Writing and Language Test

35 MINUTES, 44 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 2 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

DIRECTIONS

Each passage below is accompanied by a number of questions. For some questions, you will consider how the passage might be revised to improve the expression of ideas. For other questions, you will consider how the passage might be edited to correct errors in sentence structure, usage, or punctuation. A passage or a question may be accompanied by one or more graphics (such as a table or graph) that you will consider as you make revising and editing decisions.

Some questions will direct you to an underlined portion of a passage. Other questions will direct you to a location in a passage or ask you to think about the passage as a whole.

After reading each passage, choose the answer to each question that most effectively improves the quality of writing in the passage or that makes the passage conform to the conventions of standard written English. Many questions include a "NO CHANGE" option. Choose that option if you think the best choice is to leave the relevant portion of the passage as it is.

Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage.

Whey to Go

Greek yogurt—a strained form of cultured yogurt—has grown enormously in popularity in the United States since it was first introduced in the country in the late 1980s.

From 2011 to 2012 alone, sales of Greek yogurt in the US increased by 50 percent. The resulting increase in Greek yogurt production has forced those involved in the business to address the detrimental effects that the yogurt-making process may be having on the environment. Fortunately, farmers and others in the

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CONTINUE

Greek yogurt business have found many methods of controlling and eliminating most environmental threats. Given these solutions as well as the many health benefits of the food, the advantages of Greek yogurt **1** outdo the potential drawbacks of its production.

[1] The main environmental problem caused by the production of Greek yogurt is the creation of acid whey as a by-product. [2] Because it requires up to four times more milk to make than conventional yogurt does, Greek yogurt produces larger amounts of acid whey, which is difficult to dispose of. [3] To address the problem of disposal, farmers have found a number of uses for acid whey. [4] They can add it to livestock feed as a protein **2** supplement, and people can make their own Greek-style yogurt at home by straining regular yogurt. [5] If it is improperly introduced into the environment, acid-whey runoff **3** can pollute waterways, depleting the oxygen content of streams and rivers as it decomposes. [6] Yogurt manufacturers, food **4** scientists; and government officials are also working together to develop additional solutions for reusing whey. **5**

1

A) NO CHANGE
B) defeat
C) outperform
D) outweigh

2

Which choice provides the most relevant detail?

A) NO CHANGE
B) supplement and convert it into gas to use as fuel in electricity production.
C) supplement, while sweet whey is more desirable as a food additive for humans.
D) supplement, which provides an important element of their diet.

3

A) NO CHANGE
B) can pollute waterway's,
C) could have polluted waterways,
D) has polluted waterway's,

4

A) NO CHANGE
B) scientists: and
C) scientists, and
D) scientists, and,

5

To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 5 should be placed

A) where it is now.
B) after sentence 1.
C) after sentence 2.
D) after sentence 3.

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CONTINUE

6 Though these conservation methods can be costly and time-consuming, they are well worth the effort. Nutritionists consider Greek yogurt to be a healthy food: it is an excellent source of calcium and protein, serves 7 to be a digestive aid, and 8 it contains few calories in its unsweetened low- and non-fat forms. Greek yogurt is slightly lower in sugar and carbohydrates than conventional yogurt is. 9 Also, because it is more concentrated, Greek yogurt contains slightly more protein per serving, thereby helping people stay

6

The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the writer do this?

A) Yes, because it does not provide a transition from the previous paragraph.

B) Yes, because it fails to support the main argument of the passage as introduced in the first paragraph.

C) No, because it continues the explanation of how acid whey can be disposed of safely.

D) No, because it sets up the argument in the paragraph for the benefits of Greek yogurt.

7

A) NO CHANGE

B) as

C) like

D) for

8

A) NO CHANGE

B) containing

C) contains

D) will contain

9

A) NO CHANGE

B) In other words,

C) Therefore,

D) For instance,

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CONTINUE

10 satiated for longer periods of time. These health benefits have prompted Greek yogurt's recent surge in popularity. In fact, Greek yogurt can be found in an increasing number of products such as snack food and frozen desserts. Because consumers reap the nutritional benefits of Greek yogurt and support those who make and sell **11** it, therefore farmers and businesses should continue finding safe and effective methods of producing the food.

10

A) NO CHANGE
B) fulfilled
C) complacent
D) sufficient

11

A) NO CHANGE
B) it, farmers
C) it, so farmers
D) it: farmers

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CONTINUE

Questions 12-22 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

Dark Snow

Most of Greenland's interior is covered by a thick layer of ice and compressed snow known as the Greenland Ice Sheet. The size of the ice sheet fluctuates seasonally: in summer, average daily high temperatures in Greenland can rise to slightly above 50 degrees Fahrenheit, partially melting the ice; in the winter, the sheet thickens as additional snow falls, and average daily low temperatures can drop 12 to as low as 20 degrees.

12

Which choice most accurately and effectively represents the information in the graph?

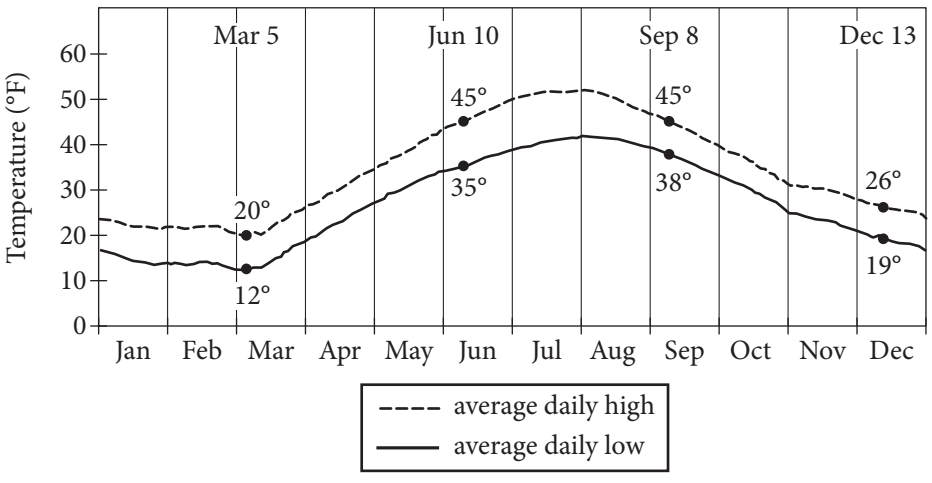
A) NO CHANGE

B) to 12 degrees Fahrenheit.

C) to their lowest point on December 13.

D) to 10 degrees Fahrenheit and stay there for months.

Average Daily High and Low Temperatures Recorded at Nuuk Weather Station, Greenland (1961—1990)



Adapted from WMO. ©2014 by World Meteorological Organization.

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CONTINUE

Typically, the ice sheet begins to show evidence of thawing in late **13** summer. This follows several weeks of higher temperatures. **14** For example, in the summer of 2012, virtually the entire Greenland Ice Sheet underwent thawing at or near its surface by mid-July, the earliest date on record. Most scientists looking for the causes of the Great Melt of 2012 have focused exclusively on rising temperatures. The summer of 2012 was the warmest in 170 years, records show. But Jason **15** Box, an associate professor of geology at Ohio State believes that another factor added to the early **16** thaw; the "dark snow" problem.

13

Which choice most effectively combines the two sentences at the underlined portion?

A) summer, following
B) summer, and this thawing follows
C) summer, and such thawing follows
D) summer and this evidence follows

14

A) NO CHANGE
B) However,
C) As such,
D) Moreover,

15

A) NO CHANGE
B) Box an associate professor of geology at Ohio State,
C) Box, an associate professor of geology at Ohio State,
D) Box, an associate professor of geology, at Ohio State

16

A) NO CHANGE
B) thaw; and it was
C) thaw:
D) thaw: being

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CONTINUE

According to Box, a leading Greenland expert, tundra fires in 2012 from as far away as North America produced great amounts of soot, some **17** of it drifted over Greenland in giant plumes of smoke and then **18** fell as particles onto the ice sheet. Scientists have long known that soot particles facilitate melting by darkening snow and ice, limiting **19** it's ability to reflect the Sun's rays. As Box explains, "Soot is an extremely powerful light absorber. It settles over the ice and captures the Sun's heat." The result is a self-reinforcing cycle. As the ice melts, the land and water under the ice become exposed, and since land and water are darker than snow, the surface absorbs even more heat, which **20** is related to the rising temperatures.

17

A) NO CHANGE
B) soot
C) of which
D) DELETE the underlined portion.

18

A) NO CHANGE
B) falls
C) will fall
D) had fallen

19

A) NO CHANGE
B) its
C) there
D) their

20

Which choice best completes the description of a self-reinforcing cycle?

A) NO CHANGE
B) raises the surface temperature.
C) begins to cool at a certain point.
D) leads to additional melting.

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CONTINUE

[1] Box's research is important because the fires of 2012 may not be a one-time phenomenon. [2] According to scientists, rising Arctic temperatures are making northern latitudes greener and thus more fire prone. [3] The pattern Box observed in 2012 may repeat **21** itself again, with harmful effects on the Arctic ecosystem. [4] Box is currently organizing an expedition to gather this crucial information. [5] The next step for Box and his team is to travel to Greenland to perform direct sampling of the ice in order to determine just how much the soot is contributing to the melting of the ice sheet. [6] Members of the public will be able to track his team's progress—and even help fund the expedition—through a website Box has created. **22**

21

A) NO CHANGE
B) itself,
C) itself, with damage and
D) itself possibly,

22

To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 4 should be placed

A) where it is now.
B) after sentence 1.
C) after sentence 2.
D) after sentence 5.

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CONTINUE

Questions 23-33 are based on the following passage.

Coworking: A Creative Solution

When I left my office job as a website developer at a small company for a position that allowed me to work full-time from home, I thought I had it made: I gleefully traded in my suits and dress shoes for sweatpants and slippers, my frantic early-morning bagged lunch packing for a leisurely midday trip to my refrigerator. The novelty of this comfortable work-from-home life, however, **23** soon got worn off quickly. Within a month, I found myself feeling isolated despite having frequent email and instant messaging contact with my colleagues. Having become frustrated trying to solve difficult problems, **24** no colleagues were nearby to share ideas. It was during this time that I read an article **25** into coworking spaces.

23

A) NO CHANGE
B) was promptly worn
C) promptly wore
D) wore

24

A) NO CHANGE
B) colleagues were important for sharing ideas.
C) ideas couldn't be shared with colleagues.
D) I missed having colleagues nearby to consult.

25

A) NO CHANGE
B) about
C) upon
D) for

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CONTINUE

The article, published by *Forbes* magazine, explained that coworking spaces are designated locations that, for a fee, individuals can use to conduct their work. The spaces are usually stocked with standard office **26** equipment, such as photocopiers, printers, and fax machines. **27** In these locations, however, the spaces often include small meeting areas and larger rooms for hosting presentations. **28** The cost of launching a new coworking business in the United States is estimated to be approximately $58,000.

26

A) NO CHANGE
B) equipment, such as:
C) equipment such as:
D) equipment, such as,

27

A) NO CHANGE
B) In addition to equipment,
C) For these reasons,
D) Likewise,

28

The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted?

A) Kept, because it provides a detail that supports the main topic of the paragraph.
B) Kept, because it sets up the main topic of the paragraph that follows.
C) Deleted, because it blurs the paragraph's main focus with a loosely related detail.
D) Deleted, because it repeats information that has been provided in an earlier paragraph.

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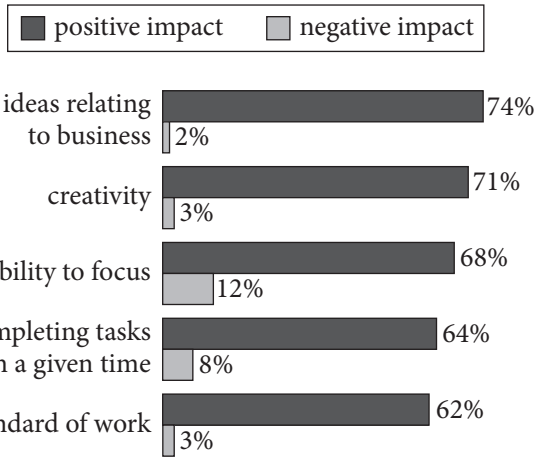
CONTINUE

What most caught my interest, though, was a quotation from someone who described coworking spaces as "melting pots of creativity." The article refers to a 2012 survey in which **29** 64 percent of respondents noted that coworking spaces prevented them from completing tasks in a given time. The article goes on to suggest that the most valuable resources provided by coworking spaces are actually the people **30** whom use them.

29

At this point, the writer wants to add specific information that supports the main topic of the paragraph.

Perceived Effect of Coworking on Business Skills



Adapted from "The 3rd Global Coworking Survey." ©2013 by Deskmag.

Which choice most effectively completes the sentence with relevant and accurate information based on the graph above?

A) NO CHANGE
B) 71 percent of respondents indicated that using a coworking space increased their creativity.
C) respondents credited coworking spaces with giving them 74 percent of their ideas relating to business.
D) respondents revealed that their ability to focus on their work improved by 12 percent in a coworking space.

30

A) NO CHANGE
B) whom uses
C) who uses
D) who use

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CONTINUE

[1] Thus, even though I already had all the equipment I needed in my home office, I decided to try using a coworking space in my city. [2] Because I was specifically interested in coworking's reported benefits related to creativity, I chose a facility that offered a bright, open work area where I wouldn't be isolated. [3] Throughout the morning, more people appeared. [4] Periods of quiet, during which everyone worked independently, were broken up occasionally with lively conversation. **31**

I liked the experience so much that I now go to the coworking space a few times a week. Over time, I've gotten to know several of my coworking **32** colleagues: another website developer, a graphic designer, a freelance writer, and several mobile app coders. Even those of us who work in disparate fields are able to **33** share advice and help each other brainstorm. In fact, it's the diversity of their talents and experiences that makes my coworking colleagues so valuable.

31

The writer wants to add the following sentence to the paragraph.

> After filling out a simple registration form and taking a quick tour of the facility, I took a seat at a table and got right to work on my laptop.

The best placement for the sentence is immediately

A) before sentence 1.
B) after sentence 1.
C) after sentence 2.
D) after sentence 3.

32

A) NO CHANGE
B) colleagues;
C) colleagues,
D) colleagues

33

A) NO CHANGE
B) give some wisdom
C) proclaim our opinions
D) opine

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CONTINUE

Questions 34-44 are based on the following passage.

The Consolations of Philosophy

Long viewed by many as the stereotypical useless major, philosophy is now being seen by many students and prospective employers as in fact a very useful and practical major, offering students a host of transferable skills with relevance to the modern workplace. 34 In broad terms, philosophy is the study of meaning and the values underlying thought and behavior. But 35 more pragmatically, the discipline encourages students to analyze complex material, question conventional beliefs, and express thoughts in a concise manner.

Because philosophy 36 teaching students not what to think but how to think, the age-old discipline offers consistently useful tools for academic and professional achievement. 37 A 1994 survey concluded that only 18 percent of American colleges required at least one philosophy course. 38 Therefore, between 1992 and 1996, more than 400 independent philosophy departments were eliminated from institutions.

34

A) NO CHANGE
B) For example,
C) In contrast,
D) Nevertheless,

35

A) NO CHANGE
B) speaking in a more pragmatic way,
C) speaking in a way more pragmatically,
D) in a more pragmatic-speaking way,

36

A) NO CHANGE
B) teaches
C) to teach
D) and teaching

37

Which choice most effectively sets up the information that follows?

A) Consequently, philosophy students have been receiving an increasing number of job offers.
B) Therefore, because of the evidence, colleges increased their offerings in philosophy.
C) Notwithstanding the attractiveness of this course of study, students have resisted majoring in philosophy.
D) However, despite its many utilitarian benefits, colleges have not always supported the study of philosophy.

38

A) NO CHANGE
B) Thus,
C) Moreover,
D) However,

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CONTINUE

More recently, colleges have recognized the practicality and increasing popularity of studying philosophy and have markedly increased the number of philosophy programs offered. By 2008 there were 817 programs, up from 765 a decade before. In addition, the number of four-year graduates in philosophy has grown 46 percent in a decade. Also, studies have found that those students who major in philosophy often do better than students from other majors in both verbal reasoning and analytical **39** writing. These results can be measured by standardized test scores. On the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), for example, students intending to study philosophy in graduate school **40** has scored higher than students in all but four other majors.

These days, many **41** student's majoring in philosophy have no intention of becoming philosophers; instead they plan to apply those skills to other disciplines. Law and business specifically benefit from the complicated theoretical issues raised in the study of philosophy, but philosophy can be just as useful in engineering or any field requiring complex analytic skills. **42** That these skills are transferable across professions

39

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

A) writing as
B) writing, and these results can be
C) writing, which can also be
D) writing when the results are

40

A) NO CHANGE
B) have scored
C) scores
D) scoring

41

A) NO CHANGE
B) students majoring
C) students major
D) student's majors

42

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.

> The ancient Greek philosopher Plato, for example, wrote many of his works in the form of dialogues.

Should the writer make this addition here?

A) Yes, because it reinforces the passage's main point about the employability of philosophy majors.
B) Yes, because it acknowledges a common counterargument to the passage's central claim.
C) No, because it blurs the paragraph's focus by introducing a new idea that goes unexplained.
D) No, because it undermines the passage's claim about the employability of philosophy majors.

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CONTINUE

43 which makes them especially beneficial to twenty-first-century students. Because today's students can expect to hold multiple jobs—some of which may not even exist yet—during 44 our lifetime, studying philosophy allows them to be flexible and adaptable. High demand, advanced exam scores, and varied professional skills all argue for maintaining and enhancing philosophy courses and majors within academic institutions.

43

A) NO CHANGE
B) that
C) and
D) DELETE the underlined portion.

44

A) NO CHANGE
B) one's
C) his or her
D) their

STOP

If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this section only. Do not turn to any other section.

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No Test Material On This Page