20. DIRECTIONS: Each of the following passages is followed by questions. Answer each question based on what is directly stated or suggested in the related. Few creatures capture our imagination like the shark. The following passage describes some facts you may not know about sharks. (Line No. 1) Described as a “swimming and eating machine without peer,”the shark is considered an evolutionary success story, having changed little over 60 million years. Sharks are models of efficiency with their boneless skeletons, simple brains, generalized nervous systems, and simple internal structures. Their hydrodynamically designed shapes, razor-sharp replaceable teeth, powerful jaws, and vora (Line No. 5) cious appetites make them excellent marauders. Through scavenging and predation, the 250 species of sharks perform a valuable service in maintaining the ecological balance of the oceans. Their welldeveloped sensory systems enable them to detect extreme dilutions of blood in water, low frequency sounds of splashing made by a fish in distress, and movements and contrasts in water. While many sharks are caught by fishermen for sport, sharks can and do sustain small commercial (Line No. 10) ventures. Their skins provide a hide tougher than leather, out of which boots and wallets are fabricated, and their enormous livers contain a valuable source of vitamin A. Shark meat is processed for fertilizer and livestock feed as well as for human consumption. The British “fish-and-chips”industry depends on shark meat; the Italians annually consume about 10 million pounds of smooth dogfish shark; the Chinese use shark fins for soup. Generally, shark meat is consumed unknowingly under 15 other, more appetizing names. Sharks are also contributing to medical research through studies of their immunological systems.While this research may result in saving human lives,sharks do,at times,take lives.Each year about 25 to 30 shark attacks on people are reported worldwide with the victims either maimed or killed.The vast majority of these attacks occur off the coast of Australia—only a few occur off the coast of the United (Line No. 20) States.Research on shark attacks may eventually lead to the development of an effective shark repellent. **Passage Question No. 1**. As used in line 1, peer most nearly means (A) friend (B) better (C) equal (D) dock (E) improvement **Passage Question No. 2**. According to the first paragraph, all the following contribute to the shark’s success as a hunter except (A) hydrodynamically designed shape (B) razor-sharp replaceable teeth. (C) powerful jaws (D) voracious appetite (E) great age **Passage Question No. 3**. Which conclusion is best supported by the first paragraph? (A) The author is very afraid of sharks. (B) The author admires sharks. (C) People should learn more about sharks. (D) Sharks are not very intelligent. (E) Sharks are very dangerous because they attack humans.