

Passage 41

① The male lion's mane consists of hair of varying length and color, covering, to varying degrees, the head, neck, shoulders, and chest. ② Schaller suggested that the mane protects the area of the body "towards which most social contact is directed" by absorbing blows and bites. ③ **Darker mane hairs are thicker than lighter hairs**, so darker manes may provide better protection. ④ These ideas suggest that males with longer and darker manes will be wounded less frequently and/or with less severity on the area covered by the mane, but direct tests of this prediction are difficult. ⑤ Individual males are seldom seen daily, and the mane itself **obscures** many wounds beneath it from view. ⑥ Furthermore, even in the best studied population, serious fights between lions are rarely observed.

1. Which of the following best describe the function of the highlighted portion of the passage?
 - A. to summarize the results of an experiment
 - B. to provide evidence on which a particular prediction is offered**
 - C. to offer a counterexample that undermines a propelled explanation
 - D. to identify a phenomenon that Schaller found difficult to explain
 - E. to explain the variation among individual lion manes
2. The passage mentions which of the following as an obstacle to verify the "prediction" mentioned in the passage?
 - A. wounds to the mane area are often difficult to observe
 - B. only a few lion populations have been well studied
 - C. the severity of fights between lions is difficult to determine
 - D. individual males seldom have strong distinguishing characteristics
 - E. researchers have relatively few opportunities to observe lion populations directly

Passage 42

① Unlike the static, classically composed portraits produced by her mentor Walker Evans, twentieth-century New York photographer Helen Levitt's photographs seem candid and spontaneous. ② Whereas Evans' subjects look directly into the camera, so that photographer and subject conspire in the making of a portrait, Levitt's subjects seem caught unawares. ③ As a "street" photographer, before the term's invention, Levitt has claimed to have attempted to capture life as she found it. ④ But there is a paradox to her technique. ⑤ Her off-the-cuff aesthetic seemingly guarantees objectivity, since she was recording street scenes she happened upon, yet her photographs could be said to be highly subjective, to be reflections of Levitt's own distinctive preoccupations and ways of seeing. ⑥ Unlike Evans' images, Levitt's are solely the products of the photographer without the conscious participation of their subjects. ⑦ The repetitions evident in Levitt's choices of subjects, for example her many photographs of children in masks and disguises, reveal more about Levitt herself than about those subjects.

1. According to the passage, which of the following appears to ensure the objectivity of Levitt's photographs?
 - A. She took photographs in public places rather than in a studio.
 - B. She was not personally acquainted with the subjects of her photographs.
 - C. She did not arrange the scenes or pose the subjects she photographed.
 - D. She avoided using classical principles of composition.
 - E. She was guided by her subjects' preoccupations rather than by her own.
2. The passage asserts which of the following about Evans' portrait photographs?
 - A. Evans' photographs indicate a conscious rejection of the approaches associated with street photography.
 - B. The subjects in an Evans' photograph become collaborators in the portrait's creation.
 - C. Evans' photographic portraits usually reveal more about Evans than they do about his subjects.
 - D. Evans' static, classically composed portraits reveal Evans' preoccupation with maintaining an appearance of objectivity.
 - E. Evans' static, classically composed portraits reveal little about his distinctive way of seeing.
3. The passage suggests which of the following about street photography?
 - A. It characteristically depicts groups of people rather than individual subjects.
 - B. It tends to depict a narrow and repetitious range of subject matter.
 - C. It creates the impression of spontaneity but often actually involves scenes contrived by the photographer.
 - D. Its early practitioners were not accorded much recognition for their aesthetic achievements.
 - E. It had not been named as such when Levitt began practicing this kind of photography.



Passage 43

① Constant variations in the amount of sunlight available on Earth at any given location make energy storage a necessary design feature of terrestrial solar-energy systems. ② For systems transforming solar to thermal energy, the thermal energy may be stored in matter as either latent heat or sensible heat. ③ Latent heat is absorbed or released whenever matter changes phase, as when matter changes from liquid to gas, for example, or from gas to liquid. ④ Large heat capacities are associated with certain materials, like salts, but in any substance this storage is available only at the unique fixed temperature at which the particular phase transition occurs in that substance. ⑤ Moreover, materials that have transitions at the temperatures that terrestrial solar-energy systems are likely to encounter are usually destructively corrosive at those temperatures. ⑥ The storage of sensible heat, on the other hand, allows flexibility as to temperature, in addition, safe substances like water and most rocks have large sensible heat capacities.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to discuss which of the following?
 - A. Reasons for the necessity for developing solar-energy systems
 - B. Different ways of storing solar energy as heat
 - C. New designs for devices that collect solar energy
 - D. Procedures for transferring thermal energy between materials
 - E. Differences between capacities of solids and liquids to store sensible heat
2. According to the passage, solar-energy systems located on Earth must store energy for which of the following reasons?
 - A. At any given location on Earth, the amount of sunlight available frequently changes.
 - B. The operation of such systems depends on devices that require a power source other than solar energy
 - C. Demand for the energy produced by such systems varies in unpredictable ways
3. The author suggests that which of the following constitutes a potential disadvantage of using latent heat for energy storage?
 - A. The circumstances under which phase transitions occur would limit the versatility of latent heat as a storage method.
 - B. The supply of substances that possess the properties that are needed in a medium for latent heat storage is dwindling.
 - C. The properties that are needed in a medium for latent heat storage are found in substances that have other, undesirable properties.

Passage 44

① *Hard Times*, Charles Dickens' shortest novel, was written and published in 1854. ② Despite the sensational success of its two immediate predecessors, *David Copperfield* and *Bleak House*, and its immediate successors, *Little Dorritt* and *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Hard Times* seems to have been Dickens' least popular novel during his own lifetime and subsequently. ③ One critic speculated that editorial cuts imposed on the novel for serialization were responsible. ④ However, as Jane Jacobs points out, *Hard Times* was serialized in *Household Words*, a periodical that Dickens not only founded but edited. ⑤ Part of the reason for the book's relative unpopularity may have been its despairing message, its depiction of pervasive emptiness in almost everything life has to offer, from marriage and family to success and community. ⑥ Jacobs also suggests that the book's structure may have played a role: action is slow and scant throughout, and descriptions and conversations during the first two thirds of the book are repetitious. ⑦ While the book's tone changes abruptly in the last section, when Dickens, the master storyteller, jogs his characters into life by enmeshing them in convoluted coils of plot, the reader must first endure the tedious way in which Dickens establishes the novel's settings and characters.

1. The passage suggests which of the following about the last section of *Hard Times*?
 - A. The last section compares unfavorably with the first part of the book in terms of literary quality.
 - B. In the last section the settings are presented in a more tedious fashion than is the case in other Dickens' works mentioned in the passage.
 - C. In the last section the characters tend to be more optimistic than they are in the first part of the book
 - D. The last section is atypical of Dickens' general storytelling style.
 - E. The last section would be more likely to appeal to readers than would the first part of the book
2. The author of the passage mentions *David Copperfield*, *Bleak House*, *Little Dorritt* and *A Tale of Two Cities* most likely in order to
 - A. provide a context that helps to explain the public and critical reaction to *Hard Times*
 - B. present examples of other works by Dickens that were not initially commercially successful
 - C. suggest that *Hard Times*' lack of popularity was an anomaly during this period in Dickens' career
 - D. imply that the quality of Dickens' writing improved over time
 - E. question the idea that the novels immediately preceding and following *Hard Times* were extraordinarily successful
3. Each of the following is mentioned in the passage as a possible reason for the relative unpopularity of *Hard Times* **EXCEPT** for the
 - A. repetitive conversations throughout most of the book
 - B. novel's depiction of marriage and family
 - C. novel's despairing message
 - D. convoluted plot development in the last part of the book
 - E. way that the novel establishes its characters

Passage 45

❶ In recent decades, scholars of American literature have skillfully revealed authors' simultaneous accommodation and resistance to an increasingly commercialized, capitalized environment during the early nineteenth century. ❷ Historians of the period have not, however, fully exploited literary criticism, due to the disciplinary boundaries that mark contemporary academic research. ❸ Few historians have extensive training in critical theory and its specialized languages, and the sheer volume of work in early American history and literature challenges anyone who would master either field, much less both. ❹ Moreover, historians study people across the nation, but much literary scholarship called "American" actually examines works produced in northeastern states. ❺ And historians usually study the operations of capitalism in its details, while literary critics produce a generalized picture of literary commodification.

1. As discussed in the passage, the literary scholars and the historians differ in which of the following ways?
 - A. the amount of scholarship that they produce
 - B. the nature of their geographic focus
 - C. the extent to which they are critical of early capitalism
 - D. the extent to which they are interested in interdisciplinary study
 - E. The extent to which they restrict their focus to a particular time period

2. The passage cites which of the following as a reason for historians' failure to fully exploit literary criticism?
 - A. historians' overly thematic approach to literature
 - B. historians' conservative notion of what constitutes literature
 - C. historian's lack of interest in critical theory
 - D. the distinctive nature of much literary criticism
 - E. the ahistorical quality of much literary criticism

Passage 46

① Wildcats are improbable candidates for domestication. ② Like all felids [cats], wildcats are obligate carnivores, meaning they have a limited metabolic ability to digest anything except proteins. ③ Wildcats live a solitary existence and defend exclusive territories, making them more attached to places than to people. ④ Furthermore, cats do not perform directed tasks and their actual utility is debatable; even as mousers, in this latter role, terrier dogs and ferrets are preferable. ⑤ **Accordingly, there is little reason to believe an early agricultural community would have sought out and selected the wildcat as a house pet.** ⑥ Rather, the best inference is that wildcats exploiting human environments were simply tolerated by people and, over time and space, they gradually diverged from their "wild" relatives.

1. The author would most likely agree that in early agricultural communities cats would have been
 - A. more tolerant than ferrets of contact with humans
 - B. as incapable of performing directed tasks as ferrets
 - C. less likely to be solitary than ferrets
 - D. less useful than terrier dogs at controlling rodents
 - E. more easily domesticated than terrier dogs
2. Which of the following best describes the function of the highlighted sentence in the context of the passage as a whole
 - A. It challenges a widely accepted theory presented in the passage.
 - B. It explains a fact that has long puzzled researchers.
 - C. It draws a conclusion from evidence presented in the passage.
 - D. It presents new facts in support of a hypothesis.
 - E. It formulates a new hypothesis from evidence presented in the passage.

Passage 47

❶ In the 2,000-year period immediately before European contact, many native groups of the Northern Plains of North America specialized in big-game hunting, subsisting primarily on bison. ❷ Bison routinely became fat-depleted in the spring, reducing their nutritional value, yet these groups did not supplement their diets with the nutritious, fat-rich fish that were abundantly available. ❸ Malainey *et al.* find a possible explanation in late-eighteenth- and early-nineteenth century accounts from three frontiersmen who had adapted to lean-meat diets during extended periods in the plains. ❹ Each had an opportunity to consume fish after extended meat dependence and upon eating it, became weak and ill. ❺ Malainey notes that prolonged lean meat dependence renders the body incapable of digesting lipids (fats), perhaps explaining native hunters' fish avoidance.

1. The author of the passage mentions accounts from three frontiersmen primarily in order to
 - A. show how the frontiersmen's dietary choices were influenced by the native groups with whom they came into contact
 - B. suggest that these frontiersmen had not adapted well to a diet composed primarily of lean meat.
 - C. indicate what kind of diet was habitually followed by native big-game hunters of the Northern Plains.
 - D. identify evidence for a hypothesis regarding native hunters' fish avoidance.
 - E. call into question an assumption about the effects of fish consumption on people who have adapted to a lean-meat diet.
2. Select the sentence that describes the phenomenon that the passage is concerned with finding an explanation for.

Passage 48

❶ Widespread climate change challenges traditional notions that preserving specific chunks of land is an adequate way to protect endangered species. ❷ Commitment to particular places has taken conservation a long way, but it works only when the climate is relatively stable. ❸ When climate change rather than degraded habitat threatens a species' survival in a particular location, moving the species to new locales might become one way of preserving it. ❹ Some ecologists argue that such assisted migration is simply a way to mimic the natural process of dispersal: its adherents intend to transport species from places that have become uninhabitable through places that humans have made impassable. ❺ Although it has its risks, assisted migration may be a necessary step in the evolution of conservation.

1. The author of the passage implies that some endangered species are unlikely to migrate naturally to habitats better suited to their survival because
 - A. climate change is making such habitats disappear
 - B. few if any viable routes to such habitats exist
 - C. the pace of natural migration is typically slower than the current pace of climate change
 - D. their numbers are already below the thresholds necessary for the typically random processes of natural dispersal
 - E. their dependency on their current habitats is too strong

2. The passage suggests that, in order to adapt to changing conditions, conservationists should
 - A. reformulate their goals regarding the preservation of species
 - B. turn their attention to reversing climate change
 - C. end the practice of labeling certain species as endangered
 - D. reconsider the measures they use to protect endangered species
 - E. rely on natural processes of dispersal and change

Passage 49

① Carolina Hospital notes that Cuban-American writers who write primarily in English are dismissed from anthologies and analyses of Cuban exile literature on that account. ② She argues that since these writers were born in Cuba and consider themselves Cuban writers, they should not be ignored, and maintains that they represent a new phase of Cubaness, one that is expressed in the language comfortable to its writers: English. ③ Moreover, another critic notes that the Spanish and English traditions of Cuban-American writing have different but equally viable functions. ④ The English branch seeks to create a distinctive culture of Cuban roots in the United States, whereas the Spanish branch wishes to preserve a specifically Cuban culture while seeking affiliation with the canon of Latin American letters.

1. Hospital, as presented in the passage, would probably agree with which of the following statements about Cuban-American writing?

- A. For Cuban-American writers, writing in English is not irreconcilable with Cuban identity.
- B. All Cuban-American writers are generally recognized as contributing to Cuban exile literature.
- C. It is appropriate for anthologies of Cuban exile literature to include works written both in Spanish and in English.

2. In the context in which it appears, “comfortable” most nearly means

- A. prosperous
- B. sufficient
- C. agreeable
- D. restful
- E. painless



Passage 50

① Recent studies of the gender gap in the history of United States policies tend to focus on candidate choice rather than on registration and turnout. ② This shift in focus from gender inequality in political participation may be due to the finding in several studies of voting behavior in the United States that since 1980, differences in rates of registration and voting between men and women are not statistically significant after controlling for traditional predictors of participation. ③ However, Fullerton and Stern argue that researchers have overlooked the substantial gender gap in registration and voting in the South. ④ While the gender gap in participation virtually disappeared outside the South by the 1950s, substantial gender differences persisted in the South throughout the 1950s and 1960s, only beginning to decline in 1970s.

1. Select the sentence in the passage that offers a possible explanation for a trend.
2. According to the passage, which of the following is true about recent studies of the gender gap in the United States politics?
 - A. They accurately depict voter preference in the South prior to 1980.
 - B. They have been unduly influenced by changes in voter preferences.
 - C. They fail to recognize important factors affecting levels of voter participation.
 - D. They do not pay sufficient attention to the effect regional differences have on voter preference.
 - E. They are more concerned with the choices that male and female voters make than with the frequency with which they vote.