

SECTION I

Time—35 minutes

26 Questions

Directions: Each passage in this section is followed by a group of questions to be answered on the basis of what is stated or implied in the passage. For some of the questions, more than one of the choices could conceivably answer the question. However, you are to choose the best answer; that is, the response that most accurately and completely answers the question, and blacken the corresponding space on your answer sheet.

Most authoritarian rulers who undertake democratic reforms do so not out of any intrinsic commitment or conversion to democratic ideals, but rather because they foresee or recognize that certain

(5) changes and mobilizations in civil society make it impossible for them to hold on indefinitely to absolute power.

Three major types of changes can contribute to a society's no longer condoning the continuation of

(10) authoritarian rule. First, the values and norms in the society alter over time, reducing citizens' tolerance for repression and concentration of power and thus stimulating their demands for freedom. In some Latin American countries during the 1970s and 1980s, for

(15) example, this change in values came about partly as a result of the experience of repression, which brought in its wake a resurgence of democratic values. As people come to place more value on political freedom and civil liberties they also become more inclined to speak

(20) out, protest, and organize for democracy, frequently beginning with the denunciation of human rights abuses.

In addition to changing norms and values, the alignment of economic interests in a society can shift.

(25) As one scholar notes, an important turning point in the transition to democracy comes when privileged people in society—landowners, industrialists, merchants, bankers—who had been part of a regime's support base come to the conclusion that the authoritarian regime is

(30) dispensable and that its continuation might damage their long-term interests. Such a large-scale shift in the economic interests of these elites was crucial in bringing about the transition to democracy in the Philippines and has also begun occurring incrementally

(35) in other authoritarian nations.

A third change derives from the expanding resources, autonomy, and self-confidence of various segments of society and of newly formed organizations both formal and informal. Students march in the streets

(40) demanding change; workers paralyze key industries; lawyers refuse to cooperate any longer in legal charades; alternative sources of information pierce and then shatter the veil of secrecy and disinformation; informal networks of production and exchange emerge

(45) that circumvent the state's resources and control. This profound development can radically alter the balance of power in a country, as an authoritarian regime that could once easily dominate and control its citizens is placed on the defensive.

(50) Authoritarian rule tends in the long run to generate all three types of changes. Ironically, all three types can be accelerated by the authoritarian regime's initial success at producing economic growth and maintaining social order—success that, by creating a period of

(55) stability, gives citizens the opportunity to reflect on the circumstances in which they live. The more astute or calculating of authoritarian rulers will recognize this and realize that their only hope of retaining some power in the future is to match these democratic social

(60) changes with democratic political changes.

1. Which one of the following most accurately expresses the main point of the passage?
- (A) Authoritarian rulers tend to undertake democratic reforms only after it becomes clear that the nation's economic and social power bases will slow economic growth and disrupt social order until such reforms are instituted.
- (B) Authoritarian regimes tend to ensure their own destruction by allowing opposition groups to build support among the wealthy whose economic interests are easily led away from support for the regime.
- (C) Authoritarian policies tend in the long run to alienate the economic power base in a nation once it becomes clear that the regime's initial success at generating economic growth and stability will be short lived.
- (D) Authoritarian principles tend in the long run to be untenable because they demand from the nation a degree of economic and social stability that is impossible to maintain in the absence of democratic institutions.
- (E) Authoritarian rulers who institute democratic reforms are compelled to do so because authoritarian rule tends to bring about various changes in society that eventually necessitate corresponding political changes.

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2. The author's attitude toward authoritarian regimes is most accurately described as which one of the following?
- (A) uncertainty whether the changes in authoritarian regimes represent genuine progress or merely superficial changes
 - (B) puzzlement about the motives of authoritarian rulers given their tendency to bring about their own demise
 - (C) confidence that most authoritarian regimes will eventually be replaced by a more democratic form of government
 - (D) insistence that authoritarian rule constitutes an intrinsically unjust form of government
 - (E) concern that authoritarian rulers will discover ways to retain power without instituting democratic reforms
3. Which one of the following titles most completely summarizes the content of the passage?
- (A) "Avenues for Change: The Case for Dissent in Authoritarian Regimes"
 - (B) "Human Rights Abuses under Authoritarian Regimes: A Case Study"
 - (C) "Democratic Coalitions under Authoritarian Regimes: Strategies and Solutions"
 - (D) "Why Authoritarian Regimes Compromise: An Examination of Societal Forces"
 - (E) "Growing Pains: Economic Instability in Countries on the Brink of Democracy"
4. Which one of the following most accurately describes the organization of the passage?
- (A) A political phenomenon is linked to a general set of causes; this set is divided into categories and the relative importance of each category is assessed; the possibility of alternate causes is considered and rejected.
 - (B) A political phenomenon is linked to a general set of causes; this set is divided into categories and an explication of each category is presented; the causal relationship is elaborated upon and reaffirmed.
 - (C) A political phenomenon is identified; the possible causes of the phenomenon are described and placed into categories; one possible cause is preferred over the others and reasons are given for the preference.
 - (D) A political phenomenon is identified; similarities between this phenomenon and three similar phenomena are presented; the similarities among the phenomena are restated in general terms and argued for.
 - (E) A political phenomenon is identified; differences between this phenomenon and three similar phenomena are presented; the differences among the phenomena are restated in general terms and argued for.
5. It can most reasonably be inferred from the passage that
- (A) many authoritarian rulers would eventually institute democratic reform even if not pressured to do so
 - (B) citizen dissatisfaction in authoritarian regimes is highest when authoritarian rule is first imposed
 - (C) popular support for authoritarian regimes is lowest when economic conditions are weak
 - (D) absolute power in an authoritarian society cannot be maintained indefinitely if the society does not condone the regime
 - (E) citizens view human rights abuses as the only objectionable aspect of authoritarian regimes
6. Given the information in the passage, authoritarian rulers who institute democratic reforms decide to do so on the basis of which one of the following principles?
- (A) Rulers should act in ways that allow occasional curbs on their power if the health of the nation requires it.
 - (B) Rulers should act in ways that offer the greatest amount of personal freedoms to citizens.
 - (C) Rulers should act in ways that speed the transition from authoritarian rule to democracy.
 - (D) Rulers should act in ways that ensure the long-term health of the nation's economy.
 - (E) Rulers should act in ways that maximize their long-term political power.

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- The term “blues” is conventionally used to refer to a state of sadness or melancholy, but to conclude from this that the musical genre of the same name is merely an expression of unrelieved sorrow is to miss its deeper
- (5) meaning. Despite its frequent focus on such themes as suffering and self-pity, and despite the censure that it has sometimes received from church communities, the blues, understood more fully, actually has much in common with the traditional religious music known as
- (10) spirituals. Each genre, in its own way, aims to bring about what could be called a spiritual transformation: spirituals produce a religious experience and the blues elicits an analogous response. In fact the blues has even been characterized as a form of “secular spiritual.” The
- (15) implication of this apparently contradictory terminology is clear: the blues shares an essential aspect of spirituals. Indeed, the blues and spirituals may well arise from a common reservoir of experience, tapping into an aesthetic that underlies many aspects of
- (20) African American culture.

- Critics have noted that African American folk tradition, in its earliest manifestations, does not sharply differentiate reality into sacred and secular strains or into irreconcilable dichotomies between good and evil,
- (25) misery and joy. This is consistent with the apparently dual aspect of the blues and spirituals. Spirituals, like the blues, often express longing or sorrow, but these plaintive tones are indicative of neither genre’s full scope: both aim at transforming their participants’
- (30) spirits to elation and exaltation. In this regard, both musical forms may be linked to traditional African American culture in North America and to its ancestral cultures in West Africa, in whose traditional religions worshippers play an active role in invoking the
- (35) divine—in creating the psychological conditions that are conducive to religious experience. These conditions are often referred to as “ecstasy,” which is to be understood here with its etymological connotation of standing out from oneself, or rather from one’s
- (40) background psychological state and from one’s centered concept of self.

- Working in this tradition, blues songs serve to transcend negative experiences by invoking the negative so that it can be transformed through the
- (45) virtuosity and ecstatic mastery of the performer. This process produces a double-edged irony that is often evident in blues lyrics themselves; consider, for example the lines “If the blues was money, I’d be a millionaire,” in which the singer reconfigures the
- (50) experience of sorrow into a paradoxical asset through a kind of boasting bravado. One critic has observed that the impulse behind the blues is the desire to keep painful experiences alive in the performer and audience not just for their own sake, but also in order to coax
- (55) from these experiences a lyricism that is both tragic and comic.

7. Based on the passage, with which one of the following statements would the author be most likely to agree?
- (A) The emphasis on spiritual transcendence takes the blues out of the realm of folk art and into the realm of organized religion.
- (B) Little of the transcendent aspect of the blues is retained in its more modern, electronically amplified, urban forms.
- (C) Other forms of African American folk art rely heavily on uses of irony similar to those observed in the blues.
- (D) The distinctive musical structure of blues songs is the primary means of producing tensions between sadness and transcendence.
- (E) The blues may be of psychological benefit to its listeners.
8. Each of the following is indicated by the passage as a shared aspect of the blues and spirituals EXCEPT:
- (A) expressions of sorrow or longing
- (B) a striving to bring about a kind of spiritual transformation
- (C) a possible link to ancestral West African cultures
- (D) the goal of producing exalted emotions
- (E) the use of traditional religious terminology in their lyrics

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9. Which one of the following most accurately expresses what the author intends “a common reservoir of experience” (line 18) to refer to?
- (A) a set of experiences that members of differing cultures frequently undergo and that similarly affects the music of those cultures
 - (B) set of ordinary experiences that underlies the development of all musical forms
 - (C) a set of experiences that contributed to the development of both the blues and spirituals
 - (D) a set of musically relevant experiences that serves to differentiate reality into irreconcilable dichotomies
 - (E) a set of experiences arising from the folk music of a community and belonging to the community at large
10. The primary purpose of the second paragraph is to
- (A) uncover the shared origin of both the blues and spirituals
 - (B) examine the process by which ecstasy is produced
 - (C) identify the musical precursors of the blues
 - (D) explore the sacred and secular strains of the blues
 - (E) trace the early development of African American folk tradition
11. The reference to “standing out from oneself” in line 39 primarily serves to
- (A) distinguish the standard from the nonstandard, and thus incorrect, use of a word
 - (B) specify a particular sense of a word that the author intends the word to convey
 - (C) point out a word that incorrectly characterizes experiences arising from blues performance
 - (D) identify a way in which religious participation differs from blues performance
 - (E) indicate the intensity that a good blues artist brings to a performance
12. Which one of the following is most closely analogous to the author’s account of the connections among the blues, spirituals, and certain West African religious practices?
- (A) Two species of cacti, which are largely dissimilar, have very similar flowers; this has been proven to be due to the one’s evolution from a third species, whose flowers are nonetheless quite different from theirs.
 - (B) Two species of ferns, which are closely similar in most respects, have a subtly different arrangement of stem structures; nevertheless, they may well be related to a third, older species, which has yet a different arrangement of stem structures.
 - (C) Two types of trees, which botanists have long believed to be unrelated, should be reclassified in light of the essential similarities of their flower structures and their recently discovered relationship to another species, from which they both evolved.
 - (D) Two species of grass, which may have some subtle similarities, are both very similar to a third species, and thus it can be inferred that the third species evolved from one of the two species.
 - (E) Two species of shrubs, which seem superficially unlike, have a significantly similar leaf structure; this may be due to their relation to a third, older species, which is similar to both of them.

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In the eighteenth century the French naturalist Jean Baptiste de Lamarck believed that an animal's use or disuse of an organ affected that organ's development in the animal's offspring. Lamarck claimed that the

- (5) giraffe's long neck, for example, resulted from its ancestors stretching to reach distant leaves. But because biologists could find no genetic mechanism to make the transmission of environmentally induced adaptations seem plausible, they have long held that
- (10) inheritance of acquired characteristics never occurs. Yet new research has uncovered numerous examples of the phenomenon.

In bacteria, for instance, enzymes synthesize and break down rigid cell walls as necessary to

- (15) accommodate the bacteria's growth. But if an experimenter completely removes the cell wall from a bacterium, the process of wall synthesis and breakdown is disrupted, and the bacterium continues to grow—and multiply indefinitely—without walls. This
- (20) inherited absence of cell walls in bacteria results from changes in the interactions among genes, without any attendant changes in the genes themselves.

A fundamentally different kind of environmentally induced heritable characteristic occurs when specific

- (25) genes are added to or eliminated from an organism. For example, a certain virus introduces a gene into fruit flies that causes the flies to be vulnerable to carbon dioxide poisoning, and fruit flies infected with the virus will pass the gene to their offspring. But if infected
- (30) flies are kept warm while they are producing eggs, the virus is eliminated from the eggs and the offspring are resistant to carbon dioxide. Similarly, if an *Escherichia coli* bacterium carrying a certain plasmid—a small ring of genetic material—comes into contact with an *E. coli*
- (35) bacterium lacking the plasmid, the plasmid will enter the second bacterium and become part of its genetic makeup, which it then passes to its offspring. The case of the *E. coli* is especially noteworthy for its suggestion that inheritance of acquired characteristics may have
- (40) helped to speed up evolution: for example, many complex cells may have first acquired the ability to carry out photosynthesis by coming into contact with a bacterium possessing the gene for that trait, an ability that normally would have taken eons to develop
- (45) through random mutation and natural selection.

The new evidence suggests that genes can be divided into two groups. Most are inherited

- “vertically,” from ancestors. Some however, seem to have been acquired “horizontally,” from viruses,
- (50) plasmids, bacteria, or other environmental agents. The evidence even appears to show that genes can be transmitted horizontally between organisms that are considered to be unrelated: from bacteria to plants, for example, or from bacteria to yeast. Some horizontal
- (55) transmission may well be the mechanism for inheritance of acquired characteristics that has long eluded biologists, and that may eventually prove Lamarck's hypothesis to be correct.

13. The passage suggests that many biologists no longer believe which one of the following?
- (A) An organ's use or disuse can affect that organ's development.
- (B) Some but not all genes are inherited horizontally.
- (C) All genes are inherited horizontally.
- (D) Some but not all genes are inherited vertically.
- (E) All genes are inherited vertically.
14. According to the passage, which one of the following is an acquired characteristic transmitted by altering the interaction among genes rather than be adding or eliminating a gene?
- (A) invulnerability to carbon dioxide poisoning
- (B) susceptibility to carbon dioxide poisoning
- (C) lack of cell walls
- (D) presence of cell walls
- (E) possession of certain plasmids
15. The primary purpose of the last paragraph is to
- (A) suggest a modification to Lamarck's hypothesis
- (B) demonstrate the correctness of Lamarck's hypothesis
- (C) illustrate the significance of Lamarck's hypothesis
- (D) criticize scientists' rejection of Lamarck's hypothesis
- (E) explain how recent discoveries may support Lamarck's hypothesis

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16. Which one of the following, if true, offers the most support for Lamarck's hypothesis?
- (A) Deer have antlers because antlers make deer more likely to survive and reproduce.
 - (B) Anteaters developed long snouts because the anteater stretches its snout in order to reach ants hidden well below ground.
 - (C) Potatoes produced from synthetic genes tend to be more resistant to disease than are potatoes produced from natural genes.
 - (D) Lions raised in captivity tend to have a weaker sense of direction than do lions raised in the wild.
 - (E) Pups born to wild dogs tend to be more aggressive than are pups born to dogs bred for hunting.
17. According to the passage, the inheritance of acquired characteristics is particularly significant because this phenomenon
- (A) may affect the speed at which photosynthesis occurs
 - (B) may help to explain the process of natural selection
 - (C) may occur without affecting the composition of genes
 - (D) may influence the rate at which evolution progresses
 - (E) may be changed or stopped under experimental conditions
18. Which one of the following can be inferred from the passage about the absence of cell walls in some bacteria?
- (A) It can be reversed by introducing the appropriate gene.
 - (B) It can be brought about by a virally introduced gene.
 - (C) It can be caused by the loss of a cell wall in a single bacterium.
 - (D) It can be halted, but not reversed, by restoring cell walls to a group of bacteria.
 - (E) It can be transmitted horizontally to other bacteria.

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When women are persecuted on account of their gender, they are likely to be eligible for asylum.

Persecution is the linchpin of the definition of a refugee set out in the *United Nations Convention Relating to*

- (5) *the Status of Refugees*. In this document, a refugee is defined as any person facing persecution “for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.” While persecution on the basis of gender is not explicitly
- (10) listed, this omission does not preclude victims of gender-based persecution from qualifying as refugees, nor does it reflect an intention that such persons be excluded from international protection. Rather, women persecuted on account of gender are eligible for asylum
- (15) under the category of “social group.” The history of the inclusion of the social-group category in the definition of a refugee indicates that this category was intended to cover groups, such as women facing gender-based persecution, who are otherwise not covered by the
- (20) definition’s specific categories.

The original definition of refugee, which came from the constitution of the International Refugee Organization, did not include social group. However, the above-mentioned *United Nations Convention* added

- (25) the category in order to provide a “safety net” for asylum-seekers who should qualify for refugee status but who fail to fall neatly into one of the enumerated categories. The drafters of the *Convention* intentionally left the precise boundaries of the social-group category
- (30) undefined to ensure that the category would retain the flexibility necessary to address unanticipated situations.

A broad interpretation of social group is supported by the *Handbook on Procedures and Criteria for*

- (35) *Determining Refugee Status* (1979) published by the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The *Handbook* describes a social group as persons of similar background, habits, or social status. This expansive interpretation of the
- (40) category is resonant with the intentions of the *Convention* drafters—a malleable category created for future asylum determinations. Since many women fleeing gender-based persecution share a common background and social status, they should fall within
- (45) the *Handbook’s* definition of a social group. Furthermore, a 1985 UNHCR Executive Committee report counseled member states to use the social-group category to classify women asylum-seekers “who face harsh or inhuman treatment due to their having
- (50) transgressed the social mores of the society in which they live.”

Such a pronouncement is particularly significant. A position taken by an organization such as the UNHCR is likely to exert a strong influence on the international

- (55) community. In particular, the UNHCR’s position is likely to have an impact on the interpretation of national asylum laws, since the terms and definitions used in many national laws have been developed under the international consensus that UNHCR represents.

19. According to the passage, which one of the following is true about both the *United Nations Convention* and the *UNHCR Handbook*?

- (A) Both documents are likely to exert a strong influence on improving the status of women in countries that are members of the United Nations.
- (B) Both documents explicitly support granting refugee status to women fleeing gender-based persecution.
- (C) Both documents recommend using the social-group category to classify women refugees seeking asylum from persecution.
- (D) Both documents suggest that the social-group category can be applied to a wide variety of asylum-seekers.
- (E) Both documents describe a social group as persons who share a similar background and hold a similar status in society.

20. The passage suggests that which one of the following is true about the drafters of the *United Nations Convention*?

- (A) They wanted to ensure that the United Nations would be consulted as new reasons for seeking refugee status arose.
- (B) They followed the precedent set by the International Refugee Organization concerning the status of refugees seeking asylum from gender-based persecution.
- (C) They recognized that it would be difficult to list every possible reason why a person might seek refuge from persecution in the *Convention’s* definition of a refugee.
- (D) They did not consider persecution on the basis of gender to be as valid a reason for seeking asylum as persecution on the basis of race, nationality, or religion.
- (E) They did not list gender as a category in the *Convention’s* definition of a refugee because gender-based persecution was not a significant problem at the time the *Convention* was drafted.

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21. Which one of the following asylum-seekers would be most likely to qualify for refugee status under the social-group category as it is described in the passage?
- (A) a woman who is unable to earn enough money to support her family because she comes from a poor country
 - (B) a woman who has limited opportunities to improve her socioeconomic status because of racial discrimination in her country
 - (C) a woman who is unable to obtain an education because she is a member of a particular religious group
 - (D) a woman who faces persecution because she rejects the accepted norm in her country concerning arranged marriages
 - (E) a woman who faces persecution because she opposes her government's harsh treatment of political prisoners
22. The author describes the definition of social group in the UNHCR Handbook as
- (A) specific but flexible
 - (B) obscure but substantive
 - (C) exhaustive and impartial
 - (D) general and adaptable
 - (E) comprehensive and exemplary
23. The author of the passage would most likely agree with which one of the following statements about the definition of a refugee in the constitution of the International Refugee Organization?
- (A) It failed to include some asylum-seekers who should have been considered eligible for refugee status.
 - (B) It provided a strong basis to support the claim that women seeking asylum from gender-based persecution should be eligible for asylum.
 - (C) It reflected an awareness that some groups of refugees seeking asylum do not easily fall into specific categories.
 - (D) It established that a person's social-group membership may be as significant a cause of persecution as a person's race, religion, or nationality.
 - (E) It prevented individual nations from refusing asylum to persons who were clearly eligible for such status on the basis of the definition.
24. The author describes persecution as the "linchpin of the definition of a refugee" (line 3) in order to indicate that
- (A) international acceptance of the definition was dependent on reaching consensus about what constituted persecution
 - (B) international concern about the number of people fleeing persecution was the primary force behind the creation of the definition
 - (C) persecution is a controversial term and it was difficult to reach international agreement about its exact meaning
 - (D) persecution is the primary reason why people are forced to leave their home countries and seek asylum elsewhere
 - (E) persecution is the central factor in determining whether a person is eligible for refugee status
25. The passage suggests that which one of the following is most likely to be true of the relationship between UNHCR documents concerning refugees and many nations' asylum laws?
- (A) The terms and definitions in the United Nations documents are frequently interpreted more narrowly than are similar terms and definitions in many national asylum laws.
 - (B) Many of the specific terms and definitions in the United Nations documents represent a compilation of terms and definitions that were first used in national asylum laws.
 - (C) A new interpretation of a term or definition in one of the United Nations documents is likely to influence the interpretation of a similar term or definition in a national asylum law.
 - (D) A change in the wording of a specific definition in one of the United Nations documents must also be reflected in any similar terms or definitions contained in national asylum laws.
 - (E) The terms and definitions used in many national asylum laws are in direct opposition to the terms and definitions used in the United Nations documents.
26. The primary purpose of the passage is to
- (A) trace the development of the definition of an important term
 - (B) interpret the historical circumstances leading to the development of two documents
 - (C) resolve two apparently contradictory interpretations of a legal document
 - (D) suggest an alternative solution to a much-disputed problem
 - (E) argue against the current definition of a specific term

S T O P

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, YOU MAY CHECK YOUR WORK ON THIS SECTION ONLY.
DO NOT WORK ON ANY OTHER SECTION IN THE TEST.