

1

English

75 Questions j Time—45 Minutes

Directions: This test consists of five passages in which particular words or phrases are underlined and numbered. Alongside the passage, you will see alternative words and phrases that could be substituted for the underlined part. Select the alternative that expresses the idea most clearly and correctly or that best fits the style and tone of the entire passage. If the original version is best, select “No Change.”

The test also includes questions about entire paragraphs and the passage as a whole. These questions are identified by a number in a box.

After you select the correct answer for each question, on your answer sheet, mark the oval corresponding to the correct answer.

Essay I

The Girls Choir of Harlem

It is rare to hear of choirs composed of just girls.
1

In fact, for every girls’ choir in the United States, there are ten choirs that are boys’ or mixed. But,
2
in 1977, the Girls Choir of Harlem was founded to complement the already existing and justly
3
renowned Boys Choir.

To this day, the Boys Choir of Harlem overshadows the Girls Choir. It had been around
4
longer since 1968 and has received the attention
5
needed to gain funding and performance opportunities. The boys have appeared in some of the world’s most prestigious musical settings. Performing a sunrise concert for the Pope on the
6
Great Lawn in New York’s Central Park, and they have traveled to Washington, D.C. where

in front of the reflecting pool they sung in front
 7
 of the Washington monument.

[8] During the 1980s, when funds dried up, the Girls Choir temporarily disbanded. However, in 1989, the choir reassembled, and in November of 1997, they made their debut at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, performing music by Schumann and Pergolesi toward the
 9
 audience of dignitaries, including the mayor's wife and thousands of music lovers.

10
 Giving kids from broken families and
 11
 poverty-stricken homes new confidence and hope for their future, both the Girls Choir and the Boys Choir of Harlem act as havens for inner-city children. The boys and girls in the choirs attend the Choir Academy. The 500-student public school strongly emphasizes singing. [12] It's a fine learning environment that has given the girls ambitions most of them never before considered. The choir members speak confidently of someday becoming

lawyers, doctors, and politicians—jobs

appearing out of reach to them.

13
 Now that the Girls Choir of Harlem is receiving some of the recognition that the boys have long enjoyed, perhaps corporations and wealthy individuals will be motivated to give generously to support the choir and ensure it will never again be canceled for lack of money.
 14

1. A. NO CHANGE
 B. only just girls.
 C. girls alone.
 D. girls and no boys.
2. F. NO CHANGE
 G. ten are either boys' or mixed choirs.
 H. each of ten choirs are either boys' or mixed.
 J. there are ten that are either boys' or mixed choirs.
3. A. NO CHANGE
 B. what already existed
 C. the existing
 D. already existing
4. F. NO CHANGE
 G. was
 H. has been
 J. being
5. A. NO CHANGE
 B. longer, since 1968 and
 C. longer since 1968, and
 D. longer (since 1968) and

6. F. NO CHANGE
G. They have performed
H. A performance of
J. The choir performs
7. A. NO CHANGE
B. they sung in front of the reflecting pool
C. before the reflecting pool they sung
D. they sung at the reflecting pool
8. Which of the following sentences provides the most effective transition from the previous paragraph to this one?
- F. Such glorious moments eluded their female counterparts, at least at first.
G. The Boys Choir and Girls Choir both have performed mainly in the Northeastern part of the U.S.
H. The Girls Choir, though not so experienced as the Boys Choir, is considered equally talented.
J. The Boys Choir was able to attract more funding than the Girls Choir.
9. A. NO CHANGE
B. before an
C. in front of the
D. at an
10. F. NO CHANGE
G. wife, and
H. wife as well as
J. wife with
11. A. NO CHANGE
B. They give
C. By giving
D. As they give
12. Which of the following sentences, if inserted at this point in the essay, would be most logical and appropriate?
- F. Nevertheless, it provides a well-rounded education that helps prepare students for a variety of careers.
G. Classes in vocal technique, sight reading, and even music theory are all part of the regular curriculum.
H. The student body is carefully selected from a much larger pool of applicants.
J. Students are admitted based on financial need as well as their musical abilities, especially their singing ability.
13. A. NO CHANGE
B. appeared
C. that once appeared
D. that would have appeared
14. F. NO CHANGE
G. close its doors
H. stop what they do
J. go silent

Item 15 poses a question about the essay as a whole.

15. Suppose the writer had been assigned to write an essay describing the musical achievements of the Girls Choir of Harlem. Would this essay successfully fulfill the assignment?
- A. Yes, because the essay makes it clear that the girls in the choir are talented performers.
 - B. Yes, because the concert at Alice Tully Hall is explained in some detail.
 - C. No, because the music performed by the choir is scarcely discussed in the essay.
 - D. No, because the essay discusses the Boys Choir as extensively as the Girls Choir.

Essay II

[The following paragraphs may or may not be arranged in the best possible order. The last item will ask you to choose the most effective order for the paragraphs as numbered.]

Tunnel Vision: The Bane of Business

[1]

Sometimes a business leader stumbles into a kind of trap by waiting and seeing what new technologies develop instead of anticipating them: trading time for the prospect of more information and a decrease in uncertainty.

Sometimes the leader is simply so afraid to lose that he or she is incapable of the bold action

required for success. Regardless of the reason for inaction, the leader is operating with limited vision, and the company suffers as a result.

[2]

By the early 1980s, Wang Corporation had developed the preeminent office automation capability in the world. In many offices, the name “Wang” had become synonymous with “office automation.” Having had gained a reputation for quality and with proprietary hardware and software that guaranteed the uniqueness of its product, Wang had built a market position that seemingly was unassailable. Yet, in less than a decade, Wang faded to near obscurity.

[3]

In place of Wang’s specialized computer systems, versatile personal computers linked together in networks had become the dominant office tools. The new personal computers first transformed the market for office automation networks then wiping out the old market. Wang shrank dramatically, surviving only

by transforming itself—exploiting its software
24
and engineering strengths in completely
different ways.

[4]

Wang had seen itself as a special kind of
computer company, one that used large
25
machines to serve entire companies. Its excel-
25
lence and leadership in innovation was highly
respected, and it was important to Wang
not to slip up. That view led Wang to continue
26
with its familiar business until it was too late. It
failed to see the opportunity that the personal
computer presented. Eventually, Wang did
attempt to move into personal computers, but
by the time that happened. Wang's opportunity
27
to move forward was gone. [28]

[5]

Businesses don't always get into trouble because
they are badly run or inefficient. Sometimes, a
29
well-managed company fails because its leaders
29
simply don't understand how the world is chang-
ing around them. What happened to Wang, the
office automation company, is a classic example.

16. F. NO CHANGE
G. for
H. on
J. to see
17. A. NO CHANGE
B. it,
C. them—
D. them and
18. F. NO CHANGE
G. that they are
H. so as to be
J. that the leaders are
19. A. NO CHANGE
B. In fact, in many offices,
C. In many offices, however,
D. Also, in many offices,
20. F. NO CHANGE
G. Gaining
H. In order to gain
J. With
21. A. NO CHANGE
B. that seemed
C. that was seeming
D. seemingly
22. Which of the following courses of action involving the underlined sentence would organize the information in Paragraphs 2 and 3 in the most logical manner?

F. NO CHANGE
G. Start a new paragraph with the sentence, and omit the paragraph break after the sentence.
H. Move the sentence to the end of Paragraph 3.
J. Omit the sentence.

23. A. NO CHANGE
B. will become
C. were to become
D. soon became
24. F. NO CHANGE
G. by its transformation
H. by means of transforming
J. to transform itself
25. A. NO CHANGE
B. a company that used large machines to serve entire companies
C. whose machines served entire companies because of their large size
D. using large machines allowing it to serve entire companies
26. F. NO CHANGE
G. to not lose it
H. to maintain that position
J. to avoid slip ups
27. A. NO CHANGE
B. it was too late;
C. by that time
D. when time ran out
28. Which of the following sentences, if inserted at this point in the essay, would be most relevant and effective?
- F. Wang had been badly outmaneuvered and was left essentially with no market.
- G. The company failed to foresee the day that personal computers would appear on millions of desktops.
- H. Ultimate responsibility for this lack of foresight rested on the shoulders of the company's leaders.
- J. Apparently, Wang was not the excellent computer company everyone in the computer industry had always assumed it was.

29. A. NO CHANGE
B. A well-managed company might fail
C. When a well-managed company fails, it's
D. A company that is well-managed fails

Item 30 poses a question about the essay as a whole.

30. Which of the following proposals for the order of the essay's paragraphs, if implemented, would provide the most logical and effective beginning and ending for the essay?
- F. NO CHANGE (Don't make any changes in the sequence of paragraphs.)
- G. Move Paragraph 5 to the beginning of the essay.
- H. Move Paragraph 1 to the end of the essay.
- J. Move Paragraph 5 to the beginning of the essay, and move Paragraph 1 to the end of the essay.

Essay III

An Oboist's Quest

[1]

I started playing the oboe because I heard it was a challenging instrument. That was four years ago, and I've enjoyed learning to play the oboe like I expected. However, it was not until recently that I realized what an oboist's real challenge is: finding good oboe reeds.

31

32

[2]

Though the reed is a small part of the instrument, mainly it is what the quality of the oboe's

33

sound is determined by. Professional oboists

33

make their own reeds. Students like me must

34

buy reeds from either their teachers or from

35

mail-order companies.

[3]

My troubles began when my teacher stopped making reeds, sending all of her students on a

wild goose chase for the perfect reed. The

problem is there's no such thing as a perfect

36

reed, though oboists like to daydream about it.

There is also no such thing as a perfect reed

supplier. Reed makers are much in demand, and

the reeds are often very expensive. [37] What's

more, the reed makers tend to take their time in

sending reeds to you. For example, I usually

38

have to wait three to six weeks after they've

received my check in the mail. This wouldn't be

a problem if I always ordered my reeds well

before the time I need it, but oboe reeds are

39

temperamental and often crack or break

without warning. Thus, I need to have several

back-up reeds available at all times.

[4]

I first tried buying reeds from a reed maker in

Massachusetts. They were pretty good at first,

but they became progressively lower and lower

40

in quality the longer I bought them from him. It

got to the point where none of the reeds he

supplied worked, so I had to move on.

[5]

My next source was a company in California.

However, they're reeds sounded like ducks

41

quacking, so I dropped that source from my

list. Desperate, the next person I called was an

42

oboist friend of my parents. She helped me fix a

42

few salvageable reeds I owned, and soon I had

several that played in tune and that created a

good tone. It seemed my reed troubles were

over. However, within two weeks, those

precious reeds were all played out, and I

needed more.

[6]

Recently, however, a friend recommended a

43

reed maker from New York City who made

reeds that, according to him, were rather good.

44

I called him immediately, and he asked me

questions about my playing so that he could

cater to my oboe needs. He promised to send

out a supply of reeds within a week. Imagine

my disappointment when the reeds he sent

turned out to be poorly made, with unstable

tones and a thin, unpleasant sound. [45]

31. A. NO CHANGE
 B. as
 C. as much as I
 D. to the degree in which I
32. F. NO CHANGE
 G. is—it's finding
 H. is which is finding
 J. is finding
33. A. NO CHANGE
 B. it is mainly what determines the quality of the oboe's sound
 C. it is the main component of the oboe that determines the quality of its sound
 D. mainly the quality of the oboe's sound is determined by the reed

34. F. NO CHANGE
 G. reeds, but
 H. reeds, so
 J. reeds. And, students
35. A. NO CHANGE
 B. from their teachers or
 C. either from their teachers or
 D. either from their teachers or from
36. F. NO CHANGE
 G. is that there's
 H. was there's
 J. is, there's
37. At this point, the writer wants to provide an additional remark about the expense of oboe reeds. Which of the following sentences would be most relevant and most consistent with the information in the paragraph as a whole?
- A. In addition, if you purchase a reed by mail order, you're charged a shipping fee, making the total expense even greater.
 B. In my opinion, reed makers often charge twice what I consider a fair price for an oboe reed.
 C. Students, most of whom are on a limited budget, find it difficult to afford expensive reeds.
 D. However, since professional reed makers produce the best possible reeds, the high price is well worth it.
38. F. NO CHANGE
 G. Typically,
 H. In fact,
 J. OMIT the underlined portion.

39. A. NO CHANGE
B. need them,
C. plan to use it,
D. need,
40. F. NO CHANGE
G. less and less
H. poor
J. lower
41. A. NO CHANGE
B. it's
C. their
D. its
42. F. NO CHANGE
G. I next called an oboist friend of my parents
H. an oboist friend of my parents was the next person I called
J. I called a person next who was an oboist friend of my parents
43. Among the following alternatives involving the underlined portion, which provides the most logical and effective transition from Paragraph 5 to Paragraph 6?
A. NO CHANGE
B. However,
C. Recently,
D. Also,
44. F. NO CHANGE
G. he claimed
H. my friend told me
J. according to my friend

Item 45 poses a question about the essay as a whole.

45. Which of the following sentences, if inserted at this point, would provide an ending for the essay that best ties together the entire essay?
- A. My search for the perfect reed continues and may never come to an end until I learn to make reeds myself.
B. With all the oboists in the New York City area, you'd think that this reed maker's product would be far better than it was.
C. Obviously, I'll never buy another reed from the reed maker that my friend recommended—or from any of the reed makers with whom I've already dealt.
D. When I first began playing the oboe, I never imagined that finding reeds would be more challenging than actually learning to play the instrument.

Essay IV

The First Thanksgiving: Turkey Day and a Whole Lot More

[1]

Every autumn, when Thanksgiving occurs,
 46
 anxiety and stress levels in millions of American families rise. It's not an easy job to host friends
 47
 and relatives from all over the country then
 48
 preparing one of the largest meals of the year.

But when the typical Thanksgiving dinner of today is compared with the celebration of the

first Thanksgiving, it doesn't seem like such a feat.

[2]

First, consider the menu. At a typical modern-day Thanksgiving dinner, there is a roast
49
turkey, baked yams, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, and some sort of dessert—perhaps ice cream and either pie or cake. Of course, you can fix everything yourself from scratch, if you like; but if you prefer, all the food can be
50
purchased at a local supermarket. In just one trip, you have all you need for your dinner.

[3]

(1) Today's menu seems stingy by comparison
51
to the Pilgrims' meal enjoyed on the first
52
Thanksgiving in 1621. (2) According to contemporary records, the list of foods included five deer; wild turkeys, geese, and duck; eels, lobsters, clams, and mussels fished from the ocean; pumpkin; an assortment of biscuits; hoe and ash cakes; popcorn balls; pudding; berries of several kinds; plums, cherries, and bogbeans; beer made from barley; and wine spiked with

brandy. [53] (3) Just in case this weren't
54
enough, the Pilgrims could fill in the corners with "flint corn," a rock-hard corn ground into a mush. (4) And once the dinner was served, the meal lasted not a few hours but rather
55
a few days—and with no football on television to distract the Pilgrims and their friends from the serious business of eating.

[4]

[56] Nowadays, in many households, the whole family comes for Thanksgiving. Statistics show that the average Thanksgiving dinner today boasts twenty-three guests total— no tiny
57
gathering. Both family and friends are included
58
in this number. At the first Thanksgiving, when Squanto, the Indian-in-residence, decided to invite Massasoit, the leader of the Wampanoag tribe, the Pilgrims weren't expecting him to
59
bring along another ninety Wampanoags
59
to a little pot-luck supper. With the Pilgrims, that made a 140-person guest list. [60]

46. F. NO CHANGE
G. when it's Thanksgiving
H. during Thanksgiving
J. whenever Thanksgiving rolls around
47. A. NO CHANGE
B. hosting
C. as a host to
D. of hosting
48. F. NO CHANGE
G. country. Then
H. country; then
J. country, and then
49. A. NO CHANGE
B. it's common to eat
C. you'll dine on
D. the menu consists of
50. F. NO CHANGE
G. you can purchase all the food
H. all the food is purchasable
J. the food you need you can purchase
51. A. NO CHANGE
B. when it is being compared
C. comparing it
D. OMIT the underlined portion.
52. F. NO CHANGE
G. Pilgrim's meal
H. meal the Pilgrims
J. Pilgrims' meal that they
53. Is the repeated use of a semicolon in sentence 2 correct and appropriate?
A. Yes, because the sentence lists more than three distinct items of food.
B. Yes, because the sentence lists different categories as well as specific category items.
C. No, because the resulting sentence is so long that it is not easily understood.
D. No, because a semicolon should be used only to separate clauses that can stand alone as complete sentences.
54. F. NO CHANGE
G. If
H. As if
J. In the case that
55. A. NO CHANGE
B. so many hours that it lasted for a few days
C. not just a few hours but rather a few days
D. a few days and not a few hours
56. Which of the following sentences, if inserted at the beginning of Paragraph 4, would provide the best transition from Paragraph 3?
F. With none of our modern conveniences, such as gas and electric stoves, the Pilgrims needed far more time to prepare Thanksgiving dinner.
G. With so much food and such an extensive menu, it made sense for a Pilgrim host to invite as many guests as possible for Thanksgiving dinner.
H. At a Pilgrim's typical Thanksgiving dinner, the number of guests was often very large.
J. The other major difference between our Thanksgiving and the Pilgrims' Thanksgiving involves the guest list.

57. A. NO CHANGE
 B. guests in total
 C. guests
 D. guests altogether
58. Which of the following proposals for the underlined sentence would be most appropriate in the context of Paragraph 4 as a whole?
- F. Revise the sentence as follows: *This number includes friends as well as family.*
 G. Replace the sentence with the following: *As it turns out, this number is actually comparatively low.*
 H. Move the sentence to the end of Paragraph 4.
 J. Delete the sentence. (Do not replace it with any other sentence.)
59. A. NO CHANGE
 B. the Pilgrims weren't expecting him to bring along to a little pot-luck supper another ninety Wampanoags
 C. to a little pot-luck supper, the Pilgrims weren't expecting him to bring along another ninety Wampanoags
 D. he wasn't expected by the Pilgrims to bring another ninety Wampanoags to a little pot-luck supper

Item 60 poses a question about the essay as a whole.

60. The writer wants to add a sentence that links the essay's opening and ending. If inserted at the end of the essay, which of the following sentences best achieves this objective?
- F. So, instead of complaining about your duties as a Thanksgiving host, be thankful you aren't hosting the first Thanksgiving.
 G. As it turns out, then, the dinner menu for the first Thanksgiving was not too extensive after all.
 H. Compared to today's Thanksgiving hosts, the Pilgrims certainly had their hands full with the large number of guests for their first Thanksgiving.
 J. The unexpected turnout for the first Thanksgiving makes today's typical Thanksgiving dinner look like an intimate gathering.

Essay V

A People's Art, for Good and Ill

[1]

During movies early years, from about 1910 to
 61

1940, the greatness of film as an art form is in
 62

its own ingenuity and invention. And this

greatness was not lost on the general public, as

the numbers of avid moviegoers grew and grew

during this time period. Between 1920
 63

and 1930, a generation of filmmakers emerged
 63

who were not failed novelists or unsuccessful playwrights but rather moviemakers—through and through. Their essential vision belonged to no other medium with the exception of the cinema, and this is what made the early days of filmmaking so vital and exciting.

[2]

[65] Their public was a universal audience of ordinary people, spread across the world. Like the first dramas of Shakespeare, their art was not a product for the palace or the mansion, but rather for the common playhouse where working people sat shoulder to shoulder with the middle class and the well-to-do. This is what gave the early movie makers the strength and freshness still perceived by us in their art.

[3]

(1) Today, movies are more popular than ever, and box-office receipts for the great international hit films running into hundreds of millions of dollars. (2) Movies are becoming more and more conventional, unimaginative, and staler. (3) However, there is a price to be

paid for this democratic appeal to the common person. (4) The freshness of the early movie makers has been lost.

[4]

The artist who serves an elite audience has a known patron, or group of patrons, to satisfy. If he is strong enough, he can, like the painters of the Renaissance, mold their taste in the image of his own. This is true of the greater and more resolute artists of the cinema, from Chaplin in the 1920s to Bergman and Antonioni in the 1960s. The larger an audience and the more costly the movies are to produce, the greater become the pressures brought to bear on the less conventional creator to make his work conform to the pattern of the more conventional creator.

61. A. NO CHANGE
 B. During movies' early years,
 C. During movie's early years,
 D. During the early years of movies,
62. F. NO CHANGE
 G. was
 H. lay in
 J. is

63. A. NO CHANGE
B. Between 1920 and 1930 emerged a generation of filmmakers
C. Between 1920 and 1930, the emergence of a generation of filmmakers
D. A generation of filmmakers emerged between 1920 and 1930
64. F. NO CHANGE
G. other medium but the cinema,
H. medium with the exception of the cinema,
J. medium other than the cinema,
65. Which of the following clauses, if added to the beginning of the first sentence in Paragraph 2, would provide the most effective transition from Paragraph 1 to Paragraph 2?
A. First of all,
B. However,
C. Furthermore,
D. Without a doubt,
66. F. NO CHANGE
G. but of
H. but instead for
J. it was for
67. A. NO CHANGE
B. we still perceive in their art
C. still perceived in their art today
D. still perceived in their art by us
68. F. NO CHANGE
G. ever;
H. ever, but
J. ever, with
69. A. NO CHANGE
B. more stale
C. stale
D. even stale
70. Which of the following is the best order for the sentences in Paragraph 3?
F. 2, 1, 4, 3
G. 1, 2, 3, 4
H. 3, 1, 4, 2
J. 1, 3, 2, 4
71. A. NO CHANGE
B. has only
C. has had
D. only has
72. F. NO CHANGE
G. This can also be
H. Such an ability is
J. This image is
73. An editor has suggested that the writer insert a sentence at this point in order to provide a logical and effective connection between the sentence that would precede it and the sentence that would follow it. Which of the following sentences would best accomplish this objective?
A. These aren't the only cinematic artists who have been able to accomplish this; but, they are probably the most notable ones.
B. All three of these artists were able to satisfy the quirky tastes of their patrons while satisfying their own creative urges as well.
C. But, these artists were interested mainly in achieving artistic excellence, not in appealing to a mass audience.
D. The films of these artists were eventually seen by millions of people worldwide.
74. F. NO CHANGE
G. For large audiences
H. If the audiences are large
J. A larger audience