



FOCUS: Answering multiple-choice vocabulary questions in short passages.

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DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

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Waves



Reading > Lesson 2: Vocabulary Questions > Exercise 2.2

DIRECTIONS: Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

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When a pebble is dropped into a pool of water, the disturbance produces water waves that radiate from the point at which the pebble entered the water. A leaf floating near the disturbance moves up and down and back and forth about its original position, but does not undergo any net **displacement** attributable to the disturbance. In other words, the water wave (or disturbance) moves from one place to another, but the water is not carried with it.

When observing a water wave, we see a rearrangement of the water's surface. In the absence of water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure variations from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance.

Three conditions are required for mechanical waves such as these to be produced. First, a source of disturbance is needed. The second requirement is a medium that can be disturbed. Lastly, some physical connection or mechanism is necessary through which adjacent portions of the medium can influence each other.



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- 1 Which of the following is closest in meaning to **radiate** as it is used in the passage?

- ☐ fall
- ☐ spread
- ☐ originate
- ☐ converge

When a pebble is dropped into a pool of water, the disturbance produces water waves that **radiate** from the point at which the pebble entered the water. A leaf floating near the disturbance moves up and down and back and forth about its original position, but does not undergo any net **displacement** attributable to the disturbance. In other words, the water wave (or disturbance) moves from one place to another, but the water is not carried with it.

When observing a water wave, we see a rearrangement of the water's surface. In the absence of water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure variations from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance.

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- 2 The phrase **attributable to** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- ☐ caused by
- ☐ similar to
- ☐ separate from
- ☐ resulting in

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When observing a water wave, we see a rearrangement of the water's surface. In the absence of water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure variations from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance.

Three conditions are required for mechanical waves such as these to be produced. First, a source of disturbance is needed. The second requirement is a medium that can be disturbed. Lastly, some physical connection or mechanism is necessary through which adjacent portions of the medium can influence each other.



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- 3 The word **rearrangement** as used in the passage means

- ☐ alteration
- ☐ heating
- ☐ discharge
- ☐ withdrawal

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When observing a water wave, we see a **rearrangement** of the water's surface. In the absence of water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure variations from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance.

Three conditions are required for mechanical waves such as these to be produced. First, a source of disturbance is needed. The second requirement is a medium that can be disturbed. Lastly, some physical connection or mechanism is necessary through which adjacent portions of the medium can influence each other.



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- 4 The phrase **In the absence of** as used in the passage is closest in meaning to

- ☐ Unless
☐ Except
☐ Without
☐ Under

When a pebble is dropped into a pool of water, the disturbance produces water waves that radiate from the point at which the pebble entered the water. A leaf floating near the disturbance moves up and down and back and forth about its original position, but does not undergo any net **displacement** attributable to the disturbance. In other words, the water wave (or disturbance) moves from one place to another, but the water is not carried with it.

When observing a water wave, we see a rearrangement of the water's surface. **In the absence of** water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure variations from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance. Three conditions are required for mechanical waves such as these to be produced. First, a source of disturbance is needed. The second requirement is a medium that can be disturbed. Lastly, some physical connection or mechanism is necessary through which adjacent portions of the medium can influence each other.



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- 5 The word closest in meaning to **variations** in the passage is

- ☐ movements
☐ differences
☐ alternatives
☐ decreases

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When observing a water wave, we see a rearrangement of the water's surface. In the absence of water, there would be no wave. Similarly, a wave traveling on a string would not exist without the string. Sound waves travel through air as a result of pressure **variations** from point to point. Therefore, we can consider a wave to be the motion of a disturbance.

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- 6 Which of the following is closest in meaning to **source** as it is used in the passage?

- ☐ place
☐ wave
☐ sound
☐ cause

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- 7 When referring to **a medium** the author means

- ☐ an environment
☐ an intermediary
☐ a motion
☐ an average

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8 Which of the following is closest in meaning to **adjacent** as it is used in the passage?

- ☐ competing
- ☐ neighboring
- ☐ circular
- ☐ successive

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Three conditions are required for mechanical waves such as these to be produced. First, a source of disturbance is needed. The second requirement is a medium that can be disturbed. Lastly, some physical connection or mechanism is necessary through which **adjacent** portions of the medium can influence each other.