RW question 1

To dye wool, Navajo (Diné) weaver Lillie Taylor uses plants and vegetables from Arizona, where she lives. For example, she achieved the deep reds and browns featured in her 2003 rug *In the Path of the Four Seasons* by using Arizona dock roots, drying and grinding them before mixing the powder with water to create a dye bath. To intensify the appearance of certain colors, Taylor also sometimes mixes in clay obtained from nearby soil.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Reds and browns are not commonly featured in most of Taylor's rugs.

B) *In the Path of the Four Seasons* is widely acclaimed for its many colors and innovative weaving techniques.

C) Taylor draws on local resources in the approach she uses to dye wool.

D) Taylor finds it difficult to locate Arizona dock root in the desert.

Key	C
Domain	Information and Ideas
Skill	Central Ideas and Details

Key Explanation: Choice C is the best answer. The passage focuses on the idea that the artist Lillie Taylor uses resources such as plants and vegetables from where she lives in Arizona to make dyes for wool.

Distractor Explanations: Choice A is incorrect because the passage offers no evidence that reds and browns are unusual colors in Taylor's rugs; in fact, it offers an example of a rug that does feature those colors. **Choice B** is incorrect because the passage offers no indication of whether *In the Path of the Four Seasons* is widely acclaimed; it also does not mention whether the weaving techniques are innovative. **Choice D** is incorrect because the passage offers no evidence that Taylor has a hard time finding Arizona dock root.

RW question 2

Jan Gimsa, Robert Sleigh, and Ulrike Gimsa have hypothesized that the sail-like structure running down the back of the dinosaur *Spinosaurus aegyptiacus* improved the animal's success in underwater pursuits of prey species capable of making quick, evasive movements. To evaluate their hypothesis, a second team of researchers constructed two battery-powered mechanical models of *S. aegyptiacus*, one with a sail and one without, and subjected the models to a series of identical tests in a water-filled tank.

Which finding from the model tests, if true, would most strongly support Gimsa and colleagues' hypothesis?

A) The model with a sail took significantly longer to travel a specified distance while submerged than the model without a sail did.

B) The model with a sail displaced significantly more water while submerged than the model without a sail did.

C) The model with a sail had significantly less battery power remaining after completing the tests than the model without a sail did.

D) The model with a sail took significantly less time to complete a sharp turn while submerged than the model without a sail did.

Key	D
Domain	Information and Ideas
Skill	Command of Evidence (Textual)

Key Explanation: Choice D is the best answer. The passage states that Gimsa and colleagues' hypothesis was that the sail-like structure on the back of *S. aegyptiacus* enhanced the dinosaur's ability to travel underwater to hunt down "prey species capable of making quick, evasive movements." This choice's finding would effectively support the hypothesis because it would indicate that the sail-like structure would enable a