

## Writing and Language Test

35 MINUTES, 44 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 2 of your answers 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.

#### Peanut Power

Polystyrene packing peanuts—thousands of them. That's what surrounded members of a Purdue University research team, led by chemical engineering professor Vilas G. Pol, after they had finished unpacking new equipment for a laboratory facility. Packing peanuts are a standard part of shipments, **1** as their cushiony material ensures that items, such as glassware, are not damaged in transit. Because most curbside recycling services will not collect packing peanuts, less than 10 percent of them are recycled per year, and millions of

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) as their cushiony material ensures that items that are shipped,
- C) which are commonly used because their cushiony material ensures that items,
- D) as their cushiony material guarantees and ensures that items,

CONTINUE

tons end up in landfills, where they take years to decay.

Pol and his team were hesitant to discard the packing peanuts and contribute to this history of waste. **2** Thus, more curbside recycling services should consider accepting packing peanuts.

Pol and his team determined that the peanuts were composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. They knew that reusable lithium-ion batteries, which are commonly used to power electronic devices, employ anodes made of carbon. A battery's anode attracts and stores ions—atoms bearing an electrical charge—when the battery is charging and releases the ions to generate electricity. By heating the peanuts and a catalyst to 1,100 °F for several hours in the presence of argon (an inert gas commonly found in Earth's atmosphere), **3** the carbon was isolated from the hydrogen and oxygen, which were released in the form of harmless water vapor. Further heating resulted in extremely thin microsheets of **4** carbon, that could be made into battery anodes.

2

Which choice best sets up the information that follows in the next paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Hence, many environmental scientists have sought to address this waste-management problem.
- C) As a result, the abundance of packing peanuts in today's landfills is cause for alarm.
- D) Instead, they resolved to use their chemical expertise to devise a solution.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Pol and his team were able to isolate the carbon
- C) the resulting chemical reaction isolated the carbon
- D) isolation of carbon was achieved

4

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) carbon—
- C) carbon
- D) carbon;

5 The vaporization process that separated the carbon from the hydrogen and oxygen left the surfaces of the carbon microsheets uneven and porous. According to Pol, openings in the surface made the anodes' absorption of ions more efficient; 6 on the other hand, the batteries charged faster. In addition, the anodes retained about 13 percent more 7 of them than do conventional 8 anodes which meant that the batteries could provide more electricity before needing to be recharged than conventional batteries can.

5

Which choice best sets up the main topic of the paragraph?

- A) Further research will be necessary to determine all the potential applications of Pol's method.
- B) The team presented its findings at the American Chemical Society's 2015 national meeting.
- C) The anodes of conventional lithium-ion batteries are usually made from graphite.
- D) The anodes produced by Pol and his team proved remarkably effective.

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) likewise,
- C) as a result,
- D) by the same token,

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) of these
- C) ions
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

8

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) anodes; meaning
- C) anodes and this meant
- D) anodes, this meant

**CONTINUE** 

The process **9** as for recycling packing peanuts that Pol and his team developed is not all that complicated: it requires less time and energy than the **10** humdrum method of making lithium-ion batteries, which uses carbon in the form of graphite. Sherine Obare, a professor of chemistry at Western Michigan University familiar with the team's research, noted that Pol's method could be used to successfully recycle other polystyrene-based materials. This additional benefit attests to the future promise of the work being done in Pol's lab. **11** In fact, the process that Pol and his team devised would take several days fewer than the process currently used to make anodes for lithium-ion batteries.

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) for recycling
- C) in order to recycle
- D) from recycling

10

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) exemplary
- C) standard
- D) run-of-the-mill

11

Which choice provides the most effective conclusion for the passage?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Thus, lithium-ion batteries are more effective than the lithium batteries that preceded them.
- C) Furthermore, other researchers are experimenting with burning packing peanuts in order to use their heat to generate energy, a process known as thermal recycling
- D) For now, Pol and his team hope that this process will be widely adopted and will turn a ubiquitous waste product into a useful household item.

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

**The King of Daredevil Comedy**

In 1922, silent-film actor and director Harold Lloyd was walking in downtown Los Angeles when he saw an unusual sight: a man climbing up the outside of a tall office building. A crowd was gathered, mesmerized by the spectacle. Lloyd **12** watched nervously until the climber, a daredevil named Bill Strother, made it to safety. **13** Having already made a few films in the vein of “thrill comedy,” **14** the event inspired Lloyd to create his most daring film yet, and he invited Strother to be involved. The result was *Safety Last!*, the most famous movie of Lloyd’s career and a marvel of creative filming.

12

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) had watched
- C) watches
- D) has watched

13

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

[ *existing sentence* ]

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it explains why Lloyd was nervous while watching Strother.
- B) Yes, because it makes a point that is elaborated on in the next sentence.
- C) No, because it contradicts a point made in the previous sentence.
- D) No, because it diverts the focus of the paragraph from Strother to the audience.

14

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Lloyd was inspired
- C) it was Lloyd’s inspiration
- D) its inspiration led Lloyd

CONTINUE

In the final scene of the movie, Lloyd's **15** character; a department store worker trying to impress his girlfriend—must climb the outside of a twelve-story building. Because modern-day composite filming techniques such as blue screen did not yet exist, let alone computer-generated special effects, Lloyd had to be creative with his stunts. He used a full-scale replica of two floors of Los Angeles's International Savings Building and set **16** them on the roofs of progressively taller buildings: **17** that is, he placed the replica on a platform atop a two-story building, then a seven-story building, then a thirteen-story building. The **18** hoax allowed Lloyd to climb only a few stories at a time while always perpetuating the illusion that he was climbing several stories higher.

15

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) character, a department store worker trying to impress his girlfriend,
- C) character, a department store worker trying to impress his girlfriend;
- D) character—a department store worker trying to impress his girlfriend

16

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) those
- C) these
- D) it

17

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) however,
- C) furthermore,
- D) instead,

18

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) trick
- C) cheat
- D) swindle

19 Lloyd was not the only silent-film actor to attempt such risky stunts. Rather than using fake backdrops or projections, he insisted on a real city background. The camera angles in the climbing shots are 20 focused very precisely, cutting out the platform and the rooftop of the lower building but showing views of the street and other buildings in the distance. For the long shots, Lloyd used footage that Strother filmed during his own climbs, adding to the illusion that the character really was 21 clenching the side of a skyscraper.

19

Which choice best introduces the topic of the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The building where Lloyd filmed much of *Safety Last!* was at the top of a hill, making it seem especially tall.
- C) For publicity, Lloyd's character in *Safety Last!* scales the side of the store where he works.
- D) Lloyd was committed to making the stunt look as realistic as possible.

20

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) focused, very precisely,
- C) focused very precisely
- D) focused; very precisely

21

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) embracing
- C) clinging to
- D) adhering to

CONTINUE

Lloyd, a comedian as well as a stunt performer, used the dangerous climb as an avenue for comedy. Each stop along the building presents perils for Lloyd's character: a mouse running up his leg, a net tangling around him, a disorienting camera flash, a flimsy clock face. **22** To that end, Lloyd does not fall from the building, but he does succeed in keeping the audience both in stitches and on the edge of their seats. The actor and director Orson Welles said of the climbing sequence, "As a piece of comic architecture, it's impeccable." Audiences had never before seen such a daring stunt on film, and when *Safety Last!* opened to wide acclaim on April Fools' Day in 1923, Lloyd earned the nickname "the King of Daredevil Comedy."

22

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Of course,
- C) Otherwise,
- D) Thus,



Questions 23-33 are based on the following passage.

### Give Art a Sporting Chance

Pierre de Coubertin, the French founder of the modern Olympic Games, was a proponent of Olympism—a philosophy of life that celebrates the mind as well as the body, the arts as well as athletics. To Coubertin, this philosophy had best been embodied in the ancient Greek competitions, which prominently featured artists as both performers and commentators. Determined to bring the ideal of Olympism to the modern games, Coubertin incorporated into the 1912 Olympics an arts competition called the Pentathlon of the Muses. **23** The Olympic decathlon, a series of ten track and field events, was also introduced in 1912.

Coubertin's pentathlon, which awarded Olympic medals for achievements in architecture, literature, music, painting, and sculpture, **24** and which was a part of every Olympic Games until 1948. Regrettably, these competitions ceased, due to a technicality: professional athletes were **25** prohibited from competing in the Olympic Games, and it was argued that professional artists (in other words, any artist who had ever sold a painting or sung for money) should be ineligible as well. **26** Coubertin himself won a gold medal in literature in 1912.

23

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

- A) Kept, because it sets up the information that follows in the next paragraph.
- B) Kept, because it offers an important clue as to the origin of the term "pentathlon."
- C) Deleted, because it mentions information that lacks relevance to the main topic of the passage.
- D) Deleted, because it does not indicate who was responsible for introducing the decathlon.

24

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

25

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) prohibitive of competition
- C) to be prohibited to compete
- D) being prohibited to competition

26

Which choice provides the most effective conclusion to the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Some wonder whether this chapter in the history of the Olympic Games deserves more attention.
- C) Lacking eligible participants, the Pentathlon of the Muses was discontinued.
- D) Still, the participation of artists in the first modern Olympic arts competition was minimal.

CONTINUE

[1] Although the ban against professionals competing in athletics has long since been **27** rescinded, and the International Olympic Committee (IOC)'s attempts to restore the arts competition **28** has been tepid at best. [2] In 2000, the IOC instituted a Sport and Art Contest to "foster an active synergy between the worlds of art and sport." [3] One commentator noted that the exhibition of winning entries "had the feel of little more than a photo contest at the local library." [4] Take the example of *Omnipotent Triumph*, a 2012 prizewinning work of sculpture by US artist Martin Linson. [5] Representing a Paralympic athlete triumphantly crossing the finish line, the sculpture **29** is a relatively small work made of bronze;

27

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) rescinded; yet,
- C) rescinded; thus,
- D) rescinded,

28

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) have been
- C) is being
- D) was

29

The writer wants to suggest that the sculpture was consistent with the philosophy of Olympism. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) evocatively fuses athletic and artistic achievement;
- C) memorably reflects Linson's distinctive approach to representing human anatomy;
- D) shows the athlete making the victory sign with his arms;

however, the lack of publicity about the competition **30** consigned Linson's work to virtual obscurity. **31**

Reinstituting the Pentathlon of the Muses as a high-profile Olympic competition would provide valuable international exposure for artists. If artists were to receive medals during the Olympic Games just as athletes do, and if the competitions were broadcast to the estimated four billion viewers tuning in worldwide, talented artists such as Linson **32** were reaching a much broader audience. The effect on artists would be considerable, but the greatest change would be the effect on viewers. Much as the Olympics' athletic competitions have inspired people around the world to **33** embrace sport and exercise, reinvigorated artistic competitions could promote enthusiasm for artistic achievements and restore Coubertin's ideal.

30

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) consigned and then relegated Linson's work
- C) consigned the sculpture by Linson—since not many people had heard about it—
- D) led

31

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

[ *missing sentence* ]

The sentence would most logically be placed after

- A) sentence 1.
- B) sentence 2.
- C) sentence 3.
- D) sentence 4.

32

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) had reached
- C) will reach
- D) would reach

33

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) envelop
- C) encompass
- D) admit

CONTINUE

Questions 34–44 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

### Finding Meaning at the Zoo

For most zookeepers, the highlight of the workday is the time they spend interacting with animals. **34** Besides, zookeepers spend much of their time performing activities that do not involve contact with animals: cleaning cages, preparing food, and **35** they also conduct educational programs, to name a few. Still, most zookeepers report very high levels of job satisfaction. A major reason for their enthusiasm is that they regard zookeeping not just as a job but also as an expression of their identity and values.

34

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) As a result,
- C) In other words,
- D) However,

35

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) the conducting of
- C) conducting
- D) conduct

People who become zookeepers typically exhibit an early concern for animals. Before beginning their careers, many volunteer at animal shelters or veterinary clinics and then attend college to obtain a degree in zookeeping or a related field such as biology or ecology. **36** Most zookeepers identify closely with their profession and consider their work morally important. These findings about zookeepers are demonstrated in a study by business professors J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson. Bunderson and Thompson asked 982 zookeepers from 157 different zoos to respond to statements about their work using a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 signifying that the respondent strongly disagreed with the proposition and 7 that he or she strongly agreed. When presented with statements asserting that their personal identity is based on their profession, such as “The animal keeping profession’s successes are my successes,” zookeepers gave numerical responses averaging 5.21.

**37** Moreover, the average response did not reach 7 for

36

Which choice most effectively combines the underlined sentences?

- A) Two findings about zookeepers, which are that most identify closely with their profession and consider their work morally important, are demonstrated in a study by business professors J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson.
- B) A study by business professors J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson a study that focused on zookeepers, demonstrates that most zookeepers identify closely with their profession and consider their work morally important.
- C) As a study by business professors J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson demonstrates, most zookeepers identify closely with their profession and consider their work morally important.
- D) Most zookeepers, found in a study by business professors J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson to identify closely with their profession, also consider their work morally important.

37

Which choice most effectively uses information from the table to support a main finding of Bunderson and Thompson’s study?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) The agreement rating for statements about occupational importance was lower than that for statements about work meaningfulness.
- C) Similarly, they expressed high levels of agreement with statements about their moral duty to do a good job, with responses averaging 5.49.
- D) Furthermore, their sense of duty to the zoo was only slightly greater than their willingness to sacrifice on its behalf—a difference of just 0.15.

**CONTINUE**

any category. The experience of Meghan **38** Nemes a zookeeper at Capron Park Zoo in Attleboro, Massachusetts, shows how seriously zookeepers take their work. “When my animal gets stressed, I get stressed,” she says. This leads her to think constantly about how she can make the **39** animals’ lives easier.

Zookeepers’ Agreement Ratings of  
Statements about Their Occupation

Statement category	Mean rating
Occupational identification	5.21
Moral duty	5.49
Occupational importance	5.45
Work meaning fullness	5.82
Perceived duty to organization	5.67
Willingness to sacrifice	5.52

Adapted from J. Stuart Bunderson and Jeffery Thompson, “The Call of the Wild: Zookeepers, Callings, and the Double-Edged Sword of Deeply Meaningful Work.” ©2009 by Johnson Graduate School, Cornell University

38

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

39

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) animals’ live’s
- C) animal’s lives’
- D) animals lives

The wholehearted commitment of zookeepers to their profession can lead them to make sacrifices. In their study, Bunderson and Thompson gauged zookeepers' willingness to give up free time to perform important tasks at the zoo without additional pay; the responses, which averaged **40** 5.82, showed a widespread willingness to sacrifice for the job. Siobhán McCann, another zookeeper at Capron Park Zoo, exemplifies this **41** disposition, she says she is comfortable working weekends and holidays to care for the zoo's animals.

**42** On top of interacting with the zoo's visitors, zookeepers perform physically demanding tasks and often

40

Which choice provides accurate information from the table?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) 5.45,
- C) 5.49,
- D) 5.52,

41

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) disposition; she says,
- C) disposition, she says,
- D) disposition: she says

42

Which choice provides the most effective transition from the previous paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) In addition to working long and unusual hours,
- C) Though they enjoy many aspects of their jobs,
- D) Despite working with many types of animals,

CONTINUE

accept pay that is low **43** relative to their educational achievements. Yet for many, a love of animals and a commitment to animal conservation **44** makes these sacrifices not just tolerable but meaningful.

43

Which choice is most consistent with the style of the passage as a whole?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) even when they are super educated.
- C) despite their having a whole bunch of education.
- D) when compared with their attainments of an educational nature.

44

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) make
- C) is making
- D) has made

**STOP**

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