

Writing and Language Test

35 MINUTES, 44 QUESTIONS

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

DIRECTIONS

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

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

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

Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage.

An Advocate for Alaska Native Rights

Fifteen-year-old Alberta Schenck was fed up. In the first half of the twentieth century, Indigenous peoples living in what was then the US territory of Alaska **1** was subject to pervasive discrimination, including segregation from white residents in settings such as schools, stores, restaurants, and movie theaters.

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) is
- C) has been
- D) were

Schenck, whose mother was Inupiaq, worked at one **2** of them. In her job as an usher, she not only witnessed the segregation of other Alaska Natives but also was **3** obliged to uphold the theater's segregationist seating policy. By March 1944, her fury at the system of inequality had reached a breaking point. Schenck decided to act, setting off a series of events that **4** helped encourage dozens of Native Americans to go to the theater and sit where they wanted.

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) of these.
- C) such theater.
- D) type of those.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) obliged and compelled to uphold
- C) compelled to uphold and enforce
- D) obliged to uphold—that is, enforce—

4

Which choice most effectively establishes the significance of the series of events discussed in the paragraphs that follow?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) influenced the community of Nome to elect Schenck as their “Queen of Nome.”
- C) united an outspoken teenager and a powerful politician in the fight against racism.
- D) helped inspire the passage of a groundbreaking law banning discrimination in Alaska.

Schenck's initial act of protest took the form of a letter that she wrote to the editor of the Nome Nugget, a local newspaper. In her letter, Schenck spoke out against the seating of Alaska Native and white patrons in **5** unrelated sections of Nome's Dream Theater. Her public condemnation led to her being fired from her job, but Schenck persisted in openly opposing segregation. She publicly protested again later that spring, sitting in the "whites only" section of her former workplace. Schenck was removed from the building. When she tried to reenter by purchasing another ticket, she was arrested and sent to jail.

After her arrest, Schenck was encouraged by a family friend to contact Alaska territorial governor Ernest Gruening, who was sympathetic to equal rights causes. Moved by her story, Gruening

6 supported Schenck, securing an apology from the mayor of Nome for her treatment. Schenck's influence did not end there, **7** in other words. In 1945, when the Alaska territorial legislature was debating an equal rights **8** bill. Her experience was cited as a "prime example" of the unfair treatment of minority groups.

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) disjointed
- C) separate
- D) withdrawn

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) will support
- C) is supporting
- D) supports

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) consequently.
- C) however.
- D) after all.

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) bill, her
- C) bill and her
- D) bill; in which her

Her story affected lawmakers just as it had Gruening, and it helped **9** assure the passage of the Alaska Anti-Discrimination Act of **10** 1945.

Schenck retroactively came to be known as the “Rosa Parks of Nome” because she had inspired many Alaska Natives to refuse to change seats in movie theaters **11** only months before the first two Alaska Natives were elected as House representatives to Alaska’s territorial legislature. By challenging discrimination and asserting, as she did in her letter, that all Americans have the right to sit or go where they please, Schenck played an important early role in advancing equality in the United States.

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) assure, the passage
- C) assure the passage:
- D) assure—the passage

10

The writer is considering revising the underlined portion to the following.

1945, the first piece of US legislation to outlaw discrimination.

Should the writer make this revision?

- A) Yes, because it underscores the historical significance of this piece of legislation.
- B) Yes, because it demonstrates the importance of antidiscrimination legislation.
- C) No, because it interrupts the paragraph’s discussion of Schenck’s story with irrelevant information.
- D) No, because it fails to describe the antidiscrimination legislation in sufficient detail.

11

Which choice most logically builds on the information provided earlier in the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) during a time when English literacy requirements prevented many Alaska Natives from voting.
- C) much as Parks, eleven years later, had inspired African Americans to reject segregated seating on buses.
- D) with the support of a governor who fought for civil rights in Alaska after fighting for freedom abroad during World War II

Questions 12-22 are based on the following passage.

The Business of Entrepreneurship Education

Over the last few decades the number of institutions around the world offering entrepreneurship education (EE) programs has grown to over three thousand. Research shows that many of these programs **12** use and employ the format of standard lectures to teach students how to successfully develop and manage new business **13** ventures, but modern scholars studying EE note that entrepreneurs learn best through hands-on experience. Therefore, although there is a place in the EE curriculum for traditional instruction, the emphasis needs to be on activities that allow students to practice real entrepreneurship, both inside and outside the classroom.

One EE program that provides such experiential opportunities can be found at the Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT) in Ireland. **14** Founded in 1997, the Institute enrolls over two thousand students. There, entrepreneurship students in one class are required to work in teams to develop products for sale at a local market.

12

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) use the lecture format, which is standard, employing it
- C) employ the conventional, standard lecture format in order
- D) use the standard lecture format

13

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) speculations,
- C) missions,
- D) exertions,

14

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

- A) Kept, because it establishes the school's credentials.
- B) Kept, because it provides a detail important for understanding the school's teaching methods.
- C) Deleted, because it introduces information irrelevant to the discussion of entrepreneurship education.
- D) Deleted, because it fails to describe the philosophy upon which the school was founded.

The students research the market and its potential customers and **15** to devise plans for implementing the logistical duties of entrepreneurship, **16** including financing, marketing, and merchandising. After selling their products, students finish the project by completing financial and overall assessments of their own performance. Staff and student feedback on IADT's action-based entrepreneurship activities has been positive: Rachel **17** Parke, a student in the program comments that it "has given me all the skills and the tools that I need."

15

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) devise
- C) will devise
- D) devising

16

Which choice best expands on the topic introduced earlier in the sentence?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) with the students working in self-selected groups.
- C) though instructors evaluate student work on a continual basis.
- D) tasks all completed alongside other coursework.

17

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Parke, a student, in the program,
- C) Parke a student in the program
- D) Parke, a student in the program,

[1] In addition to receiving student endorsement, the **18** usefulness of practical approaches like the one adopted by IADT is also supported by empirical evidence.

[2] For their study, the researchers surveyed one hundred thirty students twice during a semester on their ideas for business opportunities. [3] A Utah State University study showed that practical assignments help budding entrepreneurs develop a key **19** skill opportunity identification, that helps entrepreneurs recognize unmet consumer demands that can be turned into revenue streams. [4] One group of students, the experimental group, spent the semester taking a business course that prioritized hands-on exercises aimed at developing the participants' opportunity identification, while a control group received traditional instruction.

18

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) usefulness—of practical approaches—
- C) usefulness of practical approaches,
- D) usefulness of practical approaches:

19

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) skill, opportunity
- C) skill; opportunity
- D) skill. Opportunity

[5] At the end of the course, the experimental group students generated more ideas for business opportunities than **20** they did, and those ideas were often more innovative as well. **21**

Admittedly, some content knowledge—like writing business plans and understanding legal requirements—can be most effectively covered through textbooks and lectures. **22** Thus, EE programs should continue to feature traditional education methods as key components of the curriculum.

20

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) some participants
- C) others
- D) the control group students

21

To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 2 should be placed

- A) where it is now.
- B) after sentence 3.
- C) after sentence 4.
- D) after sentence 5.

22

The writer wants an effective concluding sentence that restates the main argument of the passage. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) It remains to be seen whether hands-on learning has a long-term positive impact on entrepreneurial activity.
- C) But much of EE instruction can and should integrate experiential components that enable students like Parke to practice what they learn.
- D) Students should also be given opportunities to learn by working as interns in existing businesses.

Questions 23-33 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

Digging Urchins

Along the western seashores of North America **23** dwell the purple sea urchin, *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*. This small, spiny animal can live for up to seventy years inside of rock cavities, or **24** pits that grant protection from predators and strong waves. For over a century, scientists have debated whether *S. purpuratus* finds and occupies existing pits or whether it actively excavates its own. The latter hypothesis is supported by the work of biologist Michael P. Russell of Villanova University, who has **25** recently provided the first evidence that the urchin itself breaks down these hard rock surfaces and that this process, known as bioerosion, has broader ramifications.

23

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) dwells
- C) are dwelling
- D) have dwelled

24

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) pits;
- C) pits—
- D) pits,

25

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) in recent times provided
- C) recently provided and offered
- D) only just recently provided

26 Though many animals regularly contribute to bioerosion, Russell and his team brought individual purple urchins from their natural environment into the laboratory and placed each in an enclosure atop one of three rock **27** types granite, mudstone, or sandstone (fine and medium grain). The mass of each rock was measured before urchin introduction and then again one year later. In the end, each rock type showed an average loss of mass that was notably larger than **28** each of its control group, which had no urchins. The researchers then used their findings to calculate the average annual rate of bioerosion caused by an individual urchin.

These data, when compared with size measurements of urchin pits in nature, allowed Russell to **29** make estimates about urchins. He could estimate both the time required for an urchin to form an average-sized pit in each rock type and the total amount of bioerosion that urchin populations could cause.

26

Which choice provides the most effective introduction to the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) To investigate the urchin's ability to erode rock,
- C) After obtaining a permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife,
- D) In a study later published in the journal PLOS ONE,

27

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) types;
- C) types,
- D) types:

28

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) those of
- C) that of
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

29

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

- A) make estimates, including estimates about
- B) make estimates, including
- C) make estimates about
- D) estimate

With granite, which was reduced by only 0.88 gram per urchin per year, it would take an urchin almost 150 years to form an average-sized pit. In contrast, bioerosion of medium-grain sandstone occurred at a more rapid rate of **30** 32.4 grams per urchin per year, which would allow an urchin to create a pit in just 4.5 years. **31** Although higher densities of sea urchins live on sandstone-rich rocky shores than live on granite, these urchins' combined excavations could quickly erode large volumes of sandstone into sediment, producing, by Russell's estimate, **32** 2.9 tons of granite sediment per hectare each year.

**Measured Annual and Estimated Long-Term Bioerosion Rates
by *S. purpuratus***

	Type of rock Average bioerosion (grams per urchin per year)	Time to form pit (years)	Population bioerosion (tons per hectare per year)
Granite	0.88	147.5	2.9
Mudstone	2.73	143.2	4.2
Sandstone (medium grain)	32.4	4.5	199.1
Sandstone (fine grain)	4.78	31.9	29.4

Adapted from Michael P. Russell, Victoria K. Gibbs, and Emily Duwan, "Bioerosion by Pit-Forming, Temperate-Reef Sea Urchins: History, Rates and Broader Implications." ©2018 by Michael P. Russell, Victoria K. Gibbs, and Emily Duwan.

30

Which choice most accurately represents the information in the table?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) 31.9
- C) 4.78
- D) 2.73

31

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Because
- C) Even if
- D) DELETE the underlined portion, adjusting the capitalization as needed.

32

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) 4.2 tons of mudstone
- C) 29.4 tons of fine-grain sandstone
- D) 199.1 tons of medium-grain sandstone

Russell's research presents a convincing argument that **33** purple sea urchins are responsible for substantial bioerosion. The high amounts of sediment produced by this bioerosion can adversely affect aquatic life. For example, excess sediment can become suspended in water and smother fish eggs, lowering hatch rates. Such sediment can also block light from penetrating the water, which changes the depth at which aquatic plants can live, detrimentally affecting the entire ecosystem. Additional research is required to better understand the long-term effects of this urchin behavior.

33

Which choice provides the best transition from the previous paragraph to this one?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) granite is more resistant to urchin bioerosion than other types of rock are.
- C) any individual urchin is only responsible for a small amount of bioerosion.
- D) it would take longer than a typical urchin's lifetime to form a pit in mudstone.

Questions 34-44 are based on the following passage.

Black Panther's Formula

In February 2018—after viewing its trailer millions of times, buying advance tickets for it in record-setting numbers, and tweeting about it more than any other movie in history— **34** the superhero blockbuster Black Panther was watched by moviegoers in packed theaters around the world. Telling the story of T'Challa, the titular hero and heir to the throne of the fictional African nation of Wakanda, Black Panther became a cultural phenomenon and a commercial success, earning more than one billion dollars at the box office, one of the largest grosses of all time.

Critics lauded the film's predominantly Black **35** cast its director, Ryan Coogler; its Kendrick Lamar-produced soundtrack; and its Afrofuturist aesthetic. Nevertheless, couched within their praise, a few critics noted that **36** the villain is more compelling than the hero, which is rare for the superhero genre. For instance, National Public Radio's Glen Weldon claimed that Black Panther dutifully checks the "Hero Fights Evil Version of Himself box," one of the genre's most-used narrative devices. Weldon is correct: many of the films in the Marvel Cinematic Universe—the franchise of superhero films to which Black Panther belongs—feature such battles. In Iron Man, The Incredible Hulk, Thor, Captain America, Ant-Man, and Doctor Strange (to name a few), the heroes confront villains who mirror their superpowers.

34

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) theaters around the world were packed with moviegoers watching the superhero blockbuster Black Panther.
- C) moviegoers packed theaters around the world to watch the superhero blockbuster Black Panther.
- D) around the world, the superhero blockbuster Black Panther was watched by moviegoers in packed theaters.

35

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) cast:
- C) cast,
- D) cast;

36

Which choice most effectively establishes the main idea of the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Black Panther is more explicitly political than many films in
- C) the computer-generated imagery in the film is unrealistic at some points, though this is a common complaint about
- D) the film employs many of the well-worn tropes of

Black Panther is no different. Both T'Challa and his nemesis, Erik "Killmonger" Stevens, are empowered **37** by a tradition (a ritual involving a fictitious heart-shaped herb), a technology (a suit made from the mythical metal vibranium), and a throne (a claim to Wakanda's crown).

[1] Superhero films—the best ones, at **38** least ruminate on the nature of power and responsibility, and the hero-versus-evil-counterpart formula **39** had been a means to facilitate such contemplation. [2] The striking similarities between T'Challa and Killmonger **40** really show that those guys aren't the same in their attitudes toward their powers.

37

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) on
- C) for
- D) in

38

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) least, ruminate
- C) least ruminate—
- D) least—ruminate

39

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) was
- C) is
- D) will be

40

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) emphasize the profound differences
- C) help us viewers see just how different they are
- D) are like a giant, brilliant spotlight that illuminates the contrast

[3] At the start of the film, T'Challa believes that he must use his powers to keep Wakanda safe from the turmoil of the outside world; Killmonger, on the other hand, seeks to use his, along with Wakanda's vast resources, to **41** revise centuries of injustice, even if that means subjugating the world in the process. **42**

41

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) tailor
- C) rectify
- D) alter

42

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

Still, it would be a mistake to dismiss Black Panther as formulaic.

The best placement for the sentence is

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

The collision between T'Challa and Killmonger is more than a physical duel: it is a philosophical debate rendered concrete, with **43** protagonists becoming perspectives. Far from being an artistic flaw, then, this formula foregrounds Black Panther's conversation about power, leading commentators like Slate's Jamelle Bouie to conclude, **44** "Of course, Black Panther isn't a political thriller."

43

Which choice best elaborates on the idea presented earlier in the sentence?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) attitudes becoming abstractions.
- C) identities becoming ideas.
- D) concepts becoming characters.

44

Which quotation from Bouie best concludes the passage?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) "It isn't just great for what it is. It's great for what it says."
- C) "Black Panther is unmistakably a film from Marvel Studios."
- D) "There are no mouthpieces speaking on behalf of the writers."

STOP

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