

ANSWER KEY

Section 2	5. B	36. B	26. B	57. B
1. D	6. A	37. A	27. E	58. A
2. E	7. C	38. D	28. A	59. C
3. D	8. D	39. E	29. C	60. D
4. B	9. C	40. C	30. A	Section 5
5. A	10. D	Section 4	31. A	1. B
6. A	11. B	1. E	32. A	2. D
7. C	12. B	2. D	33. E	3. A
8. B	13. A	3. C	34. A	4. B
9. C	14. B	4. D	35. B	5. E
10. E	15. B	5. A	36. D	6. D
11. E	16. A	6. A	37. C	7. D
12. B	17. E	7. D	38. D	8. D
13. B	18. C	8. B	39. C	9. D
14. C	19. D	9. A	40. D	10. C
15. A	20. C	10. E	41. B	11. B
16. D	21. B	11. B	42. D	12. D
17. B	22. E	12. C	43. B	13. D
18. C	23. C	13. B	44. E	14. E
19. C	24. D	14. D	45. E	15. E
20. E	25. C	15. D	46. C	16. B
21. C	26. D	16. E	47. D	17. B
22. D	27. A	17. C	48. B	18. A
23. B	28. E	18. E	49. B	19. A
24. B	29. B	19. E	50. E	20. C
25. A	30. D	20. C	51. E	21. C
Section 3	31. E	21. C	52. C	22. C
1. C	32. C	22. B	53. C	23. D
2. E	33. A	23. B	54. A	24. D
3. B	34. A	24. D	55. B	25. C
4. E	35. D	25. E	56. E	

SSAT PRACTICE TEST 2: UPPER-LEVEL: ASSESS YOUR STRENGTHS

Use the following tables to determine which topics and chapters you need to review most. If you need help with your essay, be sure to review Chapter 9: The Essay and Chapter 26: Writing Skills.

Topic	Question
Math I	Section 2, questions 1–25
Reading Comprehension	Section 3, questions 1–40
Verbal: Synonyms	Section 4, questions 1–30
Verbal: Analogies	Section 4, questions 31–60
Math II	Section 5, questions 1–25

Topic	Number of Questions on Test	Number Correct	If you struggled with these questions, study...
Math I	25		Chapters 10–14 and Chapter 25
Reading Comprehension	40		Chapter 8
Verbal: Synonyms	30		Chapters 7 and 24
Verbal: Analogies	30		Chapters 2 and 24
Math II	25		Chapters 10–14 and Chapter 25

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

SECTION 2: MATH

1. D

With a perimeter of 30 and 5 sides of equal length, the length of one side is $\frac{30}{5}$, or 6.

2. E

There were a total of 17 customers who bought caramel candy. Subtract from these the 4 who bought both, and you are left with the 13 who bought only caramel.

3. D

Only factors of 24 (numbers that can be divided evenly into 24) can be the number of different colors in the bag. Since 5 is not a factor of 24, (D), 5, is the correct choice.

4. B

Since the whole number is less than 13 and also between 11 and 18, it must be between 11 and 13. We can immediately eliminate (C) because we need a whole number. (D) and (E) are out, too, because 13 and 14 are not “less than 13.” And (A) is incorrect because 11 is not “between 11 and 18.” Therefore, the number must be 12, choice (B).

5. A

Movies take up 60 degrees of 360 degrees, one-sixth of the pie chart. So Susan spent about one-sixth of 12 hours, or 2 hours, watching movies.

6. A

To solve for R , multiply both sides of the equation by 2; hence, $R = 32$. Plug 32 for R into the expression $\frac{3}{4}R$, and you find that $\frac{3}{4}R = \frac{3}{4} \times 32 = 24$.

7. C

The fraction $\frac{1}{4}$ has a decimal value of 0.25; thus (B), (D), and (E) can be eliminated. Fifty-nine rounded to the nearest ten is 60; indeed, 59 is much closer to 60 than to 50, so (C) is correct.

8. B

There is no calculation necessary on this problem. Three of the five points lie on the horizontal \$260,000 line, and the only other two points are the identical distance above and below the line. Thus, \$260,000 is the correct answer.

9. C

This problem calls for substitution. $u = 5$ and $v = 5$. Plugging these values in yields $5 \oslash 5 = 5 - (1 - \frac{1}{5}) = 5 - \frac{4}{5} = 4\frac{1}{5}$; (C) is correct.

10. E

This problem calls for substitution. $u = a$, $v = 3$, and $a \oslash 3 = 4\frac{1}{3}$. Using the definition for the left side of this equation, which is $a \oslash 3$, we have $a - (1 - \frac{1}{3}) = 4\frac{1}{3}$; then $a - \frac{2}{3} = 4\frac{1}{3}$ and $a = 5$.

11. E

Call the unknown number x and translate the information in the question into math. Remember that *of* means “times.” Twenty percent of 64 means $\frac{20}{100}(64)$, and 5% of x means $\frac{5}{100}x$. Then 20% of 64 is equal to 5% of x means that $\frac{20}{100}(64) = \frac{5}{100}x$.

Reducing $\frac{20}{100}$ and $\frac{5}{100}$ yields $\frac{1}{5}(64) = \frac{1}{20}x$. Isolate the x by multiplying both sides by 20. Then

$$x = \frac{1}{5}(64) \times 20 = \frac{64 \times 20}{5} = 64 \times 4 = 256.$$

12. B

The minimum number of fish Andy could have caught was 36, or 1 more than Rich caught. Use the average formula, Average = $\frac{\text{Sum of the terms}}{\text{Number of terms}}$. Sum of the terms = 36, and number of terms (or number of fishing trips) = 4. Hence, Andy must have caught an average of at least $\frac{36}{4} = 9$ fish per trip.

13. B

We need to set up an equation here. We know all the boys earned the same amount per hour, so $4 \times \text{Rate} + 6 \times \text{Rate} + 8 \times \text{Rate} = 27$. Thus, $18 \times \text{Rate} = 27$ and the Rate = $\frac{27}{18} = \$1.50$ per hour. Lee worked 8 hours, so Lee earned $8 \times \$1.50 = \12 .

14. C

Johnny has already picked 200 apples in 2.5 hours. He must pick an additional $600 - 200 = 400$ apples. Call the number of additional hours that Johnny must spend picking apples x . To find x , set up a ratio and solve for x : $\frac{200 \text{ apples}}{2.5 \text{ hours}} = \frac{400 \text{ apples}}{x \text{ hours}}$. Since the numerator of the fraction on the right is equal to twice the numerator of the fraction on the left, the denominator of the fraction on the right must also be equal to twice the denominator of the fraction on the left. So $x = 2 \times 2.5 = 5$. Since Johnny must work an additional 5 hours, the latest time that he can begin picking apples again is 5 hours earlier than 7:15 PM. So 2:15 p.m. is the latest that Johnny can start picking apples again.

15. A

Set up an equation: $8W = 0.88$. Isolate the W by dividing each side by 8. $W = \frac{0.88}{8} = 0.11$.

16. D

Figure 4 indicates that the legs of two sides of the triangle are equal and thus the triangle is isosceles. Angles that are opposite equal sides must be equal. Thus, each of the two base angles is 50 degrees, and we know that the sum of the three interior angles of any triangle is 180 degrees, so $r = 180 - 50 - 50 = 80$.

17. B

To determine how many times the income of 1958 was in 1988, divide the 1988 income by the 1958 income. Then the number we are seeking is $\frac{4,500,000}{9,000}$. Dividing the numerator and the denominator by 1,000, we have $\frac{4,500}{9} = 500$.

18. C

The correct answer choice, when 2 is subtracted from it, must be a multiple of 5. A number is a multiple of 5 only if its ones digit is a 5 or a 0. Looking at the choices, $25 - 2 = 23$ is not a multiple of 5, so eliminate choice (A). $33 - 2 = 31$ is not a multiple of 5, so eliminate (B). $47 - 2 = 45$, which is a multiple of 5. So (C) is correct.

19. C

Recall Kaplan's strategy: A figure can be drawn without lifting the pencil or retracing if there are exactly 0 or 2 points where an odd number of lines intersect. (C) has no points where an odd number of lines intersect. Hence, this is the correct answer.

20. E

Pick 100 as the initial population of Country X. The increase for the first year was $\frac{10}{100}$ of 100 = 10, and the total at the end of the first year was $100 + 10$ or 110 people. The increase for the second year was $\frac{10}{100}$ of 110 = 11, and the total at the end of the second

year was $110 + 11$ or 121 people. The population increased from 100 to 121 over the two-year period. The increase in the population was $121 - 100 = 21$. Hence, the percent increase in the population over the entire two-year period was $\frac{21}{100}$ or 21%.

21. C

The value of z is given to us in terms of y ; we need to multiply this value by 2 and add 1. Hence, $2z + 1 = 2(y + 2) + 1 = 2y + 4 + 1 = 2y + 5$, (C).

22. D

Picking numbers for x and y is a foolproof method for solving this problem. Pick a positive fraction for x that is less than 1, such as $\frac{1}{2}$. Then pick a positive value for y that is greater than x , which in this case means that the y that we pick must also be greater than $\frac{1}{2}$. Remember, the question says that y is greater than x and the numbers you pick must always be consistent with the question stem. So let's pick 1 for y . So we're letting x be $\frac{1}{2}$ and y be 1. With these values, (A) is 2, (B) and (C) are both $\frac{1}{2}$, and (D) is -2 . Further examining (D), we see that the denominator, $x - y$, has a larger positive number y subtracted from a smaller positive number x . So $x - y$ will always be negative. Therefore $\frac{1}{x-y}$ will also always be negative.

23. B

If 6 people can sit at each of x tables and 5 people can sit at each of y tables, then the maximum number of people that may be seated is $6x + 5y$.

24. B

Draw 3 squares: big, bigger, and biggest. Let the side of the middle fabric piece be 9. The side of the largest fabric piece must be three times this, or 27. Likewise, the side of the smallest square piece must be 3. The area of the largest piece is $27 \times 27 = 729$, and the area of the smallest piece is 9. Now determine the number of times that 9 goes into 729: $\frac{729}{9} = 81$.

25. A

Begin by determining how many gallons of gas it takes to make the 18 trips: $\frac{3}{4} \times 18 = \frac{27}{2} = 13.5$ gallons. If there are 9 gallons in a tank, Mr. Dali will need $\frac{13.5}{9} = 1.5$ tanks of gas.

SECTION 3: READING COMPREHENSION**SCOTT JOPLIN PASSAGE**

First up is a brief history passage about Scott Joplin, a composer best known for his ragtime music. Don't try to absorb all the details, even in a brief passage like this. Just get a feel for the Big Idea, which is that Joplin was instrumental in developing the ragtime genre but wasn't recognized as a serious composer until almost 60 years after his death.

1. C

Lines 2–3 note that Joplin composed 41 piano pieces known as "rags," the only time the word is used in the passage. (C), then, must be correct. (E) is tempting, but the genre or style of songs Joplin invented is described as "ragtime," not "rag." (A)'s "operatic" is incorrect; Joplin's *Treemonisha* was his only opera. (B) and (D) are incorrect because ragtime is never described as "dance" music or as being played by marching bands.

2. E

Only (E) has the proper scope here. (A) and (B) focus too narrowly on details. It was Joplin's "rhythmic diversity," not his stylistic diversity, (C), that distinguished his composing. The passage doesn't say how Joplin finally won the Pulitzer, (D).

3. B

The passage states that Joplin received the Pulitzer in 1976, "59 years after his death." Subtract 59 from 76 and you get 17, so Joplin died in 1917, choice (B).

4. E

The author discusses Joplin's "significant creative contribution" to music, his great popularity, and how he "at last" received "the praise he deserved." Thus, (E)'s "appreciative" best sums up the author's tone toward Joplin.

5. B

The passage states that Joplin was instrumental in developing ragtime "as a genre, a unique musical form." Therefore, (B) is the correct inference: A genre is a distinct category or style. While ragtime is an example of a musical genre, a genre is not an example of a particular type of ragtime, (A). There's no evidence that Joplin coined the term *genre*, (C).

6. A

Lines 13–14 say "he was not considered a serious composer during his lifetime," even though his "Maple Leaf Rag" was "the most popular piano rag of the time" (lines 10–11). That says his work was liked but people didn't appreciate it as serious music. The last sentence says he wasn't celebrated until 59 years after he died, making (A) correct.

(C) is incorrect because line 5 says he made a "contribution" to ragtime; he didn't invent it.

BIRD COURTSHIP PASSAGE

Next up is a science passage about the courtship procedures and "identification checks" used by birds during courtship and mating. Paragraph 1 introduces the topic, paragraph 2 details the roles of plumage and aggressive behavior, and paragraph 3 the role of sounds in the birds' courting and mating rituals.

7. C

This Inference question is answered in the opening paragraph. The author states that the bird's identification and courtship procedures are important "because if birds of different species mate, any offspring" will be sterile and have a low chance for survival. Thus, the procedures are important because they help a bird find a mate of its own species. (B) focuses too narrowly on a detail from paragraph 2.

8. D

The answer lies in paragraph 3, which states that a male's singing tells females of its species that "it is in breeding condition," I, and, after mating, enables the nesting female "to continue to identify" her partner, III. The passage does not mention that male birds use sound to intimidate male rivals, II, so I and III only are correct.

9. C

This Detail question focuses on the last sentence of paragraph 2. There we learn that whooping cranes "perform wonderfully elaborate courtship dances."

So the whooping crane is an example of a bird that behaves in an unusual, noteworthy way during courtship, and (C) is correct. (B), (D), and (E) incorrectly mention other details from paragraph 2—plumage, reversed roles, and aggressiveness.

10. D

The answer here is taken from the same sentence—the last of paragraph 1—that answered question 7. If birds of different species mate, “any offspring will usually be sterile or badly adapted to their surroundings.” This point is restated in (D). (B) is the opposite of the correct choice. The frequency of interspecies mating, (A), is not mentioned in the passage, but it must happen occasionally, contrary to (E), or the author wouldn’t warn against its dangers. The idea of a new species evolving, (C), is not discussed.

11. B

This time the Big Idea question comes near the end of the set. The passage is about the various courtship behaviors and “identification checks” used by birds, which makes (B) correct. (A) and (E) raise issues not debated in the passage. (C) and (D) focus too narrowly on details.

12. B

Think about where you would most likely find this passage. (C) and (D) are incorrect because the passage contains nothing personal or fictional, just facts. (E) is incorrect because the passage does not talk about endangered birds. (A) is incorrect. The passage discusses how birds of the same species identify one another in order to mate, not how you would identify birds, so (B) is correct.

NATIVE AMERICAN PASSAGE

Next up is a brief passage about the 1,500 Native American languages that have been discovered by linguists. The Big Idea here is simple: A pioneering linguist originally divided these 1,500 languages into six main groups; a recent group of scholars thinks they can all be divided into three broader groups, but other scholars disagree with this new theory.

13. A

(A) is the most specific and accurate, and it’s correct here. (B) leaves out the recent debate over the revised classification of Native American languages into three groups. (C) and (E) are too broad; they could be talking about any group of languages, not just Native American languages. And (D) focuses too narrowly on a detail from paragraph 2.

14. B

According to paragraph 2, scholars believe Native American languages can be classified into only three families because of “similarities and differences among words and sounds.” (B) can be inferred from this statement. (A) distorts a detail from paragraph 1. (C) is the argument of those who think Native American languages can’t be classified into three families. (D) is too broad, and (E) is beyond the scope of the passage.

15. B

Where would you be likely to come upon this passage? In a discussion of Native American languages or a linguistics textbook (B). (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect because there’s nothing either personal or fictional in the text; it’s just a series of factual statements. And while Sapir pioneered the field of Native American linguistics, the passage doesn’t contain any significant biographical information about his life, (E).

16. A

Why is classifying Native American languages controversial? Those who group them into three families have “no doubt about the validity” of their theory. But “the vast majority of linguists” argue that “linguistic science has not yet advanced far enough” to group 1,500 languages into only three families. So the controversy exists because scholars do not yet agree on how to classify languages, and (A) is correct. (B) is a point argued by linguists who think Native American languages might never be properly grouped into families, but it’s not the source of the controversy. We don’t know when the field of linguistics was founded, but even though it hasn’t “advanced far enough,” it is not a “very new” field, as (C) suggests. There’s no evidence for (D) or (E).

17. E

Paragraph 1 states that Sapir classified Native American languages into six families. None of the other questions is answered in the passage.

18. C

Look at the sentence “extent” appears in. The author says the languages have “diverged” so much that it would be impossible to classify them into three linguistic families. Therefore, the answer needs to mean something close to “wide”. (C) is the answer.

POETRY PASSAGE

Next up is a famous poem by Emily Dickinson. The first stanza creates a metaphor of hope as a bird that lives inside us and never stops singing. The second stanza says that the bird of hope sings even in bad weather (i.e., bad times). And in the final stanza, the poet claims that, while she has heard the bird

of hope singing in distant places, “It never asked a crumb of me.”

19. D

Hope is “the thing with feathers” in stanza 1 and “the little bird” in stanza 2, so (D) is correct. (A), (B), and (C) are trials and dangers that the bird/hope faces; (E) is what the bird sings.

20. C

Paraphrase the final stanza: “I’ve heard the bird of hope in far-off places, and it never asked me for anything.” This points to (C) as correct. (A) is incorrect because the poem says nothing about a world without hope or about preserving hope at all costs. (B) summarizes the second stanza, not the third. (D) takes the poem literally to the point of absurdity; the “crumb” line doesn’t mean that the bird is always hungry, but rather that it gives its song of hope freely. And (E) is incorrect because, according to the poet, hope is always present; no great effort is required to make it so.

21. B

Remember you’re dealing with metaphor. This poem isn’t about a bird; it’s comparing hope to a bird that never stops singing. The statement that it “kept so many warm” means that hope has given comfort to a lot of people; therefore, (B) is correct. (A) and (C) take the poem literally. (D) is pessimistic where the poet is optimistic about hope, and (E) implies that hope *only* works in the worst of situations. But the poet is saying that hope is helpful *even* in the worst of situations.

22. E

The poet likens hope to a bird that, thankfully, is always there to help people, never asking anything

in return. Her tone is one of gratitude, making choice (E) correct. (C) is the closest character, but “respectful” is too formal, too distancing. Hope in this poem isn’t a great person or awesome display of nature; it’s a little bird “that perches in the soul.”

23. C

Figure out what the poet is saying in the lines “sore” appears in. The poet is saying only the worst of storms could discourage the bird. The only choice that comes close to meaning “worst” is “severe,” (C).

RECYCLING PASSAGE

The next passage is about recycling, the remaking of waste products and materials for practical purposes. In paragraph 1, we learn that recycling is now considered a necessity, that it saves money and resources and reduces waste. In paragraph 2, the author focuses on residential recycling—what we as private citizens can do to reduce waste.

24. D

Statement I is false: Recycling “reduces the amount of waste produced” (lines 13–14). This eliminates (B), (C), and (E). Since statement II is included in both of the remaining answer choices, it must be true, and it is: We’re told twice that recycling can save money. Statement III, then, is the crucial one. And it’s true: Lines 17–19 state that “the amount of...waste produced at home has been steadily increasing.” So only Statements II and III are true, and choice (D) is correct.

25. C

(A) is easily eliminated: The author thinks the individual’s role in recycling “has been seriously underemphasized.” The first half of (B) is correct: Businesses do recycle to save money. But the

second half is incorrect: The author doesn’t think individuals are motivated to recycle by a sense of the greater good—but the author does think that we should be so motivated. This point is restated in correct choice (C). (D) says we shouldn’t recycle, which the author would certainly disagree with, and (E) claims that recycling is only the responsibility of businesses, which goes against the thrust of paragraph 2.

26. D

You’re looking for the choice that is not an example of recycling, which the author defines in lines 5–7 as “the remaking of waste products and other used materials for practical purposes.” Using this definition, (A), (B), and (E) are easily checked off as examples of recycling. (C) involves a second use for empty soda bottles, as does the author’s example in lines 8–10. This leaves (D): Selling jewelry to buy a car is not recycling, because the jewelry is not a waste product that’s being remade.

27. A

The author argues that recycling is “important...even...necessary,” that “it is our duty to ourselves and to our fellow human beings.” These and similar signals throughout the passage reveal the author’s tone as insistent, (A). By the same token, (B), (D), and (E) are easy to eliminate. (C) may be tempting since the author tells us that the future of humanity is at stake, but (A) remains the best choice, because more than being formal, the author is trying to motivate us, to do something (recycle).

28. E

Paragraph 3 argues that individuals can and must learn to recycle their waste products. You can predict, then, that the author will go on to suggest one or more ways

in which individuals can pitch in to help the recycling effort, a point restated in (E). There's no evidence to suggest (A) or (B). (C) wrongly suggests the author will return to a detail from the previous paragraph. And (D) doesn't even mention recycling.

29. B

In lines 15–17, the author states that businesses recycle “based primarily on the goal of saving money.” So you can infer that the author believes that businesses recycle primarily for financial gain, (B). (A) is incorrect because the economics of recycling are of greatest interest to businesses, not to the author. Nor can it be inferred from the passage that the author’s knowledge of the financial aspects of recycling, (C), is limited. And while (D) is probably true, it can’t be inferred from lines 15–17.

EL NIÑO PASSAGE

The passage begins with a statement that, although bad weather is usually only an “inconvenience” for us, it can have “disastrous consequences” for communities in other parts of the world. The remainder of the passage describes an example of this disastrous bad weather: El Niño, a change in the Humboldt Current (an ocean current) that disrupts marine life and can thereby threaten villagers on the northwest coast of South America with starvation.

30. D

The Humboldt Current flows off the northwest coast of South America, making (D) correct. Each of the other choices contradicts the passage. El Niño occurs only at Christmastime (A), but the Humboldt Current flows all year long. The Humboldt Current does fail when El Niño occurs (B). The passage does not state the directional flow of the Humboldt Current, (C),

but does state that it is a cold-water current, not a hot-water current, (E).

31. E

The bulk of the passage concerns what happens when the Humboldt Current fails, which makes (D) very tempting, but the Big Idea of the passage is really stated in the first sentence: Changes in weather patterns can dramatically affect the way people live, making (E) correct here. Remember, the Humboldt Current–El Niño information is there only to back up this claim by the author. (A), (B), and (C) focus on details and should have been easier to eliminate.

32. C

Here you’re looking for the one choice that isn’t true. Only (C) is not confirmed in the passage. As we noted in question 30, the Humboldt Current carries cold water, not warm; the passage also never states that the current affects “the climate of nearby land masses.”

33. A

If you answered question 31 correctly, you probably answered this one correctly too. This passage is not about El Niño; the El Niño is discussed in order to prove the author’s larger point: that bad weather can harm communities. This means that (A), not (C), is the correct answer.

34. A

We’re told that bad weather can have a “dramatic effect” on these villages, “depriving” them “of their livelihood.” The author’s attitude toward the villagers, then, is—what? Not condescending, (C), angry, (D), or emotional, (E). And though the author doesn’t express undue alarm, you wouldn’t say she was simply unconcerned about the villagers, as (B) puts it. No, the author’s attitude is best described as

sympathetic, (A). The villagers occasionally have this awful problem, and the author expresses concern about it.

35. D

The “chain reaction” described in the passage is as follows: the current fails, stopping the flow of nutrients to the fish and squid, which die, thereby harming the villagers. A chain reaction then, is not a pair but a series of causally linked occurrences. (A), (B), and (C), concern only a pair—not a chain—of occurrences. The best example of a chain reaction in the choices is therefore (D), where global warming leads to melted glaciers, which lead to higher water levels and then less available land for people. (E) gives two phenomena that occur at the same time.

MARSHALL PLAN PASSAGE

The final passage is a history passage about the Marshall Plan, an American scheme to help rebuild Europe after World War II. Paragraph 1 sets the scene, explaining that the United States believed that Europe’s economic devastation needed to be cured in order to keep it from falling under the domination of the Soviet Union. Paragraph 2 explains that in 1948, U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall instituted the Marshall Plan, which distributed 12 billion dollars among 16 different European countries over the next four years.

36. B

The answer will probably mention the Marshall Plan and how it helped Europe; (B) fits this bill nicely. (A) and (E) are way too broad. (C) describes what happened during World War II that made the Marshall Plan so necessary but says nothing about the Plan itself. (D) suggests that the passage is about Marshall himself, when the author actually tells

you nothing more than Marshall’s name and job—Secretary of State.

37. A

The author’s tone is not noticeably positive (B) or negative (E). It betrays no personal feelings such as insistence, (C), or anxiety, (D). Instead, it’s objective.

38. D

This is a Detail question that careful readers will get. Paragraph 2 states that the Marshall Plan doled out “a combined total of \$12 billion” to the 16 “participating countries.” So each country did not get \$12 billion. All of the other statements are substantiated in the passage.

39. E

What was the driving force behind the Marshall Plan? Early in paragraph 1, we learn that post-World War II Western Europe was economically devastated and that when tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union escalated, U.S. policymakers felt “substantial financial assistance” was needed in Western Europe “to maintain a state of political stability.” This points to (E). None of the other choices draws a correct inference from the passage.

40. C

The first paragraph describes the postwar economic and political problems that the Marshall Plan was intended to solve, and paragraph 2 describes, in general terms, how much money was distributed and how well the plan worked. You can infer, then, that the author will go on to talk about specifics—how the Plan’s money was put to work in some or all of the 16 participating countries. (A) wrongly sees the Cold War, not the Marshall Plan, as the focus of the passage. (B) goes back in time, to events before the

Marshall Plan was ever dreamed up. Other economic recovery plans are never mentioned, and (E) is also unwarranted.

SECTION 4: VERBAL

SYNONYMS

1. E

Harsh means rough or overly demanding—in other words, severe, (E). A crime might be punished by a harsh penalty, for example. One can be angry, (B), without being harsh; these words are not synonyms.

2. D

Indicate means to show, state, or point out.

3. C

Bleak means desolate and barren, or cheerless, (C). “We camped out in a bleak wilderness.”

4. D

Secure means free from danger or safe.

5. A

Alien means foreign or strange.

6. A

Chronic means frequently occurring, habitual, or persistent, (A), as in a “chronic cough.”

7. D

To quench a thirst means to slake or satisfy it, (D).

8. B

Severe, as we saw in question 1, means harsh, overly demanding, or extreme, (B). Severe cold leaves you frozen, (A), but severe and frozen are not synonyms. Don’t just think associatively; look for the word that’s closest in meaning to the stem word.

9. A

When thieves ransack an apartment, they turn it upside down looking for things to steal. In other words, to ransack is to search thoroughly, (A).

10. E

The summit is the top of something, as in the summit of a mountain peak, which makes (E) correct.

11. B

A tumult is a loud noise, an uproar, or commotion, (B).

12. C

To retard means to delay the progress of, hold back, or slow down, (C).

13. B

An antidote is a cure or remedy, (B), such as an antidote for poison.

14. D

Solitary is the state of being secluded or alone, (D).

15. D

To camouflage means to hide or disguise, (D).

16. E

To expel means to drive out, to reject, or to cast out, (E).

17. C

To lunge is to make a sudden forward stride or leap. A lunge—especially with a weapon—is also called a thrust, (C). To pursue, (A), means to chase, that is, to follow with the intent of overtaking. Pursuit may begin with a lunge, but the two verbs are not synonyms. In similar fashion, a lunge may involve a turn, (B), or startle someone, (E), but these words are not synonyms of lunge, either.

18. E

Brevity is the quality of being brief, which means of short duration—so shortness, (E), is correct.

19. E

To marvel is to feel surprise, amazed curiosity, or wonder, (E).

20. C

Candor is truthfulness, or honesty, (C). To be daring, (B), is to be bold but not necessarily honest.

21. C

To convene is to meet or to assemble, (C). The closest distracters, (B) and (D), are actions associated with meetings that are convened, but they're not synonyms.

22. B

A catastrophe is a great misfortune, a terrible occurrence, or a disaster, (B).

23. B

Gregarious means talkative, outgoing, or sociable, (B).

24. D

Dexterity is mental or physical skill and quickness. The best synonym here is nimbleness, (D).

25. E

To say that something is imminent means that it's about to happen, that it is forthcoming, (E).

26. B

Animosity is hostility, ill will, or resentment. The best synonym here is hatred, (B).

27. E

To amend means to change, alter, or improve, (E).

28. A

Someone who feels despondent is very sad or depressed, (A).

29. C

Unflinching means not flinching or shrinking from; it's the quality of being steadfast. The best synonym here is uncompromising, (C). (A) and (D) are near-antonyms for unflinching.

30. A

To repudiate means to cast off, disown, or refuse to have anything to do with. The choice with the closest meaning to repudiate is renounce, (A). To impede, (B), is to slow or interfere with someone's progress.

ANALOGIES**31. A**

Anything having to do with the sun is solar. In the same way, anything having to do with the earth is terrestrial, (A). Marine refers to a sea or ocean, not to a pond. Subterranean refers to what is below the ground, not to the ground itself. You might suspect (E), but lunar refers to anything having to do with the moon, not planets.

32. A

Botany is the study of plants. Similarly, meteorology is the study of weather, (A). Flora is the generic word for plant life or vegetation.

33. E

You use a hammer to *put in* a nail. In the same way, you use a screwdriver to *put in* a screw, (E). You use an axe to chop wood, a lathe to smooth or shape molding, a chisel to chip marble, and a nut to secure a bolt.

34. A

A bone is part of the structural system that supports a mammal. A girder is part of the structural system that supports a skyscraper, (A). The other choices are also part of the structural system that supports a skyscraper, not the skyscraper itself.

35. B

A primate is an order of mammals that includes monkeys, apes, and humans. So a human is one species of the primate order, just as a snake is one species of the order of reptiles. Vegetarians are not an order in the same way as primates and reptiles. A disease is not necessarily bacterial in nature. Birds are mammals, not amphibians; amphibians are a class in the animal kingdom that includes frogs and toads.

36. D

A tremor is a quivering motion of the earth. A powerful tremor may be an earthquake. In the same way, wind is a motion of the air, and a powerful wind may be a tornado, (D). The analogy isn't exact here, but it's better than the other choices. An eye is the calm center of a hurricane, (A); a powerful desert is not a sandstorm, (B). A faucet is a man-made object through which water flows; a deluge, (C), is a great flood. And a powerful flood, (E), is not a river.

37. C

Something tremendously amusing is uproarious; similarly, something tremendously interesting is hypnotic, fascinating, or mesmerizing, (C).

38. D

Being fickle, or inconstant, is the opposite of steadfastness. In the same way, being tempestuous, or stormy, is the opposite of peacefulness, (D). Ire, (E), means anger.

39. C

A group of fish is called a school, just as a group of birds is called a flock.

40. D

A cartographer is a designer of maps, just as a chef is a designer of meals.

41. B

A throne is the official chair for a monarch, just as a bench is the official chair for a judge, (B). A miter, (A), is the headdress worn by bishops.

42. D

A canal is a man-made river, just as a mine is a man-made cavern, (D). It's stretching things to call a boat a manmade piece of driftwood, (A), even though both float.

43. B

When milk goes bad it gets sour; when bread goes bad it gets stale, (B).

44. E

Ore is mined to bring it up out of the earth, just as oil is drilled to bring it up out of the earth, (E). Grain is plowed, (D), but it's not found buried in the earth.

45. E

Weight is measured on a scale, just as altitude is measured on an altimeter. Speed, not distance, is measured on a speedometer (A). (B) is a little tricky: Numbers are measured on a slide rule, but only special kinds of numbers called logarithms.

46. C

A porcupine protects itself with quills. In a similar fashion, a skunk protects itself with odor.

47. D

The purpose of a jar is to contain, just as the purpose of a pillar is to support, (D).

48. B

Irrigate means to flush with liquid. So you irrigate something that is dry, just as you smooth something that's coarse, (B). (A) and (C) are tempting but not as good. You soften something that's hard, not uneven. And you purify something that's impure, or tainted. To ferment something is to induce a chemical process that makes alcohol; this has nothing to do with saltiness.

49. B

Electricity flows through a wire, just as water flows through an aqueduct. Sound is broadcast from a radio, choice (A), which is not the same thing. (C) and (D) have similar problems; in each case the music or light is emitted from the object, it doesn't flow through it. And in (E), a river is contained by its bank.

50. E

You can express contempt with a sneer. In the same way, you express displeasure with a frown, (E). Each of the other actions is inappropriately matched to its emotion.

51. E

The base of a building is its foundation. The base of a plant is its root, (E). If you chose (A), (C), or (D), you were probably confusing the vegetative meaning of "plant" with, say, a manufacturing plant. A grotto is a cave.

52. C

Olfactory refers to anything having to do with the sense of smell. So our bridge could be, *The nose is*

the organ of the olfactory sense. Similarly, the ear is the organ of the sense of hearing or auditory sense, (C).

53. C

Irk means to annoy, disgust, or irritate. So the relationship here is of opposites: Something that irks is not soothing. In the same way, something that supports is not weakening or undermining, (C). Irritating, (D), is second-best here; it would go better with soothing than with support.

54. A

Something illegible is impossible to read, just as something invisible is impossible to see, (A). Something broken is not by definition impossible to fix.

55. B

Tact is sensitivity, or the ability to do or say the right thing with people. So tact is a necessary quality for a diplomat. In the same way, agility is a necessary quality for a gymnast, which makes (B) correct. Parsimony, (A), or stinginess, is a quality a philanthropist will not have, since a philanthropist is someone who gives generous amounts of money to charity. Similarly, a judge, (E), should be unbiased, not biased, which means having a declared preference for one side or the other. Victims may be vulnerable, (C), but you wouldn't ordinarily say that vulnerability is a necessary quality for being a victim. And training in (D) is too vague; it's not a quality specific to the practice of medicine.

56. E

Ravenous means extremely hungry. So to be ravenous is to be in an extreme state of hunger. In the same way, to be furious is to be in an extreme state of indignation, (E). None of the other choices has a first word that's an extreme version of the second word. Pliable, (A), means flexible, while

obstinacy is stubbornness, so these words are opposites. The same is true for (B) and (C). Tenacity, (D), is stubborn persistence; being smart is not being in an extreme state of tenacity.

57. B

To amplify sound is to make it stronger or louder. To bolster something means to strengthen it. In the same way, then, to bolster courage is to make it stronger. Getting the right answer here depends a little on knowing common usage. You can't bolster a smell, (A), insomnia or sleeplessness, (C), or light, (D), or silence, (E).

58. A

Reverse the order of the stem pair: You attend a lecture in an auditorium. In the same way, you attend a concert in a theater, (A). This bridge clearly doesn't work on (B), (D), or (E). One attends religious services, not religion itself, in a temple, (C).

59. C

Philanthropic means generous, giving; benevolence is the quality of generosity. So our bridge might be, *A philanthropic act is evidence of benevolence*. In the same way, a miserly act is evidence of stinginess, (C). Ostentatious, (B), means showy or extravagant.

60. D

Spurious is simply a fancy word meaning fake. So we've got a relationship of opposites here: Something spurious has no authenticity. Similarly, something laughable has no seriousness, (D). Lavish, (A), means extravagantly expensive. Abject means miserable; subjectivity may or may not be miserable, (B). There's no obvious bridge between the words in (C), and in (E), totalitarian refers to an imposing system of government, so it is not the opposite of completeness.

SECTION 5: MATH**1. B**

Begin with $\$5 + \text{cover price} - \9 and simplify it: cover price - \$4, which means \$4 below the cover price. (B) is correct.

2. D

Note here that each cube = 20 boxes. February has two cubes less than March, hence $2(20) = 40$ boxes less.

3. A

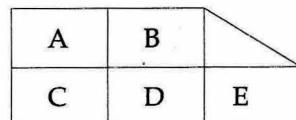
In January, 6 cubes were sold, and in February, 3 cubes were sold. Thus, in January, the number of boxes sold was $\frac{6}{3} = 2$ times the number of boxes sold in February. It is not necessary to perform the calculation using the fact that 20 boxes are represented by each cube.

4. B

Let x = the number of ties for Team A; keep in mind that x is an integer here. Thus, Team A had $4x$ losses. Adding the losses and ties (there were no wins), the number of games the team played was $x + 4x = 5x$. Thus, the correct answer choice must be a multiple of 5 (because x is an integer). Only (B), 15, is a multiple of 5.

5. E

In order to make the discussion simpler, the five rectangles that are in the figure to begin with have been labeled.



Systematically count the different rectangles in the figure. There are 5 rectangles in the figure to begin with, which we will call basic rectangles. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that are made up of 2 basic rectangles. Rectangles made up of 2 basic rectangles can be formed from basic rectangles A and B, C and D, D and E, A and C, and B and D. There are 5 rectangles made up of 2 basic rectangles. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that can be made up of 3 basic rectangles. There is just one such rectangle. This is the rectangle that is made up of the 3 basic rectangles at the bottom, rectangles C, D, and E. Next, let's count the number of rectangles that can be made up of 4 basic rectangles. There is just one such rectangle, the rectangle that is made up of basic rectangles A, B, C, and D. There are no other rectangles that can be made up of basic rectangles. There is a total of $5 + 5 + 1 + 1 = 12$ different rectangles in the figure.

6. D

We are looking for the fraction that is NOT less than $\frac{1}{4}$, that is, a fraction that is greater than or equal to $\frac{1}{4}$. (D) is correct because $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{19}{19 \times 4} = \frac{19}{76}$ is less than $\frac{19}{70}$ because $\frac{19}{70}$ has a smaller denominator. Looking at the other choices, since $\frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{9}$ must be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ (since 9 is a greater denominator). Since $\frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{3}{14}$ must be less than $\frac{1}{4}$ (due to the greater denominator, 14). Reducing $\frac{14}{64}$, we get $\frac{7}{32}$ and since $\frac{8}{32} = \frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{14}{64} = \frac{7}{32}$ is less than $\frac{1}{4}$. Since $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{27}{27 \times 4} = \frac{27}{108}$, then $\frac{27}{125}$ is less than $\frac{27}{108} = \frac{1}{4}$.

7. D

Begin by labeling each side 1. Using the answer choices, count the lengths of 1 in the path: (A) = 4, (B) = 4, (C) = 4, (D) = 5, and (E) = 4. (D) is the longest path.

8. D

No lengthy calculation is needed here. In order for a product of numbers to equal 0, at least one of the numbers must equal zero. Since $5\frac{1}{3}$ is not 0, the other factor, $14 - x$, must equal 0. So $14 - x = 0$, and $x = 14$.

9. D

Since 1.18 has 2 places after the decimal point, write each answer choice with 2 places after the decimal point. (A) and (B) are more than 1.00 away from 1.18. (C), 1.90, is more than 0.70 away from 1.18, (D), 1.10, is 0.08 away from 1.18, and (E), 1.00, is 0.18 away from 1.18.

10. C

Write out the given inequality: $X > 15$. Next multiply both sides by $\frac{1}{3}$ (or divide both sides by 3). We now have $\frac{1}{3}X > \frac{15}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{3}X > 5$, (C).

11. B

Round \$26.95 to 27.00. Then we have $\frac{35}{100} \times 27 = ?$. Canceling yields $\frac{7}{20} \times 27 = \frac{189}{20} = 9.45$.

12. D

Let T be the number of minutes. Set up a ratio:

$$\frac{600}{3} = \frac{27,000}{T}. \text{ Reduce } \frac{600}{3} \text{ to } \frac{200}{1}. \text{ Then } \frac{200}{1} = \frac{27,000}{T}. \text{ Next cross-multiply: } 200T = 27,000.$$

Divide both sides by 100: $2T = 270$, and thus $T = 135$. Put this into the time format of hours and minutes by dividing 135 minutes by 60 minutes per hour and we have $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours, which is 2 hours and 15 minutes.

13. D

Translate what is stated in the question step-by-step. To begin with, Sally has x dollars. After she receives 100 dollars, she has $x + 100$ dollars. She spends 125 dollars, so she has $(x + 100) - 125$ dollars left. Now simplify $(x + 100) - 125$: $(x + 100) - 125 = x + 100 - 125 = x - 25$. Sally has $x - 25$ dollars left, so (D) is correct.

14. E

Begin by multiplying both sides by 3 to eliminate the denominator. Then $A + B = 12$. If A is greater than 1, then B must be less than 11. Thus (E), 12, could not be the value of B .

15. E

Use the average formula, which is Average = $\frac{\text{Sum of the terms}}{\text{Number of terms}}$. Call X the sum of all 5 numbers.

Then $\frac{X}{5} = 10$, so $X = 50$. Call Y the sum of the 3 remaining numbers. Then $\frac{Y}{3} = 9$, so $Y = 27$.

Subtracting from the sum of all 5 numbers the sum of the 3 numbers that remain leaves the sum of the 2 numbers that were removed. So the sum of the 2 numbers that were removed is $X - Y = 50 - 27 = 23$.

16. B

The bottom surface of the bag is a rectangle and all points are inside the rectangle, so choice (A) can be eliminated. (B) is correct.

17. B

The formula for percent increase is Percent

$$\text{increase} = \frac{\text{New value} - \text{Old value}}{\text{Old value}} \times 100\%. \text{ Here, } \frac{1,448 - 1,086}{1,086} \times 100\% = \frac{362}{1,086} \times 100\% = \frac{1}{3} \times 100\% = 33\frac{1}{3}\%, \text{ so (B) is the best choice.}$$

18. A

Let the length of WX be represented by a . Then the length of WY is $3a$. The length of XY must be $3a - a = 2a$. Then, the length of XZ must be $2 \times 2a = 4a$. So $WZ = WX + XZ = a + 4a = 5a = 5(2) = 10$.

19. A

Draw a rectangle. Label its width w and its length $3w$. The perimeter is 240, thus $3w + w + 3w + w = 240$, so $8w = 240$ and $w = 30$.

20. C

The phrase “for every” indicates a ratio is needed.

Call the amount she receives from the \$18,000 collection x . Here set up $\frac{50}{900} = \frac{x}{18,000}$. After cancellation on the left we have $\frac{1}{18} = \frac{x}{18,000}$.

Cross-multiply and get $18x = 18,000$. Solve for x by dividing each side by 18, and $x = 1,000$.

21. C

We need to find out how many 4×6 rectangles fit into a square with a side of 24. Use our area formula

$$A = L \times W: \frac{24 \times 24}{4 \times 6} = 24.$$

22. C

Pick numbers. Let $S = -2$ and $T = -3$. Thus, we have $R = -5$. Taking this value for R through our choices, only (C) fits.

23. D

Call the number of DVDs Greg has d and the number of CDs he has c . Our first equation is $d + c = 60$. The second equation is $\frac{1}{2}r = 2(\frac{1}{8}c)$. So $\frac{1}{2}r = \frac{1}{4}c$ and $c = 4 \times \frac{1}{2}r = 2d$. Now, substitute $2d$ for c in the first equation, $d + c = 60$. Then $d + 2d = 60$, $3d = 60$, and $d = \frac{60}{3} = 20$. The problem asks how many DVDs he sold, which is $\frac{1}{2}(20) = 10$.

24. D

Mary received \$20 each week for 2 weeks and saved 60% of this or $\frac{60}{100}(\$40) = \24 . Since she saved only \$8 the first week, she must have saved \$16 the second week. Looking at the Roman numeral statements, I is true so eliminate (A) and (C). Looking at statement II, $\$20 - \$16 = \$4$ was spent during the second week, not \$6, so it is not true. Eliminate (E). Finally in III, the percent of the second week's allowance that she saved was $\frac{16}{20} \times 100\% = \frac{4}{5} \times 100\% = 80\%$, so statement III is true. (D) is correct.

25. C

First work with Paul: Original wage + 20% of his original wage = \$4.50. Convert this into the equation: $x + 0.20x = 4.50$, $1.2x = 4.50$, and $x = \$3.75$. Set up a similar equation for Bill: $y + 0.20y = 5.40$ and $1.2y = 5.40$, so $y = \$4.50$. Hence, $\$4.50 - \$3.75 = \$0.75$.