.

The student wants to describe *Unwoven Light* to an audience unfamiliar with Soo Sunny Park. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Park's 2013 installation *Unwoven Light*, which included a chain-link fence and iridescent tiles made from plexiglass, featured light as its primary medium of expression.

B. Korean American light artist Soo Sunny Park created *Unwoven Light* in 2013.

C. The chain-link fence in Soo Sunny Park's *Unwoven Light* was fitted with tiles made from iridescent plexiglass.

D. In *Unwoven Light*, a 2013 work by Korean American artist Soo Sunny Park, light formed colorful prisms as it passed through a fence Park had fitted with iridescent tiles.

ID: 68609a2d Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence effectively describes *Unwoven Light* to an audience unfamiliar with Park, noting that Soo Sunny Park is a Korean American artist and that the 2013 work consists of colorful prisms formed by light passing through iridescent tiles.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes aspects of *Unwoven Light* but doesn't mention who Park is; it thus doesn't effectively describe the work to an audience unfamiliar with Park. Choice B is incorrect. Although the sentence indicates when the work was created and who Park is, it lacks descriptive details and thus doesn't effectively describe *Unwoven Light*. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence mentions Park and describes an aspect of *Unwoven Light*—the chain-link fence—but doesn't effectively describe the overall work to an audience unfamiliar with the artist.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID aadcdfa3

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: aadcdfa3

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

- In geology, an Aeolian landform is one that has been created by the wind.
- In Greek mythology, Aeolus is the keeper of the winds.
- Aeolian landforms are created when the wind erodes, transports, or deposits material.
- A mushroom rock is a rock formation in which the top is wider than the base.
- A mushroom rock can be formed when the wind erodes the base and the top at different rates.

The student wants to provide an explanation and an example of Aeolian landforms. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Aeolian landforms are created by different wind-based processes; for example, some are created by wind erosion.

B. Aeolian landforms—landforms created by the wind—include the mushroom rock, a rock formation in which the wind erodes the base of the rock faster than the top.

C. Erosion, transportation, and deposition are three examples of how the wind can create Aeolian landforms and mushroom rocks.

D. A mushroom rock is a rock formation that owes its shape to the wind, a natural force associated with Aeolus in Greek mythology.

ID: aadcdfa3 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence provides an explanation and an example of Aeolian landforms, explaining that they are landforms created by wind and offering the mushroom rock as an example.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence explains that Aeolian landforms are created by wind but does not provide an example of any specific Aeolian landforms. Rather, the example it provides is of a wind-based process. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides a partial explanation of Aeolian landforms, noting that they are created by the wind, it does not effectively provide an example. The sentence seems to indicate that mushroom rocks, rather than being an example of Aeolian landforms, are distinct from them. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides an explanation of a mushroom rock, which is a specific example of an Aeolian landform, it doesn't provide an explanation of Aeolian landforms in general.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 5ed1ed84

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 5ed1ed84

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

- Architect Julian Abele studied Gregorian and neo-Gothic architecture in Europe.
- Abele worked for an architecture firm that was hired in 1924 to design buildings for Duke University's new campus.
- Most of the buildings on Duke's campus were designed in the Gregorian or neo-Gothic architectural styles.
- At the time, Abele was not formally credited with designing the buildings.
- Based on the buildings' architectural styles, historians believe Abele designed most of the campus buildings.

The student wants to specify why historians believe Abele designed most of Duke's campus buildings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Given that most of the buildings on Duke's campus feature architectural styles that Abele had studied in Europe, historians believe Abele is the one who designed them.

B. Though Abele wasn't formally credited at the time, historians believe he designed most of the buildings on Duke's campus.

C. Most of Duke's campus buildings, which were designed by a firm Abele worked for, were designed in the Gregorian and neo-Gothic architectural styles.

D. Abele, an architect who studied Gregorian and neo-Gothic architecture in Europe, is believed to have designed most of the buildings on Duke's campus.

ID: 5ed1ed84 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence specifies why historians believe Abele designed most of Duke's campus buildings, noting that most of the buildings feature architectural styles that Abele had studied.

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence explains that historians believe Abele designed most of Duke's campus buildings, it doesn't specify why historians hold that belief. Choice C is incorrect because the sentence emphasizes the architectural styles of Duke's campus buildings; it doesn't specify why historians believe Abele designed the buildings. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence explains that Abele is believed to have designed most of the buildings on Duke's campus, it doesn't specify why historians believe that he designed the buildings.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID be506f8b

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: be506f8b

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

- In meteorology, an air mass is a large body of air with generally uniform humidity and temperature.
- Air masses are commonly classified by two-letter names.
- The first letter indicates the humidity of the air mass, while the second letter indicates the temperature.
- cA (continental arctic) means dry and cold, for example.
- mT (maritime tropical) means moist and warm.
- This classification system is based on the work of a Swedish meteorologist named Tor Bergeron (1891–1977).

The student wants to provide an example of an air mass. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Air masses are large bodies of air with generally uniform humidity and temperature.

B. The air mass classification system uses two-letter names and is based on the work of Tor Bergeron, a Swedish meteorologist.

C. Air masses are commonly classified by a two-letter name that indicates humidity and temperature.

D. One type of air mass is known as a cA, or continental arctic, air mass because it is dry and cold.

ID: be506f8b Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence provides an example of an air mass: the cA, or continental arctic, air mass.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence provides a general definition of air masses; it doesn't provide an example of a specific air mass. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence describes the system used to classify air masses; it doesn't provide an example of a specific air mass. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence explains how air masses are classified; it doesn't provide an example of a specific air mass.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 99c3a1db

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 99c3a1db

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

- Organisms release cellular material into their environment by shedding substances such as hair or skin.
- The DNA in these substances is known as environmental DNA, or eDNA.
- Researchers collect and analyze eDNA to detect the presence of species that are difficult to observe.
- Geneticist Sara Oyler-McCance's research team analyzed eDNA in water samples from the Florida Everglades to detect invasive constrictor snake species in the area.
- The study determined a 91% probability of detecting Burmese python eDNA in a given location.

The student wants to present the study to an audience already familiar with environmental DNA. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Sara Oyler-McCance's researchers analyzed eDNA in water samples from the Florida Everglades for evidence of invasive constrictor snakes, which are difficult to observe.

B. An analysis of eDNA can detect the presence of invasive species that are difficult to observe, such as constrictor snakes.

C. Researchers found Burmese python eDNA, or environmental DNA, in water samples; eDNA is the DNA in released cellular materials, such as shed skin cells.

D. Sara Oyler-McCance's researchers analyzed environmental DNA (eDNA)—that is, DNA from cellular materials released by organisms—in water samples from the Florida Everglades.

ID: 99c3a1db Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. This choice presents the study in a way that assumes the audience is already familiar with eDNA.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't present the study. It only states a general fact about eDNA analysis. Choice C is incorrect. This choice isn't suited for an audience already familiar with eDNA. A familiar audience wouldn't need to have the term defined or explained. Choice D is incorrect. This choice isn't suited for an audience already familiar with eDNA. A familiar audience wouldn't need to have the term defined or explained. It also doesn't present the study.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 9fd09ac0

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 9fd09ac0

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

- Pointillism is a painting technique in which small, distinct dots of color are applied in patterns to form an image.
- Betty Acquah is an artist from Ghana who uses pointillism in her work.
- "By extending dabs of color in the subject matter into the background and vice-versa, an illusion of movement is created," she says about pointillism.
- Her work often portrays Ghanaian women, whom she sees as the "unsung heroines of the Ghanaian Republic."
- Her pointillist painting "Exquisite" (2016) features five dancing women twirling their skirts.

The student wants to provide a quotation from Acquah that explains why she used pointillism in "Exquisite." Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In painting "Exquisite," Acquah applied pointillism to create what she called an "illusion of movement" within the painting's five dancing women and their twirling skirts.

B. Pointillism, the technique used in Acquah's "Exquisite," involves the application of small, distinct dots of color.

C. In "Exquisite," Acquah uses a technique that she says involves "extending dabs of color in the subject matter into the background and vice-versa."

D. "Exquisite" portrays Acquah's fellow Ghanaian women as she sees them: the "unsung heroes of the Ghanaian Republic."

ID: 9fd09ac0 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence provides Acquah's quotation about pointillism's "illusion of movement" to explain that she used pointillism to create the illusion of movement in her painting of women dancing.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains pointillism and indicates that Acquah used the technique in her painting, but it doesn't provide a quotation or explain why. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides a quotation from Acquah about pointillism, the quotation merely describes a specific aspect of the technique; the sentence doesn't explain why Acquah used pointillism in her painting. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides a quotation from Acquah, the quotation illustrates Acquah's views on Ghanaian women; the sentence doesn't explain why Acquah used pointillism in her painting.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2232c35d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2232c35d

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

- Jordan Bennett is a Mi'Kmaq visual artist.
- The Mi'Kmaq are a First Nations people in North America.
- Bennett's paintings pay homage to traditional Mi'Kmaq craftsmanship and have been displayed in over 75 exhibitions.
- His 2017 exhibition *Wije'wi* was held at the Grenfell Art Gallery.
- His 2018 exhibition *Ketu'elmita'jik* was held at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

The student wants to emphasize the order in which two of Jordan Bennett's exhibitions were held. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Jordan Bennett's 2017 exhibition *Wije'wi* was followed a year later by his exhibition *Ketu'elmita'jik*.

B. Jordan Bennett's paintings, some of which appeared in 2017 and 2018 exhibitions, pay homage to traditional Mi'Kmaq craftsmanship.

C. Mi'Kmaq visual artist Jordan Bennett has displayed his work in over 75 exhibitions, including *Wije'wi* and *Ketu'elmita'jik*.

D. Jordan Bennett's 2018 exhibition *Ketu'elmita'jik* was held at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; another was held at the Grenfell Art Gallery.

ID: 2232c35d Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the order in which two of Jordan Bennett's exhibitions were held, indicating that *Wije'wi* took place in 2017 and *Ketu'elmita'jik* took place a year later (2018).

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that exhibitions of Jordan Bennett's paintings took place in 2017 and 2018, it doesn't identify the exhibitions or emphasize the order in which they were held. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions two of Jordan Bennett's exhibitions, it doesn't indicate the order in which they were held. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions two of Jordan Bennett's exhibitions and specifies when one of them was held, it doesn't state when the exhibition at the Grenfell Art Gallery occurred. Thus, the order in which the two exhibitions were held isn't clearly established in the sentence.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 5c234ce6

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 5c234ce6

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

- Cities tend to have a wide range of flowering vegetation in parks, yards, and gardens.
- This vegetation provides a varied diet for honeybees, strengthening bees' immune systems.
- On average, 62.5 percent of bees in an urban area will survive a harsh winter.
- Rural areas are often dominated by monoculture crops such as corn or wheat.
- On average, only 40 percent of honeybees in a rural area will survive a harsh winter.

The student wants to make and support a generalization about honeybees. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Cities tend to have a wider range of flowering vegetation than do rural areas, which are often dominated by monoculture crops.

B. In urban areas, over 60 percent of honeybees, on average, will survive a harsh winter, whereas in rural areas, only 40 percent will.

C. The strength of honeybees' immune systems depends on what the bees eat, and a varied diet is more available to bees in an urban area than to those in a rural area.

D. Honeybees are more likely to thrive in cities than in rural areas because the varied diet available in urban areas strengthens the bees' immune systems.

ID: 5c234ce6 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer because the sentence makes and supports a generalization about honeybees. It claims that honeybees living in urban areas are more likely to thrive than rural bees, and it supports the claim with information about the effect of a varied diet on urban bees' immune systems.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence makes a generalization, it doesn't mention honeybees. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence provides data about honeybee survival, it doesn't make a generalization about honeybees based on this information. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence makes a generalization about honeybees' diets and immune systems, it doesn't provide adequate support for this generalization.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 0d77a407

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 0d77a407

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

- Some animals have evolved to physically resemble another animal, plant, or object.
- This is known as mimicry.
- Crab spiders mimic the appearance of flowers.
- This helps crab spiders ambush their prey.
- Katydids mimic the appearance of leaves.
- This helps katydids hide from their predators.

The student wants to emphasize a difference in how katydids and crab spiders use mimicry. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Katydids mimic the appearance of flowers, and crab spiders mimic that of leaves.

B. Katydids and crab spiders are two examples of animals that use mimicry.

C. Unlike crab spiders, which use mimicry to ambush prey, katydids use mimicry to hide from predators.

D. Animals that use mimicry have evolved to resemble another animal, plant, or object.

ID: 0d77a407 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence uses "unlike" to emphasize a difference in how katydids and crab spiders use mimicry, noting that crab spiders use mimicry to ambush prey while katydids use it to hide from predators.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence does contrast katydids and crab spiders, it misrepresents the information in the notes. Katydids mimic the appearance of leaves (not flowers), whereas crab spiders mimic the appearance of flowers (not leaves). Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that katydids and crab spiders use mimicry, it doesn't emphasize a difference in how they use it. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence describes what mimicry is; it doesn't emphasize a difference in how katydids and crab spiders specifically use mimicry.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 391d0022

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 391d0022

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

- Musicians around the world have used protest songs to raise awareness about human rights violations.
- US folk singer Aunt Molly Jackson released the protest song “Poor Miner’s Farewell” in 1932.
- It exposed the unlivable wages and dangerous working conditions coal miners faced in Kentucky during the 1920s and 1930s.
- South African singer-songwriter Hugh Masekela released the protest song “Bring Him Back Home” in 1987.
- It called on the South African government to free Nelson Mandela, an anti-apartheid leader who’d been unjustly imprisoned.

The student wants to contrast the song “Poor Miner’s Farewell” with the song “Bring Him Back Home.” Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The songs “Poor Miner’s Farewell” and “Bring Him Back Home” both raised awareness about human rights violations.

B. While both are protest songs, “Poor Miner’s Farewell” is about coal miners in Kentucky, whereas “Bring Him Back Home” is about the anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela.

C. Hugh Masekela’s song “Bring Him Back Home,” released in 1987, called on the South African government to free Nelson Mandela.

D. Released in 1932 by Aunt Molly Jackson, the song “Poor Miner’s Farewell” was a protest against the unlivable wages and dangerous working conditions faced by Kentucky coal miners.

ID: 391d0022 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence contrasts the two songs, noting that "Poor Miner’s Farewell" is about coal miners in Kentucky, whereas "Bring Him Back Home" is about Nelson Mandela.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between "Poor Miner’s Farewell" and "Bring Him Back Home"; it doesn’t contrast the two songs. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides a description of the song "Bring Him Back Home," it doesn’t mention "Poor Miner’s Farewell" or contrast the two songs. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides a description of the song "Poor Miner’s Farewell," it doesn’t mention "Bring Him Back Home" or contrast the two songs.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b97f36d1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b97f36d1

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

- The Azores is a group of islands about 870 miles off the coast of Portugal.
- Historians have long believed that in the fifteenth century Portuguese mariners were the first humans to populate the Azores.
- A 2015 study coauthored by Sofia Gabriel and Maria da Luz Mathias found that Vikings from Scandinavia may have populated the Azores as early as the ninth century.
- The researchers found a genetic connection between house mice in the Azores and house mice in Scandinavia.
- House mice may have traveled from Scandinavia to the Azores on Viking ships.

The student wants to specify who may have first populated the Azores, according to the 2015 study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Historians have long believed that the first humans to populate the Azores, a group of islands about 870 miles off the coast of Portugal, arrived in the fifteenth century.

B. Portuguese mariners may not have been the first humans to populate the Azores.

C. In their 2015 study, the researchers found a genetic connection between house mice in the Azores and those in Scandinavia.

D. According to a 2015 study, the first humans to populate the Azores may have been Vikings from Scandinavia, not mariners from Portugal as previously believed.

ID: b97f36d1 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. This choice effectively specifies who may have first populated the Azores, according to the 2015 study: the Vikings.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't effectively specify who may have first populated the Azores, according to the 2015 study. It only mentions the historical belief that the Portuguese were first. The 2015 study drew a different conclusion. Choice B is incorrect. This choice casts doubt on the Portuguese claim but doesn't name the group of people who may have arrived before the Portuguese. Choice C is incorrect. This choice mentions the evidence that the researchers found but not the conclusion they drew from it. It doesn't name the possible group of people who may have arrived before the Portuguese.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 3e5f0874

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 3e5f0874

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

- Scientists have long sought to determine the origin of glass in Chile's Atacama Desert.
- A 2017 study concluded that ancient grass fires had melted the area's sandy soil into glass.
- In 2021, a different study revealed that the mineral signatures of glass samples were consistent with the mineral signatures of comet samples collected by NASA.
- That study concluded that the glass had formed as a result of a cometary explosion close to the desert's surface.

The student wants to describe how scientific understanding about the glass's origin has evolved. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Scientists have long sought to determine the origin of the glass, with one study concluding that it formed when ancient grass fires melted the area's sandy soil.

B. Studies in 2017 and 2021 offered different explanations for the origin of the glass.

C. Mineral signatures of glass samples are consistent with those of comet samples collected by NASA, according to new research.

D. A 2017 study concluded that ancient grass fires had caused the glass's formation, but new research suggests that the glass formed as a result of a cometary explosion close to the desert's surface.

ID: 3e5f0874 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence describes how scientific understanding of the glass's origin has evolved, explaining that new research suggests the glass formed as a result of a cometary explosion instead of being caused by grass fires (as was previously believed).

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence explains the conclusion of the older study; it doesn't describe how scientific understanding of the glass's origin has evolved. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence indicates that the two studies provided different explanations, it doesn't describe how scientific understanding of the glass's origin has evolved. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence references a recent finding but doesn't effectively describe how scientific understanding of the glass's origin has evolved.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID f7aee02f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: f7aee02f

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

- Pedestrian malls are outdoor streets in a city or town where vehicle traffic is prohibited.
- Many pedestrian malls were built in the 19th and 20th centuries in Europe and Asia.
- Qianmen Dajie is a famous pedestrian mall in Beijing.
- It has existed since the Ming dynasty (1368–1644 CE).
- Rue Mouffetard is a famous pedestrian mall in Paris.
- It has existed since the mid-Roman Empire (117–235 CE).

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the ages of the malls. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The Qianmen Dajie pedestrian mall has roots as far back as the Ming dynasty; likewise, Rue Mouffetard has existed for centuries.

B. Both Qianmen Dajie and Rue Mouffetard are famous pedestrian malls, the former in Beijing and the latter in Paris.

C. Qianmen Dajie and Rue Mouffetard are pedestrian malls, outdoor streets closed to vehicle traffic.

D. Qianmen Dajie and Rue Mouffetard are examples of pedestrian malls, which proliferated in Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries.

ID: f7aee02f Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the ages of the two pedestrian malls, noting that both are relatively old—Qianmen Dajie has roots that go back hundreds of years and Rue Mouffetard has existed for centuries.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes that both locations are famous pedestrian malls and notes that they are in different locations; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in their ages. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence emphasizes that both locations are pedestrian malls, it doesn't emphasize a similarity in their ages. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence explains that Qianmen Dajie and Rue Mouffetard are examples of pedestrian malls and gives information about pedestrian malls in general; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in the ages of these two malls specifically.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e5790a9f

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e5790a9f

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

- The melting rate of glaciers varies based on air temperature.
- In the warm summer months, massive glaciers on the coast of Greenland melt into the surrounding water.
- The melting glaciers contribute to rising sea levels each summer.
- Huge icebergs also break off Greenland's glaciers into the water and melt.
- In 2017, geoscientist Twila Moon found that the iceberg melting rate depends not on air temperature but on water temperature.
- Because water temperature is consistent, melting icebergs contribute to rising sea levels all year.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between glaciers and icebergs in Greenland. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Because icebergs break off Greenland's glaciers into the water, their melting rate depends on water temperature.

B. Greenland's glaciers and icebergs both melt during the year, contributing to rising sea levels.

C. Geoscientist Twila Moon found that the melting rate of Greenland's icebergs, unlike that of glaciers, does not depend on air temperature.

D. Glaciers on the coast of Greenland melt during the warm summer months into the surrounding water, the temperature of which remains consistent throughout the year.

ID: e5790a9f Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between glaciers and icebergs in Greenland, noting that both melt and thereby contribute to rising sea levels.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence provides information about the melting rate of icebergs in Greenland; it doesn't emphasize a similarity between glaciers and icebergs in Greenland. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference between glaciers and icebergs in Greenland, noting that their melting rates depend on different factors; it doesn't emphasize a similarity. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence explains the conditions under which glaciers in Greenland melt; it doesn't emphasize a similarity between glaciers and icebergs in Greenland.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID e01b2aaa

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: e01b2aaa

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

- Shaun Tan is an Australian author.
- In 2008, he published *Tales from Outer Suburbia*, a book of fifteen short stories.
- The stories describe surreal events occurring in otherwise ordinary suburban neighborhoods.
- In 2018, he published *Tales from the Inner City*, a book of twenty-five short stories.
- The stories describe surreal events occurring in otherwise ordinary urban settings.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the two books by Shaun Tan. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Shaun Tan's book *Tales from Outer Suburbia*, which describes surreal events occurring in otherwise ordinary places, contains fewer short stories than *Tales from the Inner City* does.

B. *Tales from Outer Suburbia* was published in 2008, and *Tales from the Inner City* was published in 2018.

C. Unlike *Tales from the Inner City*, Shaun Tan's book *Tales from Outer Suburbia* is set in suburban neighborhoods.

D. Shaun Tan's books *Tales from Outer Suburbia* and *Tales from the Inner City* both describe surreal events occurring in otherwise ordinary places.

ID: e01b2aaa Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

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 Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b513efa9

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b513efa9

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

- Species belonging to the Orchidaceae (orchid) family can be found in both tropical and temperate environments.
- Orchidaceae species diversity has not been well studied in temperate forests, such as those in Oaxaca, Mexico.
- Arelee Estefanía Muñoz-Hernández led a study to determine how many different Orchidaceae species are present in the forests of Oaxaca.
- Muñoz-Hernández and her team collected orchids each month for a year at a site in Oaxaca.
- Seventy-four Orchidaceae species were present at the site.

The student wants to present the study and its findings. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. A study led by Arelee Estefanía Muñoz-Hernández identified a total of 74 Orchidaceae species in the temperate forests of Oaxaca, Mexico.

B. There are orchids in many environments, but there are 74 Orchidaceae species in Oaxaca, Mexico.

C. Oaxaca, Mexico, is home to temperate forests containing 74 Orchidaceae species.

D. Arelee Estefanía Muñoz-Hernández and her team wanted to know how many different Orchidaceae species are present in the forests of Oaxaca, Mexico, so they conducted a study to collect orchids.

ID: b513efa9 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. This choice most effectively presents the study and its findings. It opens with the study and names its lead researcher, then tells us its finding: that they identified 74 Orchidaceae species in the temperate forests of Oaxaca, Mexico.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't include the study's findings, so it fails to achieve the goal. It doesn't mention that there was a study at all. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn't present the study, so it fails to achieve the goal. It doesn't mention that there was a study at all. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't include the study's findings, so it fails to achieve the goal.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 368d0222

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 368d0222

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

- The Pueblo of Zuni is located about 150 miles west of Albuquerque, New Mexico.
- It is the traditional home of the A:shiwi (Zuni) people.
- The A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center was established by tribal members in 1992.
- Its mission is stated on its website: “As a tribal museum and heritage center for the Zuni people and by the Zuni people we work to provide learning experiences that emphasize A:shiwi ways of knowing, as well as exploring modern concepts of knowledge and the transfer of knowledge.”

The student wants to emphasize how long the museum has existed. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The Pueblo of Zuni is home to the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center, which was founded by tribal members.

B. The A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center has served the Pueblo of Zuni since 1992.

C. According to its website, the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center (founded in the 1990s) works to “emphasize A:shiwi ways of knowing.”

D. Knowledge has been one of the central themes of the A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center from its founding.

ID: 368d0222 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. This choice effectively uses information from the notes to emphasize how long the museum has existed. It says that the museum has existed since 1992.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn’t emphasize how long the museum has existed. It doesn’t say when the museum was founded. Choice C is incorrect. This choice doesn’t emphasize how long the museum has existed. It doesn’t say the exact date of the museum’s founding. Rather, it emphasizes the museum’s mission. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn’t emphasize how long the museum has existed. It doesn’t say when the museum was founded.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 9c1b0ab1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 9c1b0ab1

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

- In the 1930s, the Imperial Sugar Cane Institute in India sought to limit the country's dependence on imported sugarcane.
- The institute enlisted botanist Janaki Ammal to breed a local variety of sugarcane.
- She crossbred the imported sugarcane species *Saccharum officinarum* with grasses native to India.
- She succeeded in creating sugarcane hybrids well suited to India's climate.

The student wants to emphasize Janaki Ammal's achievement. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. By crossbreeding the imported sugarcane species *Saccharum officinarum* with grasses native to India, Ammal succeeded in creating sugarcane hybrids well suited to India's climate.

B. In the 1930s, the Imperial Sugar Cane Institute, which enlisted Ammal, sought to limit dependence on imported sugarcane.

C. Ammal was enlisted by the Imperial Sugar Cane Institute at a time when a local variety of sugarcane needed to be produced.

D. As part of efforts to breed a local variety of sugarcane, an imported sugarcane species called *Saccharum officinarum* was crossbred with grasses native to India.

ID: 9c1b0ab1 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes Janaki Ammal's achievement, explaining that she successfully created sugarcane hybrids that are well suited to India's climate by crossbreeding an imported sugarcane species with grasses native to India.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the goal of the Imperial Sugar Cane Institute in the 1930s; it doesn't emphasize Janaki Ammal's achievement. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence mentions Ammal, it doesn't emphasize her achievement of successfully creating sugarcane hybrids. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions the achievement of crossbreeding imported sugarcane species with grasses native to India, it doesn't emphasize the achievement as belonging to Janaki Ammal.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID cf842c88

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: cf842c88

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

- Wool is a natural—and economically important—fiber that is obtained from animals like sheep.
- Australia is a leading producer of wool.
- The thickness of wool fibers varies across sheep breeds.
- Merino sheep produce fine wool that is used for apparel.
- Rambouillet sheep produce fine wool that is used for apparel.
- Romney sheep produce thick wool that is used for rugs and blankets.

The student wants to emphasize how Romney wool differs from Merino and Rambouillet wool. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Romney wool is just one of the many kinds of wools, each originating from a different breed of sheep.

B. Sheep wool varies from breed to breed, so Romney wool will be different than other kinds of wool.

C. The fine wool produced by Merino and Rambouillet sheep is used for apparel, whereas the thicker wool of Romney sheep is used in rugs and blankets.

D. Wool is an economically important fiber—especially in Australia—that can be used to make apparel or even rugs and blankets.

ID: cf842c88 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This choice most effectively emphasizes how Romney wool differs from Merino and Rambouillet wool. It describes the difference in thickness and the difference in what they're used for.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize how Romney wool differs from Merino and Rambouillet wool. It doesn't mention Merino or Rambouillet wool at all. Choice B is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize how Romney wool differs from Merino and Rambouillet wool. It doesn't mention Merino or Rambouillet wool at all. Choice D is incorrect. This choice doesn't emphasize how Romney wool differs from Merino and Rambouillet wool. It doesn't mention Romney, Merino or Rambouillet wool at all.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ca2f0ad1

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ca2f0ad1

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

- Seven species of sea turtle exist today.
- Five sea turtle species can be found in the Atlantic Ocean.
- One of those species is the Kemp's ridley sea turtle.
- Its scientific name is *Lepidochelys kempii*.
- Another of those species is the olive ridley sea turtle.
- Its scientific name is *Lepidochelys olivacea*.

The student wants to emphasize a similarity between the two sea turtle species. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Among the seven species of sea turtle is the olive ridley sea turtle, which can be found in the Atlantic Ocean.

B. The Kemp's ridley sea turtle is referred to as *Lepidochelys kempii*, while the olive ridley sea turtle is referred to as *Lepidochelys olivacea*.

C. Both the Kemp's ridley sea turtle and the olive ridley sea turtle can be found in the Atlantic Ocean.

D. The Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*) and the olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) are different species.

ID: ca2f0ad1 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the two sea turtle species: both can be found in the Atlantic Ocean.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates that the olive ridley sea turtle is one of seven species of sea turtle; it fails to mention the Kemp's ridley sea turtle. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the two sea turtle species rather than a similarity. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the two sea turtle species rather than a similarity.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 028f7dbb

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 028f7dbb

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

- Crown shyness is a phenomenon in which the tops (crowns) of neighboring trees grow close together but don't overlap.
- To explain how this happens, Australian forester M.R. Jacobs proposes the mutual abrasion theory.
- According to Jacobs's theory, when trees brush against one another, branches break off.
- Malaysian scholar Francis S.P. Ng posits the mutual shade avoidance theory.
- According to Ng's theory, when tree branches detect shade from nearby trees' branches, they stop growing.

The student wants to compare the causes of crown shyness proposed in the two theories. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. While Jacobs proposes that crown shyness is caused by neighboring tree branches brushing against one another, Ng posits that it occurs when branches detect shade from nearby trees' branches.

B. Both Jacobs and Ng have proposed theories to explain what causes crown shyness.

C. Ng posits the mutual shade avoidance theory, whereas Jacobs proposes an alternative theory.

D. Jacobs's mutual abrasion theory proposes that when neighboring trees brush against one another, branches break off, resulting in a phenomenon in which the tops of trees grow close together but don't overlap.

ID: 028f7dbb Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence compares the two proposed causes of crown shyness, noting the theories' differences: Jacobs cites branches brushing against one another as the cause, while Ng cites branches detecting shade from other branches as the cause.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence merely identifies the existence of two theories for crown shyness; it doesn't compare the causes proposed by each theory. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence merely indicates that there are two different theories for crown shyness; it doesn't compare the causes proposed by each theory. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence merely explains one theory for crown shyness; it doesn't compare two theories.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ad04f716

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ad04f716

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

- In the early 1900s, suffragists organized marches for women's voting rights.
- Suffragists in the United Kingdom marched from Edinburgh to London.
- This march began on October 12, 1912, and ended on November 16, 1912.
- Suffragists in the United States marched from New York City to Albany, New York.
- This march began on December 16, 1912, and ended on December 28, 1912.

The student wants to emphasize the order in which the two marches occurred. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. After suffragists in the UK marched from Edinburgh to London, suffragists in the US marched from New York City to Albany, New York.

B. In the early 1900s, suffragists in the UK and the US marched for women's voting rights.

C. A march from New York City to Albany, New York, was followed by one that began in Edinburgh and ended in London.

D. From October 12 to November 16, 1912, suffragists in the UK marched from Edinburgh to London.

ID: ad04f716 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes the order in which the two marches occurred, correctly indicating that the US march (December 16 to December 28, 1912) occurred after the march in the UK (October 12 to November 16, 1912).

Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that both marches took place in the early 1900s, it doesn't emphasize the order in which the two marches occurred. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence does emphasize the order in which the two marches occurred, the order is incorrect. The UK march took place from October 12 to November 16, 1912, which was before the US march (December 1912). Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence specifies the dates of the UK march, it doesn't mention the US march or emphasize the order in which the two marches occurred.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 6dfe721a

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 6dfe721a

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

- Chemical leavening agents cause carbon dioxide to be released within a liquid batter, making the batter rise as it bakes.
- Baking soda and baking powder are chemical leavening agents.
- Baking soda is pure sodium bicarbonate.
- To produce carbon dioxide, baking soda needs to be mixed with liquid and an acidic ingredient such as honey.
- Baking powder is a mixture of sodium bicarbonate and an acid.
- To produce carbon dioxide, baking powder needs to be mixed with liquid but not with an acidic ingredient.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between baking soda and baking powder. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. To make batters rise, bakers use chemical leavening agents such as baking soda and baking powder.

B. Baking soda and baking powder are chemical leavening agents that, when mixed with other ingredients, cause carbon dioxide to be released within a batter.

C. Baking soda is pure sodium bicarbonate, and honey is a type of acidic ingredient.

D. To produce carbon dioxide within a liquid batter, baking soda needs to be mixed with an acidic ingredient, whereas baking powder does not.

ID: 6dfe721a Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between baking soda and baking powder, noting that baking soda needs to be mixed with an acidic ingredient to produce carbon dioxide but baking powder doesn't.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence focuses on what bakers use to make batters rise; it doesn't emphasize a difference between baking soda and baking powder. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence provides a general description of baking soda and baking powder; it doesn't emphasize a difference between them. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence explains what baking soda and honey are; it doesn't emphasize a difference between baking soda and baking powder.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID dd8a1d0d

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: dd8a1d0d

- In 2017, a research team led by Mary Caswell Stoddard determined the average lengths of eggs produced by various bird species.
- *Gygis alba* is a species of bird in the order Charadriiformes.
- *Gygis alba* eggs had an average length of 4.46 cm.
- *Gavia stellata* is a species of bird in the order Gaviiformes.
- *Gavia stellata* eggs had an average length of 7.22 cm.

Which choice most effectively uses information from the given sentences to emphasize a difference between the eggs of the two species?

A. A 2017 study compared the lengths of eggs produced by an array of different bird species, such as *Gygis alba* and *Gavia stellata*.

B. A 2017 study found that *Gygis alba* eggs had an average length of 4.46 cm, whereas *Gavia stellata* eggs were longer, with an average length of 7.22 cm.

C. The bird species *Gygis alba*, which belongs to the order Charadriiformes, and *Gavia stellata*, of the order Gaviiformes, were included in a 2017 study that compared the average lengths of their eggs.

D. Mary Caswell Stoddard led a research study that determined the average lengths of eggs, including those of *Gygis alba* birds (4.46 cm) and *Gavia stellata* birds (7.22 cm).

ID: dd8a1d0d Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a difference between the eggs of the two species, directly contrasting the shorter average length of *Gygis alba* eggs (4.46 cm) with the longer average length of *Gavia stellata* eggs (7.22 cm).

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence mentions both bird species, it doesn't emphasize a difference between their eggs. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides information about the two bird species, it doesn't emphasize a difference between their eggs. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence provides the average lengths of both species' eggs, it doesn't explicitly emphasize the difference between them.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 8f60b266

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 8f60b266

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

- The meter of a poem is the rhythmic structure or pattern of accents in its lines.
- Alliterative meter is structured by a pattern of repeated sounds.
- Quantitative meter is structured by a pattern of long and short syllables.
- The Old English poem *Widsith* uses an alliterative meter.
- The Sanskrit poem *Meghadūta* uses a quantitative meter.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between the meters of the two poems. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. The poem *Widsith* is written in Old English, but *Meghadūta* is written in Sanskrit.

B. Alliterative meter is a pattern of repeated sounds, but quantitative meter is a rhythmic structure or pattern of accents.

C. The Sanskrit poem *Meghadūta* uses a quantitative meter, while the meter of the Old English poem *Widsith* uses a pattern of long and short syllables.

D. The lines of the poem *Meghadūta* use a pattern of long and short syllables, whereas *Widsith*'s lines use a pattern of repeated sounds.

ID: 8f60b266 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. Noting that *Meghadūta* uses a pattern of long and short syllables in its lines (quantitative meter) and *Widsith* uses a pattern of repeated sounds in its lines (alliterative meter), and signaling a contrast with "whereas," the sentence emphasizes a difference between the meters of the two poems.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence indicates that the two poems were written in different languages; it doesn't emphasize a difference between the meters of the two poems. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence mentions the meters of the two poems but misrepresents information from the notes; the overall definition of a meter (the rhythmic structure or pattern of accents in a poem's lines) applies to both alliterative and quantitative meters, not just quantitative. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence emphasizes a difference between the meters of the two poems, it misrepresents information from the notes; *Widsith* uses an alliterative meter, which is structured by a pattern of repeated sounds, not a pattern of long and short syllables.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 14f17bb9

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 14f17bb9

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

- Some sandstone arches in Utah's Arches National Park have been defaced by tourists' carvings.
- Park rangers can smooth away some carvings using power grinders.
- For deep carvings, power grinding is not always feasible because it can greatly alter or damage the rock.
- Park rangers can use an infilling technique, which involves filling in carvings with ground sandstone and a bonding agent.
- This technique is minimally invasive.

The student wants to explain an advantage of the infilling technique. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. To remove carvings from sandstone arches in Utah's Arches National Park, power grinding is not always feasible.

B. Filling in carvings with ground sandstone and a bonding agent is less invasive than smoothing them away with a power grinder, which can greatly alter or damage the sandstone arches.

C. Park rangers can use a power grinding technique to smooth away carvings or fill them in with ground sandstone and a bonding agent.

D. As methods for removing carvings from sandstone, power grinding and infilling differ in their level of invasiveness.

ID: 14f17bb9 Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is the best answer. The sentence effectively explains an advantage of infilling: it's less invasive than using a power grinder.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence identifies a disadvantage of power grinding; it doesn't explain an advantage of infilling. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence identifies the two techniques park rangers use; it doesn't explain an advantage of infilling. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence indicates that power grinding and infilling are different in one aspect; it fails to explain an advantage of infilling.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID a0903efe

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: a0903efe

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

- In the midst of the US Civil War, Susie Taylor escaped slavery and fled to Union-army-occupied St. Simons Island off the Georgia coast.
- She began working for an all-Black army regiment as a nurse and teacher.
- In 1902, she published a book about the time she spent with the regiment.
- Her book was the only Civil War memoir to be published by a Black woman.
- It is still available to readers in print and online.

The student wants to emphasize the uniqueness of Taylor's accomplishment. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Taylor fled to St. Simons Island, which was then occupied by the Union army, for whom she began working.

B. After escaping slavery, Taylor began working for an all-Black army regiment as a nurse and teacher.

C. The book Taylor wrote about the time she spent with the regiment is still available to readers in print and online.

D. Taylor was the only Black woman to publish a Civil War memoir.

ID: a0903efe Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. By indicating that Taylor's book was the only Civil War memoir published by a Black woman, this sentence emphasizes the uniqueness, or one-of-a-kind nature, of Taylor's accomplishment.

Choice A is incorrect. While the sentence describes some of Taylor's accomplishments, it doesn't emphasize the uniqueness of them. Choice B is incorrect. While the sentence describes some of Taylor's accomplishments, it doesn't emphasize that they were unique. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence provides information about Taylor's book, it doesn't emphasize what made the book unique.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID ee6a9be5

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: ee6a9be5

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

- In 2020, theater students at Radford and Virginia Tech chose an interactive, online format to present a play about woman suffrage activists.
- Their “Women and the Vote” website featured an interactive digital drawing of a Victorian-style house.
- Audiences were asked to focus on a room of their choice and select from that room an artifact related to the suffrage movement.
- One click took them to video clips, songs, artwork, and texts associated with the artifact.
- The play was popular with audiences because the format allowed them to control the experience.

The student wants to explain an advantage of the “Women and the Vote” format. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. “Women and the Vote” featured a drawing of a Victorian-style house with several rooms, each containing suffrage artifacts.

B. To access video clips, songs, artwork, and texts, audiences had to first click on an artifact.

C. The “Women and the Vote” format appealed to audiences because it allowed them to control the experience.

D. Using an interactive format, theater students at Radford and Virginia Tech created “Women and the Vote,” a play about woman suffrage activists.

ID: ee6a9be5 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence explains an advantage of the “Women and the Vote” format, noting that the format appealed to audiences because it allowed them to control the experience.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes a digital drawing on the “Women and the Vote” website; it doesn’t explain an advantage of the play’s format. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains how audiences interacted with the “Women and the Vote” website; it doesn’t explain an advantage of the play’s format. Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that “Women and the Vote” had an interactive format, it doesn’t explain what advantage this format might have.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID fe1ae990

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: fe1ae990

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

- Samuel Selvon was a Trinidadian author.
- *The Lonely Londoners* is one of his most celebrated novels.
- Selvon published the novel in 1956.
- It is about a group of men who emigrate from the Caribbean to Great Britain after World War II.
- Some of *The Lonely Londoners*' characters also appear in Selvon's later novel *Moses Ascending*.

The student wants to introduce Samuel Selvon and his novel *The Lonely Londoners* to a new audience. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. In 1956, Trinidadian author Samuel Selvon published one of his most celebrated novels, *The Lonely Londoners,* which is about a group of men who emigrate from the Caribbean to Great Britain after World War II.

B. Samuel Selvon wrote the novel *Moses Ascending* after he wrote *The Lonely Londoners*.

C. *The Lonely Londoners*, a celebrated novel that was published in 1956, depicts post–World War II Caribbean migration from the perspective of a Trinidadian author.

D. Some of the characters who appear in Samuel Selvon's *Moses Ascending* also appear in *The Lonely Londoners*.

ID: fe1ae990 Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. By noting that Selvon is a Trinidadian author and indicating that *The Lonely Londoners*, published in 1956, is about a group of men who emigrate from the Caribbean to Great Britain after World War II, the sentence effectively introduces Samuel Selvon and his novel to a new audience.

Choice B is incorrect. The sentence indicates the order in which two of Selvon's novels were written; it doesn't introduce Samuel Selvon and *The Lonely Londoners* to a new audience. Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence describes the novel *The Lonely Londoners*, it doesn't mention its author, Samuel Selvon, by name and thus doesn't effectively introduce him to a new audience. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence indicates that two of Selvon's novels include the same characters; it doesn't introduce Samuel Selvon and *The Lonely Londoners* to a new audience.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b5465fdf

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: b5465fdf

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

- *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present* is a history book by Ojibwe author David Treuer.
- In a review, a critic for *The Economist* noted that "Treuer's storytelling skills shine" and that the book is an "elegant handling of [a] complex narrative."
- A critic for *O, The Oprah Magazine* called it "a marvel of research and storytelling."
- A critic for the *Missoulian* dubbed it "a monumental achievement."

The student wants to emphasize a similarity in how critics responded to Treuer's book. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Treuer's book, which was widely reviewed, focuses on Native American history from 1890 to the present.

B. Dubbed "a monumental achievement" by the *Missoulian*, Treuer's book documents over a century of Native American history.

C. Critics praised Treuer's book for its compelling narrative, with *O, The Oprah Magazine* calling it "a marvel of research and storytelling" and *The Economist* likewise writing that "Treuer's storytelling skills shine" and that the book is an "elegant handling of [a] complex narrative."

D. While the *Missoulian* focused on the book's broader achievement, *The Economist* zeroed in on Treuer's storytelling skills.

ID: b5465fdf Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. The sentence emphasizes a similarity in how critics responded to Treuer's book, noting that the critics for *O, The Oprah Magazine* and *The Economist* both praised the book's storytelling.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence provides background information about Treuer's book; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in how critics responded to it. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence cites a single critic's response to Treuer's book; it doesn't emphasize a similarity in the responses of multiple critics. Choice D is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a difference, not a similarity, in how two critics responded to Treuer's book.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2e05d87a

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2e05d87a

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

- Novelist Willa Cather grew up in Nebraska and attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Some of Cather's best-known novels are set in Nebraska.
- Two such novels are *O Pioneers!* (1913) and *My Ántonia* (1918).
- Cather's novels describe the experiences of immigrants who settled in the Great Plains.

The student wants to identify the setting of Cather's novel *My Ántonia*. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. *My Ántonia* is set in Nebraska, where Cather grew up.

B. Cather, author of *My Ántonia*, described the experiences of immigrants in her novels.

C. Among Cather's best-known novels are *O Pioneers!* (1913) and *My Ántonia* (1918).

D. Cather attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and set some of her novels in Nebraska.

ID: 2e05d87a Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is the best answer. This choice directly identifies the setting of Cather's novel *My Ántonia* as Nebraska.

Choice B is incorrect. This choice mentions that Cather wrote about immigrants, but it doesn't indicate where they lived. Choice C is incorrect. This choice mentions that *My Ántonia* is one of Cather's best-known novels but doesn't state where it takes place. Choice D is incorrect. This choice mentions that some of Cather's novels are set in Nebraska, but it doesn't specify which ones, so we can't be certain that *My Ántonia* is one of them. It also includes irrelevant information about Cather's education.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 140d2d15

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 140d2d15

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

- Stars form in a galaxy when gravity causes a massive cloud of dust and gas to collapse.
- A galaxy in a phase of rapid star formation is called a starburst galaxy.
- Quenching is a process in which a galaxy loses star-forming gas.
- A galaxy that no longer forms stars is called a quenched galaxy.
- A quenched galaxy has entered the poststarburst phase.

The student wants to explain what a quenched galaxy is. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Before quenching, a starburst galaxy will form stars at a rapid rate.

B. When it becomes quenched, a starburst galaxy enters the poststarburst phase.

C. Having entered the poststarburst phase, a quenched galaxy is one that no longer forms stars.

D. A starburst galaxy will lose star-forming gas and eventually become quenched.

ID: 140d2d15 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is the best answer. This choice defines a quenched galaxy as “one that no longer forms stars.”

Choice A is incorrect. This choice only describes what happens before quenching. Choice B is incorrect. This choice only describes what happens after quenching. Choice D is incorrect. This choice only describes what causes quenching.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID 2f3202d5

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Reading and Writing	Expression of Ideas	Rhetorical Synthesis	

ID: 2f3202d5

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

- Platinum is a rare and expensive metal.
- It is used as a catalyst for chemical reactions.
- Platinum catalysts typically require a large amount of platinum to be effective.
- Researcher Jianbo Tang and his colleagues created a platinum catalyst that combines platinum with liquid gallium.
- Their catalyst was highly effective and required only trace amounts of platinum (0.0001% of the atoms in the mixture).

The student wants to explain an advantage of the new platinum catalyst developed by Jianbo Tang and his colleagues. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A. Researcher Jianbo Tang and his colleagues created a platinum catalyst that combines platinum, a rare and expensive metal, with liquid gallium.

B. Like other platinum catalysts, the new platinum catalyst requires a particular amount of the metal to be effective.

C. Platinum is a rare and expensive metal that is used as a catalyst for chemical reactions; however, platinum catalysts typically require a large amount of platinum to be effective.

D. While still highly effective, the new platinum catalyst requires far less of the rare and expensive metal than do other platinum catalysts.

ID: 2f3202d5 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is the best answer. The sentence explains an advantage of Tang and his colleagues' platinum catalyst, noting that it requires far less platinum (which is rare and expensive) than other platinum catalysts do.

Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes the platinum catalyst that Tang and his colleagues created; it doesn't explain an advantage of their platinum catalyst. Choice B is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes a similarity between the new platinum catalyst and other platinum catalysts; it doesn't explain an advantage of the new platinum catalyst. Choice C is incorrect. The sentence connects the metal platinum to the functioning of platinum catalysts, noting that large amounts of platinum are typically required for platinum catalysts to be effective; it doesn't explain an advantage of Tang and his colleagues' platinum catalyst.

Question Difficulty: Medium