

**SECTION 3**  
**Verbal Reasoning**  
**Time—35 minutes**  
**25 Questions**

For each of Questions 1 to 4, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the following reading passage.

Whether the languages of the ancient American peoples were used for expressing abstract universal concepts can be clearly answered in the case of Nahuatl. Nahuatl, like Greek and German, is a language that allows the formation of extensive compounds. By the combination of radicals or semantic elements, single compound words can express complex conceptual relations, often of an abstract universal character.

The *tlamatinime* (those who know) were able to use this rich stock of abstract terms to express the nuances of their thought. They also availed themselves of other forms of expression with metaphorical meaning, some probably original, some derived from Toltec coinages. Of these forms, the most characteristic in Nahuatl is the juxtaposition of two words that, because they are synonyms, associated terms, or even contraries, complement each other to evoke one single idea. Used metaphorically, the juxtaposed terms connote specific or essential traits of the being they refer to, introducing a mode of poetry as an almost habitual form of expression.

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

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage regarding present-day research relating to Nahuatl?
  - ☐ A Some record or evidence of the thought of the *tlamatinime* is available.
  - ☐ B For at least some Nahuatl expressions, researchers are able to trace their derivation from another ancient American language.
  - ☐ C Researchers believe that in Nahuatl, abstract universal concepts are always expressed metaphorically.
2. Select the sentence in the passage in which the author introduces a specific Nahuatl mode of expression that is not identified as being shared with certain European languages.
3. In the context in which it appears, "coinages" (line 9) most nearly means
  - ☐ A adaptations
  - ☐ B creations
  - ☐ C idiosyncrasies
  - ☐ D pronunciations
  - ☐ E currencies

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Question 4 is based on the following reading passage.

At a certain period in Earth's history, its atmosphere contained almost no oxygen, although plants were producing vast quantities of oxygen. As a way of reconciling these two facts, scientists have hypothesized that nearly all of the oxygen being produced was taken up by iron on Earth's surface. Clearly, however, **this explanation is inadequate**. New studies show that **the amount of iron on Earth's surface was not sufficient to absorb anywhere near as much oxygen as was being produced**. Therefore, something in addition to the iron on Earth's surface must have absorbed much of the oxygen produced by plant life.

4. In the argument given, the two portions in **boldface** play which of the following roles?
- (A) The first is a claim made by the argument in support of a certain position; the second is that position.
  - (B) The first is a judgment made by the argument about a certain explanation; the second is that explanation.
  - (C) The first expresses the argument's dismissal of an objection to the position it seeks to establish; the second is that position.
  - (D) The first sums up the argument's position with regard to a certain hypothesis; the second provides grounds for that position.
  - (E) The first is a concession by the argument that its initial formulation of the position it seeks to establish requires modification; the second presents that position in a modified form.

For Questions 5 to 8, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

5. In her later years, Bertha Pappenheim was an apostle of noble but already (i) \_\_\_\_\_ notions, always respected for her integrity, her energy, and her resolve but increasingly out of step and ultimately (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ even her own organization.

Blank (i)

- |                   |
|-------------------|
| (A) anachronistic |
| (B) accepted      |
| (C) exotic        |

Blank (ii)

- |                    |
|--------------------|
| (D) emulated by    |
| (E) appreciated by |
| (F) alienated from |

6. The reception given to Kimura's radical theory of molecular evolution shows that when \_\_\_\_\_ fights orthodoxy to a draw, then novelty has seized a good chunk of space from convention.

- |               |
|---------------|
| (A) imitation |
| (B) reaction  |
| (C) dogmatism |
| (D) invention |
| (E) caution   |

7. The (i)\_\_\_\_\_ of Vladimir Nabokov as one of North America's literary giants has thrown the spotlight on his peripheral activities and has thus served to (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ his efforts as an amateur entomologist.

Blank (i)

<input type="radio"/> (A) stigmatization
<input type="radio"/> (B) lionization
<input type="radio"/> (C) marginalization

Blank (ii)

<input type="radio"/> (D) foreground
<input type="radio"/> (E) transcend
<input type="radio"/> (F) obscure

8. Mathematicians have a distinctive sense of beauty: they strive to present their ideas and results in a clear and compelling fashion, dictated by \_\_\_\_\_ as well as by logic.

<input type="radio"/> (A) caprice
<input type="radio"/> (B) aesthetics
<input type="radio"/> (C) obligation
<input type="radio"/> (D) methodologies
<input type="radio"/> (E) intellect

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For each of Questions 9 to 13, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

Questions 9 to 12 are based on the following reading passage.

Animal signals, such as the complex songs of birds, tend to be costly. A bird, by singing, may forfeit time that could otherwise be spent on other important behaviors such as foraging or resting. Singing may also advertise an individual's location to rivals or predators and impair the ability to detect their approach. Although these types of cost may be important, discussions of the cost of singing have generally focused on energy costs. Overall the evidence is equivocal: for instance, while Eberhardt found increases in energy consumption during singing for Carolina wrens, Chappell found no effect of crowing on energy consumption in roosters.

To obtain empirical data regarding the energy costs of singing, Thomas examined the relationship between song rate and overnight changes in body mass of male nightingales. Birds store energy as subcutaneous fat deposits or "body reserves"; changes in these reserves can be reliably estimated by measuring changes in body mass. If singing has important energy costs, nightingales should lose more body mass on nights when their song rate is high. Thomas found that nightingales reached a significantly higher body mass at dusk and lost more mass overnight on nights when their song rate was high.

These results suggest that there may be several costs of singing at night associated with body reserves. The increased metabolic cost of possessing higher body mass contributes to the increased overnight mass loss. The strategic regulation of evening body reserves is also likely to incur additional costs, as nightingales must spend more time foraging in order to build up larger body reserves. The metabolic cost of singing itself may also contribute to increased loss of reserves. This metabolic cost may arise from the muscular and neural activity involved in singing or from behaviors associated with singing. For example, birds may expend more of their reserves on thermoregulation if they spend the night exposed to the wind on a song post than if they are in a sheltered roost site. Thomas's data therefore show that whether or not singing per se has an important metabolic cost, metabolic costs associated with singing can have an important measurable effect on a bird's daily energy budget, at least in birds with high song rates such as nightingales.

9. The primary purpose of the passage is to
- (A) compare the different types of cost involved for certain birds in singing
  - (B) question a hypothesis regarding the energy costs of singing for certain birds
  - (C) present evidence suggesting that singing has an important energy cost for certain birds
  - (D) discuss the benefits provided to an organism by a behavior that is costly in energy
  - (E) describe an experiment that supports an alternative model of how birdsong functions



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

10. The passage implies that during the day before a night on which a male nightingale's song rate is high, that nightingale probably does which of the following?
- ☐ A Expends less of its reserves on thermoregulation than on other days
  - ☐ B Stores more energy as body reserves than on other days
  - ☐ C Hides to avoid predators
11. Select the sentence in the first or second paragraph that presents empirical results in support of a hypothesis about the energy costs of singing.

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

12. It can be inferred from the passage that compared with other costs of singing, which of the following is true of the energy costs of singing?
- ☐ A They are the single greatest cost to an individual bird.
  - ☐ B They have generally received more attention from scientists.
  - ☐ C They vary less from one bird species to another.

**Question 13 is based on the following reading passage.**

In the past ten years, there have been several improvements in mountain-climbing equipment. These improvements have made the sport both safer and more enjoyable for experienced climbers. Despite these improvements, however, the rate of mountain-climbing injuries has doubled in the past ten years.

13. Which of the following, if true, best reconciles the apparent discrepancy presented in the passage?
- ☐ A Many climbers, lulled into a false sense of security, use the new equipment to attempt climbing feats of which they are not capable.
  - ☐ B Some mountain-climbing injuries are caused by unforeseeable weather conditions.
  - ☐ C Mountain climbing, although a dangerous sport, does not normally result in injury to the experienced climber.
  - ☐ D In the past ten years there have been improvements in mountain-climbing techniques as well as in mountain-climbing equipment.
  - ☐ E Although the rate of mountain-climbing injuries has increased, the rate of mountain-climbing deaths has not changed.

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For Questions 14 to 17, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

14. Unenlightened authoritarian managers rarely recognize a crucial reason for the low levels of serious conflict among members of democratically run work groups: a modicum of tolerance for dissent often prevents \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) demur
(B) schism
(C) cooperation
(D) compliance
(E) shortsightedness

15. The novelist devotes so much time to vivid descriptions of his characters' clothes that the reader soon feels that such \_\_\_\_\_ concerns, although worthy of attention, have superseded any more directly literary aims.

(A) didactic
(B) syntactical
(C) irrelevant
(D) sartorial
(E) frivolous

16. Belanger dances with an (i) \_\_\_\_\_ that draws one's attention as if by seeking to (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ it; through finesse and understatement, he manages to seem at once intensely present and curiously detached.

Blank (i)

(A) undemonstrative panache
(B) unrestrained enthusiasm
(C) unattractive gawkiness

Blank (ii)

(D) focus
(E) overwhelm
(F) deflect

17. The most striking thing about the politician is how often his politics have been (i) \_\_\_\_\_ rather than ideological, as he adapts his political positions at any particular moment to the political realities that constrain him. He does not, however, piously (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ political principles only to betray them in practice. Rather, he attempts in subtle ways to balance his political self-interest with a (iii) \_\_\_\_\_, viewing himself as an instrument of some unchanging higher purpose.

Blank (i)

(A) quixotic
(B) self-righteous
(C) strategic

Blank (ii)

(D) brandish
(E) flout
(F) follow

Blank (iii)

(G) profound cynicism
(H) deeply felt moral code
(I) thoroughgoing pragmatism



For each of Questions 18 to 20, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the following reading passage.

The condition of scholarship devoted to the history of women in photography is confounding. Recent years have witnessed the posthumous inflation of the role of the hobbyist Alice Austen into that of a pioneering documentarian while dozens of notable senior figures—Marion Palfi, whose photographs of civil-rights activities in the South  
 line 5 served as early evidence of the need for protective legislation, to name one—received scant attention from scholars. And, while Naomi Rosenblum's synoptic *History of Women Photographers* covers the subject through 1920 in a generally useful fashion, once she reaches the 1920s, when the venues, forms, applications, and movements of the medium expanded exponentially, she resorts to an increasingly terse listing of un-  
 10 familiar names, with approaches and careers summarized in a sentence or two.

18. The author of the passage cites Rosenblum's book most likely in order to
- (A) suggest that the works documented most thoroughly by historians of women in photography often do not warrant that attention
  - (B) offer an explanation for the observation that not all aspects of the history of women in photography have received the same level of attention
  - (C) provide an example of a way in which scholarship on the history of women in photography has been unsatisfactory
  - (D) suggest that employing a strictly chronological approach when studying the history of women in photography may be unproductive
  - (E) provide support for the notion that certain personalities in women's photography have attained undue prominence

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

19. Which of the following statements about Marion Palfi is supported by the passage?
- (A) Marion Palfi's photographs would have received greater recognition from historians had her work been done in an era when most aspects of photography were static rather than in a state of transition.
  - (B) Alice Austen has achieved greater notoriety than has Marion Palfi primarily because the subjects that Austen photographed were more familiar to her contemporaries.
  - (C) In addition to providing a record of certain historical events, Marion Palfi's photographs played a role in subsequent events.
20. In the context in which it appears, "inflation" (line 2) most nearly means
- (A) exaggeration
  - (B) acquisition
  - (C) evaluation
  - (D) distortion
  - (E) attenuation

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For Questions 21 to 25, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.

21. The plan, which the engineers said would save the aquifer by reducing pumping to \_\_\_\_\_ levels, has passed a governmental environmental review but faces opposition from outdoor and environmental groups.
- ☐ A innocuous
  - ☐ B feasible
  - ☐ C practicable
  - ☐ D minimal
  - ☐ E remedial
  - ☐ F benign
22. Though feminist in its implications, Yvonne Rainer's 1974 film \_\_\_\_\_ the filmmaker's active involvement in feminist politics.
- ☐ A antedated
  - ☐ B cloaked
  - ☐ C portrayed
  - ☐ D preceded
  - ☐ E renewed
  - ☐ F represented
23. Congress is having great difficulty developing a consensus on energy policy, primarily because the policy objectives of various members of Congress rest on such \_\_\_\_\_ assumptions.
- ☐ A commonplace
  - ☐ B disparate
  - ☐ C divergent
  - ☐ D fundamental
  - ☐ E trite
  - ☐ F trivial



24. During the opera's most famous aria, the tempo chosen by the orchestra's conductor seemed \_\_\_\_\_, without necessary relation to what had gone before.
- ☐ A arbitrary
  - ☐ B capricious
  - ☐ C cautious
  - ☐ D compelling
  - ☐ E exacting
  - ☐ F meticulous
25. Because they had expected the spacecraft Voyager 2 to be able to gather data only about the planets Jupiter and Saturn, scientists were \_\_\_\_\_ the wealth of information it sent back from Neptune twelve years after leaving Earth.
- ☐ A anxious for
  - ☐ B confident in
  - ☐ C thrilled about
  - ☐ D keen on
  - ☐ E elated by
  - ☐ F eager for

**STOP. This is the end of Section 3.**