

Section 31

1. Though the volume of radioactive waste produced by nuclear power plants is _____, the problem of how to dispose of that waste is not; rather, it is of major importance.

- A. unmanageable
- B. troubling
- C. significant
- D. small
- E. deceptive

2. Investors are grateful that the attorney general has stepped in to pursue inquiries into the misfeasance in the financial markets, given that the regulators officially charged with policing the industry have been _____.

- A. tenacious
- B. diffident
- C. meticulous
- D. implacable
- E. straightforward

3. The author suggests that cinema archives should become more like museums, justifying their existence by selecting, grouping and commenting on important films. By thus (i)_____ films, archives would not only serve as repositories, but would provide (ii)_____ as well.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. improving	D. conservation
B. restoring	E. education
C. interpreting	F. income

4. "Argument" may be an overly (i)_____ word to apply to the gossamer contrivance that is *A Summer of Hummingbirds*. In what seems a self-conscious (ii)_____ of its mascot, the book flits from one subjects or moment in history to another, following the various whims of its author.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. archaic	D. repudiation
B. imprecise	E. emulation
C. robust	F. misrepresentation

5. The skin of the poison dart frog contains deadly poison called batrachotoxins. But the (i)_____ of the toxins has remained an enigma, as the frog does not (ii)_____ them. Now an analysis suggests that the melyrid beetle is the source. Collected beetle specimens all contained batrachotoxins, suggesting that these beetles are (iii)_____ by the frogs.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. effect	D. pressure	G. eaten
B. origin	E. produce	H. neutralized
C. purpose	F. suffer from	I. poisoned

6. When a new scientific model emerges, research studies (i)_____ that paradigm tend to dominate in the scientific literature: the process of selecting articles for publication is tilted toward positive results. But once the paradigm (ii)_____, the academic incentives shift in the opposite direction: research results are more likely to be considered worthy of publication when they (iii)_____ what has become the established view.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. tweaking	D. is initially articulated	G. bolster
B. affirming	E. has become entrenched	H. circumvent
C. controverting	F. is about to be attacked	I. undermine

7. The beauty of the scientific approach is that even when individual researchers do _____ bias or partiality, others can correct them using a framework of evidence on which everyone broadly agrees.

- A. overreact to
- B. deviate from
- C. succumb to
- D. recoil from
- E. yield to
- F. shrink from

8. The initial, widely shared pessimism turned out to be _____, because it ignored the many things that would be done with resources left behind.

- A. unimportant
- B. unintelligible
- C. unfathomable
- D. unfounded
- E. unimaginative
- F. unjustified

9. Despite a tendency to be overtly _____, the poetry does not consist solely of pious sentiments: it sparks the imagination and provides lively entertainment.

- A. preachy
- B. querulous
- C. insincere
- D. sanctimonious
- E. plaintive
- F. disingenuous

10. Though it may seem as if more than a century of _____ has made the electrical grid an all-encompassing web connecting the whole of the continent, many vast and beautiful areas remain without power.

- A. refinement
- B. expansion
- C. ubiquity
- D. augmentation
- E. omnipresence
- F. isolation

Section 32

1. With the numerous opponents of the controversial new taxation measure in such a fury, anyone who publicly advocated the measure did not fail to meet with _____ usage.

- A. politic
- B. severe
- C. sober
- D. respectful
- E. dejected

2. The paleontologist examined the problem afresh, believing that the accepted classification _____ the essential continuity of the specimens by making specious distinctions among them.

- A. disproved
- B. belied
- C. conflated
- D. divulged
- E. relaxed

3. Invention was (i)_____ the work of the ancient Greek historians, whose writings were filled with long and often purely fictitious speeches by great historical figures. The animating force in historical writing was rhetoric rather than (ii)_____. Even well into the eighteenth century, not a few historians continued to understand themselves as artists, given a license to invent.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. discouraged in	D. eloquence
B. a hallmark of	E. evidence
C. exceptional in	F. imagination

4. Scholars have marveled over the (i)_____ that Shakespeare displays in his works, noting that such broad learning is all the more remarkable given that books were relatively (ii)_____ in Shakespeare's time.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. meticulousness	D. edifying
B. humor	E. scarce
C. erudition	F. inexpensive

5. She was never (i)_____: she was nothing if not discreet, so she (ii)_____ for the present to declare her passion.

Blank (i)	Blank (i)
A. precipitate	D. pretended
B. tactful	E. decided
C. thoughtful	F. forbore

6. The slow pace of job creation was without precedent for the period of recovery from a recession, but the conditions that conspired to cause the recession were also (i)_____. The stock market declined sharply, and rampant business investment slumped. Then an ensuing spate of scandals (ii)_____ public trust in the way companies were run. And yet, despite these powerful (iii)_____ to growth, the recession proved surprisingly mild.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. heartening	D. weakened	G. counterforce
B. atypical	E. illuminated	H. stimulants
C. ambiguous	F. consolidated	I. concomitants

7. A cure for the common cold has been so elusive that it has become a modern symbol of _____.

- A. danger
- B. futility
- C. unease
- D. pointless
- E. sloth
- F. apathy

8. The dictator's gleaming military uniform and imperial paraphernalia sharply contrast with the _____ fashion favored by most other contemporary political leaders.

- A. unostentatious
- B. modest
- C. august
- D. majestic
- E. formal
- F. casual

9. Despite her rather _____ choices, Moreland was neither a rebellious spirit nor someone who saw herself as anything out of the ordinary.

- A. unconventional
- B. impractical
- C. quirky
- D. flamboyant
- E. successful
- F. lucrative

10. His premiership, seemingly cast-iron a year ago, is now so vulnerable that even a good day at the office does no more than buy him a few weeks of _____ from rebels within his own party.

- A. controversy
- B. reproach
- C. respite
- D. relief
- E. blame
- F. deference