**Unit 2 Review and Test**

**For each of Questions 1-4, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices.**

1. Many analysts say a weak January in the small-cap arena is a ------- of

     underperformance of the sector for the year.

(A) penury

(B) propensity

(C) liaison

(D) harbinger

(E) recluse

2. When the town’s water supply ran low during the summer drought, the

     residents received a notice that ------- them to take heed of the shortage of water

    and avoid any water-related activities that weren’t necessary.

(A) imbued

(B) precipitated

(C) implored

(D) regressed

(E) alleviated

    3. A miser hoards money not because he is endowed with -------- but because he is

         greedy.

(A) prudence

(B) sentiment

(C) aphorism

(D) zenith

(E) propensity

4. Although the film critic was (i) ------- in her conviction that sequels are

     generally inferior to their predecessors, she did not (ii) ------- as to the *The*

*Godfather* series and flatly acknowledged that *The Godfather Part II*,  was one she

    considered superior to the original.

**Blank i                                            Blank ii**

     (A) taciturn                                       (D) equivocate

     (B) irrevocable                                  (E) relinquish

     (C) obdurate                                      (F) berate

5. Psychologists define “confirmation bias” as a fallacy (i) -------- facts that

     (ii) -------- one’s previously held beliefs are emphasized and those that (iii) ---------

     are downplayed.

**Blank I                                        Blank ii                                   Blank iii**

   (A) despite                                 (D) predispose                          (G) disseminate

   (B) whereby                              (E) mesmerize                         (H) diverge

   (C) contrary to                         (F) corroborate                         (I) estrange

**For each of Questions 6- 8, select the two answer choices that when used to complete the sentence blank, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.**

6. Though Huck was quite willing to ------- Tom’s story, Aunt Polly knew better

 than to believe either of them.

(A) berate

(B) verify

(C) decry

(D) corroborate

(E) diverge

(F) equivocate

7. Jackie’s arguments for using regular-grade gasoline rather than high test were

     particularly -------, to the tune of 42 cents per gallon.

(A) ubiquitous

(B) abstemious

(C) convincing

(D) widespread

(E) cogent

(F) illicit

8. As Natalie Tyler says, “Jane Austen is the one person whose insights about

     yourself you would most fear because you realize that her perceptions are

     penetrating, -------, and piercingly accurate.”

(A) dormant

(B) sagacious

(C) inactive

(D) impeccable

(E) reprehensible

(F) perspicacious

**Question 9 is based on this passage.**

The earth’s resources are being depleted much too fast. To correct this, the United States must keep its resource consumption at present levels for many years to come.

9. **The argument above depends on which of the following assumptions?**

(A) Per capita resource consumption in the United States is at an all-time high.

(B) The United States wastes resources.

(C) The United States uses more resources than any other country.

(D) The United States imports most of the resources it uses.

(E) Curbing U.S. resource consumption will significantly retard world resource

       depletion.

**Question 10 is based on this passage.**

The burden of maintaining the U.S. highway system falls disproportionately on

 the trucking industry. Trucks represent only about 10 percent of the vehicles on

U.S. roads. Yet road use taxes assessed on trucks amount to almost half the taxes

paid for highway upkeep and repair.

10. **Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument**

**above?**

(A) The trucking industry has enjoyed record after-tax profits in three of the past

       four years.

(B) Because of their weight, trucks cause over 50 percent of the damage sustained by

      highway surfaces each year.

(C) Without an economically viable trucking industry, the cost of goods in the

       United States would rise significantly.

(D) Road use taxes paid by trucking companies have decreased by 3 percent over the

      past five years.

(E) Due to years of neglect, U.S. highways today are badly in need of major repairs

       and rebuilding.

**Question 11 is based on this passage.**

No nation can long survive unless its people are united by a common tongue. For

proof, we need only consider Canada, which is being torn asunder by conflicts

between French-speaking Quebec and the other provinces, which are dominated

by English speakers.

11. **Which of the following, if true, most effectively challenges the author’s**

**conclusion?**

 (A) Conflicts over language have led to violent clashes between the Basque-speaking

        minority in Spain and the Spanish-speaking majority.

(B) Proposals to declare English the official language of the United States have met

      with resistance from members of Hispanic and other minority groups.

(C) Economic and political differences, along with linguistic ones, have contributed

       to the provincial conflicts in Canada.

(D) The public of India, in existence sine 1948, has a population that speaks

       hundreds of different, though related, languages.

(E) Switzerland has survived for nearly a thousand years as a home for speakers of

       three different languages.

**Questions 12-14 are based on this passage.**

        One of the questions of interest in the study of the evolution of spiders is whether the weaving of orb webs evolved only once or several times. About half the 35,000 known kinds of spiders make webs; a third of the web weavers make orb webs. Since most orb weavers belong either to the Araneidae or the Uloboridae families, the origin of the orb web can be determined only by ascertaining whether the families are related.

       Recent taxonomic analysis of individuals from both families indicates that the families evolved from different ancestors, thereby contradicting Wiehle’s theory. This theory postulates that the families must be related, based on the assumption that complex behavior, such as web building, could evolve only once. According to Kullman, web structure is the only characteristic that suggests a relationship between families. The families differ in appearance, structure of body hair, and arrangement of eyes. Only Uloborids lack venom glands. Further identification and study of characteristic features will undoubtedly answer the question of the evolution of the orb web.

12.   The primary purpose of the passage is to

(A) settle the question of whether orb webs evolved once or more than once

(B) describe scientific speculation concerning an issue related to the evolution of orb

       webs

(C) analyze the differences between the characteristic features of spiders in the

       Araneidae and Uloboridae families

(D) question the methods used by earlier investigators of the habits of spiders

(E) demonstrate that Araneidae spiders are not related to Uloboridae spiders

**For the following question consider each of the choices separately and**

**select all that apply.**

13.  According to the passage, members of the Araneidae family are similar to

        members of the Uloboridae family in which of the following ways?

(A) The presence of venom glands

(B) The type of web they spin

(C) The structure of their body hair

14.   Which of the following statements, if true, most weakens Wiehle’s theory that

         complex behavior could evolve only once?

(A) Horses, introduced to the New World by the Spaniards, thrived under diverse

       climatic conditions.

(B) Plants of the Palmaceae family, descendants of a common ancestor, evolved

       unique seed forms even though the plants occupy similar habitats throughout

       the world.

(C) All mammals are descended from a small, rodentlike animal whose physical

       characteristics in some form are found in all its descendants.

(D) Plants in the Cactaceae and Euphorbiaceae families, although they often look

      alike and have developed similar mechanisms to meet the rigors of the desert,

      evolved independently.

(E) The Cuban anole, which was recently introduced in the Florida wilds, is quickly

       replacing the native Florida chameleon because the anole has no competitors.

**Questions 15-18 are based on this passage.**

        In an attempt to improve the overall performance of clerical workers, many companies have introduced computerized performance monitoring and control systems (CPMCS) that record and report a worker’s computer-driven activities. However, at least one study has shown that such monitoring may not be having the desired effect. In the study, researchers asked monitored clerical workers and their supervisors how assessments of productivity affected supervisors’ ratings of workers’ performance. In contrast to unmonitored workers doing the same work, who without exception identified the most important element in their jobs as customer service, the monitored workers and their supervisors all responded that productivity was the critical factor in assigning ratings. This finding suggested that there should have been a strong correlation between a monitored worker’s productivity and the overall rating the worker received. However, measures of the relationship between overall rating and individual elements of performance clearly supported the conclusion that supervisors gave considerable weight to criteria such as attendance, accuracy, and indications of customer satisfaction.

       It is possible that productivity may be a “hygiene factor,” that is, if it is too low, it will hurt the overall rating. But the evidence suggests that beyond the point at which productivity becomes “good enough,” higher productivity per se is unlikely to improve a rating.

15.   According to the passage, before the final results of the study were known,

         which of the following seemed likely?

(A) That workers with the highest productivity would also be the most accurate

(B) That workers who initially achieved high productivity ratings would continue to

       do so consistently

(C) That the highest performance ratings would be achieved by workers with the

       highest productivity

(D) That the most productive workers would be those whose supervisors claimed to

        value productivity

(E) That supervisors who claimed to value productivity would place equal value on

       customer satisfaction

16.   Which of the following, if true, would most clearly have supported the

          conclusion referred to in the last two lines of paragraph 1?

(A) Ratings of productivity correlated highly with ratings of both accuracy and

       attendance.

(B) Electronic monitoring greatly increased productivity.

(C) Most supervisors based overall ratings of performance on measures of

       productivity alone.

(D) Overall ratings of performance correlated more highly with measures of

       productivity than the researchers expected.

(E) Overall ratings of performance correlated more highly with measures of

       accuracy than with measures of productivity.

17.   According to the passage, a “hygiene factor” (paragraph 2) is an aspect of a

          worker’s performance that

(A) has no effect on the rating of a worker’s performance

(B) is so basic to performance that it is assumed to be adequate for all workers

(C) is given less importance than it deserves in rating a worker’s performance

(D) is not likely to affect a worker’s rating unless it is judged to be inadequate

(E) is important primarily because of the effect it has on a worker’s rating

18.   The primary purpose of the passage is to

(A) explain the need for the introduction of an innovative strategy

(B) discuss a study of the use of a particular method

(C) recommend a course of action

(D) resolved a difference of opinion

(E) suggest an alternative approach

**Answer key:** 1. D     2. C   3.A       4. C/D      5. B/F/H       6. B/D     7. C/E    8.B/F     9. E

                          10.B     11. E     12. B       13. B      14. D     15. C    16. E

                         17. D           18. B