



GRE佛脚备考系列之 填空机经Volume 2

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Section 1

1. The children's _____ natures were in sharp contrast to the even-tempered dispositions of their parents.

- A. mercurial
- B. blithe
- C. phlegmatic
- D. apathetic
- E. cunning

2. Because people expect theater directors to be authoritarians, many were surprised that Clark was so _____.

- A. histrionic
- B. megalomaniacal
- C. egalitarian
- D. indolent
- E. charismatic

3. Although the political science professor's paper is quite (i)_____ about the government's problems, suggesting that they are part of a (ii)_____ process, the prognosis for the government is, on the contrary, actually quite auspicious.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------------|------------------|
| A. straightforward | D. degenerative |
| B. circuitous | E. comprehensive |
| C. pessimistic | F. spontaneous |

4. The author of this biography gives an accurate and (i)_____ account of the subject's life story, but all of this carefully assembled detail fails to compensate for the general lack of (ii)_____ in her writing.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. exhaustive | D. specificity |
| B. glib | E. veracity |
| C. selective | F. vivacity |

5. In adolescence, (i)_____ interactions are crucial in forging a self-identity. To be sure, this process often plays out in (ii)_____ as a means of defining and shoring up the sense of self. Kids will seek out like-minded companions, and spurn others who seem different. But when kept within reasonable bounds, this in-group (iii)_____ generally evolves into a more mature friendship pattern.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| A. adult | D. cliquish social behavior | G. alienation |
| B. wide-ranging | E. dramatic changes in personality | H. clustering |
| C. peer | F. heightened sociability | I. competition |

6. The (i)_____ quality of much contemporary drawing may be attributable to the use of photography as a drawing shortcut. Photography (ii)_____ modern arts, but when it is used as a tracing tool in order to (iii)_____ the difficulties of achieving correct proportion, the resulting art often feels static and lifeless.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| A. inert | D. frequent enervated | G. augment |
| B. jubilant | E. wonderfully enriched | H. foreground |
| C. sensuous | F. inevitably circumscribed | I. circumvent |

7. In matters of taste, the art patron and collector Peggy Guggenheim was _____: she was for the strangest, the most surprising, the most satisfying, the best, the unique.

- A. a neophyte
- B. a novice
- C. a realist
- D. an extremist
- E. a pragmatist
- F. a zealot

8. Even though his opponent is currently trying to portray him as a wild-eyed radical, voters will likely reject this charge because it does not _____ his moderate political record.

- A. defer to
- B. conform to
- C. accede to
- D. argue with
- E. meddle with
- F. square with

9. The _____ nature of the approval process for new drugs suggests that incentives to promote more expeditious decision making may be necessary.

- A. pecuniary
- B. commercial
- C. arbitrary
- D. sluggish
- E. capricious
- F. dilatory

10. The critic claims that, contrary to its reputation for _____, the novelist's prose is full of opaque language games.

- A. scrupulousness
- B. simplicity
- C. mendacity
- D. artlessness
- E. polish
- F. meticulousness

Section 2

1. Instead of demonstrating the _____ of archaeological applications of electronic remote sensing, the pioneering study became, to some skeptics, an illustration of the imprudence of interpreting sites based on virtual archaeology.

- A. ubiquity
- B. limitation
- C. promise
- D. redundancy
- E. complexity

2. Studies of hermaphroditic plants may exhibit sampling bias against self-fertilizing and cross-fertilizing species, thus inflating the frequency of species using a mixed mating system (both self-fertilizing and cross-fertilizing); nevertheless the number of mixed-system species is not _____.

- A. self-evident
- B. static
- C. trivial
- D. relevant
- E. calculable

3. The pupil had a reputation for obduracy, but the teacher found her to be, on the contrary, quite _____.

- A. zealous
- B. astute
- C. tractable
- D. efficient
- E. amusing

4. To abolish the existence of nation-states is neither feasible nor desirable; but insofar as there are collective interests that transcend national boundaries, the (i)_____ of nation-states must be (ii)_____ to international institutions.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. sovereignty | D. subordinated |
| B. traditions | E. attributable |
| C. genealogy | F. analogous |

5. Reviews written by music critic and composer Stephenson were hardly (i)_____ : musicians who performed his music could count on sympathetic coverage, while those who ignored him were held to (ii)_____ standards.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|------------------|-------------|
| A. disinterested | D. exacting |
| B. lucid | E. minimal |
| C. conventional | F. accepted |

6. People love to talk about their commutes to and from work: those with an easy commute tend to (i)_____, while those who hate their commute think and speak of it as a core affliction, like a chronic illness. Once you raise the subject, the testimonies pour out, and, if your ears are tuned to it, you begin overhearing commute talk everywhere. People who are normally (ii)_____ may, when describing their commutes, be unexpectedly (iii)_____ divulging the intimate details of their lives.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| A. grumble | D. inattentive | G. candid in |
| B. commiserate | E. garrulous | H. economical in |
| C. gloat | F. circumspect | I. flustered about |

7. There is a revelation on almost every page of this book, and the author's prose is _____ in the best possible way: blunt, sweet, off-kilter, and often quite funny.

- A. eloquent
- B. austere
- C. somber
- D. awkward
- E. solemn
- F. ungainly

8. A few decades ago the idea of animal morality would have been met with _____; however, recent research suggests that animals not only act altruistically but also have the capacity for empathy, forgiveness, trust, and reciprocity.

- A. derision
- B. resentment
- C. dismissal
- D. conviction
- E. ridicule
- F. certainty

9. The town's air was consistently _____: depending on the breeze, one might be greeted with the sour effluvia of twenty breweries, choking fumes from the coal tar factory, or brackish smells from the nearby river.

- A. malodorous
- B. toxic
- C. redolent
- D. benign
- E. noisome
- F. anodyne

10. *A priori* mathematics, according to Galileo, does not _____ the need for observation, but mathematics does allow us to deduce unobservable properties and thus to penetrate further into the structure of nature than observation does.

- A. address
- B. acknowledge
- C. obviate
- D. diminish
- E. displace
- F. appreciate

Section 3

1. Baker set a new standard for explaining difficult art in language the public could understand; consequently, her books remain exemplars of _____ in art-historical analysis.

- A. fashion
- B. rigor
- C. lucidity
- D. erudition
- E. grandiosity

2. The cognitive flexibility of successful fictional detectives is often _____ by their cultural ambivalence: detectives' intellectual acumen, it seems, exists in direct proportion to their uneasy place in society.

- A. amplified
- B. highlighted
- C. spurred
- D. matched
- E. negated

3. In the discussions on international patent law, many (i)_____ issues will probably be pushed far into the future. This cautious approach makes diplomatic sense, since attempts over the past 15 years to reach international agreements on patents have (ii)_____ just such sensitive issues.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. contentious | D. approached |
| B. stimulating | E. articulated |
| C. subjective | F. foundered on |

4. If the candidate wins the election now that rivals within his own party have (i)_____ him in a campaign that was (ii)_____ without their help, he will be mightily indebted to these self-styled saviors.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|---------------|
| A. rallied to | D. foundering |
| B. separated from | E. effective |
| C. undermined | F. improving |

5. Communal feeding is a remarkable behavioral aspect of this generally solitary animal. It is also misunderstood behavior and one of the reasons that Tasmanian devils have a bad reputation. Far from being a (i)_____, communal devil feeding is (ii)_____ and purposeful, and is described as (iii)_____ behavior. The screaming and apparent fighting is an elaborate combination and variety of vocalizations and postures by which order is maintained.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. free-for-all | D. structured | G. innate |
| B. rarity | E. vicious | H. acquired |
| C. necessity | F. infrequent | I. ritualized |

6. Observers of modern presidential campaigns who (i)_____ the highly (ii)_____ productions that pass for campaigns these days do sometimes find reason for hope in the occasional mix-ups that (iii)_____ candidates on the trail despite the presence of political strategists plotting every event with the tactical precision of military commanders.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| A. relish | D. ambitious | G. rattle |
| B. misinterpret | E. chaotic | H. bolster |
| C. despair over | F. choreographed | I. legitimate |

7. For those of us who have been intoxicated by the power and potential of mathematics, the mystery isn't why that fascination developed but why it isn't _____.

- A. advantageous
- B. discounted
- C. prevalent
- D. undervalued
- E. cerebrated
- F. widespread

8. In ways large and small, millions of people are taking active steps to _____ the medical mainstream, whether by taking herbal remedies for disease or by placing their hopes for a cure in alternative treatment.

- A. augment
- B. sidestep
- C. support
- D. vilify
- E. circumvent
- F. endorse

9. Her attempts to wrest fiction free from traditional constraints like plot and character were never entirely popular with readers; nonetheless, her fiction has had _____ influence on critical theory, novel, cinema, and even psychology.

- A. a studied
- B. a negligible
- C. a decisive
- D. an unmistakable
- E. an insignificant
- F. a restorative

10. Although the biography never explicitly assesses what role the dynamic between Mr. Merrill's parents might have played in the development of his personality, the author offers plenty of _____.

- A. mystification
- B. elucidation
- C. speculation
- D. reflection
- E. obfuscation
- F. conjecture

Section 4

1. A curiosity of the film *Vertigo* is its capacity to generate emotional power from a plot that lacks the most of elementary _____: viewers are required to accept not an isolated implausibility, but a continuous stream of them.

- A. believability
- B. impact
- C. narrative
- D. tension
- E. premise

2. Interest in creating handheld computers is fueled by the desire to shrink the size of the electronic circuitry and to create exceptionally small mechanical systems. At this scale, however, physical (i)_____ poses unique challenges. Machining, positioning, and assembling parts by hand are easy at microscopic scales but at minute scales they are far from (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|---------------|
| A. deterioration | D. subtle |
| B. manipulation | E. inflexible |
| C. durability | F. routine |

3. The introductions to each section, written by the editors of the anthology, provide useful background material, but they do not provide critical analysis of the articles. Because the articles are in many senses the editors' personal favorites, it is probably (i)_____ to expect more from the introductions—but if the book is to be read by advanced students, such criticism would be as (ii)_____ as the articles themselves.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. juvenile | D. biased |
| B. paradoxical | E. complex |
| C. unrealistic | F. informative |

4. A bird's feathers would seem to be a (i)_____ design for protecting a bird from attack by microscopic organisms. They create a warm, moist space next to the skin that could be an ideal incubator for spores. Wild birds rarely (ii)_____ skin diseases, however. The chemicals in the sebum include an array of antibacterial and anti-fungal agents that allow the bird's skin to (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| A. perfect | D. contract | G. stay healthy |
| B. typical | E. overcome | H. become irritated |
| C. poor | F. notice | I. recover quickly |

5. Women in the mining towns of the American West were strictly stereotyped into neat categories of public and private, good and bad, but the 100 intrepid female prospectors in Zanjani's book managed to (i)_____ those categories. In addition to providing documentation that demolishes the all-male version of prospecting, Zanjani uses the examples of her female loners to (ii)_____ some of the (iii)_____ generalizations about Euro-American women as uniformly nurturant and sociable pioneers.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| A. inhabit | D. puncture | G. accurate |
| B. reveal | E. invent | H. facile |
| C. confound | F. perpetuate | I. unknown |

6. Leo Tolstoy wrote many works of nonfiction and professed (i)_____ these explorations of ethics and religion compared with his novels and short stories. The fiction writer in him, however, was hard to (ii)_____. *Handi Murdd* is a short novel with the breadth and power of an epic, with vivid characterization and intense storytelling that sweep the reader away. While the reader senses the moral concerns of the tale's creator, the novel is a far cry from the (iii)_____ of Tolstoy's nonfiction.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| A. a preference for | D. suppress | G. didacticism |
| B. an aversion to | E. identity | H. fluidity |
| C. an indifference toward | F. incite | I. creativity |

7. Although most scientists hold that quantum theory and the theory of general relativity ought to be intimately connected, the theories have remained stubbornly _____.

- A. consistent
- B. unlinked
- C. self-contradictory
- D. estranged
- E. arbitrary
- F. congruent

8. She expected her book to be _____, but in fact few of her readers disagreed with its premise that street art, long considered a mere sideshow entertainment, deserved to be regarded as high art.

- A. controversial
- B. dramatic
- C. impressive
- D. acclaimed
- E. provocative
- F. popular

9. Despite its best efforts to stimulate sales, the bookselling business remains far from _____, for it has high fixed costs in wages and rent, and falling prices make these ever harder to spur.

- A. effective
- B. healthy
- C. innovative
- D. robust
- E. stingy
- F. parsimonious

10. Since the data we have analyzed are so _____, it would be hazardous to draw a definite conclusion.

- .
- A. copious
 - B. overwhelming
 - C. meager
 - D. paltry
 - E. abundant
 - F. uncertain

Section 5

1. Many Latin American writers and critics have come to bristle at the very mention of the type of fiction termed “magic realism,” but to the common reader the appeal of such fiction is _____.

- A. elusive
- B. undiminished
- C. unfathomable
- D. unexpected
- E. derivative

2. Because the critic thought that the mark of great literature was grandiosity and elegance not to be found in common speech, writers seeking his approbation _____ the vernacular.

- A. exploited
- B. embraced
- C. misapplied
- D. considered
- E. eschewed

3. Britain’s Queen Victoria, however (i)_____ she had been at the beginning of her reign, was politically much more (ii)_____ by the end of her time on the throne, as she resigned herself to the emergence of an increasing powerful electorate that prevented her from stubbornly insisting on getting her own way in matters of state.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|--------------|
| A. naive | D. powerful |
| B. personable | E. arbitrary |
| C. obdurate | F. malleable |

4. The professor frequently reiterated a basic assumption behind the experimental method—namely, that the outcome of the experiment is always (i)_____. The hypothesis can never assume the experiment's results, in other words, but instead must (ii)_____ their appearance.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------|------------|
| A. undetermined | D. await |
| B. incontrovertible | E. signal |
| C. inconsequential | F. negate |

5. The virtual absence of cougars from late prehistoric faunas in the North American Great Basin (i)_____ a general scarcity of carnivores from these sites: bobcats, coyotes, and badgers are routinely found, and even such historically (ii)_____ carnivores as bears and wolves are found as well.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| A. largely parallels | D. widespread |
| B. does not reflect | E. rare |
| C. is a consequence of | F. representative |

6. For a time in the early Middle Ages, Latin culture came close to (i)_____: the witness to that is the (ii)_____ of manuscript copies of texts datable to the period. The process of copying manuscripts, the only way in which the fragile products of centuries of accumulating knowledge could be preserved, (iii)_____, a situation that did not change for two and a half centuries, until the time of Charlemagne. In the intervening period, much of Classical literature was lost to use forever.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. reversing | D. paucity | G. was pursued methodically |
| B. exploding | E. provenance | H. expressed the spirit of the time |
| C. vanishing | F. proliferation | I. virtually came to a standstill |

7. Today the chair of task force in charge of revising the psychiatric diagnostic manual is _____ post—people work for years to position themselves as candidates—but in the early 1970s, descriptive psychiatry was a backwater.

- A. a coveted
- B. an arduous
- C. a taxing
- D. a lucrative
- E. an enviable
- F. an influential

8. The astronomer admits that his interpretation of so-called Population III stars is _____ at present since no one has yet done any real calculations to see if it holds up under closer scrutiny.

- A. spurious
- B. speculative
- C. predictive
- D. conjectural
- E. fabricated
- F. implausible

9. British critics covering African American musicians performing in London in the 1910s had little idea how to distinguish what was authentic African American music from what was _____, but they knew such a distinction existed.

- A. eclectic
- B. genuine
- C. derivative
- D. spurious
- E. legitimate
- F. specious

10. For parents, the pleasure of letting children choose which book to read aloud together is not always _____ : I well remembered my inner groans when my child would constantly pick my least favorite book from the shelf.

- A. intangible
- B. enduring
- C. impalpable
- D. unalloyed
- E. ephemeral
- F. unqualified

Section 6

1. Given the many thematic strands that the book seeks to draw together into a continuous cord of narrative, it is perforce work of _____, which is not to say that the author's research fails to provide sufficient detail about each of his chosen themes.

- A. synthesis
- B. conjecture
- C. analysis
- D. reconstruction
- E. accretion

2. For many in the room, the idea of coming to the assistance of a rival was more than unpleasant: it was _____.

- A. unpropitious
- B. anomalous
- C. anathema
- D. redundant
- E. meretricious

3. Throughout much of the twentieth century, common scientific sense seemed to dictate that animals could not make a choice based on radical or aesthetic criteria. Such choices were (i)_____ the mental capacity of humans. Scientists who (ii)_____ this animal-human cognitive division were often accused of anthropomorphism.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| A. reserved for | D. accepted |
| B. inconsistent with | E. transgressed |
| C. similar to | F. exacerbated |

4. Common sense tells us some people are more (i)_____ than others. The claim that these differences are (ii)_____, or that deep down, everybody acts only to further their own interests, (iii)_____ observations and deep-seated human practices of moral evaluation.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| A. altruistic | D. growing | G. mimics |
| B. adaptable | E. illusory | H. explains |
| C. disciplined | F. relevant | I. contradicts |

5. Many researchers assume that politicians consider the preferences of the entire public, and not merely those of likely voters, when making decisions. Yet, since the desire to be reelected is central, it is plausible that politicians (i)_____ the opinions of likely voters in formulating their positions on issues. It is possible that researchers' suppositions about policy makers' (ii)_____ aggregate public opinion may serve to (iii)_____ the fact that only the preferences of likely voters actually matter.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| A. rely insufficiently on | D. responsiveness to | G. mask |
| B. depart sporadically from | E. neglect of | H. reflect |
| C. attend disproportionately to | F. misrepresentation of | I. obviate |

6. Compared to Earth over most of its 4 to 6-billion-year history, the world we live in today is quite (i)_____. Of course, it is human nature to regard the world that we are used to as (ii)_____. The oceans, prairies, and mountain chains—even the air we breathe—seem the norm and therefore (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. bountiful | D. invaluable | G. eternal |
| B. atypical | E. permanent | H. precious |
| C. stable | F. corrupted | I. endangered |

7. Caricature can be revealing as well as amusing, and Ager's novel is both: Ager's delineation of class, ethnic, and generational struggle is exaggerated for comical effect, but it _____ nonetheless.

- A. resonates
- B. entertains
- C. diverts
- D. confuses
- E. rings true
- F. falls short

8. Laughter, like speech, is primarily a human faculty, although both functions may also exist in a more _____ form in lesser primates.

- A. indispensable
- B. crucial
- C. primitive
- D. intelligible
- E. recognizable
- F. rudimentary

9. The story lines of silent dramas may often have been _____, yet within those basic narrative outlines, the true artists among silent-film actors could express emotional shadings that have no analogue in spoken language.

- A. implausible
- B. incredible
- C. conventional
- D. elemental
- E. rudimentary
- F. confusing

10. The candidate seeks to depict his opponent as being _____, as one who is simply unable to make a decision and stand his ground.

- A. inconstant
- B. cowardly
- C. opportunistic
- D. petty
- E. capricious
- F. spiteful

Section 7

1. Unable to escape their own literary tradition, literary critics either become the _____ of that tradition or, on the contrary, use their knowledge of it to reinterpret writers and trends from new perspectives.

- A. liberators
- B. guardians
- C. successors
- D. antithesis
- E. gadflies

2. Paintings created in India during the Mughal dynasty were _____ in ambition but ornamental in presentation: in one direction they have an affinity with newspaper photographs, while in the other they have the intricacy of jewels.

- A. metaphorical
- B. documentary
- C. aesthetic
- D. sectarian
- E. baroque

3. As the pace of the trial (i)_____, the wait at the beginning of the day became less interminable, and the attorneys' requests to suspend proceeding for private conferences with the judge, almost invariably granted early on, were routinely (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| A. slowed | D. rebuff |
| B. materialized | E. repeated |
| C. accelerated | F. recounted |

4. Since the field of quantum mechanics is often considered to be (i)_____, it was surprising to find it attracts so much (ii)_____ interest.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------------|--------------|
| A. abstruse | D. cursory |
| B. unconventional | E. technical |
| C. interdisciplinary | F. general |

5. Medical research scientists' (i)_____ claims regarding the (ii)_____ new research make the public wonder why their own doctors are not dispensing miracles. There are forces, both external and internal, on scientists that almost require them to (iii)_____. Without money, there is no science. Researchers must constantly convince administrators who control tax dollars, investors, and individual donors that the work they are doing will make a difference.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| A. modest | D. serious constraints on | G. improvise |
| B. inflated | E. overblown interpretations of | H. oversell |
| C. fastidious | F. potential benefits of | I. generalize |

6. Most advocates of space exploration by the United States would not explicitly associate spaceflight with (i)_____, yet that belief, Launius and McCurdy write, is among the roots of arguments (ii)_____ human spaceflight. Throughout United States history there has been (iii)_____—seek utopia—on the frontier, and many space advocates have used that notion to make their case for exploring and settling space.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|----------------|--|
| A. entertainment | D. questioning | G. a hostile region fit only for the most self-reliant |
| B. irrationality | E. analyzing | H. the ideal location for one to better oneself |
| C. utopia | F. prompting | I. a paradise corrupted by European civilization |

7. Although people often describe the correct trajectory for a thrown or moving object, their efforts to explain that trajectory in terms of physics can reveal _____ understanding of the forces acting on the object.

- A. a naïve
- B. a subtle
- C. a fallacious
- D. an unsophisticated
- E. a nuanced
- F. a fresh

8. His own writing style was _____: colorful and tart in its choice of language, willing to run risks in its allusions, metaphors, and verbal juxtapositions, prone to irreverent conclusions designed to surprise or startle.

- A. effusive
- B. audacious
- C. lyrical
- D. striking
- E. ornate
- F. emotional

9. *Shifting Fortunes* takes a conventional approach to American union history by simply explaining the reasons behind union growth and decline in the nineteenth and twentieth century; it is a chronologically and thematically _____ study and nothing more.

- A. complicated
- B. taxing
- C. circumscribed
- D. onerous
- E. confined
- F. multifarious

10. Given the _____ of solid case studies of environment degradation, this new study adds very little to our knowledge of the field.

- A. erroneousness
- B. plethora
- C. surfeit
- D. inaccuracy
- E. rigor
- F. outcome

Section 8

1. This is neither praise nor criticism, neither a compliment nor _____, just an observation.

- A. an exposition
- B. an elucidation
- C. an animadversion
- D. a culmination
- E. a divination

2. Although New York exhilarated him, even at first Leger's reaction to it was not _____: he was initially bothered by its stunning verticality.

- A. unspontaneous
- B. unintentional
- C. unqualified
- D. unhopeful
- E. uninterested

3. Any number of mysteries to which individual scholars of Athenian history have devoted whole careers are addressed by Ober, and mostly successfully. This will cause some (i)_____ among scholars who have worked for years on a particular problem only to see another scholar suddenly (ii)_____ it.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. chagrin | D. prolong |
| B. complacency | E. exacerbate |
| C. hubris | F. resolve |

4. In a federally governed country, a regional government can function as a (i)_____ for the entire nation—a setting in which new ideas under consideration for national implementation are (ii)_____ without having to involve the country as a whole.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. laboratory | D. dispersed |
| B. catalyst | E. undermined |
| C. standard | F. tried |

5. As cheaper imports drove most California potteries out of business during the 1950s, one company (i)_____. The substantial size and weight of the specialized products produced by Architectural Pottery helped (ii)_____ the company, because it was uneconomical for foreign companies to ship similarly large objects to California.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|--------------|
| A. stagnated | D. transform |
| B. diversified | E. insulate |
| C. flourished | F. finance |

6. The limitations of human attention cause us to miss much of what goes on around us. The real problem here is that we are often (i)_____ these limitations: we think that we see the world as it really is, but our ostensibly reliable visual experience (ii)_____ striking mental (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| A. impatient with | D. belies | G. feats |
| B. unaware of | E. unifies | H. images |
| C. distracted by | F. dispels | I. lapses |

7. The university's once _____ department of economic history has lost prestige and transmogrified into a department of management and marketing.

- A. respected
- B. slighted
- C. pretentious
- D. gigantic
- E. venerable
- F. snubbed

8. He was one of the most powerful chess players ever and one of the most _____.: at the height of his fame he all but dropped out of chess, entering into a self-imposed exile.

- A. perplexing
- B. creative
- C. troubled
- D. infuriating
- E. enigmatic
- F. imaginative

9. Compared to their predecessors, who were more nationalist than feminist in political orientation, roman women activists of the younger generation are more inclined to _____ women's rights, often creating organizations focused primarily on women's issues.

- A. expand
- B. de-emphasize
- C. champion
- D. idealize
- E. downplay
- F. defend

10. Consuming 25 to 35 percent of their body weight each day, sea otters are not only _____ but highly specialized eaters, organizing themselves into groups that zero in on specific kinds of prey.

- A. prodigious
- B. indiscriminating
- C. fastidious
- D. picky
- E. voracious
- F. omnivorous

Section 9

1. Medieval cathedrals still stand as marvels of architecture, but as far as modern science is concerned, medieval physical and chemistry are simply irrelevant, at best a dead end, at worst the very _____ of what science is supposed to be.

- A. exemplar
- B. glorification
- C. reflection
- D. dilution
- E. antithesis

2. There are something like 1,400 seed banks around the world, which guard samples of crop plants ranging from alfalfa to yams. But this agricultural archive is (i)_____ as a result of war, storms, scant money, and bad management, particularly in the world's most (ii)_____ places.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. eroding | D. secure |
| B. expanding | E. turbulent |
| C. stabilizing | F. cosmopolitan |

3. Fears that the recent sharp rise in oil prices is an indication that oil is running out appear to be (i)_____. The Middle East still contains vast oil supplies. Furthermore, even if new oil finds elsewhere have been (ii)_____ than in the past, substantial quantities of oil can be profitably stripped from tar and shale.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|--------------------|
| A. contagious | D. less frequent |
| B. unfounded | E. more accessible |
| C. sagacious | F. less publicized |

4. Historian Barbara Alpern Engel's task in writing a book about women in Russia must have been a (i)_____ one, because the (ii)_____ the Russian empire's peoples meant that Russian women could never be treated as a homogenous group.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|-------------------|
| A. motivating | D. unity among |
| B. boring | E. disinterest in |
| C. daunting | F. diversity of |

5. From bottom to top, from poor to rich, was rare, even movement from poor to middle class was (i)_____. Statistical analysis of trends in occupation, income, and property ownership, Thernstrom wrote, "yielded rather (ii)_____ conclusions about social mobility in nineteenth-century America." So we might expect Thernstrom to be suspicious now of claims that differences in class could be (iii)_____ if only the public schools did a better job.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. an anomaly | D. multifaceted | G. distinguished |
| B. a cinch | E. pessimistic | H. misapprehended |
| C. a conjecture | F. unsophisticated | I. obliterated |

6. During the Harlem Renaissance, Alain Locke (i)_____ the first flourishing of a self-consciously racial art movement in America and was widely credited with providing the philosophical basis for its emergence. His importance as a critic of African America art and as an art theorist is (ii)_____ if controversial, yet he has received (iii)_____ attention for his unique insight into the broad forces that shaped American modernism and cultural nationalism in the visual arts.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. forestalled | D. undisputed | G. undeserved |
| B. presided over | E. misleading | H. meticulous |
| C. seethed over | F. questionable | I. insufficient |

7. Travel writers have a special burden of forming _____ story—that is, one with a beginning, middle, and end—out of the unformed moments that make up the act of traveling.

- A. a compelling
- B. a coherent
- C. an original
- D. a serious
- E. an orderly
- F. an innovative

8. Although the company still loses the occasional lawsuit, the litigation threat that once seemed so _____ has become quite manageable.

- A. burdensome
- B. pedestrian
- C. sporadic
- D. mundane
- E. promising
- F. onerous

9. Anne Carson's book *Nax* is, very deliberately, _____ literary object—the opposite of an e-reader, which is designed to vanish in your palm as you read on a train.

- A. an evanescent
- B. a cumbersome
- C. an immutable
- D. an unwieldy
- E. an ephemeral
- F. a flexible

10. Peoples' decisions about childbearing depend on innumerable personal considerations and societal factors, yet even knowing this, demographers are often _____.: their projections of birth rates frequently turn out to be embarrassingly at odds with reality.

- A. sanguine
- B. flummoxed
- C. inconsistent
- D. overconfident
- E. heartened
- F. confounded

Section 10

1. In the nineteenth century, geology became so respected among middle-class Britons that the science came to be seen as _____, a yardstick by which other disciplines measured their scientific rigor and imaginative power.

- A. accessible
- B. derivative
- C. pragmatic
- D. empirical
- E. paradigmatic

2. He defended the governments equivocations regarding the mysterious contrail as resulting not from _____ as critics say, but from a benightedness about its own doings that is almost inevitable, given the multitudinousness of its agencies.

- A. obtuseness
- B. mendacity
- C. abnegation
- D. guilelessness
- E. trenchancy

3. Up to the 1970s, histories of science tended to be (i)_____, not least in their focus on discoveries and theories that could be read as anticipating later scientific orthodoxies, rather than on those deemed (ii)_____ in their own periods. Historians of science are now routinely far more sensitive on such scores.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|----------------|
| A. anachronistic | D. major |
| B. convoluted | E. fallacious |
| C. undogmatic | F. inessential |

4. The perennial problem for critics of nineteenth-century novelist Charlotte Yonge is the relationship of her realism to her (i)_____. While admiring her complex psychological portraits and detailed descriptions of quotidian family life, readers since her own time have tended to fault her improbable manipulation of plot to teach a moral lesson. Indeed, many critics (ii)_____ her because of her willingness to (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| A. pessimism | D. dismiss | G. squander suspense |
| B. didacticism | E. applaud | H. sacrifice credibility |
| C. eclecticism | F. underestimate | I. deflate pretension |

5. Filler claims that after the social welfare programs of the 1960s, belief that the government has an obligation to provide decent housing for citizens who cannot afford it was (i)_____ in the United States by the notion that providing suitable shelter for everyone should be (ii)_____. Thus today in the (iii)_____ of taxpayer-sponsored initiatives, we have volunteer home-construction programs, honorable in intent but pitifully limited in scope.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| A. supplanted | D. a shared civic responsibility | G. absence |
| B. promulgated | E. an act of private charity | H. name |
| C. corroborated | F. a profit-oriented enterprise | I. mold |

6. Persian prose writers from the second half of the twelfth century onward were characteristically (i)_____ the literary form of their works, a fact that some scholars have perceived as a derogation of those works' content. It may be better interpreted as (ii)_____ the development of an awareness of authorship, for the awareness of authorship (iii)_____ the awareness of form.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| A. ambivalent about | D. a retreat from | G. evolves through |
| B. indifferent to | E. an indication of | H. extends beyond |
| C. preoccupied with | F. a justification for | I. holds back |

7. Some have argued that naming scientific discoveries after the people who make them can _____ scientific progress, because the nomenclature lacks useful clarity, having no relationship to the underlying principles that govern nature.

- A. hamper
- B. abet
- C. instigate
- D. obscure
- E. nullify
- F. impede

8. In the wild, no other mammal _____ individuals from another species; badgers do not tend hares, deer do not nurture baby squirrels, lions do not care for giraffes.

- A. protects
- B. fosters
- C. aids
- D. cajoles
- E. adopts
- F. coaxes

9. Each of the country's 26 states and most of its more than 2,000 municipalities have their own police forces, _____ communication and making it difficult to establish a coordinated law-enforcement strategy.

- A. establishing
- B. impeding
- C. hampering
- D. launching
- E. obscuring
- F. preventing

10. Governments are often willing to pay the direct costs of preparing for emergencies that may never happen: they make room in their budgets to prepare for _____ but unlikely events.

- A. plausible
- B. anticipated
- C. dangerous
- D. conceivable
- E. foreseen
- F. unimaginable

Section 11

1. While the writer was best known for her much-ballyhooed _____, her impact reached far beyond memorable quips.

- A. pensiveness
- B. drollness
- C. stoicism
- D. fastidiousness
- E. congeniality

2. Some species camouflage patterns may be _____, granting those species a higher chance of survival in a heterogeneous environment.

- A. plastic
- B. subtle
- C. singular
- D. consistent
- E. imitable

3. The physical (i)_____ seen in the remains of soldiers who fought in the fifteenth-century battle of Towton is unsurprising, given the (ii)_____ origins of the men who took the battlefield that day.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|------------------|
| A. decay | D. disparate |
| B. strength | E. unknown |
| C. diversity | F. controversial |

4. Even if the merits of the proposal are (i)_____, faculty members may be reluctant to (ii)_____, given their fear of offending the group that champions it.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| A. unparalleled | D. demur |
| B. dubious | E. approve |
| C. obvious | F. acquiesce |

5. Many historians of the ancient world are wary of sounding (i)_____. Write so much as a sentence and the temptation is immediately to (ii)_____ it. Even in cases when the sources for a given event are (iii)_____, uncertainties and discrepancies crop up everywhere.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| A. fusty | D. recapitulate | G. consistent |
| B. anachronistic | E. forswear | H. plentiful |
| C. dogmatic | F. qualify | I. biased |

6. His idea to make money by building a drone that could fly from the West Coast to Hawaii while continuously sending back low-altitude weather data is a characteristically (i)_____ project. The (ii)_____ of good storm-intensity forecasts has huge economic costs, but filling that need won't automatically generate big profits because the economic benefits are (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| A. quixotic | D. ubiquity | G. almost inevitable |
| B. mercenary | E. accuracy | H. hard to envision |
| C. resourceful | F. dearth | I. so widely diffused |

7. Although one can adduce myriad examples of ecosystem disruption by non-indigenous species, nevertheless most introduced species that survive in fact appear to have quite _____ effects on the ecosystems they have invaded.

- A. minimal
- B. trifling
- C. marked
- D. conspicuous
- E. intriguing
- F. deleterious

8. Typefaces, in one sense, are just like styles of shoes: they _____ because different people have different tastes and identities and because both creators and users value novelty for its own sake.

- A. bemuse
- B. converge
- C. proliferate
- D. abound
- E. evolve
- F. coincide

9. It's a sign of John Dramani Mahamas maturity as a writer that he is willing to consider his country's future so _____: his memoir is appealingly honest, given to clear-eyed assessments rather than exaggerated accounts of achievements.

- A. cheerfully
- B. dispassionately
- C. insightfully
- D. evocatively
- E. analytically
- F. blithely

10. In its few decades of existence, the field of technology assessment has undergone large changes: its original high ambitions to predict consequences of technology have been _____ if not discarded.

- A. deferred
- B. subverted
- C. abandoned
- D. relinquished
- E. tempered
- F. modulated

Section 12

1. One view of historicism holds that systems of belief prevalent during different period in history are _____ and therefore cannot be understood except in their own term.

- A. discriminatory
- B. incommensurable
- C. anachronistic
- D. cosmopolitan
- E. objective

2. Neuroscientists are excited by technological progress that facilitates brain mapping, the most _____ of them comparing their growing abilities to tremendous advances that led to unimaginable success of the Human Genome Project.

- A. rigorous
- B. sanguine
- C. punctilious
- D. unorthodox
- E. sophisticated

3. At Cerro Portezuelo, the task of separating grinding tools from the larger collection of excavated stone objects was (i)_____ the ancient practice of recycling grinding tool fragments for building materials, hammer stones, and other purposes that (ii)_____ their original use.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| A. complicated by | D. complemented |
| B. important to | E. obscured |
| C. independent from | F. underscored |

4. The genius of the scientific method is that it (i)_____ the dictum of Aristotle that the goal of science is knowledge of the ultimate cause of things. True science, we now know, advances human knowledge by (ii)_____ ultimate causes and focusing instead on the testing of empirical hypotheses.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|---------------|
| A. qualifies | D. ignoring |
| B. jettisons | E. predicting |
| C. affirms | F. confirming |

5. Unquestionably, the particular forms that folly and cruelty take in Jane Austen's novels are (i)_____ the character's social milieu, which was also Austen's own; but to realize that one's society motivates people in unfortunate ways is not necessarily to (ii)_____ it, for the alternatives, though different, might be no more (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| A. shaped by | D. expose | G. salutary |
| B. removed from | E. condemn | H. corrosive |
| C. unrecognizable in | F. rationalize | I. realistic |

6. To label Hamilton a foreigner because he was born outside what later became the United States is to assume anachronistically the existence of the nation before the fact. It is true that Hamilton came to believe that he was a (i)_____ the United States, but his (ii)_____ was stemmed not from his (iii)_____ but from his confrontation with American democracy, which he considered to be a disease afflicting the nation.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. symbol of | D. alienation | G. ideology |
| B. stranger in | E. ambition | H. profession |
| C. citizen of | F. patriotism | I. birthplace |

7. Some experts estimate that the recreational salmon fishery in British Columbia contributes more to the province's economy than the commercial salmon fishery does—a surprising statistic given the political commercial _____ of the fishery in the province.

- A. naiveté
- B. prominence
- C. supremacy
- D. ingenuousness
- E. salience
- F. resurgence

8. The jazz style called bebop was born and nurtured in New York City, and despite a _____ initial reception, it resonated three thousand miles away on the West Coast.

- A. wary
- B. warm
- C. confused
- D. muddled
- E. convivial
- F. hostile

9. In 1884, Sewall and Dow agreed to join Roosevelt in the Dakota territory for reasons that appear to have been _____. Sewall later recalled that Roosevelt guaranteed them a share of anything made in his cattle business.

- A. pecuniary
- B. straightforward
- C. economic
- D. selfless
- E. quixotic
- F. altruistic

10. Estimating demographic parameters in marine mammals is challenging, often requiring many years of data to achieve sufficient precision to _____ biologically meaningful change.

- A. effect
- B. tolerate
- C. discern
- D. envisage
- E. withstand
- F. detect

Section 13

1. It seems foolish to refuse the offer of an expedient that is both so _____ success and so difficult to create them absent.

- A. reminiscent of
- B. lacking in
- C. distinct from
- D. indispensable to
- E. inimical to

2. Many readers today consider the moral sentiments expressed in the ancient writers' work to be quite vapid, and in the seventeenth century they were similarly regarded as _____.

- A. jejune
- B. didactic
- C. dogmatic
- D. tendentious
- E. arcane

3. Although so far the vast weight of evidence supports the contention that the products of agricultural biotechnology are environmentally (i)_____, many people still find them (ii)_____ unsettling.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------------|
| A. destructive | D. retroactively |
| B. sound | E. innocuously |
| C. intriguing | F. intrinsically |

4. The school system's modest plan for curriculum improvement has (i)_____ local educators: some call it (ii)_____ effort, while others say it is a pragmatic approach given the complexity of the task.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|----------------|
| A. surprised | D. genuine |
| B. impressed | E. halfhearted |
| C. divided | F. practical |

5. The author of this political history text shows considerable bias against the political party when assigning credit or blame for its actions: he deems (i)_____ what he favors and avoidable what he (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|-------------|
| A. pertinent | D. condemns |
| B. inevitable | E. condones |
| C. divided | F. ignores |

6. Behavior economists found that the more (i)_____ options listed on the insurance make people all the more offish to endorse, partly because they hope to (ii)_____ some (iii)_____ in order to get a measure of peace of mind.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|------------|----------------|
| A. lucrative | D. forgo | G. convolution |
| B. monotonous | E. dampen | H. detriment |
| C. complicated | F. jockey | I. benefit |

7. Scientists should hope the faults in their theories will be _____ their peers since the refutation of one hypothesis can free its originator to develop a better one.

- A. discerned by
- B. disregarded by
- C. discovered by
- D. ignored by
- E. opaque to
- F. inspiring to

8. Although the essayist's arguments did not _____ her most perceptive readers, the extreme subtlety of the points she made explains why she was misinterpreted by most critics of her day.

- A. convince
- B. confound
- C. entertain
- D. persuade
- E. perplex
- F. enlighten

9. Citing the corruption and intrigue that pervaded politics in the city, my colleague _____ the newspaper's trove of journalism prizes, declaring that finding great stories in the city must be effortless.

- A. slighted
- B. ignored
- C. lauded
- D. disparaged
- E. confounded
- F. commended

10. An apparent paradox led the scientists to pursue their present line of research. They were struck by the fact that a single mathematic formula can be used to describe physical phenomena that appear to be so _____.

- A. rudimentary
- B. interdependent
- C. interrelated
- D. complex
- E. heterogeneous
- F. dissimilar

Section 14

1. Needing an advocate who would be both precise and succinct, they rejected McLintock, whose inveterate _____ would automatically preclude meeting those requirements.

- A. punctiliousness
- B. concision
- C. cautiousness
- D. imperturbability
- E. prolixity

2. Barry was a skilled _____: though his arguments were completely flawed, they were clever-sounding enough to deceive everyone who heard them.

- A. sophist
- B. scholar
- C. quibbler
- D. doctrinaire
- E. pedant

3. (i)_____ may sound like the (ii)_____ novelty seeking, but in fact the latter can coexist with and balance that stick-to-it virtue strong-willed Victorians so promoted.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-------------------|
| A. Ambition | D. antithesis of |
| B. Creativity | E. foundation for |
| C. Persistence | F. precursor to |

4. Britain's deteriorating economy after 1945 was (i)_____ by politicians who favored the manufacturing sector over the service sector: rather than attempting to (ii)_____ the decline of manufacturing, they should have promoted service industries.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-------------|
| A. mishandled | D. augment |
| B. bolstered | E. arrest |
| C. forestalled | F. escalate |

5. The difficulty for nineteenth-century advocates of the claim that forests helped regulate climate was that their argument (i)_____ historical anecdote and observations. Proving the forest-climate link through verifiable and experimental scientific means rather than observation was (ii)_____ for these individuals, a situation that eventually led to the link (iii)_____ justifications for forest conservation.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| A. lacked | D. problematic | G. being revived in |
| B. discounted | E. unnecessary | H. dropping out of |
| C. employed | F. straightforward | I. losing out to |

6. Parker's model of human affairs reflects (i)_____ outlook, in stark contrast to the generally (ii)_____ premises that her colleagues in the economics department adopt in their work. Accordingly, her conclusions (iii)_____ theirs.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| A. a sanguine | D. pessimistic | G. are somewhat more accessible than |
| B. an introspective | E. theoretical | H. are not so sunny as |
| C. a technical | F. distinctive | I. diverge markedly from |

7. The _____ of biographies of antebellum capitalists is particularly striking in contrast with the abundance of life stories of industrialists in later eras.

- A. brevity
- B. banality
- C. utility
- D. paucity
- E. triteness
- F. dearth

8. Those who read Empson's correspondence for the first time may be disappointed that so much of it is professional rather than personal, but the distinction in this case is _____: every letter bears the full stamp of Empson's personality.

- A. unambiguous
- B. artificial
- C. significant
- D. spurious
- E. clear-cut
- F. unique

9. Sports stars are often _____ figures, regarded as representative of the city or country for which they compete.

- A. totemic
- B. iconoclastic
- C. protean
- D. idealized
- E. irreverent
- F. emblematic

10. Upon realizing that the indicators of a stressful situation can be extremely _____, the psychologist reconsidered her claim that a reliable way of reducing stress is to recognize stressful situations and then avoid them.

- A. acute
- B. exiguous
- C. persistent
- D. overstated
- E. tenuous
- F. unrelenting

Section 15

1. The science community's perennial lament over inadequate budgets has come to seem increasingly _____, because government support for science and engineering has never been greater.

- A. vital
- B. hopeless
- C. poignant
- D. condescending
- E. disingenuous

2. Despite the neighborhood's lingering reputation for _____, it has in fact become increasingly varied in its architecture and demographics.

- A. boisterousness
- B. unpretentiousness
- C. idiosyncrasy
- D. accessibility
- E. homogeneity

3. The meandering journey across the soundscape of the Internet can be (i)_____. Listening to music in this medium often generates anxiety fulfillment: no sooner has one experience begun than the thought of what else is out there intrudes. Putting an old-fashioned disk and letting it play to the end restores a measure of (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------|
| A. liberating | D. choice |
| B. taxing | E. boredom |
| C. educational | F. sanity |

4. Many scholars have argued that the United States Supreme Court usually (i)_____ public opinion in its decisions because it fears that it will (ii)_____ if it does not: when it does depart from public opinion, it whips up political maelstrom.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| A. comments on | D. lose public support |
| B. hews to | E. mitigate public anger |
| C. overrides | F. create public indifference |

5. In a view of 17 studies from 2008, Trudeau and Shephard concluded that reserving up to an hour a day for (i)_____ in school curricula does not (ii)_____ academic achievement. In fact, they noted that more exercise often (iii)_____ school performance, despite the time it took away from reading, writing, and arithmetic.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| A. physical activity | D. contribute to | G. diminished |
| B. leisure time | E. detract from | H. augmented |
| C. open study | F. correlate with | I. counteracted |

6. Anna Gavalda's fiction is appealing largely because of her writing styles, which is certainly (i)_____. It is heavy on dialogue (and light on embellishment), features very short sections (of often only a few sentence) in rapid succession, and in general favors an unadorned directness. Not surprisingly, this style works better in short-story form than in novels, and the story collection *I Wish Someone Were Waiting for me Somewhere* (ii)_____ her attempt to (iii)_____ it in a novel, as in, for example, *Someone I Loved*.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| A. annoying | D. is thought to precede | G. undermine |
| B. distinctive | E. fails in comparison with | H. sustain |
| C. convoluted | F. impresses considerably more than | I. reject |

7. The uniquely human ability to rethink and revise our social arrangements is a weird blessing, allowing us to create systems that are as likely to _____ us as to liberate us.

- A. cheer
- B. shackle
- C. admonish
- D. educate
- E. stifle
- F. enliven

8. Because movie studios, under pressure to generate international sales, have favored big-budget pictures with fantasy plots, the representation of everyday domestic life has largely been _____ other media, such as television and literature.

- A. left to
- B. ceded to
- C. ascribed to
- D. attributed to
- E. substituted for
- F. replaced with

9. The life of a secret agent is dangerous enough, but the life of a double agent is infinitely more _____: a single slip can send an agent crashing to destruction.

- A. arduous
- B. precarious
- C. clandestine
- D. perilous
- E. covert
- F. exhilarating

10. Natural causes nerves to die off and muscles to weaken, but regular exercise enlarges muscle fibers and will help _____ the decline by increasing the strengthen muscle you have left.

- A. speed up
- B. stave off
- C. forestall
- D. facilitate
- E. assist
- F. exploit

Section 16

1. The physical layout of the laboratory, although well adapted to the research being pursued when it was built, was not _____, making a thorough redesign necessary before a proposed new experimental program could be undertaken.

- A. compromised
- B. imprecise
- C. convoluted
- D. ubiquitous
- E. plastic

2. Like her literary heroine, George Eliot, Barbara Kingsolvers is an old-fashioned _____, deeply curious about all branches of human learning.

- A. prodigy
- B. polymath
- C. tyro
- D. dilettante
- E. philistine

3. Consolidating a memory is not instantaneous, after all, or even _____: every memory must be encoded and moved from short-term to long-term storage, and some of those memories are, for whatever reason, more vividly imprinted than others.

- A. salutary
- B. deliberate
- C. sequential
- D. momentary
- E. inevitable

4. Shirky argues that the Internet (i)_____ the need for hierarchical structures and the sluggish organizations that (ii)_____ them: the Internet makes it possible to do things cheaply and efficiently on one's own.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. delineates | D. circumvent |
| B. obviates | E. perpetuate |
| C. redoubles | F. undervalue |

5. Some climatologists dismiss as (i)_____ the debate among geophysicists over the role of carbon dioxide in global climate change across many millions of years. These climatologists say the evidence of a tie between carbon dioxide and planetary warming over the last few centuries is so (ii)_____ that any longer-term evidence against such a link must somehow be (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| A. unavoidable | D. unlikely | G. tainted |
| B. irrelevant | E. controversial | H. accommodated |
| C. undecidable | F. compelling | I. reinforced |

6. Conventionally, the ultimate measure of a scientific work's validity is how broadly and confidently its conclusions become accepted in the relevant field, which in turn (i)_____ the extent to which its findings are replicated and extended. However, establishing such validity, especially for a novel experimental finding, can take years, and what (ii)_____ replication or extension may be (iii)_____ for some time.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| A. derives from | D. justifies | G. evident |
| B. works against | E. impugns | H. disputed |
| C. leads to | F. constitutes | I. touted |

7. Baker was struck by the amount of _____ she saw at the renowned medical facility; for all their experience, the physicians could not seem to agree on the correct diagnosis for any given patient.

- A. discordance
- B. contention
- C. quackery
- D. nepotism
- E. indecision
- F. cronyism

8. The book captures the _____ of several politicians who spoke publicly of old-time virtues in order to mask private vices.

- A. probity
- B. dissemblance
- C. opportunism
- D. rectitude
- E. ingenuousness
- F. duplicity

9. Three of the nation's largest airlines could be operating under bankruptcy protection in coming weeks, analysts say, the latest sign of the industry's _____ as it lurches through a historic transformation.

- A. upheaval
- B. exorbitance
- C. affluence
- D. peril
- E. convulsion
- F. opulence

10. Given that the department director was such a feeble contributor, sitting silently at important policy meetings and usually deferring to low-level aides, it was surprising that he had such a reputation for _____.

- A. magnanimity
- B. perspicacity
- C. impartiality
- D. detachment
- E. benevolence
- F. discernment

Section 17

1. Not only was Jarry _____ the pandemonium his play sparked, he actually worked to foment the conflict, organizing a posse to boo if the rest of the audience applauded and cheer if the other attendees booed.

- A. riled by
- B. surprised by
- C. unperturbed by
- D. critical of
- E. detached from

2. In its literature and its political discourse, the nation has created various narratives about itself that tend to _____ intractable social divisions in the interest of perpetuating a dubious myth of unity.

- A. denounce
- B. obscure
- C. corroborate
- D. anatomize
- E. explicate

3. Any account of experimental music in the United States that (i)_____ the predominantly African American bebop and free jazz movements is (ii)_____, since this body of music constitutes what is arguably the most influential African experimental music in the decades following the Second World War.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| A. neglects | D. underappreciated |
| B. exaggerates | E. problematic |
| C. reinterprets | F. self-serving |

4. Boreal forest is at the southern boundary of the moss-dominated tundra, which remains characteristically treeless because its spongy surface retains water that cannot drain away through the underlying permafrost. But as temperatures rise the permafrost recedes, (i)_____ the (ii)_____ of forest.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|--------------|
| A. impairing | D. renewal |
| B. facilitating | E. incursion |
| C. decelerating | F. decline |

5. Thinking (i)_____ about one's choices can sometimes (ii)_____ decision making. For example, in one study in which college students selected their favorite poster from a set, those asked to explain their selection ended up less (iii)_____ their choices than those who were not asked. Researchers concluded that thinking of reasons interferes with people's ability to access gut-level reactions that are crucial to sound decision making.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| A. uncritically | D. speed the process of | G. happy with |
| B. haphazardly | E. reduce satisfaction with | H. confused by |
| C. explicitly | F. enhance the quality of | I. concerned by |

6. Based on the evidence available, it would be (i)_____ to insist on a wholly negative portrayal of King Prajadhipok. In his own writings and pronouncements as well as in firsthand accounts offered by others, Prajadhipok consistently emerges as (ii)_____ and even-tempered, though (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| A. accurate | D. whimsical | G. unexceptional |
| B. convenient | E. thoughtful | H. vicious |
| C. facile | F. ingenious | I. innovative |

7. As astronomers do not yet have a good understanding of the fundamental nature of dark matter, it should not be a surprise that astronomy students' ideas about dark matter are, at best, _____.

- A. superficial
- B. sketchy
- C. inconsistent
- D. mistaken
- E. outdated
- F. far-fetched

8. With regard to verity, neutrality, and transparency, nothing about the Internet makes it any different than Gutenberg's printing press, which could serve _____ just as well as truth.

- A. fantasy
- B. bureaucracy
- C. protocol
- D. disinformation
- E. mendacity
- F. panic

9. The author advocates a diminished role for philosophy, aiming to show that many of the questions traditionally debated among philosophers can be _____ the realm of scientific inquiry.

- A. ceded to
- B. inferred from
- C. relevant to
- D. initiated by
- E. germane to
- F. left to

10. We should be more _____ than we often are when making claims about antiquity—for example, the common statement, “The ancient Athenians invented democracy,” is simply not true when put like that.

- A. skeptical
- B. credulous
- C. precise
- D. trusting
- E. equivocal
- F. circumspect

Section 18

1. Though acquaintances are first overwhelmed by his _____, they soon appreciate that, contrary to appearances, he is not without self-interest.

- A. egotism
- B. magnanimity
- C. ambition
- D. profligacy
- E. brilliance

2. Behavior dubbed reprehensible by the residents of the region is considered conventional, even _____ by those of the neighboring region; fortunately, people traveling between the two are resigned to this disparity.

- A. eccentric
- B. compulsory
- C. innovative
- D. unconscionable
- E. transparent

3. It is unfortunate that essays by literary critics so infrequently (i)_____ the opinions of novelists and poets, for creative writers are often quite (ii)_____ about their own philosophies and are frequently more familiar with alternative systems of thought than critics are.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. influence | D. articulate |
| B. challenge | E. inconsistent |
| C. incorporate | F. prejudiced |

4. The professor frequently reiterated a basic assumption behind the experimental method—namely, that the outcome of the experiment is always (i)_____. The hypothesis can never assume the experiment's results, in other words, but instead must (ii)_____ their appearance.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------|------------|
| A. undetermined | D. await |
| B. incontrovertible | E. signal |
| C. inconsequential | F. negate |

5. There is no sense trying to rehabilitate the reputation of the mosquito; nobody loves such a creature. But it's (i)_____ to (ii)_____ all 2,600 described species of mosquito when it's just 80 or so—3 percent that drink human blood. Among those 2,520 relatively (iii)_____ kinds of mosquitoes, there's even one we'd like to see in greater numbers: Taxorhynchites, the mosquito that eats other mosquitoes.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| A. rare | D. malign | G. blameless |
| B. necessary | E. represent | H. pernicious |
| C. unfair | F. commend | I. valuable |

6. There is (i)_____ evidence that the giant African land snail *a. fulica* is a serious threat to the spread of human disease. Giant snails do carry rat lungworm—infection by which is a common cause of meningitis—but so do many other snail species. Moreover, if the threat posed by *a. fulica* were (ii)_____, one would expect to see an increase in disease rates (iii)_____ a rise in the spread of snails. However, in places like New Caledonia, explosions in giant snail populations have coincided with a fall in the number of meningitis cases.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|---------------|---------------------|
| A. abundant | D. contained | G. corresponding to |
| B. ambiguous | E. recognized | H. predating |
| C. little | F. major | I. giving way to |

7. In Ramachandran's opinion, it is perfectly acceptable to propose bold speculations about the brain, even if these speculations seem _____; as Ramachandran frequently remarks, science thrives on risky conjecture.

- A. unfounded
- B. premature
- C. controversial
- D. verifiable
- E. testable
- F. baseless

8. In order to cultivate new repertoire, the music industry is providing a hearing for previously _____ composers.

- A. idle
- B. thwarted
- C. celebrated
- D. renowned
- E. anonymous
- F. obscure

9. The concert hall's suspended ceiling is two-inch-thick plaster that reflects low-frequency sound energy; similarly, all wall surfaces are angled and shaped to _____ sound from the stage throughout the audience area.

- A. diffuse
- B. amplify
- C. spread
- D. dampen
- E. eclipse
- F. deaden

10. Although many skeptics of the scientific theory _____ critiques that have long since been disproved, some of the doubters arguably bring up valid points.

- A. overlook
- B. revise
- C. recycle
- D. utilize
- E. neglect
- F. rehash

Section 19

1. When he first hypothesized the neutrino, Wolfgang pauli's elation was not ____: he feared that he had postulated a particle that could not be detected though his concern turned out to be overblown.

- A. unshared
- B. untoward
- C. unprecedented
- D. unqualified
- E. unjustified

2. In 1831, a domestic insurrection that had stirred central Italy was squelched by the Austrian army, but while this invasion destroyed the immediate results of the movement, it could not _____ the insurrections causes, which continued to be felt.

- A. ignore
- B. extirpate
- C. fathom
- D. anticipate
- E. underscore

3. As late as the 1990s, Merry Wiesner Hanks argued that developments during the Reformation and the Elighenment had (i)_____ effects on the participation of women in the filed of medicine. She claimed that the (ii)_____ Reformation and Enlightenment women left female health's practitioners restricted to assisting in an unpaid and unrecognized capacity.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| A. dire | D. unchanging opportunities for |
| B. positive | E. worsening positions of |
| C. ambiguous | F. reader respect for |

4. Early in the development of ice age theories, physicists identified the processing(slow gyration) and wobbling of Earth's spin axis as the likely drivers of the ice ages, but geologists (i)_____, and even the painstaking work done in the 1920s and 1930s by Mihution Mplankovitch failed to (ii)_____ of many of the day's geological experts.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| A. demurred | D. anticipate the ascent |
| B. acquiesced | E. assuage the qualms |
| C. expatriate | F. acknowledge the consensus |

5. Up to the 1970s, historians of science tended to be (i)_____, not least in their focus on discoveries and theories that could be read as anticipating later scientific orthodoxies, rather than on those deemed (ii)_____ in their own periods, Historians of science are now routinely far more sensitive on such scores.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|----------------|
| A. anachronistic | D. major |
| B. convoluted | E. fallacious |
| C. undogmatic | F. inessential |

6. This book cannot be evaluated properly without examining the author's choice of format, which is the (i)_____ of the format of standard academic works; here the photographs take center stage, with the text playing only a supporting role. This layout poses many dangers for the serious historian, not the least of which being the (ii)_____ reception that academics—motivated partly by (iii)_____ but also by genuine concern over scholarly standards—generally reserve for books apparently aimed at the popular market.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| A. duplicate | D. scornful | G. academic integrity |
| B. epitome | E. deferential | H. snobbish elitism |
| C. inverse | F. good-natured | I. collegial sympathy |

7. After the Turkish Republic was established traditional hamars (bathhouses) seemed to many Turks to be outmoded, but thanks to tourism, hamers have experienced a _____, becoming important cultural sites for foreign and Turkish visitors alike.

- A. proliferation
- B. retrenchment
- C. transformation
- D. revival
- E. slump
- F. renaissance

8. For wily political press officers, the art of spin is not quite supplanting truth with lies, but instead it aspires to replace awkward complexity with catchy _____; successful spin creates the impression of unavoidable common sense.

- A. novelties
- B. slogans
- C. falsehoods
- D. duplicity
- E. simplicity
- F. intelligibility

9. British composer Benjamin Britter would seem to have _____ place in the cultural pantheon, yet, at the same time that place is still contested by some.

- A. an illustrious
- B. an assured
- C. a precarious
- D. a modest
- E. a settled
- F. a tenuous

10. Once the scientists began to research the matter, it didn't take them long to find out that life far beneath the ocean floor was not only possible, but _____.

- A. vulnerable
- B. prevalent
- C. conspicuous
- D. fragile
- E. extensive
- F. essential

Section 20

1. Since many prehistoric tools were made of materials, such as wood, bone, and antler, that tend to decay quickly, these archaeological specimens are _____ their stone counterparts.

- A. cruder than
- B. derived from
- C. found with
- D. rarer than
- E. similar to

2. The notion that prehistoric farming of Micronesia's Mariana Islands degraded the soils upon which savannas now occur is _____ by soil scientists, who attribute nutrient-poor savanna soils instead to long geological periods of tropical weathering.

- A. bolstered
- B. proposed
- C. contradicted
- D. elucidated
- E. revived

3. As a longtime fan of the fashion photography Web site, I wasn't sure if I wanted to see its images presented in a book, with all of the (i)_____ that implies. What I've always enjoyed about the photos is their (ii)_____: they are disposable snapshots of what's going on in the world of style right now.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|--------------|
| A. nonchalance | D. elegant |
| B. commercialism | E. ephemeral |
| C. permanency | F. mundane |

4. High culture by itself tends to be (i)_____. Monteverdi and Handel belong to concert halls all the world over, Caravaggio and Rembrandt are not defined by (ii)_____, nor can classical ballet be understood only in a proper national setting.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| A. unpopular | D. their country of origin |
| B. cosmopolitan | E. international stylistic trends |
| C. emotive | F. any ideals of originality |

5. The patients given a placebo in the course of clinical trials receive much more than a pharmacologically inert substance. Like the patients receiving the experimental drug, they (i)_____ a thorough medical evaluation, a chance to discuss their condition with competent professionals, a diagnosis, and a treatment plan. Although viewed by many as (ii)_____ the healing process, these factors may actually provide an important clue as to why placebo often work: they are part of an experience that can itself be a (iii)_____ illness.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| A. get | D. essential for | G. research laboratory for |
| B. avoid | E. incidental to | H. powerful antidote to |
| C. welcome | F. consequences of | I. breeding ground of |

6. Transportation maps of Alaska are (i)_____ in large part by what they (ii)_____: lines identifying roads and railroads. With a single track bisecting the state and a handful of spokes to the east and south, Alaska is notable for its (iii)_____ of transportation options.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|------------|-------------|
| A. demarcated | D. lack | G. panoply |
| B. characterized | E. obscure | H. scope |
| C. elucidated | F. evince | I. dearth |

7. Compared with there parties, politicians are _____: they are considerably less enduring than the organizations in which they function.

- A. essential
- B. redundant
- C. crucial
- D. unreliable
- E. transitory
- F. temporary

8. In spite of her fascination with chances, coincidence, and contingency, Stanning's novels are _____ constructed, written from the head rather than the heart.

- A. hastily
- B. extravagantly
- C. painstakingly
- D. meticulously
- E. evocatively
- F. impulsively

9. An abundance of nutrient-rich pollution in estuaries causes algae to _____, much as houseplants grow better when their soil contains added fertilizer.

- A. abound
- B. proliferate
- C. stagnate
- D. coalesce
- E. collect
- F. diversify

10. The _____ nature of the approval process for new drugs suggests that incentives to promote more expeditious decision making may be necessary.

- A. pecuniary
- B. commercial
- C. arbitrary
- D. sluggish
- E. capricious
- F. dilatory

Section 21

1. Since many prehistoric tools were made of materials, such as wood, bone, and antler, that tend to decay quickly, these archaeological specimens are _____ their stone counterparts.

- A. cruder than
- B. derived from
- C. found with
- D. rarer than
- E. similar to

2. Like all general models, island biogeography theory is _____ reality, capturing just a few important elements of a system while ignoring many others.

- A. an adjunct to
- B. an improvement on
- C. a mirror of
- D. a corollary to
- E. a simplification of

3. Recent years have seen a disheartening string of revelations in which everyday items once considered (i)_____ are found to contain (ii)_____ chemicals.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|------------|
| A. ubiquitous | D. benign |
| B. innocuous | E. complex |
| C. insalubrious | F. baneful |

4. The novel's heroine show a remarkable (i)_____ to worship at the altar of youth: in her world, youth is (ii)_____, while age, by contrast, confers competence and wisdom.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|----------------|
| A. disinclination | D. incredulous |
| B. desire | E. sagacious |
| C. tendency | F. callow |

5. Compared with, say, the precision of a skein of geese winging its way across the autumn sky in a V formation, the seasonal marches of grazers across the Serengeti seem (i)_____, and at times even (ii)_____. But, in fact, years of careful observation by scientists have shown that there is (iii)_____ those migrations of zebras, wildebeests, and Thomson's gazelles.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| A. disorganized | D. illusory | G. feats a tendency toward aggression in |
| B. purposeful | E. overwhelming | H. an undeniable grandeur to |
| C. massive | F. chaotic | I. a definite order to |

6. Saul's particular combination of intellectuality and vitality was not paradoxical; it was category shattering. (i)_____ was, in a way, his very theme. Was ever a bookish soul so cracklingly unmediated, so (ii)_____ raw life? He was as vivid physically as he was mentally, almost perversely alert, completely at home in the world of matter, repulsed by (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| A. Energy | D. put off by | G. seriousness |
| B. Nostalgia | E. flush with | H. sensuality |
| C. Solitude | F. uninterested in | I. tedium |

7. Explorers could not build on each other's knowledge if they could not trust the records of previous explorers; thus exploration depended on the _____ of those who had gone before.

- A. collegiality
- B. endurance
- C. exactitude
- D. meticulousness
- E. eminence
- F. tenacity

8. In Schaller's contradictory introduction to the book, she alternately applauds and _____ humankind's role in animal conservation.

- A. authorizes
- B. endorses
- C. denounces
- D. discloses
- E. relates
- F. lambastes

9. Between the late 1800s and early 1900s, various institutional structures emerged that set researchers in scientific fields apart as a professional class and moderated disputes by _____ some kinds of knowledge as real science.

- A. differentiating
- B. sanctioning
- C. mischaracterizing
- D. censuring
- E. reprehending
- F. endorsing

10. A normal floods resulting from usual monsoon rainfall are _____ the growth of plants, recently there has been an increase in the frequency of highly intensified floods that do not have such welcome effects.

- A. conducive to
- B. hindered by
- C. devastating for
- D. deleterious to
- E. essential for
- F. indispensable for

Section 22

1. Despite the neighborhood's lingering reputation for _____, it has in fact become increasingly varied in its architecture and demographics.

- A. boisterousness
- B. unpretentiousness
- C. idiosyncrasy
- D. accessibility
- E. homogeneity

2. The cognitive flexibility of successful fictional detectives is often _____ by their cultural ambivalence: detectives' intellectual acumen, it seems, exists in direct proportion to their uneasy place in society.

- A. amplified
- B. highlighted
- C. spurred
- D. matched
- E. negated

3. In our daily lives, we often (i)_____ our separate identities: you can have one identity at work and another online, for example. Such (ii)_____ disappear in certain circumstances, however, resulting in a cross-pollination of our different selves.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------|------------------|
| A. renounce | D. uncertainties |
| B. merge | E. correlations |
| C. compartmentalize | F. boundaries |

4. If the candidate wins the election now that rivals within his own party have (i)_____ him in a campaign that was (ii)_____ without their help, he will be mightily indebted to these self-styled saviors.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|---------------|
| A. rallied to | D. foundering |
| B. separated from | E. effective |
| C. undermined | F. improving |

5. Communal feeding is a remarkable behavioral aspect of this generally solitary animal. It is also misunderstood behavior and one of the reasons that Tasmanian devils have a bad reputation. Far from being a (i)_____, communal devil feeding is (ii)_____ and purposeful, and is described as (iii)_____ behavior. The screaming and apparent fighting is an elaborate combination and variety of vocalizations and postures by which order is maintained.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. free-for-all | D. structured | G. innate |
| B. rarity | E. vicious | H. acquired |
| C. necessity | F. infrequent | I. ritualized |

6. Observers of modern presidential campaigns who (i)_____ the highly (ii)_____ productions that pass for campaigns these days do sometimes find reason for hope in the occasional mix-ups that (iii)_____ candidates on the trail despite the presence of political strategists plotting every event with the tactical precision of military commanders.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| A. relish | D. ambitious | G. rattle |
| B. misinterpret | E. chaotic | H. bolster |
| C. despair over | F. choreographed | I. legitimate |

7. The 1840s were _____ time for young women beginning to study science, particularly astronomy, in 1847 Maria Mitchell discovered the Nantucket comet, the first of several important astronomical discoveries of the era.

- A. a favorable
- B. an awkward
- C. a perilous
- D. a hazardous
- E. an improbable
- F. an auspicious

8. Explorers could not build on each other's knowledge of they could not trust the records of previous explorers, thus exploration depended on the _____ of those who had gone before.

- A. collegiality
- B. endurance
- C. exactitude
- D. meticulousness
- E. eminence
- F. tenacity

9. In her career as an editor, she pruned and shaped many a writer's _____ prose into crisp lucidity.

- A. wayward
- B. transparent
- C. errant
- D. urbane
- E. elegant
- F. incisive

10. The stories of silent drama may often have been _____, yet, within those basic outlines, the true artists among silent-film actors could express shadings that had no immediate analogue in language.

- A. implausible
- B. incredible
- C. conventional
- D. elemental
- E. rudimentary
- F. confusing

Section 23

1. The modest but functional new wing finally gives the museum the _____ to serve its visitors properly, including multiple entrances to eliminate the lines that used to snake around the building.

- A. visibility
- B. wherewithal
- C. reputation
- D. solemnity
- E. panache

2. Collecting such fragment of contemporary popular culture as postcards, newspaper clippings, and wallpaper patterns, Susan Hiller transforms these seemingly (i)_____ artifacts into objective (ii)_____ by making them the centerpieces in her compositions.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. extravagant | D. importance |
| B. trivial | E. uniformity |
| C. archaic | F. banality |

3. Conventional deposits of oil and gas are actually the final resting place of far-traveled hydrocarbons that were (i)_____ deeper source beds of organic-rich rock. By contrast, shale gas (ii)_____ its birthplace, remaining in the source bed whose organic matter produced the gas.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| A. trapped in | D. never leaves |
| B. generated in | E. swiftly escapes from |
| C. bound for | F. rarely stays in |

4. The usual (i)_____ spending public monies on scientific projects is that such projects have the potential to make our lives healthier, safer, and more productive. However, the fact that science—even "pure" science—can strengthen democracy and promote public participation in the political process is hardly ever (ii)_____. It should be Scientific literacy (iii)_____ democracy, and this is an important ancillary benefit of the promotion of science.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|
| A. argument against | D. denied | G. stifles |
| B. rationale for | E. mentioned | H. energizes |
| C. precedent for | F. gainsaid | I. disregards |

5. One sometimes hears that Macro Polo introduced pasta to the western world, having encountered it in China. This durable myth, which (i)_____ that nothing should have been known of pasta in Italy until 1295, when Macro Polo returned from the Far East, can easily be (ii)_____ by pointing out that there are Italian references to pasta that (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| A. requires | D. augmented | G. praise its virtues |
| B. demonstrates | E. debunked | H. can be authenticated |
| C. symbolizes | F. traced | I. predated that event |

6. Publishers, publicists, and broadcasters love anniversaries, those occasions when historical events become (i)_____ in (ii)_____ culture of celebration. On such occasions patriotic sentiment and national pride wrapped in the panoply of history to manufacture a mythical past that is serviceable for public (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| A. elusive moments | D. an authentic | G. consumption |
| B. marketable artifacts | E. a commercial | H. scrutiny |
| C. raging controversies | F. an elitist | I. censure |

7. The difficulty of reforming electoral politics is not lack of the right tools but the need to put them into the hands of impartial agents: the goal should be to build capacity while _____.

- A. expediting
- B. constraining
- C. facilitating
- D. deterring
- E. exacerbating
- F. lamenting

8. Readers have long considered *Lawd Today*, Richard Wright's first written and last published novel, _____; the novel simply seems inconsistent with the image of what a Wright text should do or be.

- A. an artifact
- B. a prototype
- C. an anomaly
- D. a mainstay
- E. an aberration
- F. a model

9. The book aims to illuminate how science has changed the meaning of nothingness from _____ philosophical concept to something we can almost put under a microscope.

- A. a tangible
- B. a palpable
- C. a nebulous
- D. a nettlesome
- E. an incontrovertible
- F. a vague

10. The company is so old-fashioned and opposed to innovation that it can seem downright _____.

- A. antediluvian
- B. flighty
- C. archaic
- D. chauvinistic
- E. capricious
- F. patronizing

Section 24

1. In one theory, as people learn things throughout the day, connections between neurons get strengthened; but during sleep when all synapses are weakened, tenuous connections are _____ and only the strongest bonds could remain.

- A. reinforced
- B. reproduced
- C. replaced
- D. stimulated
- E. severed

2. Holston characterized a colonial situation as an aggregation of activities and a conjunction of outcomes that, though _____ and at times coordinated, were usually diffuse, disorganized, and even contradictory.

- A. dubious
- B. chaotic
- C. harmonious
- D. linked
- E. imputed

3. Despite dispute between the sisters lasted all summer; Megan remained (i)_____ and Lauren was equally (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| A. intransigent | D. indolent |
| B. feckless | E. uncompromising |
| C. munificent | F. taciturn |

4. Until the advent of film, commercial entertainment in England occurred only where concentrated urban populations provided audiences large enough to make it remunerative: theaters and music halls were (i)_____ in rural villages. But village cinemas quickly become (ii)_____ even though they were ramshackle affairs in comparison to the urban picture palaces.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------------|
| A. spartan | D. commonplace |
| B. conceivable | E. sophisticated |
| C. profitable | F. unfashionable |

5. Among wide-ranging animal species, populations at the edge of the species' range are frequently exposed to less (i)_____ and more variable conditions than those in other parts on the range. As a results, the animals' abundance is often (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| A. erratic | D. lower at the periphery |
| B. favorable | E. unaffected by habitat |
| C. demanding | F. underestimated by researchers |

6. Firebaugh and Beck contend that economic development improves the overall well-being of people within developing countries. However, other scholars emphasize the (i)_____ of this view, empirically demonstrating that while economic development does in fact contribute to the well-being of the population of developing countries, the magnitude of development's positive effects on well-being has (ii)_____. In other words, these scholars suggest that (iii)_____ economic development and human well-being is taking place in developing countries.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| A. falsity | D. been greatly underestimated | G. a decoupling of |
| B. arbitrariness | E. not yet been measured | H. an inversion of |
| C. limitation | F. decreased over time | I. a decline in |

7. Reversing a decade-long trend on global _____, earth's surface has become brighter since 1990, scientists are reporting.

- A. warming
- B. cooling
- C. diffusion
- D. dimming
- E. darkening
- F. heating

8. It is hardly _____ for today's film to try to blur the boundaries between the moral and the immoral. Hollywood has been doing that since at least the 1960s.

- A. entertaining
- B. original
- C. novel
- D. pertinent
- E. relevant
- F. insightful

9. As a historical genre, biography is best when _____, a careful reconstruction of the past in all its unfamiliar particularity.

- A. introspective
- B. reflective
- C. concrete
- D. concise
- E. meticulous
- F. thorough

10. In order to cultivate new repertoire, the music industry is providing a hearing for previously _____ female composers.

- A. idle
- B. thwarted
- C. celebrated
- D. renowned
- E. anonymous
- F. obscure

Section 25

1. He was so _____ during the filming of the movie that crew members nicknamed him "The Angriest Man in the World".

- A. loquacious
- B. irascible
- C. perfidious
- D. sanguine
- E. voracious

2. Though humanitarian emergencies are frequent features of television news, such exposure seldom _____ the public, which rather seems resigned to a sense of impotency.

- A. paralyzes
- B. demoralizes
- C. assuages
- D. galvanizes
- E. exasperates

3. The benefits offered by information technology do not (i)_____ the need for individual reasoning; for example, Internet users should not allow the reasoning process to be (ii)_____ the mere accumulation of raw data.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------|----------------------|
| A. disguise | D. preceded by |
| B. signal | E. supplemented with |
| C. diminish | F. supplanted by |

4. Not only is the field of behavioral genetics strewn with (i)_____ finding, but even among those findings managed to survive, many have turned out to be (ii)_____ a very restricted class of cases.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|-------------------|
| A. convergent | D. refuted by |
| B. disparate | E. germane to |
| C. repudiated | F. subordinate to |

5. Because the book is largely concerned with an examination of various (i)_____ often encountered in contemporary thinking, such as an exaggerated appreciation for meaningless coincidence and a credulous accept of pseudosciences, much of the writing has a (ii)_____ quality to it. Nevertheless, it avoids the overly earned scolding tone common to many such endeavors.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. inadequacies | D. debunking |
| B. abstractions | E. speculative |
| C. complexities | F. generalizing |

6. To read Joanna Scott is to admire the work of a (i)_____. From sentence to story, she narrates with great skill and (ii)_____, so that the reader soon relaxes in the assurance that a hint or a brushstroke delivered in chapter1 will be (iii)_____ before the novel comes to an end.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| A. proselytizer | D. deliberation | G. given import |
| B. sage | E. enthusiam | H. largely forgotten |
| C. master | F. flamboyance | I. overwhelmed with details |

7. In the northeastern United States, beaver populations had been critically reduce or even _____ in large areas at the end of nineteenth century; as a result, several states instituted prohibitions on beaver trapping.

- A. diminished
- B. extirpated
- C. eliminated
- D. devalued
- E. weakened
- F. underrated

8. The _____ of ophthalmology as a field in the United States from 1820 to 1850 is evident in the opening of at least five eye hospitals during this period, offering new venues for ophthalmic treatment and experimentation.

- A. sophistication
- B. retrenchment
- C. burgeoning
- D. resurgence
- E. curtailment
- F. expansion

9. For all the _____ the new CEO has received from the press recently, her staff have a decidedly less rosy view of her.

- A. encomiums
- B. tributes
- C. evaluations
- D. critiques
- E. attention
- F. publicity

10. The media have constantly disparaged the governor's competence and have found a public only too eager to applaud their _____.

- A. assiduousness
- B. stupefaction
- C. mockery
- D. incredulity
- E. certitude
- F. derision

Section 26

1. The title of her final and unfinished film; *Escape*, was _____: indeed while shooting it, she was preoccupied with thoughts of desertion.

- A. quixotic
- B. apt
- C. misleading
- D. inconsequential
- E. uncharacteristic

2. Nylenna's study showed that errors in scientific manuscripts submitted for publication often escape reviewers' notice, results that were not _____: when Godlee conducted a study of the same phenomenon, her findings were similar.

- A. credible
- B. unwelcome
- C. anomalous
- D. quantifiable
- E. consequential

3. Computers have become adept in rarefied domains once thought to be uniquely human. However, they simultaneously have (i)_____ certain tasks basic to the human experience, including spatial orientation and object recognition, and in so doing, have shown us how (ii)_____ such fundamental skills truly are.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------------|---------------|
| A. failed to master | D. outmoded |
| B. helped to improve | E. common |
| C. managed to mimic | F. impressive |

4. Britain's deteriorating economy after 1945 was (i)_____ by politicians who favored the manufacturing sector over the service sector: rather than attempting to (ii)_____ the decline of manufacturing, they should have promoted service industries.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-------------|
| A. mishandled | D. augment |
| B. bolstered | E. arrest |
| C. forestalled | F. escalate |

5. The mood of the times is no longer one of (i)_____ over our scientific achievements. Doubts and worries beset technical and scientific specialists, as well as the public at large. I do not consider such worries (ii)_____, though they are often based on intuitive feeling rather than on strictly logical arguments.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| A. widening skepticism | D. unfounded |
| B. uncritical joy | E. sacrosanct |
| C. false humility | F. foreordained |

6. Within the culture as a whole, the natural sciences have been so successful that the word "scientific" is often used in (i)_____ manner: it is often assumed that to call something " scientific" is to imply that its reliability has been (ii)_____ by methods whose results can not reasonably be (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| A. an ironic | D. maligned | G. exaggerated |
| B. a literal | E. challenged | H. anticipated |
| C. an honorific | F. established | I. disputed |

7. There are great _____ in countries' greenhouse gas emissions, especially in per capita terms: while the United States and China are similar in aggregate emissions, United States per capita emissions are a huge multiple of China's.

- A. distortions
- B. disparities
- C. fluctuations
- D. advances
- E. variances
- F. vacillations

8. The ambassador's critical remarks seemed to be less a product of _____ and more the careless utterances of a fatigued or undisciplined individual.

- A. intensity
- B. optimism
- C. purposefulness
- D. design
- E. confidence
- F. caution

9. The cat known to researchers as M-120—beefy, audacious, and apparently smart enough to spot a free lunch—is perhaps the world's least _____ lynx: the scientists catch him several times a year.

- A. intelligent
- B. evasive
- C. fearless
- D. furtive
- E. elusive
- F. intrepid

10. The preliminary analysis being, on the whole, reassuring, its confirmation would _____ concerns about the dangers of project

- A. explain
- B. deflate
- C. rationalize
- D. soothe
- E. reflect
- F. hide

Section 27

1. Within the field of emotional intelligence research, disagreements remain about whether emotional intelligence can be learned and strengthened or is _____ characteristic.

- A. an expressed
- B. an inborn
- C. an invented
- D. a cultivated
- E. a perceptible

2. The company's steering committee, reluctant to be held any specific commitments, released a strategic plan that was deliberately _____.

- A. unpopular
- B. repetitive
- C. stringent
- D. inflexible
- E. nebulous

3. In the 1980s, many historians sounded urgent calls for (i)_____ in American historical writing, as longer and longer monographs on smaller and smaller subjects were being written-dazzling studies, but pieces of a puzzle no one was putting together. This scholarship was not illuminating the central themes of history but (ii)_____ them.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. indulgence | D. obscuring |
| B. detail | E. criticizing |
| C. synthesis | F. celebrating |

4. Just as large manufacturing companies with dominant positions in large domestic markets were once able to resist (i)_____ despite ample signs that foreign competition was rapidly overtaking them, strong and wealthy states can (ii)_____ and still manage to limp along for many years.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| A. innovation | D. exploit vulnerable markets |
| B. temptation | E. dominate international affairs |
| C. inertia | F. maintain misguided policies |

5. Keith Haring's cartoonish art became even more (i)_____ than Andy Warhol's much-reproduced soup cans when, in 1986, he opened his own store, the Pop Shop, to sell licensed Haring merchandise. The public loved the souvenirs the critics (ii)_____ what they saw as his betrayal of artistic integrity. Haring claimed that these critics misunderstood his (iii)_____ to take art beyond galleries and museums, and thus to give a wider audience the opportunity to experience art.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| A. commercial | D. fostered | G. failed plan |
| B. traditional | E. decried | H. financial need |
| C. expert | F. anticipated | I. sincere need |

6. (i)_____ have often shrilled that Australia's Great Barrier Reef is dying, a result of agricultural runoff from the (ii)_____ Queensland coast. In truth, the preservation of the reef (iii)_____, a combination of active government intervention and the beneficial effects of responsible tourism.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Apologists | D. long-abandoned | G. is based on an impracticality |
| B. Optimists | E. over-farmed | H. remains a matter of controversy |
| C. Scaremongers | F. well-preserved | I. is something of a success story |

7. The occasional minor errors, while annoying, do not _____ the basic scholarship or the valuable contribution of this book.

- A. support
- B. uphold
- C. expose
- D. explain
- E. vitiate
- F. impair

8. In American art the line between the good and the goods is not a hard-and-fast boundary, for in a commercial society the membrane that separates spirit and store is always _____.

- A. porous
- B. clogged
- C. permeable
- D. unwavering
- E. steady
- F. imaginary

9. For certain economists, "pure" economic theory, that is, economic theory _____ a specific social structure, is impossible, much like a concept of anatomy that investigated no specific species.

- A. attuned to
- B. abstracted from
- C. derived from
- D. divorced from
- E. sensitive to
- F. analyzed in

10. Recent research runs counter to the long-cherished notion that a small drop in body temperature during and after surgery is either _____ or actually protects the patient by slowing metabolism and reducing the body's demand for blood and oxygen.

- A. beneficial
- B. immaterial
- C. inconsequential
- D. preventive
- E. prophylactic
- F. redundant

Section 28

1. The painter's problem, like that of an author whose early literary masterpiece exhausts the themes it embodies, is how to _____ his first highly acclaimed efforts with works of comparable significance and presence.

- A. combine
- B. illuminate
- C. realize
- D. amend
- E. follow

2. Since many African farmers face a soil fertility problem, providing funding for fertilizer seems _____; closer examination of the data raises some troubling questions, however.

- A. imprudent
- B. expensive
- C. unimpeachable
- D. modern
- E. worrisome

3. In years prior to the Civil War, Philadelphia's African American press encouraged readers to be vaccinated against the smallpox. This journalistic campaign was initially (i)_____, appealing to readers' sense of communal duty, and became even more (ii)_____ once the war started, as smallpox outbreaks began to occur on Philadelphia's city skirts.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------------|
| A. hortatory | D. controversial |
| B. ineffective | E. urgent |
| C. widespread | F. inopportune |

4. A hallmark of certain nineteenth-century mystery novels was the reform agenda of their authors, who ostensibly sought to expose economic injustice while depicting the seamy underside of urban life. In reality, however, these claims to a radical political agenda were often (i)_____, meant to give lurid thrillers the appearance of (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| A. authentic | D. escapist appeal |
| B. complicated | E. high-minded purpose |
| C. disingenuous | F. gripping suspense |

5. It remains a mystery how Theobroma cacao, which scholars believe originated in lowland Amazonia, was introduced to tropical Mesoamerica. It must have been a (i)_____ process: cacao trees do not easily sprout from seed, need years to mature, and grow only in humid lowland forest. Moreover, in a tropical climate, cacao pods spoil quickly, rendering their transport from lowland Amazonia to tropical Mesoamerica in a single journey by foot or canoe (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. clandestine | D. unlikely |
| B. protracted | E. redundant |
| C. spontaneous | F. expeditious |

6. So (i)_____ is the reputation of the country's police for corruption and other forms of (ii)_____ that it has become a kind of tradition that every newly appointed police chief pledges to (iii)_____ the force.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| A. persistent | D. indolence | G. contradict |
| B. paralyzing | E. incompetence | H. reform |
| C. unfounded | F. criminality | I. reward |

7. For decades, Pluto seemed to be the mysteriously _____ planet: it was first thought to be about as large as Earth, but, subsequently, measurements had it smaller and smaller.

- A. morphing
- B. appearing
- C. dwindling
- D. orbiting
- E. contracting
- F. emerging

8. Every illness is a story, and when Annie's began it was characterized by the kinds of _____ details that mean nothing until seen in hindsight.

- A. salient
- B. unexceptional
- C. conspicuous
- D. suggestive
- E. abundant
- F. nondescript

9. People's decisions about childbearing depend on innumerable personal consideration and societal factors, yet even knowing this, demographers are often _____: their projections of birth rates frequently turn out to be embarrassingly at odds with reality.

- A. sanguine
- B. flummoxed
- C. inconsistent
- D. overconfident
- E. heartened
- F. confounded

10. The brain has become, for many people, _____ the biological machinations of the self, and the self-knowledge promised by neuroscience has ignited a hunger to understand how new findings weigh in on age-old questions.

- A. tantamount to
- B. synonymous with
- C. implicated in
- D. divorced from
- E. detached from
- F. subservient to

Section 29

1. Some of the areas of research covered in the collection have already attracted substantial scholarly interest, while others are more _____, hence requiring pioneering effort to map the territory and suggest productive avenues of inquiry.

- A. intricate
- B. pristine
- C. parochial
- D. heterogeneous
- E. onerous

2. Hyana Kusiemko and her colleagues speculate that the (i)_____ support among low-income works for increases in the minimum wage is a form of last-place aversion: people who are in a marginally better position than the worst off seek to (ii)_____ to distinguish themselves from those in last place.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| A. unwavering | D. disavow their willingness |
| B. vociferous | E. retain their ability |
| C. tepid | F. dissemble their need |

3. For many adults, the adolescent years occupy (i)_____ place in the memory, which to some degree is even quantifiable: give a grown adult a series of random prompts and cues, odds are he or she will recall (ii)_____ number of memories from adolescence.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| A. a peripheral | D. a disproportionate |
| B. a privileged | E. a modest |
| C. an arbitrary | F. an uncertain |

4. Recent proposals for fixing the climate have taken the form of large-scale geoengineering projects such as launching mirrors into space to reflect solar radiation away from Earth, undertakings that are vastly more (i)_____ than anything a nineteenth-century rainmaker could have cooked up. What is unclear, as one looks back at the history of weather modification research, is whether this resourceful ambition will be (ii)_____, or if, by contrast, it serves to make the scientific community's (iii)_____ that much more devastating.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| A. effective | D. anticipated | G. avidity |
| B. enterprising | E. challenged | H. impotence |
| C. accessible | F. productive | I. resignation |

5. A minor criticism of the book, which is (i)_____ an understanding of the difficulty of doing direct research in Hong Kong's, is that So relied on secondary sources to tell the story of Hong Kong's political development, with previous histories of the period (ii)_____ his research. Given So's (iii)_____ many of the players in Hong Kong politics, it is surprising that he did not use interviews and other forms of direct research to delve further into the motivations, strategies, and tactics of participants.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| A. attributable to | D. largely debunked by | G. deference to |
| B. exacerbated by | E. obviating the need for | H. estrangement from |
| C. tempered by | F. playing a large role in | I. proximity to |

6. Barker's account of how morality have evolved over time is illuminating. It reveals as (i)_____ and (ii)_____ some values that have often been regarded as (iii)_____, while uncovering other values that do indeed seem to be universal.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| A. transient | D. transcendent | G. liberating |
| B. instinctive | E. relative | H. nonnegotiable |

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| C. resilient | F. enduring | I. antiquated |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|

7. Researchers have recorded around 60 separate behaviors for worker honeybees, a number that seems to _____ the achievements of many mammals: even the versatile bottlenose dolphin only performs about twice the number a worker honeybee manages.

- A. approximate
- B. eclipse
- C. reflect
- D. compound
- E. outdo
- F. echo

8. As the biography makes plain, the scientist led _____ sort of life, rarely remaining in one place for long.

- A. an enigmatic
- B. an idiosyncratic
- C. an itinerant
- D. a cautious
- E. a peripatetic
- F. a circumspect

9. We do not always use words in accordance with their dictionary definitions, for meaning often fluctuates with context. That does not mean, however, that we are completely _____ in how we use language.

- A. rote
- B. unconstrained
- C. irrational
- D. unpredictable
- E. free
- F. methodical

10. The sociologist argued that criminal behavior is an impermanent condition because it is the result of cyclical forces operating through _____ factors, not the manifestation of deeply rooted personal characteristics.

- A. contingent
- B. alarming
- C. circumstantial
- D. proliferating
- E. unsustainable
- F. intensifying

Section 30

1. The assumption that children learn about science primarily in the classroom is so _____ that few policy makers question it, despite an ever-growing body of evidence demonstrating that most science is learned outside of school.

- A. tenuous
- B. subtle
- C. irrefutable
- D. pervasive
- E. misconstrued

2. One might expect someone of such _____ views to have a comparably dour personality, but people who have worked with her take about how she uses her considerable charm to convince people that she is right.

- A. forbearing
- B. convoluted
- C. felicitous
- D. astringent
- E. hyperbolic

3. Harper's draw, while (i)_____ in the United States for years, has remained (ii)_____ in London, where the public greets virtually every work with unabashed enthusiasm.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|------------------|
| A. in eclipse | D. controversial |
| B. unrivaled | E. unsurpassed |
| C. unchanged | F. unexceptional |

4. There are far too many (i)_____ in the report, such as incorrect data (albeit on (ii)_____ points), inconsistency between the text and related tables, and discrepancies between the citations and the references.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| A. unsupported generalizations | D. numerous |
| B. stylistic infelicities | E. minor |
| C. little errors | F. perplexing |

5. Regardless of the putative decline of (i)_____ in contemporary culture, such (ii)_____ remains essential to civil discourse. It allows people to avoid embarrassing or aligning an adversary, and it serves as a form of irony that draw attention to a problem that can scarcely be exaggerated.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|------------------|
| A. partisanship | D. restraint |
| B. originality | E. inventiveness |
| C. understatement | F. objectivity |

6. Biologists have little (i)_____ drawing the link between the success of humanity and human (ii)_____. Indeed, many biologists claim that this attribute, the ability to (iii)_____, or, to put it more sharply, to make individuals subordinate their self-interest to the needs of the group, lies at the root of human achievement.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| A. consensus regarding | D. resilience | G. reflect |
| B. compunction about | E. sociability | H. communicate |
| C. justification for | F. uniqueness | I. cooperate |

7. Experiments show that it is shockingly easy to elicit a sense of _____ among a group of strangers: just tell them they'll be working as a team, and they immediately start working as a team.

- A. dominance
- B. hierarchy
- C. obedience
- D. solidarity
- E. camaraderie
- F. optimism

8. The book aims to illuminate how science has changed the meaning of nothingness from _____ philosophical concept to something we can almost put under a microscope.

- A. a tangible
- B. a palpable
- C. a nebulous
- D. a nettlesome
- E. an incontrovertible
- F. a vague

9. Although there is an incredible diversity of microbes across the body of each individual, the fact that specific body sites tend to host a few specific bacteria indicates that the body's microflora are not _____ distributed.

- A. haphazardly
- B. uniformly
- C. effectively
- D. heterogeneously
- E. functionally
- F. randomly

10. What they see in Jimenez is the one candidate capable of decisive leadership, in stark contrast to Diza, whose term in office has been marred by _____.

- A. defensiveness
- B. corruption
- C. irresolution
- D. vacillation
- E. belligerence
- F. pugnacity

Section 31

1. Since the deficit predicament is fundamentally a long-term problem, the legislature's _____ short-term approaches has actually compounded the difficulty in each succeeding year, eroding the state's credit rating in the process.

- A. vexation regarding
- B. addiction to
- C. aversion to
- D. wariness of
- E. demonization of

2. Characteristic of the diplomat's new book is the _____ relationship between the evidence adduced and the inferences drawn, the footnotes and citations teeming with ambiguity and complexity, while the summary statements are more dogmatic simplicities.

- A. healthy
- B. shifting
- C. tenuous
- D. compelling
- E. plausible

3. Though she had some exposure to great art and high culture, it must be said the ultra athletic Marion Carstairs remained throughout her life primarily (i)_____ mental and artistic pursuits. She was by nature (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. a product of | D. neither bookish nor cerebral |
| B. indifferent to | E. a model of delicacy and refinement |
| C. obsessed with | F. both didactic and argumentative |

4. Trying to fix problems that affect vast numbers of people has an intuitive appeal that politicians and policy makers find (i)_____, but several warehouses of research studies show that intuition is often a poor guide to fixing (ii)_____ problems.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A. logical | D. localized |
| B. irresistible | E. systemic |
| C. off-putting | F. theoretical |

5. Now that photographic prints have become a popular field for collecting, auctions are becoming more (i)_____. It is not just the entry of new collectors into the field that is causing this intensification. Established collectors' interests are also becoming more (ii)_____. Those who once concentrated on the work of either the nineteenth-century pioneers or the twentieth-century modernists are now keen to have (iii)_____ collections.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| A. competitive | D. fickle | G. comprehensive |
| B. tedious | E. wide-ranging | H. legitimate |
| C. exclusive | F. antiquarian | I. impressive |

6. Give a computer (i)_____ task, winning at chess, say, or predicting the weather, and the machine beats humans nearly every time. Yet when problems are (ii)_____, or require combining varied sources of information, computers are (iii)_____ human intelligence.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| A. a well-defined | D. nuanced | G. no match |
| B. a random | E. inconsequential | H. unyielding |
| C. an open-ended | F. solvable | I. able to dwarf |

7. The latest publications predicting disastrous coastal erosion are unlikely to _____ knowledgeable readers because variations on the same claims have been effectively refuted in the past few years.

- A. intrigue
- B. reassure
- C. baffle
- D. alarm
- E. unsettle
- F. calm

8. It is hardly _____ for today's films to try to blur the boundaries between the moral and the immoral; Hollywood has been doing that since at least the 1960s.

- A. entertaining
- B. original
- C. novel
- D. pertinent
- E. relevant
- F. insightful

9. Although we no longer have to rely on salt to keep food from spoiling, our appetite for it is _____: most people eat much more salt than they need.

- A. involuntary
- B. inconstant
- C. unabated
- D. unpredictable
- E. undiminished
- F. insatiable

10. Some social scientists who begin their studies of small communities with the intention of remaining detached revise their initial approach on discovering that personal involvement with subjects can actually _____ the gathering of important data.

- A. influence
- B. expedite
- C. facilitate
- D. circumvent
- E. affect
- F. intensify

Section 32

1. Baker set a new standard for explaining difficult art in language the public understand; consequently, her books remain exemplars of _____ in art-historical analysis.

- A. fashion
- B. rigor
- C. lucidity
- D. erudition
- E. grandiosity

2. The monitoring is not _____: on the contrary, the defendant and his or her attorney are required to be given notice of the government's listening activities.

- A. obtrusive
- B. circumspect
- C. surreptitious
- D. adroit
- E. meticulous

3. There has been great enthusiasm in the United States for reducing fossil fuel dependence by increasing production biofuels from crops such as corn and switchgrass, but this (i)_____ about biofuels' potential should be (ii)_____ by a realistic appraisal of the costs and challenges of biofuel production.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. forbearance | D. tempered |
| B. exuberance | E. delineated |
| C. obduracy | F. exacerbated |

4. In the discussions on international patent law, many (i)_____ issues will probably be pushed far into the future. This cautious approach makes diplomatic sense, since attempts over the past 15 years to reach international agreements on patents have (ii)_____ just such sensitive issues.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. contentious | D. approached |
| B. stimulating | E. articulated |
| C. subjective | F. foundered on |

5. He was a leader about whom the country's people felt (i)_____, both (ii)_____ and reviling him.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|------------------|
| A. ambivalent | D. ignoring |
| B. complacent | E. understanding |
| C. indifferent | F. adulating |

6. The limitations of human attention cause us to miss much of what goes on around us. The real problem here is that we are often (i)_____ these limitations: we think that we see the world as it really is, but our ostensibly reliable visual experience (ii)_____ striking mental (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|
| A. impatient with | D. belies | G. feats |
| B. unaware of | E. unifies | H. images |
| C. distracted by | F. dispels | I. lapses |

7. Although its director _____ that the movie uses a documentary approach in portraying the famous sit-down strike, in practice its characters are heavily fictionalized and fall into familiar Hollywood types.

- A. asserts
- B. concedes
- C. guarantees
- D. disputes
- E. grants
- F. maintains

8. Although Wayne claims to recognize that _____ evidence is available to make definitive statements, she offers them nonetheless, arriving at some sweeping generalizations.

- A. concrete
- B. finite
- C. insufficient
- D. indirect
- E. conclusive
- F. meager

9. Church, Nussbaum, Waldman, and Wills have written very different books—Nussbaum and Wills range both farther and deeper—but each one of the four strives for _____, wanting to save us from the errors of partisans and zealots.

- A. concision
- B. evenhandedness
- C. frankness
- D. trustworthiness
- E. succinctness
- F. impartiality

10. While normal floods resulting from usual monsoon rainfall are _____ the grows of crops, recently there has been an increase in the frequency high intensity floods that do not have such welcome effects.

- A. conducive to
- B. hindered by
- C. devastating for
- D. deleterious to
- E. essential for
- F. indispensable to

Section 33

1. A new television documentary focuses on one of the prime ministers defining contradictions, portraying her as a woman who cultivated an image of _____ but who liked to live grandly.

- A. irascibility
- B. abstemiousness
- C. contentiousness
- D. insouciance
- E. surreptitiousness

2. There are no _____ criteria of excellence in art: works that once were ignored or even reviled now fetch millions of dollars at auction, while those that were most highly praised in their day now languish in storage.

- A. subjective
- B. dubious
- C. transitory
- D. immutable
- E. uncontroversial

3. The students seeking undergraduate representation on the board of trustees viewed the impasse in their negotiations with the administration as (i)_____ since it promised to (ii)_____ the administrations belief that students should take no part in running the university.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|--------------|
| A. unfortunate | D. undermine |
| B. inevitable | E. fuel |
| C. unprecedented | F. distort |

4. The report is admittedly (i)_____: it is intended to suggest new lines of research rather than to deal with the subject in a (ii)_____ manner.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|--------------|
| A. sketchy | D. cavalier |
| B. exculpatory | E. deceptive |
| C. flippant | F. thorough |

5. Memoirs are inherently (i)_____, but Larry McMurtrys volume of reminiscences about his life with books—not as a novelist but as a reader and bookstore owner—is especially (ii)_____: nearly every page sounds a note of farewell to an age of books that he sees as passing.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A. unreliable | D. whimsical |
| B. wistful | E. ungracious |
| C. self-serving | F. valedictory |

6. Conventionally, the ultimate measure of a scientific works validity is how broadly and confidently its conclusions become accepted in the relevant field, which in turn (i)_____ the extent to which its findings are replicated and extended. However, establishing such validity, especially for a novel experimental finding, can take years, and what (ii)_____ replication or extension may be (iii)_____ for some time.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| A. derives from | D. justifies | G. evident |
| B. works against | E. impugns | H. disputed |
| C. leads to | F. constitutes | I. touted |

7. The action in Zadie Smiths novel *On Beauty* is mediated by an unabashedly _____ narrator who does not hesitate to inform us, as once upon a time the narrators of novels were wont to do, how we behave in general and how society usually works.

- A. knowing
- B. obtrusive
- C. conspicuous
- D. antiquated
- E. mysterious
- F. secretive

8. The baseball players performance during last nights game was impressive, although not _____; others have performed similar feats.

- A. decisive
- B. unexampled
- C. significant
- D. novel
- E. outstanding
- F. spectacular

9. The territory's tradition of simple and low taxes, combined with a comparatively easygoing government, has earned it the _____ of its citizens and is widely seen as a main reason for its stunning rise to prosperity.

- A. opprobrium
- B. vituperation
- C. attention
- D. dismissal
- E. approbation
- F. adulation

10. Blakes reputation for weakness is _____: almost all who have worked with him say he is a disciplined, intellectually formidable, and very tough politician.

- A. irreversible
- B. pervasive
- C. specious
- D. rife
- E. exaggerated
- F. unfounded

Section 34

1. The often-cited parallels between human communities and insect colonies are _____.: the cooperation found among social insects is essentially due to the insects genetic ties, while humans often collaborate with non-relatives.

- A. superficial
- B. obvious
- C. hackneyed
- D. contradictory
- E. uncanny

2. While early biographies of Florence Nightingale tended to be quite _____, Lytton Starcheys irreverent 1918 passage about her ushered in a new era, making it acceptable, even fashionable, to criticize her.

- A. unsympathetic
- B. unsentimental
- C. sycophantic
- D. pedantic
- E. censorious

3. While in their consideration of the unique way athletics and academics are combined in United States universities, Markovits and Rensmann do not (i)_____ Gumbrecht's idealizing vision of the compatibility of college athletics with the intellectual missions of institutions of higher learning, neither do they regard college athletics as (ii)_____: they believe that big-time sports have a rightful place in university life.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| A. fully endorse | D. indispensable |
| B. intentionally recapitulate | E. venal |
| C. entirely misconstrue | F. profitable |

4. In science education, it is important to differentiate between inaccurate ideas that are conceptually (i)_____ and understandings that are inaccurate, and yet can (ii)_____ learning of more sophisticated understandings. The former are simply wrong, the latter can be seen as incomplete, overly simplistic, or tied to only a few limited contexts.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------|-------------|
| A. unproductive | D. foster |
| B. distinct | E. resemble |
| C. unproblematic | F. delay |

5. He was never (i)_____: he was nothing if not (ii)_____, so he forbore for the present to declare his passion.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. impetuous | D. boorish |
| B. chivalrous | E. spontaneous |
| C. thoughtful | F. circumspect |

6. A transformative scientific idea that emerged in the eighteenth century was the realization that slow, inexorable geological processes follow the basic laws of physics and chemistry. This seems (i)_____ conclusion in hindsight, but its implication—that geological processes in the distant past must have (ii)_____ these very same laws—was (iii)_____ geologists in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| A. a significant | D. followed | G. revolutionary for |
| B. a controversial | E. entailed | H. overlooked by |
| C. an obvious | F. preceded | I. evident to |

7. Origin, distribution, and habitat are included in the book for some but not all of the plants; offering this information for each species would have given readers a clearer appreciation of the differences between _____ and introduced species.

- A. endemic
- B. native
- C. seasonal
- D. rare
- E. unusual
- F. dominant

8. In Inuit culture, elaborate carving has often been used to enhance _____ objects such as harpoon heads and other tools.

- A. utilitarian
- B. functional
- C. domestic
- D. decorative
- E. manufactured
- F. ornamental

9. Although in the mid-1970s nuclear power seemed poised for a still greater role in energy supply, in fact the _____ of its prestige had already begun.

- A. evaluation
- B. waning
- C. defense
- D. undermining
- E. ebbing
- F. vindication

10. As a critic, Nelson is noteworthy for her _____; rather than presenting fully formed pronouncements, she is willing to let us watch as she works out her ideas.

- A. generosity
- B. humility
- C. integrity
- D. modesty
- E. eloquence
- F. rhetoric

Section 35

1. Since the deficit predicament is fundamentally a long-term problem, the legislature's _____ short-term approaches has actually compounded the difficulty in each succeeding year, eroding the stated credit rating.

- A. vexation regarding
- B. addiction to
- C. aversion to
- D. wariness of
- E. demonization of

2. His _____ speaking style notwithstanding, William Perkins has long been seen as the moderate face of his political party.

- A. genteel
- B. mundane
- C. affable
- D. captivating
- E. vehement

3. According to Dr. Edith Widder, measuring the level of pollutants in sediment provides a more accurate and robust indication of an estuary's health than does measuring the level of chemicals in the water, since pollution in water is (i)_____, but pollution in sediment is (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. declining | D. significant |
| B. manageable | E. persistent |
| C. transient | F. detectable |

4. His contemporary trend whereby fashion designers flout mainstream tradition is unique only in its (i)_____, earlier fashion designers experienced the same (ii)_____ impulse, albeit in a less extreme form.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. subversiveness | D. indiscriminate |
| B. intensity | E. iconclastic |
| C. culpability | F. temperate |

5. At the heart of present-day studies computational authorship attribution lies the hypothesis that each author has so personal a writing style that it can function as stylistic DNA. Any given author style, in other words, is regarded as (i)_____ and (ii)_____ every other authors writing style.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| A. stable | D. distinguishable from |
| B. generative | E. related to |
| C. unintentional | F. influenced by |

6. With the grand ambition of sending unbreakable coded messages, some physicists are using exotic tools—quantum mechanics and streams of individual photons—to shut out (i)_____. But a wire and a few resistors may (ii)_____ a message as securely, according to a physicist who claims to have devised a simple and uncrackable scheme. The idea shows that more (iii)_____ methods might compete with budding quantum cryptography.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| A. inaccurate transmissions | D. convey | G. mundane |
| B. pernicious influences | E. decode | H. complex |
| C. prying eyes | F. intercept | I. celebrated |

7. Not only is the advent of bookless or largely bookless libraries too large and powerful a change to be _____, it also offers too many real advantages for it to be considered a tragedy.

- A. understood
- B. averted
- C. foreseen
- D. forestalled
- E. endured
- F. anticipated

8. The author take issues with the ideological blinders that have distorted much migration research, especially _____ modernization theorists and others for their untested assumptions of an immobile preindustrial past.

- A. undermining
- B. citing
- C. castigating
- D. chastising
- E. endorsing
- F. commending

9. In denying him a promotion, management cited his _____ decision making, charging that his judgements were based on vagaries rather than careful forethought.

- A. capricious
- B. dogmatic
- C. atrocious
- D. cavalier
- E. authoritative
- F. cogent

10. Because archaeology explores the most profound changes in human history by means of a grossly incomplete record, it has invited the sort of bold, imaginative interpretation in which speculation too easily becomes _____ evidence.

- A. replaced by
- B. constrained by
- C. untethered from
- D. divorced from
- E. substituted for
- F. constricted by

Section 36

1. Common and easily accessible resources (prey for predators or hosts for parasites) should be, all other things being equal, used frequently, yet in some environments apparently accessible and suitable resources remain _____.

- A. vulnerable
- B. unobtainable
- C. sustainable
- D. depleted
- E. unexploited

2. Even though the authors repeatedly _____ their own shrewdness, they show a remarkable credulousness toward far-fetched ideas such as carbon-eating trees and cloud-making machinery.

- A. soft-pedal
- B. extol
- C. deprecate
- D. broaden
- E. compromise

3. The (i)_____ of molecular oxygen on Earth-sized planets around other stars in the universe would not be (ii)_____ sign of life: molecular oxygen can be a signature of photosynthesis (a biotic process) or merely of the rapid escape of water from the upper reaches of a planetary atmosphere (an abiotic process).

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|--------------------|
| A. dearth | D. a controversial |
| B. presumption | E. an unambiguous |
| C. detection | F. a possible |

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4. In reviewing cases decided by lower courts, Supreme Court justices search for precedents to justify their arguments. Reliance on precedent (i)_____ judicial restraint: the precedent (ii)_____ a judge's ability to determine the outcome of a case in a way that he or she might choose if there were no precedent.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|----------------|
| A. promotes | D. establishes |
| B. compromises | E. constraints |
| C. promulgates | F. prioritizes |

5. As he has matured as a scholar, Felmar has come to see the merit of qualification. His conclusions, which early in his career he (i)_____, are now often (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| A. stated as absolute | D. hedged |
| B. refused to reveal | E. simplified |
| C. backed up extensively | F. reiterated |

6. To pay for the extra spending under this international poverty plan, each American would have to contribute less than the cost of buying a premium cup of coffee once a week. But financial aid is not (i)_____, and even if the funding recommended here were to (ii)_____, the grandest objectives may well remain unfulfilled. Nonetheless, carefully targeted aid can reward responsible governments, (iii)_____ individual initiative, and alleviate suffering. Many will think that's worth a cup of coffee.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| A. an impediment | D. be insufficient | G. obviate |
| B. a panacea | E. recede | H. temper |
| C. a malady | F. materialize | I. encourage |

7. The recent exhibition on Dadaism is nothing if not _____, for the visual arts are currently awash in Dadaist gestures and gambits of one variety or another.

- A. sensational
- B. timely
- C. daunting
- D. ill-advised
- E. opportune
- F. misguided

8. Despite the general _____ of Roman archaeological studies toward the major cities and their monuments, archaeology has contributed much to a better understanding of rural developments in Roman territory.

- A. openness
- B. indifference
- C. hostility
- D. animus
- E. bias
- F. orientation

9. The potential reduction in water lost from the proposed reservoir from evaporation is _____ inconsequential: even the minimum projected reduction would save enough water to furnish the needs of a Denver-sized municipality.

- A. nearly
- B. comparatively
- C. scarcely
- D. rarely
- E. hardly
- F. relatively

10. Our mass media are much more fascinated by bad ideas or the failure of good ones than by successes: we drown in bad news—tales of how things went wrong—but we have only the most _____ discussion on how they might go right.

- A. incisive
- B. tantalizing
- C. trenchant
- D. cursory
- E. illusory
- F. perfunctory

Section 37

1. Investors are grateful that the attorney general has stepped in to pursue inquiries into misfeasance on the financial markets, given that the regulators officially charged with policing the industry have been_____.

- A. diffident
- B. meticulous
- C. straightforward
- D. implacable
- E. tenacious

2. A significant element of the Gothic genre, the literary grotesque is sometimes inaccurately discussed as if it were a _____ Gothic or, conversely, as if it were something entirely different from Gothic.

- A. synonym for
- B. characteristic of
- C. counterweight to
- D. ramification of
- E. deviation from

3. In his study of Senegambian cleric Shaykh Mass Kah (1827-1936), Bala S. K. Saho notes that it is difficult to fully (i)_____ many of the oral accounts on which the study relies. Saho's work shows, however, that despite this absence of (ii)_____, oral history can provide useful sources from which historians can reconstruct the past.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|------------------|
| A. comprehend | D. partiality |
| B. reproduce | E. argumentation |
| C. validate | F. corroboration |

4. The city's traffic-planning department has been working hard to (i)_____ drivers. Closely spaced stop lights have been added on roads into town, causing delays. Pedestrian underpasses designed to allow traffic to flow freely across major intersections have been (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. assist | D. enhanced |
| B. calm | E. stabilized |
| C. discourage | F. removed |

5. The (i)_____ current-generation solar cells are (ii)_____ : although experimental cells have reached efficiencies greater than 40 percent, most commercially available cells in the early part of the twenty-first century still struggle to get past about 20 percent.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------------|------------------|
| A. attractions of | D. clear |
| B. limitations of | E. unmatched |
| C. improvements in | F. misunderstood |

6. When pulsars were first discovered, some of the astrophysicists involved briefly (i)_____ these types of stars might be (ii)_____ extraterrestrial intelligence. Specifically, the pulsar's periodic radiation pattern was initially interpreted as (iii)_____ rather than—as it turned out to be—the natural product of the spinning of a neutron star.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| A. ignored whether | D. suggestive of | G. a deliberate hoax |
| B. thought that | E. unrelated to | H. an episodic phenomenon |
| C. disavowed that | F. evidence against | I. a constructed code |

7. Humanity's struggle with bedbugs is _____ : archaeologists have recovered remains of the parasites dating back 3,500 years to the time of the Egyptian pharaohs.

- A. disconcerting
- B. unexceptional
- C. perennial
- D. preordained
- E. inevitable
- F. long-standing

8. The composer's string quartets exhibit a structural _____ that seems to challenge the conventions of the string quartet genre, which have long been celebrated for their rigor and coherence.

- A. austerity
- B. restraint
- C. uncertainty
- D. ostentation
- E. vitality
- F. instability

9. According to some political analysts, the candidate's occasionally rambling responses to questions suggest that she has been out of circulation for a while and her debating skills need to be _____.

- A. honed
- B. discredited
- C. enhanced
- D. reevaluated
- E. remedied
- F. de-emphasized

10. Physicians today increasingly rely on endoscopic surgery, replacing large scalpels and clamps with cameras and with tools whose _____ enables them to snake into the body through tiny holes.

- A. flexibility
- B. rigidity
- C. magnitude
- D. suppleness
- E. enormity
- F. precision

Section 38

1. Notwithstanding that the _____ of local branch banks has been so much predicted, in most countries the number of branch banks has increased over the past decade.

- A. resurgence
- B. proliferation
- C. demise
- D. profitability
- E. reorganization

2. The claim that large budget deficits significantly depress private investment and thereby hurt future wages and living standard is (i)_____: the (ii)_____ effects of budget deficits are tiny.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------|----------------|
| A. fallacious | D. adverse |
| B. incomprehensible | E. unforeseen |
| C. incontrovertible | F. ameliorable |

3. Whatever the acknowledged (i)_____ of the market and the merits of considering ways to (ii)_____ them, implementing public policies toward this end entails the inevitable risk that those policies will simply create new deficiencies even as they address old ones.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------|------------|
| A. attractions | D. remedy |
| B. shortcomings | E. enhance |
| C. complexities | F. restore |

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4. Until now, old snapshots and home movies faded and crumbled and were eventually (i)_____. Only a few precious mementos were preserved and passed along. But as photography moves into the digital realm, family albums and home videos seem capable of (ii)_____; our capacity to store them is, for all practical purposes, approaching the infinite. Is such a transformation a good thing? The natural world teaches us that (iii)_____ are vital to ecological health. Does a similar principle apply to communal memory?

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| A. archived | D. transmission | G. death and decay |
| B. discarded | E. immortality | H. predator and prey |
| C. reproduced | F. revolution | I. reproduction and renewal |

5. Even though intelligence may be quite (i)_____, and even though scientists may have made frustratingly (ii)_____ progress in understanding it, many experts on intelligence still think that the potential (iii)_____ of the quest to understand intelligence make it worth continuing. For instance, a brain-based understanding of intelligence may help teachers design strategies for educating children more effectively.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| A. useful | D. little | G. intellectual impediments |
| B. neglected | E. rapid | H. practical values |
| C. complex | F. extensive | I. financial rewards |

6. While the Prime Minister's long-standing reputation for (i)_____ political power may (ii)_____ his recently stated willingness to devolve real power to regional assemblies and local governments, it certainly does not (iii)_____ his doing it.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| A. centralizing | D. render inevitable | G. require |
| B. overseeing | E. be based on | H. allow |
| C. exploring | F. raise doubts about | I. preclude |

7. During the eighteenth century, improvements in their material circumstances did not necessarily mean expanded independence for women of elite families and, arguably, the social conventions of gentility _____ more of their time and energy.

- A. provided
- B. justified
- C. demanded
- D. granted
- E. exacted
- F. rationalized

8. There are many ways in which rat brains and human brains are _____, indeed, rat brains are often used as generalized models for all mammalian brains, including our own.

- A. identical
- B. analogous
- C. mysterious
- D. comparable
- E. adaptable
- F. inexplicable

9. The writer's assessment of the critic includes personal _____, such as jibes about his physical girth and style of delivery, and is not the better for it.

- A. aspersions
- B. commendations
- C. falsehoods
- D. fantasies
- E. whims
- F. slurs

10. Space is often referred to as the final frontier, as the only realm of which humankind has still to gain substantial understanding, yet the ocean realm is another vast area about which our knowledge is _____.

- A. erroneous
- B. confusing
- C. frustrating
- D. rudimentary
- E. delusive
- F. sketchy

Section 39

1. The inconspicuous location and lack of striking vistas that characterize the villa reflect the _____ aspect of its creator's personality.

- A. volatile
- B. grandiose
- C. gregarious
- D. self-effacing
- E. imperious

2. The chairman, faced with the need to forge a consensus on a number of proposals, acknowledged that it would be difficult to reconcile the push for a radical overhaul with the stance of those who want _____ change.

- A. deliberate
- B. indiscriminate
- C. genuine
- D. immediate
- E. wholesale

3. Recently released statistics on the prevalence of heart disease in the United States, while (i)_____, nevertheless reflect a decline from heights reached in the 1960s, before health officials began publicly (ii)_____ people to guard against heart disease.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. definite | D. entreating |
| B. sobering | E. defying |
| C. implausible | F. absolving |

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4. The humor in this play derives from its (i)_____. The new production, however, inexplicably goes in the opposite direction; it is so (ii)_____ that the audience does not even seem to realize that the play is supposed to be a comedy.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|------------------------|----------------|
| A. verbal nimbleness | D. accessible |
| B. political allusions | E. plodding |
| C. deadpan dialogue | F. implausible |

5. To say the actors were (i)_____ their director is an understatement: a director who is visibly bored by his cast and their performances is hard to (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------------|--------------|
| A. disappointed in | D. lambast |
| B. accepting of | E. displease |
| C. motivated by | F. suffer |

6. However luminous an insight might seem initially, brilliance is not a reliable predictor of (i)_____, and sure enough the history of physical chemistry is replete with theories that were as (ii)_____ as any but that (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| A. popularity | D. opaque | G. slowly developed |
| B. originality | E. ingenious | H. eventually collapsed |
| C. validity | F. useful | I. ultimately prevailed |

7. The company is so old-fashioned and opposed to innovation that it can seem downright _____.

- A. antediluvian
- B. flighty
- C. archaic
- D. chauvinistic
- E. capricious

F. patronizing

8. The central idea of the worldview known as “consilience” is that all tangible phenomena are based on material processes that are ultimately reducible, however long and _____ the sequences, to the laws of physics.

A. facile

B. ethereal

C. tortuous

D. superficial

E. convoluted

F. protracted

9. Because archaeology explores the most profound changes in human history by means of a grossly incomplete record, it has invited the sort of bold, imaginative interpretation in which speculation too easily becomes _____ evidence.

A. replaced by

B. constrained by

C. untethered from

D. divorced from

E. substituted for

F. constricted by

10. Although evolutionary psychologists do not seem quite as imperialist in their intellectual ambitions as their sociobiologist forebears of the 1970s, they tend, in some critics' view, to be no less _____ in their claims.

A. abased

B. arrogant

C. impetuous

D. hubristic

E. narcissistic

F. diffident

Section 40

1. Since the deficit predicament is fundamentally a long-term problem, the legislature's _____ short-term approaches has actually compounded the difficulty in each succeeding year, eroding the stated credit rating.

- A. vexation regarding
- B. addiction to
- C. aversion to
- D. wariness of
- E. demonization of

2. His _____ speaking style notwithstanding, William Perkins has long been seen as the moderate face of his political party.

- A. genteel
- B. mundane
- C. affable
- D. captivating
- E. vehement

3. According to Dr. Edith Widder, measuring the level of pollutants in sediment provides a more accurate and robust indication of an estuary's health than does measuring the level of chemicals in the water, since pollution in water is (i)_____, but pollution in sediment is (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. declining | D. significant |
| B. manageable | E. persistent |
| C. transient | F. detectable |

4. His contemporary trend whereby fashion designers flout mainstream tradition is unique only in its (i)_____, earlier fashion designers experienced the same (ii)_____ impulse, albeit in a less extreme form.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. subversiveness | D. indiscriminate |
| B. intensity | E. iconclastic |
| C. culpability | F. temperate |

5. At the heart of present-day studies computational authorship attribution lies the hypothesis that each author has so personal a writing style that it can function as stylistic DNA. Any given author style, in other words, is regarded as (i)_____ and (ii)_____ every other authors writing style.

| Blank (i) | Blank (i) |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| A. stable | D. distinguishable from |
| B. generative | E. related to |
| C. unintentional | F. influenced by |

6. With the grand ambition of sending unbreakable coded messages, some physicists are using exotic tools—quantum mechanics and streams of individual photons—to shut out (i)_____. But a wire and a few resistors may (ii)_____ a message as securely, according to a physicist who claims to have devised a simple and uncrackable scheme. The idea shows that more (iii)_____ methods might compete with budding quantum cryptography.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| A. inaccurate transmissions | D. convey | G. mundane |
| B. pernicious influences | E. decode | H. complex |
| C. prying eyes | F. intercept | I. celebrated |

7. Not only is the advent of bookless or largely bookless libraries too large and powerful a change to be _____, it also offers too many real advantages for it to be considered a tragedy.

- A. understood
- B. averted
- C. foreseen
- D. forestalled
- E. endured
- F. anticipated

8. The author take issues with the ideological blinders that have distorted much migration research, especially _____ modernization theorists and others for their untested assumptions of an immobile preindustrial past.

- A. undermining
- B. citing
- C. castigating
- D. chastising
- E. endorsing
- F. commending

9. In denying him a promotion, management cited his _____ decision making, charging that his judgements were based on vagaries rather than careful forethought.

- A. capricious
- B. dogmatic
- C. atrocious
- D. cavalier
- E. authoritative
- F. cogent

10. Because archaeology explores the most profound changes in human history by means of a grossly incomplete record, it has invited the sort of bold, imaginative interpretation in which speculation too easily becomes _____ evidence.

- A. replaced by
- B. constrained by
- C. untethered from
- D. divorced from
- E. substituted for
- F. constricted by

Section 41

1. The automation of many of the functions performed at the factory, although initially inspiring _____ in many of the company's employees, has had none of the deleterious effects forecast either within or beyond the organization.

- A. indifference
- B. optimism
- C. ambition
- D. arrogance
- E. trepidation

2. One thing both authors have in common is a striking amount of _____.: they claim to know how massive institutions, some of them richly endowed, all of them central to American society and culture, should be reshaped.

- A. hubris
- B. propriety
- C. bias
- D. prescience
- E. indolence

3. Making the shift to the 90-nanometer manufacturing process has been (i)_____ for semiconductor companies. This process effectively doubles the manufacturing capacity of the industry, but it (ii)_____ enormous technical challenges because some components of the new semiconductor chips are no more than five to seven molecules thick.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| A. an unanticipated boon | D. circumvents |
| B. a routine accomplishment | E. entails |
| C. a significant struggle | F. resolves |

4. There has been (i)_____ elephant's fabled mental capacities until recently, when these behavioral observations have begun to be (ii)_____ by brain science. MRI scans of an elephant's brain suggest that even relative to its overall size it has a large hippocampus, the component in the mammalian brain linked to memory and an important part of its limbic system, which is involved in processing emotions.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| A. surprising credence given to | D. buttressed |
| B. a widespread dismissal of | E. anticipated |
| C. only anecdotal evidence for | F. overwhelmed |

5. The description of Green's scholarship as (i)_____ is grossly misleading: while her research on interstellar particles is not especially novel, the conclusions she draws from her data are (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| A. esoteric | D. remarkably pioneering |
| B. tendentious | E. dubiously supported |
| C. derivative | F. strangely comforting |

6. The essential difference between writing nonfiction and writing fiction is that the artist can (i)_____ a completed vision of the world, while the journalist never can, the real world being always (ii)_____. Art provides freedom from the bewildering complexities of constant change. Indeed, it is the very (iii)_____ of well-wrought fiction that can sometimes make feel more real than reality.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. shun | D. diverting | G. popularity |
| B. correct | E. tragic | H. rarity |
| C. realize | F. unfinished | I. clarity |

7. They applaud the musicals of the 1930s and 1940s, whose plethora of stars, jokes, dances, witty dialogue, and general gaiety make today's offerings seem _____ by comparison.

- A. cheerless
- B. vacuous
- C. mirthful
- D. insincere
- E. gloomy
- F. jovial

8. It may not seem like a big deal for produce distributions to mix together soybeans from different farms, but a growing number of buyers are willing to pay a premium for soybeans the _____ of which is known: they like to know exactly where their food came from.

- A. purity
- B. output
- C. heterogeneity
- D. origin
- E. yield
- F. provenance

9. The research informing Gregory's book on vegetarianism in Victorian England appears to be _____, with a great deal of revealing detail on display and more than a third of the text taken up with footnotes.

- A. uneven
- B. excessive
- C. exhaustive
- D. inconsistent
- E. comprehensive
- F. mixed

10. Analysis of the structural features that were thought to ____ kinship between the two species prompted an investigation that dispelled that presumption and revealed that the two do share a family history.

- A. signify
- B. undertake
- C. point to
- D. preclude
- E. rule out
- F. exaggerate

Section 42

1. Even those observers who are the most _____ about genetic privacy issues would have to concede that genetic discrimination is rare: there have only been two cases of any notoriety.

- A. sanguine
- B. zealous
- C. candid
- D. objective
- E. apathetic

2. She constantly _____ herself for not living up to her own ideals—for not working hard enough or not having motives that were pure enough.

- A. exalted
- B. coddled
- C. excoriated
- D. mollified
- E. deluded

3. Ancient cart ruts found on Malta were created in soft limestone that begins to dissolve when exposed to rainfall. Their forms thus necessarily become (i)_____ over time and their original features are (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. solidified | D. refined |
| B. degraded | E. replicated |
| C. conspicuous | F. obscured |

4. Making loans and fighting poverty are normally two of the least glamorous pursuits around, but remarkably enough put the two together, and you have an economic innovation that has become not just (i)_____ but downright (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|--------------|-----------------|
| A. popular | D. chic |
| B. pointless | E. unfathomable |
| C. dangerous | F. sensible |

5. Convinced of the gravity of her poetry, Voigt must have found the reviews of her most recent collection (i)_____ reading: one amused reviewer thought that it was unrecognizable as poetry but decidedly (ii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. tempting | D. inspiring |
| B. depressing | E. irritating |
| C. thrilling | F. diverting |

6. The historian's narrative of the dynasty's decline is (i)_____, because though there is nothing (ii)_____ the account, large parts of it rely on (iii)_____.

| Blank (i) | Blank (ii) | Blank (iii) |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| A. diffuse | D. psychologically penetrating in | G. plagiarism |
| B. reasonable | E. inherently implausible about | H. conjecture |
| C. questionable | F. fully documented in | I. pretense |

7. The first images of Jupiter's moon Callisto show bright regions of material, as if older and darker ice had slid downhill and exposed the _____ ice underneath.

- A. ancient
- B. murky
- C. compact
- D. pristine
- E. grimy
- F. unblemished

8. Mortoris is dour and _____, seemingly incapable of smiling, let alone laughing.

- A. mirthful
- B. jovial
- C. intelligent
- D. tepid
- E. lugubrious
- F. gloomy

9. When the atmosphere over the city is at its best, it is peculiarly _____, and this clarity seems to distill the very special beauty of the place.

- A. limpid
- B. acute
- C. calm
- D. sharp
- E. pellucid
- F. tranquil

10. The book brings together many valuable reports on conservation projects, but with less variety than might have been wished: nearly half the contributors are from the same state, and consequently, the case studies are similarly _____ geographically.

- A. polarized
- B. classified
- C. targeted
- D. circumscribed
- E. organized
- F. restricted