

SET 3. Discrete Questions: Medium

For Questions 1 to 5, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

1. It comes as no surprise that societies have codes of behavior; the character of the codes, on the other hand, can often be _____.

(A) predictable
(B) unexpected
(C) admirable
(D) explicit
(E) confusing

2. Like Béla Bartók, Ruth Crawford not only brought a composer's acumen to the notation of folk music, she also had a marked (i)_____ the task. This was clear in her agonizing over how far to try to represent the minute details of a performance in a written text, and this (ii)_____ makes her work a landmark in ethnomusicology.

Blank (i)

(A) reverence for
(B) detachment from
(C) curiosity about

Blank (ii)

(D) fastidiousness
(E) didacticism
(F) iconoclasm

3. Political advertising may well be the most (i)_____ kind of advertising: political candidates are usually quite (ii)_____, yet their campaign advertisements often hide important differences behind smoke screens of smiles and empty slogans.

Blank (i)

(A) polemical
(B) effective
(C) deceptive

Blank (ii)

(D) interchangeable
(E) dissimilar
(F) vocal

4. Richard M. Russell said 52 percent of the nation's growth since the Second World War had (i) _____ invention. He said, (ii) _____ research, the government's greatest role in assuring continuing innovation is promoting a strong, modern patent office. "Unless we can (iii) _____ original ideas, we will not have invention," Mr. Russell said. Speculating on the state of innovation over the next century, several inventors agreed that the future lay in giving children the tools to think creatively and the motivation to invent.

Blank (i)

(A) been at the expense of
(B) no bearing on
(C) come through

Blank (ii)

(D) in addition to restricting
(E) aside from supporting
(F) far from exaggerating

Blank (iii)

(G) evaluate
(H) protect
(I) disseminate

5. Statements presented as fact in a patent application are (i) _____ unless a good reason for doubt is found. The invention has only to be deemed "more likely than not" to work in order to receive initial approval. And, although thousands of patents are challenged in court for other reasons, no incentive exists for anyone to expend effort (ii) _____ the science of an erroneous patent. For this reason the endless stream of (iii) _____ devices will continue to yield occasional patents.

Blank (i)

(A) presumed verifiable
(B) carefully scrutinized
(C) considered capricious

Blank (ii)

(D) corroborating
(E) advancing
(F) debunking

Blank (iii)

(G) novel
(H) bogus
(I) obsolete

For Questions 6 to 8, 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.

6. Ever a demanding reader of the fiction of others, the novelist Chase was likewise often the object of _____ analyses by his contemporaries.
- ☐ A exacting
 - ☐ B copious
 - ☐ C respectful
 - ☐ D acerbic
 - ☐ E scathing
 - ☐ F meticulous
7. Her _____ should not be confused with miserliness; as long as I have known her, she has always been willing to assist those who are in need.
- ☐ A stinginess
 - ☐ B diffidence
 - ☐ C frugality
 - ☐ D illiberality
 - ☐ E intolerance
 - ☐ F thrift
8. A misconception frequently held by novice writers is that sentence structure mirrors thought: the more convoluted the structure, the more _____ the ideas.
- ☐ A complicated
 - ☐ B engaged
 - ☐ C essential
 - ☐ D fanciful
 - ☐ E inconsequential
 - ☐ F involved

SET 4. Reading Comprehension Questions: Medium

For each of Questions 1 to 9, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the following reading passage.

I enjoyed *A Dream of Light & Shadow: Portraits of Latin American Women Writers* for the same reasons that, as a child, I avidly consumed women's biographies: the fascination with how the biographical details of another female's life are represented and interpreted.

A Dream offers a rich read, varied in both the lives and texts of the women portrayed, and the perspectives and styles of the sixteen essayists. Yet, as an adult, I have come to demand of any really "great" book a self-consciousness about the tenuous nature of representations of reality, a critical contextualization of florid detail, and a self-awareness of the role of ideology in our lives. In these critical senses, *A Dream* is inadequate.

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

1. The author of the passage suggests that *A Dream* falls short in which of the following respects?
 - ☐ A It does not appear to recognize that representations of reality can be unreliable.
 - ☐ B It seems to focus on stylistic variety at the expense of accuracy of detail.
 - ☐ C It offers a wealth of detail without sufficient critical examination of that detail.
2. Which of the following best describes the function of the second sentence ("*A Dream* . . . essayists") in the context of the passage as a whole?
 - ☐ A To give examples of how *A Dream* presents fascinating portraits that display awareness of the tenuous nature of representations of reality
 - ☐ B To elaborate on how *A Dream* fulfills the author's childhood criteria for a pleasurable book
 - ☐ C To suggest that the author enjoyed *A Dream* for reasons more sophisticated than the reasons she enjoyed certain books as a child
 - ☐ D To illustrate ways in which the author finds *A Dream* to be inadequate in certain critical senses
 - ☐ E To imply that *A Dream* is too varied in focus to provide a proper contextualization of the biographical details it offers

3. During the day in Lake Constance, the zooplankton *D. hyalina* departs for the depths where food is scarce and the water cold. *D. galeata* remains near the warm surface where food is abundant. Even though *D. galeata* grows and reproduces much faster, its population is often outnumbered by *D. hyalina*.

Which of the following, if true, would help resolve the apparent paradox presented above?

- (A) The number of species of zooplankton living at the bottom of the lake is twice that of species living at the surface.
- (B) Predators of zooplankton, such as whitefish and perch, live and feed near the surface of the lake during the day.
- (C) In order to make the most of scarce food resources, *D. hyalina* matures more slowly than *D. galeata*.
- (D) *D. galeata* clusters under vegetation during the hottest part of the day to avoid the Sun's rays.
- (E) *D. galeata* produces twice as many offspring per individual in any given period of time as does *D. hyalina*.

Questions 4 and 5 are based on the following reading passage.

Tocqueville, apparently, was wrong. Jacksonian America was not a fluid, egalitarian society where individual wealth and poverty were ephemeral conditions. At least so argues E. Pessen in his iconoclastic study of the very rich in the United States between 1825 and 1850.

Pessen does present a quantity of examples, together with some refreshingly intelligible statistics, to establish the existence of an inordinately wealthy class. Though active in commerce or the professions, most of the wealthy were not self-made but had inherited family fortunes. In no sense mercurial, these great fortunes survived the financial panics that destroyed lesser ones. Indeed, in several cities the wealthiest one percent constantly increased its share until by 1850 it owned half of the community's wealth. Although these observations are true, Pessen overestimates their importance by concluding from them that the undoubted progress toward inequality in the late eighteenth century continued in the Jacksonian period and that the United States was a class-ridden, plutocratic society even before industrialization.

4. According to the passage, Pessen indicates that all of the following were true of the very wealthy in the United States between 1825 and 1850 EXCEPT:
- (A) They formed a distinct upper class.
 - (B) Many of them were able to increase their holdings.
 - (C) Some of them worked as professionals or in business.
 - (D) Most of them accumulated their own fortunes.
 - (E) Many of them retained their wealth in spite of financial upheavals.
5. Which of the following best states the author's main point?
- (A) Pessen's study has overturned the previously established view of the social and economic structure of early-nineteenth-century America.
 - (B) Tocqueville's analysis of the United States in the Jacksonian era remains the definitive account of this period.
 - (C) Pessen's study is valuable primarily because it shows the continuity of the social system in the United States throughout the nineteenth century.
 - (D) The social patterns and political power of the extremely wealthy in the United States between 1825 and 1850 are well documented.
 - (E) Pessen challenges a view of the social and economic systems in the United States from 1825 to 1850, but he draws conclusions that are incorrect.

Questions 6 to 9 are based on the following reading passage.

The evolution of intelligence among early large mammals of the grasslands was due in great measure to the interaction between two ecologically synchronized groups of these animals, the hunting carnivores and the herbivores that they hunted. The interaction resulting from the differences between predator and prey led to a general improvement in brain functions; however, certain components of intelligence were improved far more than others.

The kind of intelligence favored by the interplay of increasingly smarter catchers and increasingly keener escapers is defined by attention—that aspect of mind carrying consciousness forward from one moment to the next. It ranges from a passive, free-floating awareness to a highly focused, active fixation. The range through these states is mediated by the arousal system, a network of tracts converging from sensory systems to integrating centers in the brain stem. From the more relaxed to the more vigorous levels, sensitivity to novelty is increased. The organism is more awake, more vigilant; this increased vigilance results in the apprehension of ever more subtle signals as the organism becomes more sensitive to its surroundings. The processes of arousal and concentration give attention its direction. Arousal is at first general, with a flooding of impulses in the brain stem; then gradually the activation is channeled. Thus begins concentration, the holding of consistent images. One meaning of intelligence is the way in which these images and other alertly searched information are used in the context of previous experience. Consciousness links past attention to the present and permits the integration of details with perceived ends and purposes.

The elements of intelligence and consciousness come together marvelously to produce different styles in predator and prey. Herbivores and carnivores develop different kinds of attention related to escaping or chasing. Although in both kinds of animal, arousal stimulates the production of adrenaline and norepinephrine by the adrenal glands, the effect in herbivores is primarily fear, whereas in carnivores the effect is primarily aggression. For both, arousal attunes the animal to what is ahead. Perhaps it does not experience forethought as we know it, but the animal does experience something like it. The predator is searchingly aggressive, inner-directed, tuned by the nervous system and the adrenal hormones, but aware in a sense closer to human consciousness than, say, a hungry lizard's instinctive snap at a passing beetle. Using past events as a framework, the large mammal predator is working out a relationship between movement and food, sensitive to possibilities in cold trails and distant sounds—and yesterday's unforgotten lessons. The herbivore prey is of a different mind. Its mood of wariness rather than searching and its attitude of general expectancy instead of anticipating are silk-thin veils of tranquillity over an explosive endocrine system.

6. The author refers to a hungry lizard (line 31) primarily in order to
- (A) demonstrate the similarity between the hunting methods of mammals and those of nonmammals
 - (B) broaden the application of the argument by including an insectivore as an example
 - (C) make a distinction between higher and lower levels of consciousness
 - (D) provide an additional illustration of the brutality characteristic of predators
 - (E) offer an objection to suggestions that all animals lack consciousness

7. It can be inferred from the passage that in animals less intelligent than the mammals discussed in the passage
- (A) past experience is less helpful in ensuring survival
 - (B) attention is more highly focused
 - (C) muscular coordination is less highly developed
 - (D) there is less need for competition among species
 - (E) environment is more important in establishing the proper ratio of prey to predator
8. According to the passage, improvement in brain function among early large mammals resulted primarily from which of the following?
- (A) Interplay of predator and prey
 - (B) Persistence of free-floating awareness in animals of the grasslands
 - (C) Gradual dominance of warm-blooded mammals over cold-blooded reptiles
 - (D) Interaction of early large mammals with less intelligent species
 - (E) Improvement of the capacity for memory among herbivores and carnivores
9. According to the passage, as the process of arousal in an organism continues, all of the following may occur EXCEPT
- (A) the production of adrenaline
 - (B) the production of norepinephrine
 - (C) a heightening of sensitivity to stimuli
 - (D) an increase in selectivity with respect to stimuli
 - (E) an expansion of the range of states mediated by the brain stem