Chimps and children, gulls and Greeks—the ethnologists go their merry way, comparing bits of human cultural behavior with bits of genetically programmed animal behavior. True, humans are animals; they share certain anatomical features with other animals, and some items of human behavior may seem analogous to the behavior of other animals. But such analogies can seriously mislead if we fail to look at the context of a particular item of behavior. Thus one ethnologist compares the presentation of a twig by a cormorant with gift-giving in humans. Yet the cormorant's twig-presentation simply inhibits attack and is comparable to other appeasement rituals found in many species. Human gift-giving differs in form and purpose not only from culture to culture, but within the same culture in various social contexts. Everything significant about it derives from its social context. Thus, ethnologists can accomplish little—beyond reminding us that we are animals—until they study humans as cultural beings.

#### 1. The author is primarily concerned with

- (A) demonstrating the usefulness of ethnology in discovering the behavioral limits within which humans operate
- (B) objecting to the degradation of humanity implicit in the ethnologists equation of humans and animals
- (C) pointing out the dangers inherent in comparing highly dissimilar species, such as humans and cormorants, rather than similar ones, such as humans and apes
- (D) refuting the idea that the appeasement rituals in human cultural behavior can be profitably subjected to ethological analysis
- (E) arguing that the ethnologists' assumption that human behavior can straightforwardly compared with animal behavior is invalid

#### 2. The author believes that gift-giving in humans

- (A) is instinctive behavior
- (B) is analogous to appeasement rituals in other animals
- (C) is not an appropriate subject of study for ethnologists
- (D) must be considered within its social context to be properly understood
- (E) may be a cultural remnant of behavior originally designed to inhibit attack
- 3. The author's attitude toward contemporary ethnologists can best be described as
  - (A) puzzled (B) conciliatory (C) defensive (D) amused (E) disparaging

Practically speaking, the artistic maturing of the cinema was the single-handed achievement of David W. Griffith (1875-1948). Before Griffith, photography in dramatic films consisted of little more than placing the actors before a stationary camera and showing them in full length as they would have appeared on stage. From the beginning of his career as a director, however, Griffith, because of his love of Victorian painting, employed composition. He conceived of the camera image as having a foreground and a rear ground, as well as the middle distance preferred by most directors. By 1910 he was using close-ups to reveal significant details of the

scene or of the acting and extreme long shots to achieve a sense of spectacle and distance. His appreciation of the camera's possibilities produced novel dramatic effects. By splitting an event into fragments and recording each from the most suitable camera position, he could significantly vary the emphasis from camera shot to camera shot.

Griffith also achieved dramatic effects by means of creative editing. By juxtaposing images and varying the speed and rhythm of their presentation, he could control the dramatic intensity of the events as the story progressed. Despite the reluctance of his producers, who feared that the public would not be able to follow a plot that was made up of such juxtaposed images, Griffith persisted, and experimented as well with other elements of cinematic syntax that have become standard ever since. These included the flashback, permitting broad psychological and emotional exploration as well as narrative that was not chronological, and the crosscut between two parallel actions to heighten suspense and excitement. In thus exploiting fully the possibilities of editing, Griffith transposed devices of the Victorian novel to film and gave film mastery of time as well as space.

Besides developing the cinema's language, Griffith immensely broadened its range and treatment of subjects. His early output was remarkably eclectic: it included not only the standard comedies, melodramas, westerns, and thrillers, but also such novelties as adaptations from Browning and Tennyson, and treatments of social issues. As his successes mounted, his ambitions grew, and with them the whole of American cinema. When he remade *Enoch Arden* in 1911, he insisted that a subject of such importance could not be treated in the then conventional length of one reel. Griffith's introduction of the American-made multireel picture began an immense revolution. Two years later, *Judith of Bethulia*, an elaborate historicophilosophical spectacle, reached the unprecedented length of four reels, or one hour's running time. From our contemporary viewpoint, the pretensions of this film may seem a trifle ludicrous, but at the time it provoked endless debate and discussion and gave a new intellectual respectability to the cinema.

- 1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - (A) discuss the importance of Griffith to the development of the cinema
  - (B) describe the impact on cinema of the flashback and other editing innovations
  - (C) deplore the state of American cinema before the advent of Griffith
  - (D) analyze the changes in the cinema wrought by the introduction of the multireel film
  - (E) document Griffith's impact on the choice of subject matter in American films

# For the following question consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.

- 2. The author suggests that Griffith's film innovations had a direct effect on which of the following?
  - (A) camera work
  - (B) sound editing

### (C) directing

# For the following question consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.

- 3. The author suggests that Griffith's contributions to the cinema had which of the following results?
  - (A) Literary works, especially Victorian novels, became popular sources for film subjects.
  - (B) Audience appreciation of other film directors' experimentations with cinematic syntax was increased.
  - (C) Many of the artistic limitations thought to be inherent in filmmaking were shown to be really nonexistent.
- 4. The author's attitude toward photography in the cinema before Griffith can best be described as
  - (A) sympathetic
  - (B) nostalgic
  - (C) amused
  - (D) condescending
  - (E) hostile