

GRE 阅读小笔记 Exercise 3

The dark regions in the starry night sky are not pockets in the universe that are devoid of stars as had long been thought. Rather, they are dark because of a line of interstellar dust that hides the stars behind it. Although its visual effect is so pronounced, dust is only a minor constituent of the material, extremely low in density, that lies between the stars. The average density of interstellar material in the vicinity of our Sun is 1,000 to 10,000 times less than the best terrestrial laboratory vacuum. It is only because of the enormous interstellar distances that so little material per unit of volume becomes so significant. Optical astronomy is most directly affected, for although interstellar gas is perfectly transparent, the dust is not. (125 words)

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1. According to the passage, which of the following is a direct perceptual consequence of interstellar dust EXCEPT?

- ☐A Some stars are rendered invisible to observers on Earth.
- ☐B Many visible stars are made to seem brighter than they really are.
- ☐C The dust is conspicuously visible against a background of bright stars.

2. It can be inferred from the passage that it is because space is so vast that

- (A) little of the interstellar material in it seems substantial
- (B) normal units of volume seem futile for measurements of density
- (C) stars can be far enough from Earth to be obscured even by very sparsely distributed matter
- (D) interstellar gases can, for all practical purposes, be regarded as transparent
- (E) optical astronomy would be of little use even if no interstellar dust existed

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In Hardy's novels, various impulses were sacrificed to

each other inevitably and often. Inevitably, because Hardy did not care in the way that novelists such as Line Flaubert or James cared, and therefore took paths of least 5 resistance. Thus, one impulse often surrendered to a fresher one and, unfortunately, instead of exacting a compromise, simply disappeared. A desire to throw over reality a light that never was might give way abruptly to the desire on the part of what we might consider a 10 novelist-scientist to record exactly and concretely the structure and texture of a flower. In this instance, the new impulse was at least an energetic one, and thus its indulgence did not result in a relaxed style. But on other occasions Hardy abandoned a perilous, risky, and highly 15 energizing impulse in favor of what was for him the fatally relaxing impulse to classify and schematize abstractly. When a relaxing impulse was indulged, the style—that sure index of an author’s literary worth—was certain to become verbose. (167 words)

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3. Which of the following words could best be substituted for “relaxed” (line 13) without substantially changing the author’s meaning?

- (A) informal
- (B) confined
- (C) risky
- (D) wordy
- (E) metaphoric

4. The passage supplies information to suggest that its author would be most likely to agree with which of the following statements about the novelists Flaubert and James?

- (A) They indulged more impulses in their novels than did Hardy in his novels.
- (B) They have elicited a greater degree of favorable response from most literary critics than has Hardy.
- (C) In the writing of their novels, they often took pains to effect a compromise among their various novelistic impulses.
- (D) Regarding novelistic construction, they cared more about the opinions of other novelists than about the opinions of ordinary readers.
- (E) They wrote novels in which the impulse

toward realism and the impulse away from realism were evident in equal measure.

5. Which of the following statements best describes the organization of the passage (—Thus...abstractly)?

- (A) The author makes a disapproving observation and then presents two cases, one of which leads to a qualification of his disapproval and the other of which does not.
- (B) The author draws a conclusion from a previous statement, explains his conclusion in detail, and then gives a series of examples that have the effect of resolving an inconsistency.
- (C) The author concedes a point and then makes a counterargument, using an extended comparison and contrast that qualifies his original concession.
- (D) The author makes a judgment, points out an exception to his judgment, and then contradicts his original assertion.
- (E) The author summarizes and explains an argument and then advances a brief history of opposing arguments.

阅读 1. 主要阐述了一个观点,就是说“黑暗的夜空中没有明星这一观点是被反对的”,接下来进行了解释。

Q1: 哪个不是 **dust** 的直接结果?

A: 定位原文,找到 **Rather, they are dark because Line of interstellar dust that hides the stars behind it.**

是 **dust** 的直接结果,所以不选。BC 没有提到,选。

Q2: 有原文推测,因为 **space so vast**,所以怎么样?

定位到原文最后两句话,选 C

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阅读 2: 先说明了哈代的风格,然后说了两种情况 (**In this instance... But on other occasions....**)

Q3: 问哪个词和 **relaxed** 意思相同?

定位到 line 13, 发现 **not relaxed** 是 **In this instance** 的结果,然后看到 **but on other occasions** 的结果是 **verbose**, 可知 **relaxed=verbose**, 观察选项得 **wordy** 意思最为相近。

Q4: 问作者同意 F 和 J 的什么?

由 F 和 J 定位到 line 4, 原文说作者不像 F 和 J 那样, 作者不受限制, 一种冲动折服于另一个新的冲动, 毫不妥协, 所以 F 和 J 显然是各种冲动互相 **compromise**

的，选 C；

Q5: (Thus...abstractly) 的行文结构？

首先根据文中 **unfortunately**, 推测出作者做了一个否定的总结，然后两个例子，一个承接否定，一个否定了原否定。选 A

A mysterious phenomenon is the ability of over-water migrants to travel on course. Birds, bees, and other species can keep track of time without any sensory cues from the outside world, and such —biological clocks|| 5 clearly contribute to their —compass sense.|| For example, they can use the position of the Sun or stars, along with the time of day, to find north. But compass sense alone cannot explain how birds navigate the ocean: after a flock traveling east is blown far south by a storm, it will 10 assume the proper northeasterly course to compensate. Perhaps, some scientists thought, migrants determine their geographic position on Earth by celestial navigation, almost as human navigators use stars and planets, but this would demand of the animals a fantastic map sense. 15 Researchers now know that some species have a magnetic sense, which might allow migrants to determine their geographic location by detecting variations in the strength of the Earth's magnetic field.

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6. The main idea of the passage is that
(A) migration over land requires a simpler explanation than migration over water does
(B) the means by which animals migrate over water are complex and only partly understood
(C) the ability of migrant animals to keep track of time is related to their magnetic sense
(D) knowledge of geographic location is essential to migrants with little or no compass sense
(E) explanations of how animals migrate tend to replace, rather than build on, one another
7. It can be inferred from the passage that if the flock of birds described in lines 8-9 were navigating by compass sense alone, they would, after the storm, fly
(A) east (B) north (C) northwest

(D) south (E) southeast

8. Of the following descriptions of migrating animals, which most strongly suggests that the animals are depending on magnetic cues to orient themselves?

(A) Pigeons can properly readjust their course even when flying long distances through exceedingly dense fogs.

(B) Bison are able to reach their destination by passing through a landscape that has been partially altered by a recent fire.

(C) Elephants are able to find grounds that some members of the herd have never seen before.

(D) Swallows are able to return to a given spot at the same time every year.

(E) Monarch butterflies coming from different parts of North America are able to arrive at the same location each winter.

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Starting from the premise that mythology and legend preserve at least a nucleus of historical fact, Bachofen argued that women were dominant in many ancient societies. His work was based on a comprehensive survey of references in the ancient sources to Amazonian and other societies with matrilineal customs—societies in which descent and property rights are traced through the female line. Some support for his theory can be found in evidence such as that drawn from Herodotus, the Greek historian of the fifth century B. C. Nonetheless, this assumption that the first recorders of ancient myths have preserved facts is problematic. Ancient Greek descriptions of those societies were meant not so much to represent observed historical fact—real Amazonian societies—but rather to offer —moral lessons on the supposed outcome of women’s rule in their own society. The Amazons were often characterized, for example, as the equivalents of giants and centaurs, enemies to be slain by Greek heroes; thus, their customs were presented not as those of a respectable society, but as the very antitheses of ordinary Greek practices.

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9. The primary purpose of the passage is to

- (A) compare competing new approaches to understanding the role of women in ancient societies
- (B) investigate the ramifications of Bachofen's theory about the dominance of women in ancient societies
- (C) explain the burgeoning interest among historians in determining the actual status of women in various societies
- (D) analyze the nature of Amazonian society and uncover similarities between it and the Greek world
- (E) criticize the value of ancient myths in determining the status of women in ancient societies
10. Select the sentence in the passage that is presented as evidence supporting the author's view of the ancient Greeks' descriptions of the Amazons.
11. The author's attitude toward Bachofen's treatise is best described as one of
- (A) qualified approval
- (B) profound ambivalence
- (C) studied neutrality
- (D) pointed disagreement
- (E) unmitigated hostility

阅读 1: 开篇提到了一个神秘现象, 鸟类能进行水上迁移, 然后说他们这些“生物钟”是归因于 **compass sense**; 之后提到 **compass sense alone** 又不足以解释这个现象, 因为向东飞的鸟被南风吹了之后, 自己知道要往东北飞, 来保持原来的航向。于是有些人觉得它们可以用天文导航进行定位, 但是这有需要很强的地图感。现在科学家们知道啦, 原来它们能根据地磁强度的变化确定地理位置, 然后进行迁移。

Q6: 通篇讲的都是定位的几个方法, **compass sense**, **navigation** (导航定位), **magnetic**, 所以选 **B**;

Q7: 如果只有 **compass sense**, 那么被南风 **storm** 吹了之后, 向哪飞?

解析: 如果没有 **compass sense**, 就不知道弥补航向, 原来怎么飞还怎么飞, 选 **A: east**

Q8: 下面哪个描述强烈表明鸟类用 **magnetic cues** 定位?

解析: **A**, 提到了调整航向, 正确;

B, **landscape** 最近被火烧了, 天上星星还是那样啊, **compass sense** 也可以, 错误

C, 与定位无关, 错误

D, **E** 无法说明迁移的路上有用到 **magnetic cues** 来定位。

阅读 2: 原文先是提出一个观点, 说如果神话传说保留了历史的核心, 那么女性在原始社会史占主导地位的。之后给了一点证据。然后, 一个明晃晃的 **nonetheless** (line 10) 改变了前面的基调, 说你这个证据是有问题的啊...blablabla...

Q9: 文章主要说什么?

解析: 文章开头引出观点, 后面一直在大篇幅批判, 所以一眼看到 E 选项的 **criticize**, 就是他了。

PS: 根据新东方观点, 主旨题前面动词对了, 后面就不用看了, 节省时间。

Q10: 选出一句话

解析: 注意 **keyword** 是 **evidence**, 选出个 **evidence**, 这个 **evidence** 能够支持作者关于古希腊对于亚马逊人得描述的观点。描述的观点是 "**Ancient Greek descriptions of those societies ... in their own society**", 那个支撑他的 **evidence** 就是 "**The Amazons were often characterized, ... by Greek heroes**".

Q11: 作者对于 B 论文的观点是?

解析: 作者又 **nonetheless** 开始一直在否定, 所以答案为 **D, pointed disagreement**; 作者并无敌意, 所以 E 不对。 **PS:** 一般有关作者态度, 很少用这种极端词汇的, 该题是特例, 比较常见的是 **critically agree/disagree**, 或者 **neutrally...**, 但是该题表不赞同的只有 **D**, 就选它了。

Visual recognition involves storing and retrieving memories. Neural activity, triggered by the eye, forms an image in the brain's memory system that constitutes an internal representation of the viewed object. When an object is encountered again, it is matched with its internal representation and thereby recognized. Controversy surrounds the question of whether recognition is a parallel, one-step process or a serial, step-by-step one.

Psychologists of the Gestalt school maintain that objects are recognized as wholes in a parallel procedure: the internal representation is matched with the retinal image in a single operation. Other psychologists have proposed that internal representation features are matched serially with an object's features. Although some experiments show that, as an object becomes familiar, its internal representation becomes more holistic and the recognition process correspondingly more parallel, the weight of evidence seems to support the serial hypothesis, at least for objects that are not notably simple and familiar.

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12. The author is primarily concerned with
- (A) explaining how the brain receives images
 - (B) synthesizing hypotheses of visual recognition
 - (C) examining the evidence supporting the serial-recognition hypothesis
 - (D) discussing visual recognition and some

hypotheses proposed to explain it
(E) reporting on recent experiments dealing with
memory systems and their relationship to
neural activity

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

13. According to the passage, Gestalt psychologists
make which of the following suppositions about
visual recognition?

- ☐A A retinal image is in exactly the same forms as its
internal representation.
- ☐B An object is recognized as a whole without any need
for analysis into component parts.
- ☐C The matching of an object with its internal
representation occurs in only one step.

阅读 1: 介绍了一下 **visual recognition**, 然后两种假设 (1.**Psychologists of the Gestalt school**: 视觉识别是一次性操作, 对目标整体进行识别; 2.**Other psychologists have proposed**: 是对目标各个特征进行一点点的序列识别)

Q12: 文章的 **primary idea**?

解析: 理清结构发现, 文章讨论了 **visual recognition**, 然后是几种假设, 所以选 **D**;

Q13: **G school** 的人哪种 **supposition**?

解析: **G school** 的人是整体论持有者;

正确选项: **B**: 整体识别 (定位原文 **as wholes**); **C**: 一步搞定 (定位原文 **in a single operation**):