

Book Test #3:
Section 1

Sample Essay - Score of 6

As society toils onward into its dreams of the future, the progress that accompanies this movement may be tainted by individual motives of avarice. However, as seen in various fields such as art, history, and science, the human conscience will limit the motivation of greed and inspire good works for the sake of morality. One's sense of right and wrong forever impels one to be a decent, thoughtful person.

Such people widely populate the idealistic field of literature. Though novels may be rife with villainous, self-serving characters, only the heroic and moral personas emerge triumphant. For example, the well-known literary character Huckleberry Finn, from Twain's Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, rescinds his claim to a sizable fortune if possessing such wealth would diminish his safety. Furthermore, Huck will risk himself to ensure the security of his close comrade Jim. His loyalty, a facet of one's conscience, compels him to sacrifice his safety to ensure the well-being of others, which is more than money has accomplished in motivating Huck. Thus, a person, however fictional, considers the rewards of acting on conscience to be more fruitful than to be possessed by greed.

Although such characters are fictional, the same motives of charity and morality have inspired numerous people in history to set aside their desires. Lyndon B. Johnson, Former President of the United States, pushed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 through Congress motivated by conscience and a desire to correct the immorality of racism in society. Though some Senators stridently opposed such a bill, the power of motivation by conscience impassioned Johnson to strive even harder to remain loyal to the American precepts of equality. Such is fruition of conscientious actions.

Though the great figures of history seem out of reach in their stature, as an individual I am faced with moral dilemmas rather often. For example, I have been offered more weighty positions on the newspaper, but as a rule, I have always refused when there was someone better qualified than I. Consequently, their talents result in a more improved issue, thereby increasing the benefit for all.

Therein lies the reason why we are compelled by conscience. Money, fame and power are fleeting and insubstantial, for they can never mend the integrity sacrificed to obtain them. It is only when we act in the name of what is right that all of our possible talents may benefit ourselves, our peers, and our ideals.

Section 3

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. "Toxic" means poisonous or harmful to health. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "For a long time, most doctors maintained that taking massive doses of vitamins was relatively harmless; now, however, some are warning that excessive dosages can be toxic." The word "however" shows that the situation described in the first part of the sentence will contrast with that described in the second part of the sentence. This expectation is borne out in the sentence because a belief that taking large doses of vitamins is harmless was replaced with a belief that such doses are quite harmful.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Healthy" in this context means good for the body. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "For a long time, most doctors maintained that taking massive doses of vitamins was relatively harmless; now, however, some are warning that excessive dosages can be healthy." Since health is a condition that everyone desires or wants to maintain, no one would think of warning people that a certain substance can be healthy. In addition, with the insertion of "healthy" into the sentence, the meaning of the first part of the sentence does not contrast with that of the second part. Therefore, the expectation set up by the word "however" is not satisfied.

Useful Links:

SAT Online Practice Tests: <http://www.cracksat.net/tests/>

SAT Subjects Tests: <http://www.cracksat.net/sat2/>

SAT Downloads: <http://www.cracksat.net/sat-downloads/>

For more SAT information, please visit <http://www.cracksat.net>

SAT Downloads:

SAT real tests download:

<http://www.cracksat.net/sat-downloads/sat-real-tests.html>

SAT official guide tests download:

<http://www.cracksat.net/sat-downloads/sat-official-guide-tests.html>

SAT online course tests download:

<http://www.cracksat.net/sat-downloads/sat-online-course-tests.html>

SAT subject tests download:

<http://www.cracksat.net/sat-downloads/sat-subject-tests.html>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Expensive" means costing a lot. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "For a long time, most doctors maintained that taking massive doses of vitamins was relatively harmless; now, however, some are warning that excessive dosages can be expensive." It would not take doctors to warn people that large doses of vitamins can be expensive; anyone who buys vitamins could make that judgment well enough. In addition, the contrast set up by the word "however" is not satisfied by mentioning the health consequences of vitamins in one part of the sentence and their cost in the other part, as the contrast should be in the same area: healthful/unhealthful or expensive/cheap.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Wasteful" means using more than is necessary. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "For a long time, most doctors maintained that taking massive doses of vitamins was relatively harmless; now, however, some are warning that excessive dosages can be wasteful." The doctors' comment in the first part of the sentence is not that massive doses of vitamins are an efficient use of resources, only that those doses would not cause problems. So saying in the second part of the sentence that doctors now warn that such massive dosages can be wasteful does not provide the type of sharp contrast that the reader expects from two clauses that are joined by the word "however."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Inane" means silly. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "For a long time, most doctors maintained that taking massive doses of vitamins was relatively harmless; now, however, some are warning that excessive dosages can be inane." The doctors do not say in the first part of the sentence that taking massive doses of vitamins is a smart thing to do; they just say that such massive doses are relatively harmless. Therefore, saying in the second part of the sentence that doctors now warn that such massive dosages can be inane does not provide the clear contrast that the reader expects from two clauses that are joined by the word "however."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. "Scrutinize" means to examine very closely. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In Jamaica Kincaid's novel *Lucy*, the West Indian heroine scrutinizes her employers' world, critically examining its assumptions and values." A writer who critically examines the assumptions and values of something is by definition scrutinizing it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Idealize" means to show something as more nearly perfect than is true. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In Jamaica Kincaid's novel *Lucy*, the West Indian heroine idealizes her employers' world, critically examining its assumptions and values." Someone who actually does critically examine the assumptions and values of a part of society cannot be said to be idealizing society. When something is critically examined, the examination is likely to reveal problems of some sort. Even if the examination uncovered no flaws, the resulting positive evaluation would properly be called realistic, not idealistic.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Avoid" means to stay away from. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In Jamaica Kincaid's novel *Lucy*, the West Indian heroine avoids her employers'

world, critically examining its assumptions and values." It is almost impossible to critically examine the assumptions and values of a part of society while trying to stay far away from that society.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Beautify" means to make something look good. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In Jamaica Kincaid's novel *Lucy*, the West Indian heroine beautifies her employers' world, critically examining its assumptions and values." When someone critically examines the assumptions and values of a social system, the result almost never makes the system look worse than before, but even if the examination revealed no flaws, a truly critical examination cannot reasonably be called a beautification because the examination does not itself cause the thing to look good.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Exclude" in this context means to refuse to consider. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In Jamaica Kincaid's novel *Lucy*, the West Indian heroine excludes her employers' world, critically examining its assumptions and values." It is simply not possible to refuse to consider something while at the same time examining its assumptions and values.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Testify to" in this context means to provide evidence of. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The frequent name changes that the country has undergone testify to the political turbulence that has attended its recent history." Countries rarely change their names unless some important political forces have caused them to do so. Thus, name changes provide some evidence that a country has suffered political unrest.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Argue against" means to provide reasons not to believe some point of view. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The frequent name changes that the country has undergone argue against the political turbulence that has attended its recent history." Since countries change their names only when some political pressure forces them to do so, the name changes argue for, not against, a situation of political turmoil in the country.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Contrast with" means to be quite different from. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The frequent name changes that the country has undergone contrast with the political turbulence that has attended its recent history." Since a country's frequent name changes are consistent with a history of political unrest in the country, there is no contrast between these two situations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Jeopardize" means to put into danger. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The frequent name changes that the country has undergone jeopardize the political turbulence that has attended its recent history." Changes in a country's name are effects of political turmoil; they do not typically have a significant effect on it. So no one would expect such name changes to put political turbulence in danger. In addition, political turbulence is something that most people would prefer to avoid, so it is unnatural to talk about its being put into jeopardy.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Sustain" means to keep something in existence. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The frequent name changes that the country has undergone sustain the political turbulence that has attended its recent history." Name changes tend to be a result of, not a cause of, such significant political upheavals as changes in government. Therefore, unless there were some indication in the sentence that the political turbulence revolved around the issue of the country's name, it would be very surprising that mere changes in the name of the country could manage to maintain a situation of political turbulence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Multifarious" means having many kinds of parts or representatives, and "catalogued" means listed in an orderly way. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Brachiopods, clamlike bivalves of prehistoric times, were one of the most multifarious forms of life on the Earth: more than 30,000 species have been catalogued from fossil records." The portion of a sentence that comes after a colon typically provides a list or some other specific explanation of the statement given before the colon. In this sentence, that expectation is satisfied. A type of life that is said to have many different forms is explained as having over 30,000 different representatives that have been carefully identified and written about.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Plentiful" means existing in great numbers, and "subtracted" in this context means removed from consideration. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Brachiopods, clamlike bivalves of prehistoric times, were one of the most plentiful forms of life on the Earth: more than 30,000 species have been subtracted from fossil records." The statement appearing after the colon in this sentence seems to contradict or severely restrict the statement before the colon. If the brachiopods were really so plentiful, it is confusing to be told that over 30,000 species of them are being taken out of the fossil records, as if they no longer count as brachiopods. Statements that appear after a colon in a sentence should help explain, not contradict, a more general statement appearing before the colon.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Ornate" means heavily decorated, and "retrieved" means regained or brought back. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Brachiopods, clamlike bivalves of prehistoric times, were one of the most ornate forms of life on the Earth: more than 30,000 species have been retrieved from fossil records." A comment appearing after the colon in a sentence should help to explain the more general statement before the colon. In this case, the reader does not learn more about how brachiopods were so ornate; rather, the reader is told that a large number of brachiopod species have been brought back.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Scarce" means very rare, and "extracted" means pulled out. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Brachiopods, clamlike bivalves of prehistoric times, were one of the most scarce forms of life on the Earth: more than 30,000 species have been extracted from fossil records." Clauses that are joined by a colon should not have meanings that contrast in this way. Instead, the meaning in the second clause should be an explanation of the general statement made in the first clause. After being told how scarce the brachiopods were, the reader expects to be told in the second clause just how rare, not how plentiful, they were.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Anachronistic" means presented outside of its proper historical time, and "extrapolated" means estimated by extending from known information. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Brachiopods, clamlike bivalves of prehistoric times, were one of the most anachronistic forms of life on the Earth: more than 30,000 species have been extrapolated from fossil records." Since the first clause of the sentence says that the brachiopods somehow managed to exist outside of their proper historical time, the colon in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the second clause will help to explain just how the brachiopods accomplished this. That expectation is not satisfied, however, because the second clause is not about anything the brachiopods did, but rather about the evidence we have for their existence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. "Byzantine" means extremely complex, and "adroit" means skillful and clever. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Some interactive computer games are so elaborately contrived and require such byzantine strategies that only the most adroit player can master them." A computer game designed to be extremely complicated would typically be mastered only by skillful players who use complex strategies.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Nefarious" means very wicked, and "conscientious" means careful with all details. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Some interactive computer games are so elaborately contrived and require such nefarious strategies that only the most conscientious player can master them." Although conscientious players might do well when playing complicated computer games, there is little reason to think that being conscientious would be a particular advantage in mastering very wicked strategies.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Devious" means crooked or cunning, and "lackadaisical" means showing little interest or spirit. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Some interactive computer games are so elaborately contrived and require such devious strategies that only the most lackadaisical player can master them." A player who would be able to devise cunning strategies would probably show a great deal of interest, not a lack of interest, in the game.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Onerous" means burdensome, and "slipshod" means careless. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Some interactive computer games are so elaborately contrived and require such onerous strategies that only the most slipshod player can master them." Although difficult strategies could well be considered onerous or burdensome, a careless person would have practically no chance at mastering a game that required such strategies.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Predictable" means easy to foretell, and "compulsive" means being forced by inner drives. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Some interactive computer games are so elaborately contrived and require such predictable strategies that only the most compulsive player can master them." The sentence as a whole leads the reader to expect that the games would require difficult strategies; strategies that really are predictable tend not to be challenging, since

very little thinking is required to apply them to a given situation. A compulsive player would probably have little interest in playing a game that is not challenging.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The passage says that Wilson "speaks directly through his letters" (line 5) and that those letters "undisguisedly reflect his changing moods." (lines 6-7). It also describes his letters as "informal" (line 5). Together these descriptions strongly suggest that Wilson's letters were spontaneous. This suggestion is reinforced by things the passage says Wilson did not do in his letters: he did not rely on "studied mannerisms" (lines 2-3), and avoided "artifice" (line 3) and "circumlocutions" (line 4). In other words, he did not put carefully crafted language into his letters to achieve specific effects.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "To be cynical" is to be contemptuous and distrustful of motives. Nothing in the passage suggests that Wilson's letters had this quality. It is possible that some of the "changing moods" that the letters "undisguisedly reflect" are cynical moods. But there is no information in the passage to suggest that he actually had cynical moods. So the passage gives no reason to call any of his letters cynical, much less to describe them generally as cynical.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The passage says that Wilson's letters reflected his moods and that those moods were changing. So what the passage says leaves it open that some of Wilson's moods—and so some of his letters—might be critical. But the passage does not include any information that suggests that the letters as a whole were critical.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Letters that are "preachy" are going to be full of moral urgings and appeals. But the passage says that Wilson was not a self-conscious letter writer, that is, that he did not plan out what she was going to say or write to achieve some particular end. The passage does say that on occasion Wilson could "become eloquent, even passionate" (line 9). But the passage goes on to say that "that is not his prevailing tone" (lines 9-10).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The passage says that as a letter writer, Wilson was not self-conscious and that he did not aim for any particular style or manner. This strongly suggests that Wilson did not try to make his letters especially "witty," or amusing and clever. It is possible that he was a naturally witty man and that his letters simply reflect that wit. But nothing in the passage indicates that this was so.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. The passage uses the phrase "the young, middle-aged, and old Wilson" to say that age made no difference with respect to Wilson's letters being generally direct, informal, and straightforwardly expressive of his moods. So the phrase emphasizes that Wilson's letter-writing style was consistent throughout his life.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The reference to "the young, middle-aged, and old Wilson" is used to indicate that throughout his life, Wilson wrote letters that were generally direct, informal, and straightforwardly expressive of his moods. So the point of the reference is to stress a certain constancy in his letter-writing style, not to suggest that his writing was multifaceted, or many-sided. Since he was a critic, his writing clearly extends well beyond letter writing, so his literary persona is not defined solely by the letters he wrote. But the passage does not discuss any other writing he did.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The way the passage talks about Wilson's stylistic approach to letter writing suggests that his approach was consistent throughout his life. But what it says about his style indicates nothing about the level of maturity that Wilson displayed at any age. The passage does not address the fact that Wilson might have been immature when young and still have written letters that were direct, informal, and reflected his changing moods.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The passage talks about Wilson's letters as though his approach to writing them did not change much in the course of his life. Characterizing the writer of those letters as "the young, middle-aged, and old Wilson" serves to reinforce this life-long consistency. Nothing in the passage suggests that aging had any effect on Wilson's temperament.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The reference to "the young, middle-aged, and old Wilson" suggests that Wilson wrote letters over a long period of time. The passage introduces Wilson as a critic, which indicates that he had a literary career. But the passage gives no information about his career as a literary figure.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The passage suggests that there is pressure on authors who write about the leaders of the Black community to portray those leaders as perfect (i.e., as being above reproach). The passage explains that this pressure has its origins in the belief, held by some, that exploring the full humanity of the leaders of the Black community would harm that community.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The passage implies that authors who write about the leaders of the Black community will feel pushed towards portraying those leaders as being perfect. Since portraying someone as overly sentimental is a case of portraying that person as falling short of perfection, the passage does not support the idea that Black leaders are portrayed in this way.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The passage is concerned that portrayals of Black leaders do not capture the breadth and complexity of Black identity. So, if anything, the passage implies that Black leaders are generally portrayed as less complex than they actually are.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Black leaders may generally be portrayed as perfect, but this does not suggest that they are never portrayed as feeling regret over anything. A person may well feel regret over the way things are or about things that happen that are beyond their control.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The passage implies that portrayals of Black leaders tend to be false in certain respects. But this does not mean that those leaders are portrayed as being beyond understanding. Rather, it is implied that readers can understand what they are being told about those leaders well enough for the portrayals to be useful.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The reference to "authors" (line 2) indicates that the passage is about written works; specifically, the passage deals with written works about the leaders of the Black community. In other words, those works are most likely historical biographies. The passage questions whether those works are full investigations of Black life, and then refers to these investigations as "paintings of that life" (lines 5-6). The phrase "paintings of that life" is thus used metaphorically for biographical writings.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. There is no indication in the passage that "paintings" might refer to sculptures. No sculptors are referred to, or even hinted at, as the originators of these works, whom the passage explicitly calls "authors" (line 2). Those authors are said to face problems with producing a "full investigation of Black life" (line 5). This further reinforces the idea that "paintings" refers to work that is well suited to extended discussion and development, that is, written work.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. There is no reason to think that the reference to "our leaders" (line 2) is to anyone but real-life leaders of the Black community. So the works that have those leaders for subjects are likely to be biographies (i.e., nonfiction), not novels. There is also no indication that these works are whimsical. They may fall short of being full investigations of Black life, but this is because there is pressure for them to be selective, not pressure to take a light, humorous tone. In fact, the passage implies that these works are "drab and predictable" (lines 6-7).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. There is no support in the passage for taking "paintings" (lines 5-6) to be a reference to political cartoons. Political cartoons are well suited to directing a spotlight on a specific action or event, and to the extent that they comment on character, good cartoons are generally regarded as uncannily revealing. The works that the passage discusses are essentially the opposite: broad in scope, yet the overall picture they provide is, according to the passage, likely to be unrevealing. In fact, the passage calls these paintings "likely to be untrue" (lines 7-8).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The concept of a theorem is appropriate only to rigorous logical/mathematical work. The passage is not about such work. And while it is quite commonplace to talk about written prose work as painting a picture of its subject matter, theorems are not talked about in this way. Moreover, the "paintings" are explicitly characterized as "drab" (line 6), not as colorful.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. According to the passage, astronomers who see Andromeda through their telescopes see it as it was two million years ago because that is how long it takes light from the galaxy Andromeda to reach Earth. To give the reader a vivid idea of how much things can change in two million years, the author points out that the long-extinct humanlike primate *Australopithecus* was alive on Earth two million years ago.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The fact that *Australopithecus* was alive on Earth two million years ago indicates that there has been an evolutionary change in at least the biological world during that period. But that passage is not concerned with such progression in itself. The point that the author wants to make is how different the world of the distant past is from the world we know today.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. That *Australopithecus* was alive two million years ago is certainly not something astronomers discovered. The author says nothing to suggest that what astronomers do when they see Andromeda through their telescopes is isolate a particular moment in early time. Nor does the author commend astronomers on their work. The point the author is making with the reference to *Australopithecus* is simply how ancient the images are that astronomers are now receiving from Andromeda.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author mentions both Andromeda and *Australopithecus* as a way of vividly making the point that the distant past is very different from the present. Moreover, two million years is how long it takes light to reach from the Andromeda galaxy, not how long ago the Andromeda galaxy was discovered.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author mentions *Australopithecus* to emphasize the length of the time it takes for light to travel between Earth and Andromeda. Nothing in this passage or the rest of the paragraph discusses the age of the universe or the length of time humans have lived.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. The author begins by observing that when astronomers see Andromeda through their telescopes, they "see it as it was two million years ago" (lines 2-3). He then points out that two million years ago on Earth was about the time of *Australopithecus* and remarks that "it is too bad we can't turn things around and observe Earth from some cozy planet in Andromeda" (lines 6-7). Since scientists would very much like to know more about *Australopithecus* and other early humanlike primates, this remark is a way of saying that scientists would like to have some way of observing events that occurred on Earth before these primates became extinct.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (B) is incorrect. The passage is concerned with the idea of time travel, not space travel. And since it takes light two million years to travel between Andromeda and Earth, the idea that people could actually go to a planet in Andromeda is not one that the author, as a scientist, is likely to take seriously.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The point of wishing we could observe Earth from a planet in Andromeda is that we would see Earth as it was two million years ago. The passage does not suggest that we would be on that planet in Andromeda to study Andromeda, or that there would be interesting comparisons to be made with Earth if we did.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Andromeda is so far away that it takes light two million years to travel between it and Earth. Thus, the idea that people could actually get to a planet in Andromeda is not one that, as a scientist, the author is likely to take seriously.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. It can be inferred from the passage that both Andromeda and Earth are more than two million years old. But the passage says nothing that bears on their relative ages.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. The author describes being fascinated by the idea of time travel. To make this fascination understandable he gives two examples of what time travel could make possible: modern medical knowledge could be taken back to fourteenth century Europe "to stop the spread of plague," and one could go forward "to the twenty-third century where people take their annual holidays in space stations."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author suggests that some novels about time travel have fascinated him, but he says nothing to indicate what the specific themes of those novels might have been.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The reference to space stations does suggest a view about what the future might bring. But no alternative view is suggested. The reference to the plague has to do with the past, not with the future.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. In lines 16-35, the author presents the scientific consequences of time travel quite seriously. There is no indication that he finds those consequences ridiculous or scoffs at them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The idea of being able to stop the spread of the plague in fourteenth-century Europe is presented as something that anyone might find interesting. There is no indication that the author believes scientists would find the idea more interesting than anyone else would. In fact, the author

strongly suggests that most physicists would not like the idea at all because it would involve a "causality violation."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The first two paragraphs present time travel as an attractive idea. In the third paragraph, the author switches gears and discusses some of the theoretical difficulties time travel would present. Time travel, the author says, would run counter to the laws of physics. This is the kind of claim that can be made with a lot more authority by a scientist than by someone who has no scientific training. So by introducing himself as a scientist before making these claims, the author presents himself as someone with the authority to speak on these matters.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Even though the author traces his interest in time travel back to his childhood, when he became old enough to read science fiction, this fact in itself would not indicate that scientific training. Also personal interest in a topic does not necessarily make one an authority.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Whatever general appeal certain forms of literature—including science fiction—might have cannot be explained by the fact that the author of this passage is a scientist.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author seems to enjoy at least some science fiction. So it is unlikely that he would be interested in provoking those who defend it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Being a scientist might help the author explain the term "causality violation," but describing himself as a scientist does not help illustrate the term.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. In lines 16-35 the author discusses some theoretical problems associated with the idea of time travel. The mechanics of space travel do not raise any of these problems and are not mentioned anywhere in the passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The issue of anticipatory knowledge of events is addressed in lines 18-20.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The issue of belief in a deterministic universe is addressed in lines 30-35.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (D) is incorrect. The issue of cause-and-effect relationships is addressed in lines 21-22.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The issue of differential equations based on known forces is addressed in lines 28-32.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The author describes the first mechanical clocks as "marking off time in crisp, regular intervals" (lines 38-39). What surprised people about these clocks, he suggests, is that they showed time as independent of "their own mental and physiological processes" (lines 40-41). So if people had always perceived time as "composed of discrete, uniform intervals," the author's assumption about the impact of mechanical clocks would be undermined.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Being aware of time in connection with mental and physiological processes is not the same as being aware of time "on a physical level." The author does assume that people had been oblivious (that is, not aware) of time as something outside of their own mental and physiological processes. So the assumption that people were oblivious to time on a physical level is part of the author's argument and does nothing to undermine it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author suggests that before clocks were invented people were surprised "to discover that time flowed outside their mental and physiological processes" (lines 39-41). It does not matter whether their concern about time was necessary or unnecessary. All that matters is that their understanding of time was limited before clocks were invented.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The author assumes that for any given person, body time does not consist of just one uniform rhythm. Rather, he assumes that each person always has a number of different body rhythms, each marking off a different body time. But, according to the author, as long as there is more than one rhythm and some of the rhythms are variable, it does not matter if these different rhythms and their changes are completely predictable.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author assumes that body time does not move at a constant rate. If it did, the contrast he wants to make between body time and uniform clock time would be undermined.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. In lines 43-44 the passage says that the human body "contains its own exquisite timepieces, all with their own separate rhythms." The next sentence says, "There are the alpha waves in

the brain; another clock is the heart" (lines 44-45). So the author mentions the brain and the heart as examples of the body's different internal clocks.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author is drawing a contrast between the body's physiological "clocks" and mechanical timepieces in order to support the view that there is "something very personal about time" (lines 36-37). But except to note that the body's physiological clocks all have "their separate rhythms" (line 44), the author does not mention the rhythmical qualities of timepieces, let alone demonstrate them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The author mentions mechanical clocks and contrasts the image of time they present with time as people experience it in their own bodies. But the passage is not otherwise concerned with the historical significance of mechanical clocks. The brain and the heart are mentioned as examples of the body's physiological clocks. The discussion of links between people's sense of time and their physiological processes is included in support of the author's broader point that "there is something very personal about time" (lines 36-37).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author mentions the brain and the heart to illustrate the point that there are many different bodily clocks, each with a different, variable rhythm. Emphasizing the interaction between the heart and the brain would go against this point.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Nothing in the passage suggests that anyone believes that organic processes are particularly precise. So there is no mystery of unusual precision to be explained.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. "Ruthless" means roughly the same as merciless. To say that someone is ruthless or merciless is to say that appealing to them to stop something they have begun, or even to proceed more gently, has no chance of success. In other words, they are "relentless." So when the author talks about the "ruthless clocks that regulate aging" (line 46), he is using the word to suggest that the process of aging cannot be stopped, that it is relentless.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The "clocks that regulate aging" (line 46) are described as both mysterious and ruthless. But these are two different qualities, only one of which—"mysterious"—produces bewilderment in people. The other one—"ruthless"—may cause people to feel hopeless or powerless, since no effective appeal is possible. The author does suggest that people are bewildered by the prospect of aging, but the word that carries this suggestion is "mysterious," not ruthless.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Being ruthless is not generally associated with being mysterious. Someone who is ruthless is not going to stop doing something that causes damage because of appeals for pity. But a process can cause damage and be unstoppable without being mysterious. The author describes the "clocks that regulate aging" (line 46) as both mysterious and ruthless. But since the two words mean

different things, the author clearly is not using the word "ruthless" to suggest that the human body's aging process is mysterious.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. It is likely that some people do age more rapidly than others, simply because there is a great deal of physiological and biological variation among human beings. But the author is not likely to use the word "ruthless" (line 46) to make that point because of what the word means. The word means merciless, or cruel, and what this meaning suggests with respect to aging is that nobody will escape aging, not that some do it more rapidly than others.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Ruthless" suggests not being easily swayed or changed. To say that the clocks that control the aging process are ruthless, therefore, means that no one will be spared. Everyone is bound to age. This point is completely independent of whether people's sense of time changes, or does not change, as they age. So the author cannot be using the word "ruthless" (line 46) to suggest anything, one way or the other, about changes in people's sense of time as they grow older.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The author smokes his great-grandfather's pipe and describes the smoke as having "the most wonderful and foreign blend of smells" (lines 55-56). The author goes on to say that the different places and times when Papa Joe smoked that pipe—places and times that the author will never know—"all had been locked up in that pipe and now poured out into the room" (lines 57-59). Things that are written further up on a page are generally thought of as having happened earlier in time. Thus by writing, "I was vaguely aware that something had got delightfully twisted in time for a moment, skipped upward on the page" (lines 59-61), the author suggests that the smell of the smoke helped him travel back in time in his imagination.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author uses the phrase "skipped upward on the page" (line 61) to express the same experience as the experience described by the phrase "got delightfully twisted in time for a moment" (lines 60-61). But getting "delightfully twisted up in time for a moment" does not describe anything to do with reading. Both phrases describe an experience of feeling transported back in time, not the experience of rereading a portion of the page.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The author's imagination was affected by the smell of the smoke, but there is no suggestion that his vision was affected.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Papa Joe and the surroundings in which Papa Joe smoked his pipe are brought to the author's mind by the smell of the smoke from the pipe, not by what the author was reading at the time.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The closest thing to "recreating the past" that is mentioned in the passage occurs when the author smelled the smoke from his great-grandfather's pipe. According to the passage, all the occasions when the author's great grandfather lit his pipe "had been locked up in that pipe and now poured out into the room" (lines 58-59). Although the author had been reading when the smoke transported him in his imagination into the past, there is no indication that he believes that reading itself is a good way to recreate the past.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The passage is clearly part of a larger piece, and the first paragraph of the passage relates primarily to that larger piece. The bulk of the passage, however, is devoted to a clarification of a single point: "What is it that the majority of people call aesthetic pleasure?" The attempt to answer this question about the nature of the pleasure that most people find in a work of art is the primary concern of the passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The passage is not primarily concerned with artists, and thus neither discusses the lives that they actually lead nor the lives that they imagine. The passage is strictly concerned with an analysis of what makes people react to a work of art with pleasure.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The passage does suggest that the emotional impact of a painting's subject matter plays a role in causing people to like the painting. But the passage is not primarily about paintings. It is about works of art quite generally. Moreover, the passage is as concerned with works of art whose subject matter has no emotional impact as it is with works of art that do have emotional impact. The passage draws on this contrast in its discussion of what most people mean when they say that they like a work of art or that it is good.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The passage is not concerned with the wide variety of responses people have to art. Rather, it is concerned with analyzing one particular response to works of art, the response called "aesthetic pleasure." Responses other than pleasure are only mentioned to support this analysis.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The first paragraph suggests that the contrast between the new art and the old may be the primary concern of the larger text that the passage is a part of. The passage itself, however, focuses on clarifying what people call "aesthetic pleasure," not on the differences between the new and the old art.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. Line 18 speaks of the figures of men or women that might be found in a painting. So "figures" is used to mean depictions or representations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Although "images" is roughly equivalent to the word "figures" here, there is nothing in line 18 or any of the surrounding lines to suggest that crudeness is a defining feature of the figures mentioned.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The figures of men and women that are mentioned in line 18 might be abstract, but only up to a point. The figures have to succeed "in creating the illusion necessary to make the imaginary personages appear like living persons." Mostly, figures that create this illusion will be men and women painted "true-to-life." So "abstractions" in this sense is clearly incorrect. Moreover, the phrase "abstractions of men or women" is not a reasonable substitute for the phrase "figures of men or women."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Although there are contexts in which "figures" essentially means numbers, those contexts tend to be mathematical or financial contexts. If "numbers" were substituted for "figures" in line 18, it would mean "many," a meaning that the word "figures" does not carry in this context.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Figures" could possibly mean "famous persons." But the complete phrase that appears in line 18 is "figures of men and women." If "famous persons" were used here, "men and women" would have to be deleted or "famous men and women" would have to be used.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The phrase "the story of John and Susie" is used to refer quite generally to a relationship any man and woman could have that could be the subject matter of a work of art (a play, a novel, a painting, etc.).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author of the passage does not critique any specific work of art, nor does the phrase "the story of John and Susie" refer to a specific work of art. The author suggests that "the story of John and Susie" might be a book, a painting, or a scene in a play. The author also suggests that "the story of John and Susie" could apply to works at different levels of difficulty. This way of talking about "the story" clearly signals that no particular work is intended.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "The story of John and Susie" is a stand-in for any story in drama, prose fiction, painting, etc., that is centered on a man and a woman and their relationship with one another. There is no reference made to any specific John or to any specific Susie, and therefore also not to any specific affair. There is no indication in the passage that the story is in the form of a mystery.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Legendary couple" describes Tristan and Isolde, not John and Susie, whose names seem to have been selected precisely so that no one would think that they refer to famous people.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. John and Susie stand for any man and any woman whose relationship has been the subject of an artist's treatment, whether the artist was a dramatist, a novelist, or a painter. John and Susie are not particular people.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. The author says that modern art "is not for people in general." The author also says that the majority of people do not know what to make of art in which purely aesthetic elements predominate. What they like is art that gives them "people and passions." Since in the author's view aesthetic elements are more important than people and passions in modern art, the passage suggests that the majority of people resist modern art because of its lack of human interest.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author does not suggest that the response of the majority of people to modern art is affected by what people think of the artists themselves. There is some suggestion that there may be the opposite sort of relationship: people may think of artists as elitist because those artists' work has made them "feel out of their depth."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The passage does not mention art critics and does not explore any influence art critics may have on people's responses to art.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author does not suggest that modern art has any particular social message. Moreover, the reaction of the majority of people to modern art is not described as one of annoyance so much as it is described as one of incomprehension.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author suggests that the majority of people resist modern art because they do not find in it the kinds of "human forms and fates" that engage their interests. The author does not say anything to suggest that the resistance to modern art has anything to do with how difficult it is for people to "guess at the artist's source of inspiration."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. The author asks what most people call "aesthetic pleasure" and then answers this question at length in a way that does not seem entirely unsympathetic. The author appears tolerant in that the views of the majority of people are presented as sensible and coherent on their own terms. Later, though, the author pronounces these views completely wrongheaded. The author betrays condescension throughout, perhaps most clearly in the dismissive characterization of most people as sentimental, as seeking in a work of art nothing but "the moving fate of John and Susie."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The author is not puzzled at all. The author asks, "What is it that the majority of people call aesthetic pleasure?" The author goes on to say, "The answer is easy." The author later claims that the idea of aesthetic pleasure held by the majority of the people is plain wrong but expresses no puzzlement over this.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. There is no indication that the author is aggressively hostile. While it could be argued that the author holds a fairly low opinion of most people, the passage does not contain the kind of harsh tone, openly insulting language, or offensive comparisons that could be said to express aggressive hostility.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Perhaps the earliest indication that the author's attitude toward the majority of people is not one of solemn respect occurs when the author asks, "What happens in their [the majority's] minds when they 'like' a work of art?" The quotation marks around the word "like" are an important clue. Using quotation marks to call attention to such an everyday word as "like" is probably a sign that the author does not take the people who do the liking, or who say they do, entirely seriously; that is, the author does not really respect them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Even though the author's judgment is that there is no merit in most people's opinions, the author shows too much engagement to be called "generally indifferent."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. In lines 45-47, the author says emphatically that "preoccupation with the human content" of a work of art is "in principle incompatible with aesthetic enjoyment proper." In the discussion in lines 20-41, the author makes it clear that the alternative to being preoccupied with people and passions is the consideration of "artistic forms proper," or "purely aesthetic elements" (line 31). Since the author believes that there is such a thing as "true artistic pleasure" this pleasure must come from this alternative response to a work of art.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The author suggests that true aesthetic enjoyment comes from the purely aesthetic elements of the work the artist has actually produced. There is no hint that the artist's intentions ought to be taken into account.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The author might grant that responses to a work of art vary but appears to find certain definitional matters quite straightforward. For example, the author defines the responses of the majority of people as falling outside, and even as being incompatible with, "aesthetic enjoyment proper."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The moral conventions of the artist's society—in other words, that society's rules concerning what is and what is not proper personal behavior—do not enter into the author's discussion at all.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The author does not discuss how people interpret a work of art, that is, what meaning the work has for them. The author's focus is squarely on what makes the difference between works that the majority of people do or do not like.

Section 6

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using the correct verb form in its opening participial phrase.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in verb form. The opening participial phrase should use the verb "having come," not "coming."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in verb form. The opening participial phrase should use the verb "having come," not "coming."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) creates an illogical sentence. It suggests that "the delegates did not want to return without accomplishing something" in order to "come this far."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) creates an illogical sentence. It suggests that "the delegates came this far" in order to "not want to return without accomplishing something."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using correct verb tense ("had marched").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in verb tense. It suggests that the band members look as if they are *still marching* through a rainstorm rather than as if they *had marched* through one.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves a faulty comparison. It compares the degree to which the band members were soaked with "having marched."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an improper idiom. The phrase "as if from marching" would be more idiomatic as "as if they had marched."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves improper verb forms. There is no reason for the sentence to use something other than past perfect tense ("had marched").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using a plural verb to agree with the plural subject.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in agreement. The plural subject ("harmful effects") has a singular verb ("is").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in agreement. The plural subject ("harmful effects") has a singular verb ("is").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) creates an illogical sentence. It suggests that the harmful effects of smoking, not good documentation of those effects, are increasing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in agreement. The plural subject ("harmful effects") has a singular verb ("has").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using a complete main verb ("was").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) creates a sentence fragment. There is no main verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is awkward and wordy. The awkward phrase "was if they would repeal" can be reduced to the more precise and idiomatic "was whether repealing."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) creates an illogical sentence. The word "that" should introduce a declarative statement, not a question or an issue with two possible outcomes.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) does not maintain parallelism. In order to maintain parallelism with the later verb phrase "increase profits," the noun phrase "mean improvement in housing" should be "improve housing."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using a complete verb ("became").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) creates a sentence fragment. It lacks a complete verb (the participle "doing" is not a complete verb).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) creates a sentence fragment. The subordinating words ("who") make two dependent clauses without a main clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an error in verb tense. The sentence shifts from simple past tense ("became") to present perfect tense ("have piloted") for no reason.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves improper coordination. Two complete thoughts ("Harriet...Channel" and "the feat...flight") are connected by only a comma, without the word "and" to introduce the second thought.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by replacing the unclear pronoun ("this") with a noun phrase ("their work as public speakers").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves unclear pronoun reference. There is no noun to which the pronoun "this" clearly refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (B) involves unclear pronoun reference. There is no noun to which the second "this" clearly refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves unclear pronoun reference. There is no noun to which the second "this" clearly refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) creates a sentence fragment. A semicolon must have a complete sentence before and after it, but the phrase after it lacks a complete verb.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. It avoids unnecessary wordiness, and its subject and verb agree.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves unnecessary wordiness. "The one who is reading" should be stated simply as "the reader."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an agreement error. The compound subject ("The poem's colorful images and its verbal wit") requires a plural verb ("give").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves unnecessary wordiness. "One pleasure in the reading of it" should be stated simply as "the reader pleasure."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an agreement error. The compound subject ("The poem's colorful images and its verbal wit") requires a plural verb ("give").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. It avoids the wordiness of the original by using a simple appositive, "a gifted storyteller."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves wordiness. "Being as she is" should be omitted to leave a simple appositive, "a gifted storyteller."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves wordiness. "In being a" should be omitted to leave a simple appositive, "a gifted storyteller."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) creates an illogical sentence. "Although" suggests a contrast between the sentence's two ideas instead of a cause-and-effect relationship.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in word form. "Giftedly" is not a word.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using a complete verb ("painted").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves improper verb form. In the opening clause, "although" must be followed by a complete subject and verb. "Having painted" is not a complete verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves improper coordination. Two complete thoughts ("The English artist...portraits" and "he regarded...creativity") are joined by only a comma, without a conjunction (such as "but") to introduce the second thought.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves improper pronoun reference. The pronoun "they" has no noun to which it refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) creates a sentence fragment. A complete sentence must come before and after a semicolon, but the phrase after the semicolon has no subject.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using clear pronoun reference.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in pronoun reference. A pronoun should clearly refer to a noun without that noun having to be repeated, but it is not clear what the pronoun "which" refers to, so the noun ("duration") must be added after it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (B) involves unclear pronoun reference. What each of the two pronouns ("it") refers to is not clear.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves unclear pronoun reference. What the pronoun "it" refers to is not clear.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves unclear pronoun reference. What each of the two pronouns ("it") refers to is not clear.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by renaming the subject ("first novels"... "these first efforts").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an agreement error. The plural subject ("first novels") is referred to by a singular pronoun ("it").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an error in wording. A reason is always *that...*, not *because*. Reason implies cause, and so "the reason...is because" is redundant.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in wording. A reason is always *that...*, not *because*. Reason implies cause, and so "the reason...is because" is redundant.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in pronoun reference. The plural pronoun "their" can refer (though illogically) to only the plural noun "first novels," erroneously suggesting that "first novels" are "drawing from" "all the experiences of childhood."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Directed by George Wolfe, the Broadway musical *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk* tells how tap dancing evolved from the African American experience in the decades following the Civil War.

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

The error in this sentence occurs at (A), where the use of the wrong verb form ("telling") results in a sentence fragment.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The subordinating conjunction "how" appropriately introduces the noun clause that operates as a direct object of the sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The past tense of the dependent clause verb ("evolved") is appropriate to show action completed in the past. The use of the preposition "from" after the word "evolved" is idiomatic.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The prepositional phrase "in the decades" appropriately modifies the verb ("evolved") and tells when. The participial phrase introduced by "following" appropriately modifies the noun "decades."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The question of whether certain chemical fertilizers are a curse or a blessing is still being debated.

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

The error in this sentence occurs at (B), where there is a lack of parallelism. The phrase "are they" is not grammatically parallel to the earlier phrase "a curse" to which it is connected by the conjunction "or."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The subordinating conjunction "whether" appropriately introduces the noun clause that serves as the object of the preposition "of."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The verb "is" is singular and agrees with the singular subject, "question." Furthermore, the present progressive tense shows an action that is continuing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The present participle "being" is the appropriate verb form of the progressive tense and shows an action that is continuing to the present. The adverb "still" joins with "being" to form an appropriate idiom.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: People who need immediate reeducation for employment are impatient with the prolonged debate over funding for the new national program.

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

The error in this sentence occurs at (A), where the incorrect pronoun "which" is used to refer to "People." The correct relative pronoun for referring to persons is "who."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The plural verb, "are," agrees with the plural subject of the sentence, "People."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The subject complement "impatient" appropriately follows the linking verb "are" and describes the subject, "People." The preposition "with" is the idiomatic preposition to follow the word "impatient."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The noun "debate" appropriately serves as the object of the preposition "with" and joins with the preposition "over" to form an appropriate idiom.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The thoughtful student wonders what Patrick Henry meant when he talked about liberty because most of the members of the House of Burgesses then were slaveholders.

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

The error in this sentence occurs at (D), where the tense sequence is incorrect. The present perfect tense of the verb "having been" is inconsistent with the simple past tense of the other verbs in the dependent clause ("meant" and "talked").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The proper noun "Patrick Henry" is an appropriate subject for the dependent noun clause introduced by "what," and the past-tense verb "meant" appropriately indicates an action that was completed before the action of the main clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The subordinating conjunction "when" correctly introduces the dependent adverbial clause, the singular pronoun "he" agrees with the singular proper noun "Patrick Henry" to which it refers, and the past tense of the verb "talked" is consistent with the past-tense verb of the dependent clause, "meant."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The subordinating conjunction "because" appropriately introduces a dependent adverbial clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Corrected Sentence: One challenge that writer Eleanor Wong Telemaque faced was how to preserve her ethnic identity while becoming more accessible to readers who are not accustomed to writers from other cultural backgrounds.

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

The error in this sentence occurs at (A), where an inappropriate verbal form is used. The verbal form "preserving" is not idiomatic after the subordinating conjunction "how."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The adverbial phrase "while becoming" appropriately modifies the verbal "to preserve."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The adjective "accessible" combines with "to" to form an appropriate idiom.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

The nominative adjective "accustomed" appropriately describes the subject of the dependent clause, "who."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: No one objects to his company, even though he has made insulting remarks about almost every member of the group, because he is a remarkably witty man.

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

The error in this sentence occurs at (D), where an inappropriate subordinating conjunction is used. The conjunction "because," rather than "when," would correctly introduce the subordinate clause that answers the question why "no one objects."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The singular verb "objects" agrees with the singular subject "no one," and the preposition "to" is the idiomatic preposition to follow "objects."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The preposition "about" combines with "remarks" to form an appropriate idiom.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The adverb "almost" correctly modifies the adjective "every," and "every" correctly modifies the noun "member."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Just how critical an improved balance of trade is to a healthy economy has never been clearer than it is now.

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

The error in this sentence occurs at (D), where a double comparative is used. The ending “-er” and the adverb “more” both show comparison. Using “more” with a word to which “-er” has been added is incorrect. The adverb “clearly” is needed instead.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The subordinating conjunction “how” correctly introduces the dependent noun clause that serves as the subject of the main clause. The adverb “just,” meaning exactly, correctly modifies “how.”

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The singular verb “is” agrees with the singular subject of the dependent noun clause, “balance,” in this inverted construction. The preposition “to” appropriately introduces an adverbial prepositional phrase modifying “critical.”

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The present perfect tense of the verb phrase “has been” appropriately shows an action completed before the action of the verb of the dependent clause introduced by “than.”

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Critics contend that reforms in welfare have not managed to bring the high percentage of our nation's children living in poverty the economic security that they need to thrive.

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

The error in this sentence occurs at (B), where the singular verb phrase, “has not managed,” does not agree with the plural subject of the dependent clause, “reforms.”

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The plural verb “contend” agrees with the plural subject of the main clause, “Critics.” The subordinating conjunction “that” appropriately introduces the dependent noun clause, which functions as a direct object.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The plural pronoun, “they,” agrees with the noun “children” to which it refers, and the plural verb “need” agrees with the plural subject “they.”

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The infinitive phrase, "to thrive," is an appropriate idiom to complete the dependent clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Crabs living in polluted waters will come in contact with large numbers of disease-causing microorganisms because crabs feed by filtering nutrients from water.

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

The error in the sentence occurs at (C), where there are both pronoun-noun disagreement and subject-verb disagreement. The pronoun "it" is singular and incorrectly refers to the plural subject "Crabs." Although the plural pronoun "they" agrees in number with "Crabs," it could refer to "Crabs" or to "microorganisms." Therefore, repeating the noun is necessary. Then, the singular verb "feeds" must be changed to "feed" in order to agree with the plural noun "crabs."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The participle "living" correctly modifies the noun "Crabs," and the preposition "in" appropriately introduces the adverbial phrase modifying "living."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error (B). The prepositional phrase "in contact" joins with the verb phrase "will come" to form an appropriate idiom, and the preposition "with" is the idiomatic preposition to follow the word "contact."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The adverbial prepositional phrase "by filtering" correctly modifies the verb of the dependent clause, "feed."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The new system, which uses remote cameras to catch speeding motorists, may undermine the police department's authority.

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

The error in the sentence occurs at (B), where there is wordiness. The phrase "in the catching of" can be reduced to the more idiomatic two-word phrase "to catch."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The verb "uses" agrees with the singular subject of the dependent clause, "which," and "which" properly refers to the singular subject of the main clause, "system."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

There is no error at (C). The participle "speeding" appropriately modifies the noun "motorists," and "motorists" appropriately functions as the object of the infinitive "to catch."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The verb phrase "may undermine" can be singular or plural and agrees with the singular subject "system."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Although the politician was initially very sensitive to being criticized by the press, he quickly became more confident about responding to reporters' sometimes pointed questions.

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

The error in this sentence occurs at (B), where an improper idiom is used. The verb phrase "be criticized" cannot function as an object of a preposition ("to"), which must be noun.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The adverb "initially" correctly modifies the verb of the dependent adverbial clause, "was."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The adverb "quickly" correctly modifies the verb of the main clause, "became." The past tense of the verb ("became") is consistent with the earlier past-tense verb of the dependent clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The gerund "responding" correctly serves as the object of the preposition "about."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence:

Explanation for Correct Answer E : There is no error in this sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The subordinating conjunction "Although" appropriately introduces the dependent adverbial clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The prepositional phrase "of nature" is idiomatic and appropriately modifies the noun that precedes it, "study."

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The plural pronoun "their" agrees with the plural noun to which it refers, "artists."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The adverb "elaborately" properly modifies the adjective "artificial," which, in turn, correctly functions as a nominative adjective describing the subject of the main clause, "paintings."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Lions and tigers may be identical in size, but the tiger is the fiercer animal and the lion the stronger.

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

The error in this sentence occurs at (D), where an improper superlative adjective is used. Two animals, the tiger and the lion, are being compared, so the comparative form, "the stronger," is needed.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The verb phrase "may be" can be plural or singular and agrees with the compound plural subject of the sentence, "Lions and tigers."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The coordinating conjunction "but" connects two independent clauses and appropriately indicates contrast between them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The comparative adjective, "the fiercer," is appropriate for comparing two things, "the tiger" and "the lion."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The decline in science education during the period had two causes: less funding for scientific research and a decrease in jobs related to space and defense.

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

The error in the sentence occurs at (C), where there is a lack of parallelism. The colon indicates that the "two causes" of "the decline in science education" will be mentioned. The first noun phrase ("less funding") should be paralleled by a second noun phrase ("a decrease in jobs"), but instead a prepositional phrase ("with a decrease in jobs") is used.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The past tense of the verb "had" appropriately indicates that the decline in science education occurred in the past.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The phrase "funding for" is an appropriate idiom, and the preposition "for" properly introduces the adjective prepositional phrase that modifies the gerund "funding."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The participle "related" properly modifies the noun "jobs," and the preposition "to" is the idiomatic preposition to follow the word "related."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The number of awards given this year to biochemists accentuates the significant gains being made in the study of the chemistry of living organisms.

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

The error in this sentence occurs at (B), where there is subject-verb disagreement. The plural verb "accentuate" does not agree with the singular subject, "The number."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The phrase "this year" functions as an adverb modifying the participle "given," which, in turn, modifies the noun "awards."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The noun "gains" appropriately functions as the direct object of the verb "accentuate," and "significant" is an appropriate adjective modifying "gains."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The past participle "made" is the correct form to complete the participial verbal phrase, which modifies "gains." The preposition "in" joins with "the study" to form an appropriate idiom.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: The novel *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen was once more widely read and was more popular in high schools in the United States than the writings of Charlotte Brontë.

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

The error in the sentence occurs at (D), where the comparison is illogical. The novel *Pride and Prejudice* is compared to the person Charlotte Brontë rather than to something written by her.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

There is no error at (A). The singular verb phrase "was ... read" agrees with the singular subject "novel," and the adverb "once" appropriately modifies the verb phrase.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The past participle "read" correctly completes the passive-voice verb phrase "was ... read," and the adverb "widely" appropriately modifies the verb "read."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The comparative adverb "more" is correctly used to compare two things. The adjective "popular" appropriately functions as a subject complement describing the subject of the sentence, "novel."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence: Until they can be replaced by a faster, more efficient, and more economical means of transportation, trucks will carry most of the freight within and through metropolitan areas.

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

The error in this sentence occurs at (A), where the number of the pronoun is incorrect. The pronoun refers to the subject of the main clause, "trucks," and should be plural ("they").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The comparative form "faster" is correctly used to compare two things—a class of transportation ("trucks") and a "means of transportation."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The verb phrase "will carry" can be either singular or plural and agrees with its plural subject, "trucks." The indefinite pronoun "most" appropriately functions as the direct object of the verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The use of compound prepositions is idiomatic and avoids the repetition of the object of the preposition.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E : There is an error in the sentence.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Corrected Sentence:

Explanation for Correct Answer E : There is no error in this sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

There is no error at (A). The indefinite pronoun "all" appropriately refers to "editors," and the adjective "Nearly" appropriately modifies "all."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

There is no error at (B). The plural verb "agree" agrees with the plural subject of the sentence, "all."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

There is no error at (C). The passive infinitive phrase "to be published" correctly serves as an adjective modifying "articles."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

There is no error at (D). The comparative adjective phrase "more exciting" is used correctly to compare two things, "the two articles."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. In sentence 2, the writer addresses the possibility that a reader might have read the anachronism of sentence 1 too literally. Sentence 1 states that the writer "felt" as if she were listening in on the Middle Ages with a microphone; sentence 2 acknowledges that such a feat would have been impossible.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is unsatisfactory because the information about the microphones is not "historical background." Historical background is historical information that helps explain a current situation, and sentence 2 does not have that.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is unsatisfactory because the information in sentence 2 does not repeat information already presented.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is unsatisfactory because there is no contrast between the information in the two sentences: sentence 1 never says that there were microphones in the Middle Ages.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is unsatisfactory because sentence 1 does not state an inaccuracy. The writer does not indicate that she was "listening in... hidden microphone," which would have been impossible; she writes that she "felt" as if she were.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (A) is correct. Sentence 3 refers to "letters" for the first time, and sentence 4 gives specific information about a book containing letters. This sentence adds relevant information about where the book was located.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is unsatisfactory because it uses a word, "them," with an unclear referent: it is unclear whether "them" refers to "letters" or "voices."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is unsatisfactory because it presents redundant information about microphones (the information has already been covered in sentence 2).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is unsatisfactory because it refers to a library in such a non-specific way that the sentence cannot be connected to other sentences in the passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is unsatisfactory because it suggests, erroneously, that the following paragraph will discuss a form of communication that precedes letters.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It properly joins the dependent clause "who lived...years ago" to an independent clause, thereby forming a clear, correct sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is unsatisfactory because sentence 5 contains no verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is unsatisfactory because it does not make a clear link between the family who wrote the letters and the Pastons.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is unsatisfactory because it uses a semicolon to join an independent clause ("A book...a family") to a dependent clause ("it was...years ago"). Semicolons should be used to join two independent thoughts.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is unsatisfactory because it demonstrates faulty parallelism, using an -ing verb form ("and living") in place of "who lived," which one would expect to follow "contained" and "named."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It properly contextualizes the new information with the word "once" and appropriately modifies the verb "rode" with the time phrase "when an earl rebelled in London."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is unsatisfactory because the phrase "so that" is used improperly. "So that" should signify a desired result. It makes no sense to say that the desired result of the earl's rebellion was that a messenger would ride for days.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is unsatisfactory because it is illogical in the context of the passage. The preceding passage offers no context in which to comprehend the phrase "An earl had rebelled in London."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is unsatisfactory because the sentence can be construed to mean that a messenger rode all day alongside "a rebelling earl in London."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is unsatisfactory because it uses an improper tense; the main verb would have to be "rides" for this sentence to make sense.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. One can infer from the passage that the "anxieties" are those of "the Pastons," but the sentence needs to be revised to make this point clear—especially because it is the first sentence of a paragraph.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is unsatisfactory because the phrase "one's reading of" is unnecessary; the fact that the act performed is a "reading" is implied by the use of the term "reader."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is unsatisfactory because "record" is illogical in this context. The Pastons recorded their anxieties; a reader would only be sensing them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is unsatisfactory because it fails to correct the unclear referent problem of the original. It is not stated whose anxieties are being discussed.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is unsatisfactory because inserting "etc." would not fix the main problem of the sentence: the unclear referent of "their."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The passage contains no questions, rhetorical or otherwise.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is unsatisfactory because sentence 6 should be classified as "background explanation"; it provides background for the discussion of the letters.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is unsatisfactory because the first three sentences can be characterized as an "imaginative description" of the writer's reading experience.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is unsatisfactory because sentence 12 is an explicit personal narration. Moreover, the entire passage could be described as kind of personal narration.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is unsatisfactory because sentences 10 and 11 use direct quotation from the Paston family letters.

Section 7

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. "Barter" means the direct exchange of goods without the use of money. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Commerce on the remote island was conducted exclusively by barter, exchanging goods for goods." The final phrase in the sentence explains or defines the missing term. "Barter" is defined perfectly by the phrase "exchanging goods for goods."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Credit" means the exchange of money or goods for the promise of repayment at a later time. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Commerce on the remote island was conducted exclusively by credit, exchanging goods for goods." The final phrase in the sentence explains or defines the missing term. "Credit" is not the exchange of goods for goods.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Loan" means the exchange of money for the promise of repayment at a later time. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Commerce on the remote island was conducted exclusively by loan, exchanging goods for goods." The final phrase in the sentence explains or defines the missing term. A loan is not the exchange of "goods for goods."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Faith" means complete trust. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Commerce on the remote island was conducted exclusively by faith, exchanging goods for goods." The final phrase in the sentence explains or defines the missing term. When goods are exchanged directly for goods, there is little need for faith or trust, as the goods can be carefully examined before the trade is made.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Patronage" in this context means political favors. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Commerce on the remote island was conducted exclusively by patronage, exchanging goods for goods." The final phrase in the sentence explains or defines the missing term. "Patronage" is the exchange of goods for political favors or protection, not the exchange of goods for goods.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. "Dispute" means disagreement. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The existence of environmental contamination is no longer a point of dispute; government, industry, and the public agree that it is a serious problem." If those three major groups of people agree that environmental contamination is a serious problem, it is reasonable to consider it an issue that is no longer in dispute.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Concern" means worry. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The existence of environmental contamination is no longer a point of concern; government, industry, and the public agree that it is a serious problem." If something is considered a serious problem by large and important groups of people, that issue would most likely cause serious worry or concern, rather than not being "a point of concern."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Cooperation" means working together. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The existence of environmental contamination is no longer a point of cooperation; government, industry, and the public agree that it is a serious problem." Inserting "cooperation" into the sentence does not create a statement that makes good sense. The second part of the sentence, after the semicolon, says that environmental contamination is an issue about which several groups now agree. If those groups now agree about it, then the groups are in some sense cooperating with respect to it, in direct contradiction to the first part of the sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Urgency" means a situation requiring immediate action. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The existence of environmental contamination is no longer a point of urgency; government, industry, and the public agree that it is a serious problem." If major groups agree that something is a serious problem, it does not make sense to say that it is no longer a point of urgency because most serious problems do require immediate action or else they just get worse.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Relevance" means relating to the matter in hand. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "The existence of environmental contamination is no longer a point

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

of relevance; government, industry, and the public agree that it is a serious problem." Issues that such major and all-encompassing groups of people consider to be serious problems are typically quite relevant issues.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Intuition" means immediate knowledge of something without conscious reasoning. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In rock climbing, survival depends as much on intuition, the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning, as on physical strength." The placement of the phrase "the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning" in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the phrase provides a definition or an explanation of the term that precedes it. Knowing something without the conscious use of reason is, in fact, a good definition of the word "intuition."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Autonomy" means directing or governing one's own actions. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In rock climbing, survival depends as much on autonomy, the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning, as on physical strength." The placement of the phrase "the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning" in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the phrase provides a definition or an explanation of the term that precedes it. This phrase does not define the term "autonomy."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Incoherence" means a state or situation of not holding together. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In rock climbing, survival depends as much on incoherence, the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning, as on physical strength." The placement of the phrase "the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning" in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the phrase provides a definition or an explanation of the term that precedes it. This phrase does not define the term "incoherence."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Sophistry" means misleading but clever reasoning. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In rock climbing, survival depends as much on sophistry, the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning, as on physical strength." The placement of the phrase "the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning" in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the phrase provides a definition or an explanation of the term that precedes it. This phrase does not define the term "sophistry."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Receptivity" means a willingness to accept or receive something. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "In rock climbing, survival depends as much on receptivity, the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning, as on physical strength." The placement of the phrase "the ability to perceive without conscious reasoning" in the sentence leads the reader to expect that the phrase provides a definition or an explanation of the term that precedes it. This phrase does not define the term "receptivity."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. "Supplement" means to add extra material to something, and "integrate" in this context means to bring parts together into a whole unit. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Using computer labs to supplement classroom instruction is most effective when the curriculum integrates lab exercises and classroom teaching in a coordinated manner." Computer labs are treated in this sentence as extra material that is brought into the curriculum, and that process would naturally be most effective if computer labs were brought together with classroom instruction in a unified way.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Substantiate" means to show something to be true by giving evidence for it, and "undermine" in this context means to destroy the support for something. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Using computer labs to substantiate classroom instruction is most effective when the curriculum undermines lab exercises and classroom teaching in a coordinated manner." A study plan that destroys the support for both lab exercises and classroom teaching cannot be effective, especially since those are the only instructional methods that seem to be in use in this situation.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Remedy" means to fix, and "compromise" in this context means to place the success of something in danger. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Using computer labs to remedy classroom instruction is most effective when the curriculum compromises lab exercises and classroom teaching in a coordinated manner." Any curriculum that would put the success of both lab instruction and classroom teaching in danger is almost certain to fail, and it cannot be reasonably called an effective way to remedy, or fix, classroom instruction.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Disparage" means to make negative comments about, and "reinforce" means to strengthen. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Using computer labs to disparage classroom instruction is most effective when the curriculum reinforces lab exercises and classroom teaching in a coordinated manner." Using computer labs to make negative comments about classroom instruction is an odd idea, and it is unclear why any serious educator would want to try it. In any case, there is no reason to believe that such an activity would be most effective when the curriculum strengthens both lab exercises and classroom teaching. Those conditions would most likely weaken any attempt to disparage classroom instruction.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Foster" in this context means to promote, and "curtail" means to cut short. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Using computer labs to foster classroom instruction is most effective when the curriculum curtails lab exercises and classroom teaching in a coordinated manner." If the curriculum cuts both lab exercises and classroom teaching short, it is very unlikely that using computer labs to promote classroom instruction will be effective.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. "Critics" are people who express judgments about the merits and faults of something, and "epitome" means something that is perfectly representative of an entire type. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Many critics of the style of painting exemplified by Marcel Duchamp's work focused on Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* as the epitome of what they detested about modern art." People who judge painting styles often pick out one particular painting as the best representative of a style they dislike. Such a selection makes it easier for them to illustrate the faults they identify in a certain painting style.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Proponents" are people who support something, and "realization" in this context means the actualization of plans or ideals. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Many proponents of the style of painting exemplified by Marcel Duchamp's work focused on Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* as the realization of what they detested about modern art." People who supported the style of painting of which Duchamp's work was an example would normally be the least likely to detest one of Duchamp's works of art. In any case, it is odd to say that something is the "realization of a detested quality." A realization is typically the accomplishment of a desired goal or ideal, not the attainment of qualities that are strongly disliked.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Advocates" are people who promote or support a certain position, and "embodiment" means an ideal example. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Many advocates of the style of painting exemplified by Marcel Duchamp's work focused on Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* as the embodiment of what they detested about modern art." People who promote a certain painter's style of painting would no longer be considered advocates if they chose to concentrate their attention on one of the painter's works that they intensely disliked.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Debunkers" are people who expose the falseness of something, and "rejection" means a refusal to accept. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Many debunkers of the style of painting exemplified by Marcel Duchamp's work focused on Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* as the rejection of what they detested about modern art." People who want to show something false or wrong in a style of art of which Duchamp's art was a perfect example would not be acting consistently if they focused on one of that painter's works as the rejection of something they detested. If such people really wanted to debunk, they should focus on ways that Duchamp's work tried or claimed to be something that it is not.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Belittlers" are individuals who try to make other people think less of something, and "reversal" means turning in the opposite direction. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Many belittlers of the style of painting exemplified by Marcel Duchamp's work focused on Duchamp's *Nude Descending a Staircase* as the reversal of what they detested about modern art." If a certain group of people really wanted to make others think less of Duchamp's art, they would not focus on a work that moves in a direction opposite to one they dislike. Rather, they would focus on works that do the type of thing they wish to criticize.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Acumen" means quickness and accuracy of judgment. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Colonial American playwright Mercy Otis Warren was known for her political acumen: her keen judgment and insight were widely acknowledged." The phrase after the colon in this sentence explains or expands on the character trait of Warren expressed by the missing term. "Keen judgment and insight" correctly defines the term "acumen."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Partisanship" means a bias in favor of a party or cause. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Colonial American playwright Mercy Otis Warren was known for her political partisanship: her keen judgment and insight were widely acknowledged." The phrase after the colon in this sentence explains or expands on the character trait of Warren expressed by the missing term. "Partisanship" is not defined by the phrase "keen judgment and insight."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Intemperance" means a lack of moderation. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Colonial American playwright Mercy Otis Warren was known for her political intemperance: her keen judgment and insight were widely acknowledged." The phrase after the colon in this sentence explains or expands on the character trait of Warren expressed by the missing term. Although some people who lack moderation might well have keen judgment and insight, a lack of moderation is not related to keen judgment in such a way that the second concept helps to define or explain the first concept.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Irreverence" means a lack of deep respect. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Colonial American playwright Mercy Otis Warren was known for her political irreverence: her keen judgment and insight were widely acknowledged." The phrase after the colon explains or expands on the character trait of Warren expressed by the missing term. "Irreverence" is not defined by the phrase "keen judgment and insight."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Interest" means a feeling of curiosity about something. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Colonial American playwright Mercy Otis Warren was known for her political interest: her keen judgment and insight were widely acknowledged." The phrase after the colon in this sentence explains or expands on the character trait of Warren expressed by the missing term. Being curious about politics is one thing, and having keen judgment and insight is something quite different.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. "Arcane" means known only to those who have special, secret knowledge, and "abstruse" means difficult to understand. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Johnson's writing is considered arcane and abstruse because it is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions." The second clause of the sentence explains the reason for the assertion made by the missing terms in the main clause. Inserting "arcane" and "abstruse" completes the sentence perfectly. Obscure references would be known only to a few people, and baffling digressions would be difficult for people to understand.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Deceiving" means having a tendency to mislead, and "ingenuous" means frank and honest. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Johnson's writing is considered deceiving and ingenuous because it is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions." Stating that a person's writing is filled with references and digressions that are difficult to understand would not be a good reason to justify the assertion that the writing is honest and misleads people. In addition, it makes no sense to say that a person's writing is both honest and misleading.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Spare" in this context means economical in the use of words, and "didactic" means overly inclined to teach. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Johnson's writing is considered spare and didactic because it is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions." The second clause of the sentence explains the reason for the assertion made by the missing terms in the main clause. Inserting "spare" and "didactic" into the sentence would not make sense. Writing that "is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions" would be the opposite of economical. Moreover, baffling writing would not be didactic, or meant to teach.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Lucid" means crystal clear, and "definitive" means authoritative. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Johnson's writing is considered lucid and definitive because it is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions." The second clause of the sentence explains the reason for the assertion made by the missing terms in the main clause. Inserting "lucid" and "definitive" into the sentence would not make sense. Writing that is difficult to understand cannot be reasonably considered crystal clear. Lucid writing is very easy to understand—the opposite of obscure writing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Concise" means using no more words than are necessary, and "esoteric" means known only to a few specialists. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Johnson's writing is considered concise and esoteric because it is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions." Although writing that is filled with obscure references and baffling digressions might be considered in some ways esoteric, there is no justification for considering such writing concise. Digressions are trains of thought that needlessly stray from the main point of a piece of writing, and writing with baffling digressions could hardly be considered concise.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Magnanimity" means generosity or rising above pettiness, and "pettiness" means meanness of spirit. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Because the congresswoman has been so openhanded with many of her constituents, it is difficult to reconcile this magnanimity with her private pettiness." An openhanded person is a generous one, so the first term, "magnanimity," clearly refers back to it. The second term, "pettiness," is the opposite of "magnanimity," and this is why those two personal characteristics are difficult to reconcile.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Selfishness" means neglecting others' legitimate needs in favor of one's own interests, and "inattention" means a failure to notice. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Because the congresswoman has been so openhanded with many of her constituents, it is difficult to reconcile this selfishness with her private inattention." "Openhanded" means

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

generous, so the word "selfishness" cannot refer back to it as if it were another way of saying the same thing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Insolence" means bold disrespect for custom or authority, and "virtue" means general moral excellence. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Because the congresswoman has been so openhanded with many of her constituents, it is difficult to reconcile this insolence with her private virtue." A person who is openhanded is considered generous—a quality having nothing to do with insolence; "insolence," therefore, cannot refer back to "openhandedness" as if the two words meant about the same thing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Opportunism" means adapting one's actions to the current circumstances without regard for principles, and "ambition" means a strong desire for self-advancement. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Because the congresswoman has been so openhanded with many of her constituents, it is difficult to reconcile this opportunism with her private ambition." The word "openhanded" means generous and is not at all similar in meaning to "opportunism." So these two terms cannot be used together in a sentence structure set up to contrast the ideas as synonyms of each other.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Solicitousness" means showing concern for other people's needs, and "generosity" means a tendency to give freely to other people. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Because the congresswoman has been so openhanded with many of her constituents, it is difficult to reconcile this solicitousness with her private generosity." Solicitousness and generosity are both positive personal qualities that are consistent with each other. Therefore, there would be no difficulty in understanding how one person could exhibit these two qualities, so there is nothing to reconcile here.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. Passage 1 says that the fake Western names of many SUVs are used to magnify their appeal and also claims that those names actually have a lot to do with the seemingly unstoppable advance (line 1) of SUVs. So Passage 1 supports the idea that buyers of SUVs are influenced by model names used as a marketing strategy. The article cited in Passage 2 calls the choice of name for an SUV "marketing hype" (line 18) and suggests that the image that a model name plants in customers' minds is important. This also supports the idea that buyers of SUVs are influenced by a marketing strategy.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Neither passage gives any indication that the buyers of SUVs actually intend to drive them on the sort of rough terrain that their names suggest they can handle. In fact, the article cited in Passage 2 makes a claim to the contrary: "most buyers will never venture into territory any less trampled than the parking lot of the local shopping mall" (lines 16-18).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Although both passages refer to mountains as the inspiration for SUV names, neither passage suggests that these mountains have any literal significance. In fact, Passage 1 says, "No

one much cares about what those names denote" (lines 6-7). The names function purely as a marketing device. Putting such names on SUVs suggests the conquest of previously untamed nature and allows manufacturers to play on the buyer's need for a sense of power and control.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 1 does not touch on the financial side of buying an SUV. Passage 2 does suggest a connection between being well-to-do and owning an SUV, but since Passage 1 does not support any generalization about how wealthy buyers of SUVs are, it would be wrong to claim that both Passage 1 and Passage 2 support a generalization about the wealth of SUV buyers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Although both passages comment on the connection between the names of SUVs and the psychological needs of buyers of SUVs, neither passage says anything about their social status. The kind of insecurity suggested by the reference in Passage 2 to "limited-access communities in houses guarded by sophisticated surveillance systems" is plainly the insecurity that people feel about their personal safety, not about their social status.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. Passage 1 calls SUVs "giant" (line 1) and describes them as "high-clearance trucks with four-wheel drive and front bumpers as big as battering rams" (lines 3-4). Passage 1 is thus very clear about the imposing bulk of SUVs. Passage 2, on the other hand, does not mention the physical dimensions of SUVs at all.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Neither passage says anything about increases in the price of SUVs or in what it costs to own and operate one.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 1 does address the psychology of SUV owners. It implies that they are people to whom the notions of rugged individualism, mastery over the wilderness, cowboy endurance (lines 8-9) are appealing. However, Passage 2 also address the psychology of SUV owners. Passage 2 suggests that they are people who suffer from "fears both real and imagined" (line 25) and who see SUVs as providing protection from those fears.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Neither passage mentions any aspect of the environmental impact of SUVs. The passages do mention lakes, mountains, etc., but only as features of the environment that SUVs are named for.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Passage 1 does address the significance of the names of SUVs by suggesting that their names have a lot to do with why they are so popular. However, Passage 2 addresses the significance of their names, too. The article cited by Passage 2 associates the name of a particular make of SUV with customers' sense that they can cope with wilderness. So here, too, names have significance as a marketing device.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. Passage 2 explains what is subtle about naming an SUV for an Alaskan mountain. According to Passage 2, the point is not actually to associate the vehicle with that mountain as a real destination that the vehicle will take the buyer to. Rather, it is merely to give buyers the general feeling that they are the kind of people who can conquer rugged terrain. Passage 1 makes essentially the same point when it says that people do not greatly care about what the names of lakes, frontier towns, and mountain ranges that are given to SUVs actually refer to. What matters is the "connotations" (line 8) of those names, like "rugged individualism, mastery over the wilderness, cowboy endurance" (lines 8-9).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The phrase "inexorable advance" (line 1) is used to indicate that SUVs are becoming increasingly common. So this phrase refers to the result of the appeal SUVs have for people buying a vehicle. The "subtleties" mentioned in Passage 2 are things that marketers rely on to make SUVs appealing. So the marketing subtleties are the cause, and growing sales are the effect. But effects are not examples of causes.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The "subtleties" mentioned in Passage 2 are subtleties in the way the choice of a name for a SUV influences prospective buyers. The fact that SUVs, as Passage 1 claims, have "front bumpers as big as battering rams" (line 4) is not an aspect of the subtle appeal that the names of SUVs have for buyers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. According to Passage 1, "lakes, frontier towns, mountain ranges" (line 7) are among the kinds of things SUVs are named for. But, as Passage 1 also says, people do not actually greatly care about these places. What matters to people is the qualities that these names suggest. The subtleties that Passage 2 mentions are these suggestions of special qualities that are linked to the names of SUVs, not the actual places that those names refer to.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The phrase "Frankensteinian concoctions" (line 11) is derived from the familiar figure of Frankenstein's monster, and it is used to talk about SUVs themselves. But the word "subtleties" (line 15) relates to what the names of SUVs suggest, not to SUVs themselves. And since the phrase "Frankensteinian concoctions" has nothing to do with the name of any SUV, it cannot be an example of that sort of subtlety.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. Passage 1 says that what matters about the fake Western names used to market SUVs is "their connotations of rugged individualism, mastery over the wilderness, cowboy endurance" (lines 8-9). The article cited in Passage 2 says that naming an SUV for an Alaskan mountain is meant to "plant the image in customers' minds that they can conquer rugged terrain" (lines 18-19). In both cases, feelings of power and control are meant to be called up.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The desire for a sense of mastery over the challenges of a difficult environment is not a primitive instinct but a fairly complex notion, having to do with issues of confidence and self-image. Both passages strongly suggest that the environment that presents people with challenges is not real lakes and mountains but rather their social and economic environment.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. There is no indication in either passage that the imagery used to market SUVs is supposed to make people wish they lived simpler lives. Rather, what people are said to associate with that imagery is a superior ability to deal with the lives they do lead.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Passage 1 says directly that "no one much cares about what those names denote (lakes, frontier towns, mountain ranges)" (lines 6-7), so evoking the beauty of unspoiled nature is not the point. The article cited in Passage 2 does not relate the marketing imagery to a concern with the beauty of unspoiled nature either. The imagery is intended to suggest the conquest of "wilderness," but as lines 20-25 speculate, this wilderness may not be unspoiled nature but people's everyday living and working environment.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Passage 1 does mention that the imagery is intended to appeal to the value people place on "rugged individualism." The article cited in Passage 2, however, suggests that the appeal is ultimately to a certain conformity: the conformity of people living in limited-access communities driving SUVs as "the perfect transportation shelter to protect [them] from fears both real and imagined" (lines 24-25). The SUV is seen here as an extension of a sort of power and control that is closely tied to conformity.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. Passage 1 does not mention women specifically at all. It either refers to the entire civilian population or to men who served in the army or to men who were in the newspaper business. Passage 2 is different. It considers in considerable detail the change in status women experienced as a result of the First World War.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Neither passage leaves any doubt about the dehumanizing effects of the war. Passage 1 speaks of the war's "industrialized ghastliness" (lines 3-4) as being too unprecedented for civilians to grasp. Passage 2 describes soldiers as being stuck "in the muck and blood of the battlefields" (line 52) and as "abandoned by the civilization of which they had ostensibly been heirs" (lines 53-54).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Passage 2 acknowledges that there was an "official, male-centered history" (line 35) of the war but does not endorse it. Rather, it opposes to it an "unofficial female history" (lines 35-36).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Neither passage tries to identify the root causes of the conflict. Both passages take the war as a given and focus on how different the war was for two groups. The two groups are the army and civilians in the case of Passage 1 and men and women in the case of Passage 2.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Passage 1 is the only one of the two passages that goes into the matter of censorship of information about the war.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. The first sentence of Passage 1 says that it was impossible for the civilian population to know the realities of the war. Soldiers, on the other hand, knew those realities because they were experiencing them. This is the split that the passage calls a "fissure" (line 6). It is reasonable to see civilian ignorance as the cause of this fissure.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Passage 1 is the only passage to mention a fissure, which it calls a fissure "between the army and the civilians." Moreover, although the discrepancy between the experiences of men and women is discussed, this discussion is in Passage 2, not in Passage 1.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 1 claims that civilian incomprehension, which was a main cause of the fissure, initially resulted from the "industrial ghastliness" (lines 3-4) of the war. The character of this war was so unlike anything that had gone before that, according to the passage, it had to be experienced to be believed. This suggests that it was the overall manner in which the war was conducted and the scale of the war that led to the fissure, and not the behavior of the officers who led the battles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Any guilt that civilians may have felt about sending young men off to war is not mentioned anywhere in the two passages. According to the passage, the fissure was caused by civilians' ignorance about the soldiers' experience.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. There is no indication in either passage that war correspondents enjoyed any special privileges. In fact, war correspondents are portrayed as having been severely limited in their ability to do their basic job.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The footnote forcefully makes the point that a published report suggesting that "the general situation was favorable" (line 28) misrepresented what was really happening. The footnote says that, on the first day of the battle, the British lost more soldiers than on any other day in the army's history.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The information in the footnote shows how far newspaper reporting went to present the war in a positive light. However, it does not suggest that later writings about the war fail to take the true facts about the battle of the Somme into account.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The footnote emphasizes how devastating the battle was in terms of lives lost. It is not the footnote but press reports that are said to have trivialized the dangers soldiers faced.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The footnote does give some indication that the cost of the war, in terms of lives lost, was high. But there is no mention anywhere in the passage of any benefits of the war. So the information in the footnote does not figure in any cost/benefit comparison.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The footnote presents statistical information only. It does not represent anyone's personal reflections.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. Passage 1 lists rigid censorship of the press as one of the causes of a split between the army and the civilians. Censorship of the press is described as one of the main reasons civilians were unable to comprehend the realities of the war. The way the Times covered the battle of the Somme (lines 22-26) is given as a particularly striking example of how censored reports from the press gave "those at home" a completely misleading picture of the realities of the war.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Passage 1 characterizes the government's control over propaganda as so comprehensive that those who did not experience the realities of the war in person were prevented from knowing about those realities.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Passage 1 does not suggest that soldiers lacked opportunities to write home. It does not give any indication of how often soldiers wrote or could have written. It only says that few of them wrote the truth, and that even then, because of censorship by company officers, the truth did not reach those at home.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 2, not Passage 1, is the passage that deals with the disparity between men's and women's views of war.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Passage 1 does not mention or imply anything about efforts of pacifists to end the war.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. In this context the word "credit" means accept, or believe. This is relatively uncommon usage. This meaning of "credit" can perhaps be appreciated more readily through the related word "discredit" in contexts like "certain stories have been discredited as lies." What is at issue is whether the reports or stories are believable.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. To "award prose" would mean to give prose to someone as an award. This does not make sense. Moreover, the context in which the word "credit" appears does not suggest that these newspaper reports have anything to do with someone receiving an award.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The phrase "to enter prose" does not have any real meaning. There is a sense of "credit" as a kind of bookkeeping entry, but the current context is neither about accounting nor about the auditing of accounts.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Newspaper reporters could perhaps be described as people who "supply prose," but the context indicates that the two groups being contrasted are the troops and those at home. Those at home are ordinary civilians, not war correspondents. For the civilians at home the challenge was not to judge whether to supply newspaper prose, but whether to accept what the newspapers wrote as factual testimony.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The phrase "enrich prose like that as factual testimony" is not readily intelligible. In bookkeeping terms, a credit entry in a profit-and-loss account registers a financial gain. But an awareness that "credit" can be used this way is of no help to anyone trying to interpret the above phrase.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. The author of Passage 2 argues that the terrible events of the war "were in fact very different for men and women" (line 38). The quotation from Vera Brittain, which refers to a "barrier of indescribable experience between men and women whom they loved" (lines 41-42), supports this position. Vera Brittain was engaged to a soldier who fought in the war and wrote the quoted words during the war.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Even though Passage 2 does argue that women gained various powers during the war, the reference to Vera Brittain in line 40 does not present any examples of powers gained by women. That reference is only concerned with how men who had been soldiers might change. In fact, the author of Passage 2 suggests in lines 46-50 that Vera Brittain may not have realized how greatly women were also changing.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Vera Brittain is presented as a writer who wrote truthfully about certain effects of the war. In the author's view, Vera Brittain did not manipulate any facts about the war; rather, she got a fact about the war right.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Vera Brittain is mentioned as someone who understood a preliminary point that the author of Passage 2 makes. In fact, the author supposes that Vera Brittain did not really appreciate a further point that is central to much of the women's wartime literature discussed in the passage. That further point is that there was a massive shift in women's powers and aspirations that was triggered by the war. So the mention of Vera Brittain is not part of the author's broader discussion of women's wartime literature.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The point of mentioning Vera Brittain is not to dispute recent historians' views of the war, but rather to illustrate the divergence of "unofficial" female history from "official," male-centered history.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. The author of Passage 2 says that women seemed to become more powerful. They "began to loom larger" (line 59) as nurses, as munitions workers, as bus drivers, as agricultural workers, and "even as wives and mothers" (lines 57-58). The word "even" signals that the roles of wife and mother are not roles in which one would have expected women to become more powerful. The assumption is, therefore, that those are roles that had previously commanded little authority.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The passage deals with a shift towards women in the balance of power within families, and it does suggest that women were the beneficiaries of an "economic revolution" (line 64). But it does not specifically mention households headed by women, nor how prosperous such households were.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The reference to "wives and mothers" in line 58 indicates that women's gains in power were not limited to the public sphere but extended to their roles within families. Neither this particular reference nor the surrounding context give a clue to how aware soldiers were of the ongoing societal changes.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Elsewhere in Passage 2 the point is made that women embraced their chance to work outside the home. However, the particular reference to "wives and mothers" in line 58 serves to emphasize that the broad political revolution ushered in by the war strengthened the position of women even within the home.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The reference to "wives and mothers" as looming larger has to do with how much of a say women had in matters affecting their families, not with their attitudes toward fulfilling family responsibilities.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The word "revolution" refers to the political and economic revolution by which the First World War permanently granted women "access to both the votes and the professions that they had never before possessed" (lines 67-68). In other words, political and economical opportunities that were previously closed to women could now be pursued by them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The revolution mentioned in line 64 is something that the "wartime poems, stories, and memoirs by women" writers explore, according to lines 62-68. "Revolution," therefore, refers to the subject matter that women's literary output during the war dealt with, not to the literary output itself.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Passage 2 grants that the war "at least temporarily dispossessed male citizens of the primacy that had always been their birthright" (lines 65-66). But this is more nearly true of the situation during rather than after the war. In general, Passage 2 discusses the revolution mentioned in line 64 in terms of permanent changes that women underwent, not in terms of any changes that men may have undergone.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Passage 2 speaks of revolution strictly in terms of a shift in the balance of power between men and women. If there was an accompanying redistribution of power from the upper to the middle class, the term "revolution" as used in line 64 does not refer to it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. There is no discussion at all of wage levels. It is clearly part of the revolution mentioned in line 64 that the proportion of women in a variety of occupations jumped to much higher levels than before. But if it is also true that the wage gap between men and women narrowed, this is neither asserted nor implied.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. Women's enthusiasm refers here to the celebration by women writers of the release of female desire and powers that the First World War had made possible. The author of Passage 2 suggests that this celebratory, enthusiastic spirit among women might "seem like morbid gloating" because it coincided with young men becoming "increasingly immured in the muck and blood of the battlefields" (line 52-53).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The passage does not suggest that women's progress was the cause of the deterioration of men's status. Rather, it says that both were caused by the First World War, most clearly in lines 64-68: "the First World War at least temporarily dispossessed male citizens of the primacy that had always been their birthright, while permanently granting women access to both the votes and the professions that they had never before possessed." Moreover, as this quote also indicates, the deterioration of men's status was only temporary.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The passage gives no evidence of women having been peacemakers. The passage does mention that Virginia Woolf was known for her pacifist sympathies but then goes on to quote Virginia Woolf herself as saying that "the daughters of educated men . . . used all their immense stores of charm . . . to persuade young men that to fight was heroic" (lines 78-82). And later in the same paragraph Virginia Woolf is quoted as saying that, unconsciously, women "desired our splendid war" (line 87). The passage presents Virginia Woolf's analysis as reasonable and accurate.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The passage suggests that women made a significant contribution to the war effort. It does not, however, say anything about how women saw their contribution, or that they ever claimed that the war would have been lost without them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The passage says that women celebrated the fact that their power within society grew. The passage says nothing to imply that women also celebrated the fact that they did not have to fight in the war.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. The passage mentions women's readiness to do menial tasks and to exercise fatal fascinations as showing how determined women were to escape the "education of the private house" (line 83). This determination to escape shows how stifled women had felt in their traditional roles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The references in lines 84-85 relate narrowly to the strength of women's motivation to take on new roles. These references are not made in order to make a point about the consequences of women having these new roles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Lines 84-85 do not deal with women's perceptions (whether idealizing or not) of the war and the realities of the war. The lines deal with women's resolve to take advantage of an opportunity that they were offered by the war.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The discussion in lines 84-85 is part of an attempt to explain why women rushed into hospitals, worked in munitions factories, and used their charm to persuade young men that to fight was heroic. In other words, it is an attempt to explain why women accepted certain horrors of war, not an attempt to explain a desire they may have had to escape those horrors.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Passage 2 makes the point that women did not fight in the war early on. In lines 41-42 the passage quotes, with approval, a phrase coined by Vera Brittain who says that the war "put a barrier of indescribable experience between men and the women whom they loved." It is young men, in contrast to women, who are described as having to contend with the "muck and blood of the battlefields" (lines 52-53).

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. *Behind the Scenes at the Front* is a book that ignores the realities of the battlefield. It describes the common British soldier as "well fed, warm, safe, and happy" (line 19), whereas, according to Passage 1, the reality of the battlefield was one of "industrialized ghastliness" (lines 3-4). "The wartime poems, stories, and memoirs" mentioned in line 62 do not focus on the conduct of the war at all but are instead concerned with exploring "the political and economic revolution" taking place at home.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. *Behind the Scenes at the Front* is mentioned as an example of the kind of publication specifically designed to keep uneasiness from arising among civilians.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. *Behind the Scenes at the Front* reflected the wishes of the government with regard to how the war should be presented, but not the views that the government actually held. The "wartime poems, stories, and memoirs" reflected the insights of women writers, not the views of the government.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The "wartime poems, stories, and memoirs" concerned themselves with the change in the status quo for women in wartime Britain, but these poems, stories, and memoirs did not cause the change. *Behind the Scenes at the Front* is neither concerned with that change, nor did it cause it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Nothing is said about any effect these publications might have had on writers and on how seriously they took their craft.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. Passage 1 speaks of a "fissure" between the army and the civilians, and also of a division between those on the spot and those at home. Thus Passage 1 supports the view that soldiers felt isolated from civilian society. Passage 2 mentions a "barrier of indescribable experience between men and women whom they loved" (lines 41-42) and also talks about soldiers as becoming "increasingly abandoned by the civilization of which they had ostensibly been heirs" (lines 53-54). Passage 2, therefore, also supports the view that soldiers felt isolated from civilian society.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Neither passage suggests that the government was complacent. Thus the issue of whether officers resented the government's complacency does not arise in either passage.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Passage 1 is sharply focused on the gulf that came to exist between soldiers and civilian society. It does not deal with the status of women at all. Passage 2 does deal with the status of women, but it does not say anything about their gaining independence in postwar Britain. What it says is that the status of women improved significantly during the war.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Passage 2 does not mention any writers who attempted to describe the atrocities of war and, thus, does not support the idea that such attempts failed. Passage 1 does contain a reference to soldiers who wrote letters in which they tried to tell the truth about the realities of war. But these soldiers were probably not writers by trade. Moreover, they might actually have succeeded in describing the atrocities of war because portions of their letters are said to have been removed by company officers who acted as censors.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Neither passage deals with the nature of the European conflict or with the political goals of the war. So while it may be true that war proved an undesirable way to resolve the European conflict, neither passage supports this judgment.

Section 9

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. "Descending" means going down, and "increasing" means making greater. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "As sea urchins are becoming scarcer, divers are descending to more dangerous depths to retrieve them, increasing the potential for diving injuries." This sentence makes sense because the deeper a diver goes in the ocean, the greater is the possibility of an injury of some sort.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Swimming" means moving through water, and "lessening" means decreasing. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "As sea urchins are becoming scarcer, divers are swimming to more dangerous depths to retrieve them, lessening the potential for diving injuries." If the depths are dangerous, that means that the potential for injuries is greater there, so it does not make sense to say that the potential for injuries is decreasing.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Removing" means taking something away, and "avoiding" means keeping away from. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "As sea urchins are becoming scarcer, divers are removing to more dangerous depths to retrieve them, avoiding the potential for diving injuries." Except for some rare uses that do not apply here, "remove" is a verb that normally requires an object to form a grammatical sentence. In any case, by going to more dangerous depths, divers are increasing the potential for injuries, not avoiding it.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Returning" means going back to, and "seeing" in this context means noticing. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "As sea urchins are becoming scarcer, divers are returning to more dangerous depths to retrieve them, seeing the potential for diving injuries." It is unclear why divers would be returning to dangerous depths to get sea urchins that are just now becoming scarcer. This assumes that the divers used to descend to such depths and then stopped but gives no reason to believe that assumption is justified.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Climbing" means moving up, and "creating" means making something new. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "As sea urchins are becoming scarcer, divers are climbing to more dangerous depths to retrieve them, creating the potential for diving injuries." Even though dangerous depths would create the potential for injury, when divers go to more dangerous depths, they are going down toward the ocean floor, not climbing up.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. "Egotistical" means selfish or boastful. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Anne mentioned John's habitual boasting about his wardrobe as an example of his egotistical ways." "Habitual boasting," or continuously bragging about oneself, is a perfect example of "egotistical ways."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Erratic" means inconsistent. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Anne mentioned John's habitual boasting about his wardrobe as an example of his erratic ways." Boasting about clothing is not an example of inconsistency, especially since John's boasting is habitual.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Flexible" in this context means willing to consider other points of view or ways of doing something. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Anne mentioned John's habitual boasting about his wardrobe as an example of his flexible ways." Boasting is not a good example of a willingness to see things from other people's point of view.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Tactful" means doing the most fitting thing for the situation. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Anne mentioned John's habitual boasting about his wardrobe as an example of his tactful ways." Boastful behavior is not an example of tact: a tactful person tends to consider other people's feelings, but a boastful person usually does not.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Inconspicuous" means not readily noticeable. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Anne mentioned John's habitual boasting about his wardrobe as an example of his inconspicuous ways." One usually boasts in order to draw attention to oneself, not to make oneself less noticeable.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. "Resolute" means firm, and "diplomatic" means being tactful or acting in a way that is fitting to the situation. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "His peers respected him because he was both resolute and diplomatic: steadfast in his beliefs and tactful in his negotiations." The colon in this sentence indicates that the second part of the sentence explains or clarifies the ideas presented in the first part. Consequently, the missing terms must describe the man as "steadfast" and "tactful." Inserting these terms into the sentence makes sense: a resolute person is steadfast in beliefs, and a diplomatic person is tactful in negotiations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Resourceful" means readily capable of acting effectively, and "courteous" means considerate toward others. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "His peers respected him because he was both resourceful and courteous: steadfast in his beliefs and tactful in his negotiations." The colon in this sentence indicates that the second part of the sentence explains or clarifies the ideas presented in the first part. Consequently, the missing terms must describe the man as "steadfast" and "tactful." However, a resourceful person is not always one who is steadfast in beliefs, and a courteous person is polite, but not necessarily tactful in negotiations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Tenacious" means persistent or stubborn, and "manipulative" means tending to influence shrewdly or deviously. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "His peers respected him because he was both tenacious and manipulative: steadfast in his beliefs and tactful in his negotiations." The colon in this sentence indicates that the second part of the sentence explains or clarifies the ideas presented in the first part. Consequently, the missing terms must describe the man as "steadfast" and "tactful." Although someone who is "steadfast in his beliefs" could be described as tenacious, being manipulative is not typically associated with being tactful in negotiations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Determined" means having a strong resolve to achieve a goal, and "demonstrative" means freely expressing one's feelings. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "His peers respected him because he was both determined and demonstrative: steadfast in his beliefs and tactful in his negotiations." The colon in this sentence indicates that the second part of the sentence explains or clarifies the ideas presented in the first part. Consequently, the missing terms must describe the man as "steadfast" and "tactful." Although someone who is "steadfast in his beliefs" could be described as determined, a person who is demonstrative would not necessarily be tactful in negotiations, as tact often requires a person to hide his or her true feelings and beliefs.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Outspoken" means tending to say what is on one's mind, and "indiscriminate" in this context means not restrained. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "His peers respected him because he was both outspoken and indiscriminate: steadfast in his beliefs and tactful in his negotiations." The colon in this sentence indicates that the second part of the sentence explains or clarifies the ideas presented in the first part. Consequently, the missing terms must describe the man as "steadfast" and "tactful." A person who is outspoken and indiscriminate would be unlikely to be tactful in negotiations.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Autonomy" means independence. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Considering that many women had little control over their own lives in medieval England, Margery Kempe's fifteenth-century autobiography demonstrates a remarkable degree of autonomy." This sentence contrasts Margery Kempe's life with the lives of other women in medieval England. The missing term describes a way that Kempe's life was "remarkable" compared to the "little control" most women of her time had over their lives. Describing Kempe's life as showing autonomy, or independence, contrasts perfectly with the lives of other women of her time.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Consecration" means declaring something sacred. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Considering that many women had little control over their own lives in medieval England, Margery Kempe's fifteenth-century autobiography demonstrates a remarkable degree of consecration." This sentence contrasts Margery Kempe's life with the lives of other women in medieval England. The missing term describes a way that Kempe's life was "remarkable" compared to the "little control" most women of her time had over their lives. It makes little sense to describe Kempe's life as demonstrating the making of something sacred. Moreover, it would not contrast well with the description of the lives of other medieval women.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Rationalism" means the belief that reasoning forms the only basis for action or truth. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Considering that many women had little control over their own lives in medieval England, Margery Kempe's fifteenth-century autobiography demonstrates a remarkable degree of rationalism." This sentence contrasts Margery Kempe's life with the lives of other women in medieval England. The missing term describes a way that Kempe's life was "remarkable" compared to the "little control" most women of her time had over their lives. Describing Kempe's life as based on reason does not contrast it with the lives of other medieval women. The fact that the women had little control over their lives does not mean that they could not have based their lives on reason.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Effacement" means a rubbing out of something. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Considering that many women had little control over their own lives in medieval England, Margery Kempe's fifteenth-century autobiography demonstrates a remarkable degree of effacement." This sentence contrasts Margery Kempe's life with the lives of other women in medieval England. The missing term describes a way that Kempe's life was "remarkable" compared to the "little control" most women of her time had over their lives. The degree of control over one's life does not necessarily contrast strongly with the idea of rubbing out. Self-effacement, for example, refers to a person's tendency to downplay his or her accomplishments or good qualities. Even if the sentence had intended to refer to self-effacement (rather than simply effacement), there is no strong contrast between that concept and control over one's life.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Simplicity" means a tendency to avoid complication in life. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "Considering that many women had little control over their own lives in medieval England, Margery Kempe's fifteenth-century autobiography demonstrates a remarkable degree of simplicity." This sentence contrasts Margery Kempe's life with the lives of other women in medieval England. The missing term describes a way that Kempe's life was "remarkable" compared to the "little control" most women of her time had over their lives. Having a life of simplicity does not contrast strongly with a life over which one has little control. In many cases people who have little control over their lives are forced by others into a life of simplicity.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. "Seditious" means tending to incite rebellion against the authority of the state, and "insurrectionists" means people who revolt against civil authority. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Following the decree banning seditious acts, suspected insurrectionists could be forcibly detained without the filing of formal charges." Insurrectionists are by definition those who incite rebellion against the authority of the state, so it makes sense that people suspected of being insurrectionists would be affected by a new law banning acts that incite others to rebellion.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Rebellious" means resisting control, and "conformists" means people who follow current practices. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Following the decree banning rebellious acts, suspected conformists could be forcibly detained without the filing of formal charges." People who follow current practices tend also to obey laws; in particular, they rarely rebel against authority. Thus a law banning rebellious acts would most likely have little effect on conformists.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Apolitical" in this context means unrelated to politics, and "loyalists" means people who respect the authority of a government in power. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Following the decree banning apolitical acts, suspected loyalists could be forcibly detained without the filing of formal charges." It would be unusual for a government to create a law banning acts unrelated to politics, and loyalists are not apolitical; also, loyalists are the least likely of all people to be detained by a government with the power to make decrees.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Subversive" means intending to overthrow a government, and "nonpartisans" means people who do not take sides in a political dispute. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Following the decree banning subversive acts, suspected nonpartisans could be forcibly detained without the filing of formal charges." A law regarding acts that could overthrow a government would most likely not affect people who do not take sides in political controversies.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Supportive" means providing needed help, and "opponents" means people who are on the opposite side in a dispute. If one were to insert these terms into the text, the sentence would read "Following the decree banning supportive acts, suspected opponents could be forcibly detained without the filing of formal charges." Governments have no reason to pass laws against supportive acts, and even if such laws were enacted they would have little or no effect on opponents of the government.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. "Corrective" means setting something right or making accurate. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "By portraying a wide spectrum of characters in his one-man show, John Leguizamo provides a corrective to the theater's tendency to offer a limited range of

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

roles to Latino actors." The missing term in this sentence describes the effect that Leguizamo's portrayal of many types of characters has on the wider practice of the theater of offering few roles to Latino actors. It makes sense to say that Leguizamo's show "provides a corrective" to the theater's practices by more accurately demonstrating the ability of Latino actors to play a variety of roles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. "Tribute" in this context means an acknowledgment of admiration. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "By portraying a wide spectrum of characters in his one-man show, John Leguizamo provides a tribute to the theater's tendency to offer a limited range of roles to Latino actors." A person who portrayed a wide variety of characters would not in that way be acknowledging admiration for the theater's tendency to cast Latino actors in a very limited number of roles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. "Corollary" in this context means a natural consequence or effect of something. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "By portraying a wide spectrum of characters in his one-man show, John Leguizamo provides a corollary to the theater's tendency to offer a limited range of roles to Latino actors." A person who plays many roles cannot reasonably be said to be a consequence of the theater's tendency to offer such actors a very limited range of roles.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Stimulus" means an incentive. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "By portraying a wide spectrum of characters in his one-man show, John Leguizamo provides a stimulus to the theater's tendency to offer a limited range of roles to Latino actors." If Leguizamo played a great variety of characters in his show, he would be doing the opposite of providing an incentive to the theater's tendency to limit the range of roles offered to Latino actors.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. "Precursor" means someone who comes before. If one were to insert this term into the text, the sentence would read "By portraying a wide spectrum of characters in his one-man show, John Leguizamo provides a precursor to the theater's tendency to offer a limited range of roles to Latino actors." A person who plays many different roles would not normally come before a tendency for the theater to allow such people the opportunity to play very few types of roles.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. The passage focuses on Clayton, but presents him only as Virginia sees him. The narrator provides no independent or neutral information about Clayton.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The passage focuses entirely on the personal, on how Clayton as an individual appears to Virginia. Clayton is presented as interested almost entirely in music. Virginia—although also a musician—appears in the passage as interested almost entirely in Clayton. Nothing in the passage suggests that what the narrator says about Clayton and Virginia is supposed to be a general commentary on musicians of the period.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (B) is incorrect. The introduction to the passage explains that both Clayton and Virginia are college students who are members of the college orchestra. But the passage has almost nothing to say about what being in the orchestra was like for them.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The passage does not present anyone as being an inspiration to others.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The passage describes the beginning of a relationship between Clayton and Virginia. But nothing is said that indicates whether their relationship will endure or whether it will become strained later on.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The references to how Clayton looked in the practice room in different lights indicates that Virginia had observed him on many occasions and that she had paid close attention to how he looked.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Clayton is presented as taking Virginia very much in stride, at least as far as how he behaved is concerned. There is no indication that his outward manner changed when she was around. In fact, in the first paragraph, where the references to a different sort of light appear, there is no indication that Clayton is even aware of Virginia being nearby.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The references to different lights suggest that Clayton is not a simple, one-dimensional character. And they suggest that Virginia was interested enough in Clayton to observe him carefully and often. But before the events described in the last half of the passage, Virginia's observations of and about Clayton seem more restrained than passionate.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. That Clayton was to be found in the practice room both in daylight and when the lights were on suggests that he practiced often, and probably regularly. But the passage provides no information about the rest of his day-to-day activities, and it does not imply that his daily routine was monotonous.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. In the part of the passage in which the lights are referred to, the way Clayton looks is characterized as uncanny or mysterious rather than as beautiful. He is described as having an "irresistible beauty" at the end of the passage (lines 84-85), but this is said to be the "beauty of someone who has found his place," and such a beauty is the opposite of superficial.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. In lines 8-11 the narrator tells how Clayton's skin seemed to be different shades in different lights. To Virginia, Clayton seemed to have "an uncanny complexion, as if the shades swirled just under the surface" (lines 12-13). In this context, this image suggests that there is more to Clayton's complexion than any single appearance showed. And by extension, it suggests that Clayton himself is more complex than he appears.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. There is no indication that Clayton acts or reacts in an "erratic," or unpredictable, way at any of the times Virginia peeks in on him in the practice room. What changes is the light and the shade of his skin. It is the changes in light that make Clayton look different, not anything he does.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. People who are "complacent" are self-satisfied; they are very pleased with themselves. So an "unseemly complacency" would be an inappropriate self-satisfaction. Clayton is presented as being preoccupied with music in an unself-conscious way. Nothing in the passage suggests that Clayton is complacent. Moreover, the phrase "as if the shades swirled just under the surface" would most naturally be used to convey complexity, not self-satisfaction.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. "Passionate loyalty" suggests a fixity of purpose and character that is quite at odds with the image of "the shades swirled just under the surface."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Clayton is never presented as having any tendency to argue. And although the image of shades swirling just under the surface suggests complexity and changeability, it does not naturally suggest argumentativeness.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. The first paragraph talks about Clayton in an almost impersonal way, as though at an uninvolved distance. There is nothing in the way he is described that suggests that Virginia has more than an abstract interest in him. The advice offered by Virginia's friends is an abrupt break with this mood. The language suddenly becomes almost vulgar. They gave her advice on "how to get him" (line 14) and suggested that they could "play hot duets together" (line 15).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The advice is accompanied by giggles. It introduces an element of cheerful vulgarity, rather than foreboding. There is no suggestion that anything bad is going to happen.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The advice Virginia's friends give is concerned with romance, but not with romantic music. They are giving her advice about how to have a romance with Clayton. When they talk about "hot duets," it is not to poke fun at romantic music.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. The language of the advice is in sharp contrast with the mood of Virginia's reflections about Clayton. But both Virginia and her friends seem to have a generally positive opinion of Clayton.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Clayton's sense of humor is described as "ironic" and "quirky," but it is merely mentioned, not displayed. For Virginia's friends' advice to counter it, there would have to be an instance of it in order for it to be countered.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. "Sanctity" has to do with being holy or sacred. In lines 22-25 the cello room is described as a place where the cellos were "lined up like novitiates" and where Virginia "felt a strange reverence every time she stepped across the threshold into its cool serenity." The term "reverence" has to do with respect, veneration, and worship. "Novitiates" are people who have entered religious order but have not taken their final vows. "Serenity" has to do with repose, or quietude, and suggests an otherworldliness associated with religious matters.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. None of the terms used to describe the atmosphere of the cello room have anything to do with creativity. Instead, they describe an atmosphere of repose and worship.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The atmosphere of the cello room is described as one of "cool serenity." "Serenity" suggests quiet and repose but not emptiness.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The "cool serenity" of the cello room suggests an atmosphere of acceptance and repose, the very opposite of urgency or striving.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. For a place filled with cellos to have an atmosphere of accomplishment, there would at least have to be some sign that these instruments have been played by accomplished musicians. But in the passage the instruments in the cello room are associated with novitiates, people who are beginners, not people who are accomplished.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. In lines 42-43 Clayton is described as "moving deliberately, negotiating the crush . . . sailing above the mob." The previous paragraph made it clear that the "mob" is the crowd of orchestra

members scrambling to get to the orchestra hall in time for orchestra practice. So the "crush" Clayton is negotiating (i.e., effectively dealing with) is this crowd of orchestra members.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. "Crush" can be used to mean an act of forcing by pressure. The passage describes the orchestra members moving along in what the narrator refers to as "pandemonium" (i.e., a kind of wild uproar). But there is no indication that this involves any acts of actually forcing anyone by pressure.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. As the passage presents the scene, there is a certain amount of confusion and uproar going on. But there is nothing to suggest that any "power," or active resistance, has built up that Clayton might have to deal with or even that he has to exert any power to make his way through.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. One of the meanings of "crush" is infatuation. And a case might be made that Virginia is infatuated with Clayton. But in this context, it is clear that the crush Clayton has to make his way through is a physical one, not a psychological or emotional one.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Another meaning of "crush" is to alter or destroy. Therefore, someone who was crushed would likely be in a critical condition. But neither Clayton nor anyone else is being crushed, and the narrator says nothing that suggests that any other kind of critical condition exists in the area outside the orchestra hall.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. Clayton is described as being unaffected by the general rush to get to the orchestra hall for the practice session that is about to begin. That he "moved deliberately" (lines 41-42), not rushing even though a wild uproar—pandemonium—was breaking loose all around him, suggests that he is tuning out his immediate surroundings. This impression is strengthened by the reference to his humming, something people generally do only when they are caught up in their own thoughts.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The image the passage presents of Clayton humming "a tricky passage from Schumann" (lines 42-43) on his way to the orchestra practice is one of someone who is concentrating on the music to be played, not on the people around him. Moreover, there is clearly a lot of general rushing around going on. Under those circumstances, the issue of making conversation—as opposed to calling out to people, shouting, etc.—would not arise.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Clayton is presented as being largely unaware of the other musicians surrounding him.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. It is true that Clayton seems to be caught up in the music he will be playing and to be largely ignoring the people around him. On the other hand, he is aware enough of them to be "negotiating the crush" (line 42) (i.e., dealing effectively with it), and the passage leaves open the possibility that he is at least somewhat aware of the effect he has on Virginia.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. In the general rush to get to the orchestra practice on time, it is unlikely that anyone but Virginia would have noticed that Clayton was humming "a tricky passage from Schumann" (lines 42-43). So the overall impression is not of someone who is trying to show off.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. Clayton is described from the first sentence of the passage as being obsessed with music. By the time Clayton says "I think I'll go practice" in line 46, however, it is becoming fairly clear that he is interested in Virginia. This impression is reinforced by his invitation to Virginia to stay and listen to him practice, as well as his offer to provide something for her to eat so that she could stay. In this context, then, his decision to practice his cello—rather than simply spending time with Virginia—strongly reinforces the earlier point about his commitment to music.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. By the time Clayton says "I think I'll go practice" in line 46, it is too late for him to think about trying to make a first impression on Virginia.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. From what was said early in the passage about Virginia frequently watching Clayton at practice, it appears that Clayton practices a lot. So it is likely that going to practice at that point is an indication of Clayton's unwillingness to disrupt his practice routine.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Nothing in the passage gives any indication of Clayton's feeling about competition. Since the issue does not arise, it cannot be emphasized.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. After saying that he thinks he will go practice, Clayton invites Virginia to stay and listen to him while he practices. Since Virginia is also a cellist, this strongly suggests that Clayton is not particularly insecure around other musicians.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. The phrase "agonizing bliss" occurs in the following context: "The walk was twenty minutes of agonizing bliss, with the wind off the lake whipping her blue. . . . When they reached the house. . . she was nearly frozen through" (lines 52-57). The bliss for Virginia was being with Clayton. What was "agonizing" was how physically cold she was.

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. Clayton is described as "too involved in analyzing the orchestra's horn section to notice" (lines 54-55) how cold Virginia was. But being involved in what one is saying to someone is not the same as having a cold manner. In fact, the manner of someone involved in this way is more likely to be lively and warm.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. There is no indication that Clayton was uneasy on the walk back to the fraternity house. He was talking about music, and the passage strongly suggests that whenever the subject was music, Clayton was very much at ease.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Virginia is presented as being conscious of being too cold. But this kind of discomfort is straightforwardly physical, not the complex psychological discomfort that the word "self-consciousness" suggests.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. By using the phrase "agonizing bliss," the narrator suggests that Virginia's happiness at being with Clayton is combined with physical discomfort from the cold wind. The passage says that this episode of "agonizing bliss" went on for only twenty minutes. But neither "bliss" nor "agonizing" suggests anything about the length of the episode.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. Clayton has given Virginia soup and cheese and apologizes for its not being much. Virginia is so happy just to be there with him that she "felt sated before lifting the first spoonful" (lines 60-61). Someone who feels sated is fully satisfied. So Virginia's reaction to the meal suggests that she felt content even without the food.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. Being amused by someone's attempts at hospitality on one's behalf involves an element of condescension. But by this point in the narrative, Virginia is completely entranced with Clayton, and being entranced is inconsistent with condescension.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The description of Virginia's reaction to the meal strongly suggests that, at that time, what really mattered to her was Clayton. The way the passage is written suggests that Virginia was aware of the chaos in the kitchen, but it also suggests that the state of the kitchen did not matter to her.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Clayton apologizes for the meagerness of the meal, but there is no indication that Virginia made him uneasy or that she believed that she did. Later he is described as fidgety and awkward. But that was because "music was the only landscape in which he seemed at ease" (line 81), not because Virginia was there.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. Virginia is described as thinking *"a loaf of bread, a jug of wine,"* a reference to a love poem. This strongly suggests that she found the atmosphere highly suitable for romance.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. In lines 70-72 Clayton is described as Virginia sees him: "He was the same golden brown as the instrument, and his mustache followed the lines of the cello's scroll." This description makes it clear how strongly Virginia associates Clayton with his cello.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. In the first paragraph the way Clayton wears his hair is compared to a famous jazz musician, Cab Calloway. But the description in lines 70-72 emphasizes Clayton's resemblances to his own cello, rather than to any other musician.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The description focuses on the color of Clayton's skin and the shape of his mustache. It has nothing to say about how he behaves in social situations.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. The description emphasizes how much Virginia is affected by Clayton and by his connection with his instrument. But all it tells about Clayton is how he looked, not about what effect music has on him.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The description shows how strongly Virginia identifies Clayton with his instrument. But it does not suggest that she identifies with his situation.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. Clayton says that his response to people who say that he is too tall to play the cello is "remember the bumblebee" (lines 74-75). The point about the bumblebee, he explains, is that, according to scientific principles, it is too big to fly. But it flies anyway. Clayton's body, like the bumblebee's, is not well suited to what he does. However, like the bumblebee, Clayton does it anyway. So he cites the bumblebee to show his steady determination to play, despite the odds.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The story of the bumblebee might be taken to show that Clayton is not particularly impressed with scientific pronouncements. But Clayton's response was to ignore what "everyone" (line 68) said and go on doing what he is determined to do. There is no indication that Clayton relies on any kind of magic or that his response is superstitious in any other way.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. The bumblebee in Clayton's story is not cunning or clever. The bumblebee does not even know that it should not be able to fly. It just flies.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. Clayton seems to have a certain amount of quiet, low-keyed pride, but this pride seems quite solid, not "frail" or easily shattered. The point of the bumblebee, though, is not to convey this pride. It is to convey that, to Clayton, playing the cello comes as naturally as flying does to the bumblebee.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is incorrect. The bumblebee is presented as just getting on with it, not as being especially explosive or temperamental. Clayton is presented throughout as determined and constant in his dedication to music. And Clayton refers to the bumblebee solely to explain something about how he approaches music.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. Clayton in the kitchen is described as "fidgety, even a little awkward" (line 83). But behind his instrument, he is described as having "the irresistible beauty of someone who has found his place" (lines 84-85). In the kitchen, Clayton appears somewhat clumsy, as lacking grace. But behind his cello, he appears the very opposite.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) is incorrect. The kitchen itself is described as fairly chaotic, a thorough mess. But Clayton himself does not seem particularly chaotic in the kitchen; he heats the soup and finds the cheese without any apparent difficulty. And to say of someone that he has "found his place" is to say that he is in a position that suits him, that shows him as he really is. It does not suggest anything about Clayton's organizational skills.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) is incorrect. As it is used in describing Clayton in the kitchen, "awkward" means lacking ease or grace. "Mediocrity," however, suggests the application of performance standards to commonplace actions (like heating up a can of soup, or plunking cheese down on a table) where judgments about excellence or mediocrity do not naturally apply. And while Clayton is presented as looking just right behind his instrument, this does not imply that Clayton excels in any way.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) is incorrect. There is a sense that Clayton's genuineness comes out when he is behind his instrument. But Clayton is never presented as "pretentious." Pretentious people act as though they were more important or worthy than they are. Clayton is not described as acting that way in the kitchen. In fact, Clayton modestly says of the food he has provided for Virginia, "It's not much" (line 59).

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) is incorrect. Clayton is described as dedicated throughout the passage. But being fidgety and a little awkward is not the same as being lazy. Nothing in the passage suggests that Clayton is at all lazy.

Section 10

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using the correct verb forms.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in verb tense. The sense of the sentence here calls for conditional future tense, not past tense.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an error in verb tense. The sense of the sentence here calls for conditional future tense, not past tense.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in verb tense. The sense of the sentence here calls for conditional future tense, not simple future tense.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in verb tense. The sense of the sentence here calls for conditional future tense, not simple present tense.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by omitting the unnecessary "and."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves improper wording. With the addition of the unnecessary "and," "consisting" would have to be "consists," and the commas would have to be removed, for the sentence to be correct.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves improper coordination. Two complete thoughts ("The new...state" and "It...tideland") are connected by only a comma, without the word "and" to introduce the second thought.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) creates an illogical sentence. It suggests that the state, not the sanctuary, consists "of one hundred acres of unspoiled tideland."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (E) creates a sentence fragment. It lacks a complete verb.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using an adverb to properly modify the whole phrase "and keep it off."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves improper modification. The whole phrase ("keep it off"), not just the phrase "lose weight," should be modified by the adverb "permanently" as in "and keep it off permanently."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves a modification error. The adjective "permanent" cannot be used to modify the verb "lose." The adverb "permanently" is needed.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an improper idiom. The awkward phrase "have it be off" could be reduced to the more precise and idiomatic "keep it off."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in pronoun reference. What the pronoun "it" refers to is not clear.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by completing the comparison correctly, using both a "No sooner" clause and a "than" clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves a faulty comparison. The construction "No sooner" must be completed by a "than" clause, not a "but" clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves a faulty comparison. The construction "No sooner" must be completed by a "than" clause, not a "but" clause.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an error in verb tense. The sentence shifts from past tense ("traveled," "was persuaded") to future tense ("will return") for no reason.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves a faulty comparison. The construction "No sooner" must be completed by a "than" clause, not a "but" clause.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by supplying a verb, "was," for the subject ("one reason highways became safer than ever").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves faulty wording. The subject "one reason highways became safer than ever" has no verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves faulty wording. The subject "one reason highways became safer than ever" has no verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves faulty wording. The subject "one reason highways became safer than ever" has no verb.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves faulty wording. The subject "one reason highways became safer than ever" has no verb.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer C :

Choice (C) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by avoiding the unclear pronoun ("they").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in pronoun reference. The pronoun "they" has no antecedent to which it refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in parallelism. The two items of comparison on either side of "any more than" should be the same, so the second item should read (like the first one) "Wayne will be remembered."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in pronoun reference. The pronoun "they" has no antecedent to which it refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (E) involves a double negative. The use of "no" instead of "any" forms a double negative since "not" has already been used.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by avoiding use of an unclear pronoun.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in pronoun reference. What the pronoun "it" refers to is not clear.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) creates an illogical sentence. The use of "they" in the sentence suggests that the events themselves, rather than their representation on the stage, are what DuBois believed could have a great effect.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves faulty wording. The sentence suggests that the events are "represented historically," rather than that the events are historical.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves a sentence shift. "By representing...stage" is a prepositional phrase, but then it is treated as a subject because it is followed by a verb ("could have"). The prepositional phrase cannot act as a subject here.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. It uses correct agreement and correct use of the "both...and" conjunction.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in agreement. The plural noun "work-study programs" is followed by a singular verb, "offers."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves improper use of a conjunction. The correlative conjunction should use "both" and "and," not "both" and "plus," and both parts of the conjunction should be followed by the same kinds of grammatical forms.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in agreement. The singular pronoun "it" cannot correctly refer to the plural noun "work-study programs."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in parallelism. Both parts of the correlative conjunction "both...and" should be followed by the same kind of grammatical form. "Both" is followed by a prepositional phrase ("to the students") whereas "and" is followed by a noun phrase ("the institutions").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using an active construction to emphasize what Jessie Fauset did.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) exhibits the ineffective use of the passive voice. The passive "was an editor at" should be reduced to more precise "edited."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) creates a sentence fragment. The subordinating word "who" makes everything that comes after it a dependent clause. The entire sentence has no main verb. Also, a comma is needed after "Jessie Fauset."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves improper pronoun use. The pronoun "who" is used to refer to *Crisis* magazine when the pronoun is meant to refer to Jessie Fauset.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves improper use of a preposition. Jessie Fauset would not publish Hughes's poetry "at" *Crisis* magazine but rather "in" *Crisis* magazine.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer D :

Choice (D) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by using a plural pronoun ("they") to agree with the plural subject ("walruses").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an error in agreement. The singular pronoun "its" is used to refer to a plural subject ("walruses").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in agreement. The singular pronoun "its" is used to refer to a plural subject ("walruses").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (C) involves an error in pronoun case. A gerund ("being") should be preceded by a possessive noun or pronoun ("their"), not an object ("them").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in verb tense. "Before" does not call for the present perfect tense ("have been").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. It uses proper coordination, joining two complete thoughts with a comma and a conjunction ("and").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves improper coordination. Two complete thoughts ("Jesse...last year" and "since...there") are connected by only a comma, without the word "and" to introduce the second thought.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves an error in pronoun reference. "Where" has no noun to which it clearly refers.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves improper coordination. Two complete thoughts ("Jesse...last year" and "he...since then") are connected by only a comma, without the word "and" to introduce the second thought.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves a punctuation error. The subject "Jesse" has been given a second main verb ("is practicing"), but a comma should not separate the subject from its verb.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer B :

Choice (B) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by following the opening participial phrase with its subject.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves a dangling participle. An introductory participial phrase should be immediately followed by its subject, and the subject of this phrase should be Richard Conniff, not the effect of his book.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves a dangling participle. An introductory participial phrase should be immediately followed by its subject, and the subject of this phrase should be Richard Conniff, not the effect of his book.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Choice (D) involves improper wording. "Has had the effect of rendering" would be stated more simply and clearly as "renders."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) is awkward and wordy. The awkward phrase "has effect in rendering" could be reduced to the more precise and idiomatic "effectively renders."

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer A :

Choice (A) is correct. It uses the correlative conjunction "Not only...but also" correctly.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves incorrect use of a conjunction. "But also" is the second half of the correlative conjunction "Not only." Both parts of the conjunction must be used in the sentence.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves improper wording. One can be knowledgeable *about* something but not knowledgeable *that* something.

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves an error in parallelism. "Not only" and "but also" must be followed by parallel grammatical forms. "Not only" is followed by a noun ("gasoline") whereas "but also" is followed by an entire clause ("that it is dangerous").

Explanation for Incorrect Answer E :

Choice (E) involves an error in parallelism. "Not only" and "but also" must be followed by parallel grammatical forms. "Not only" is followed by a prepositional phrase ("by itself") and a verb phrase ("can waste") whereas "but also" is followed by an entire clause ("that it is dangerous").

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

Explanation for Correct Answer E :

Choice (E) is correct. It avoids the error of the original by supplying a subject "Disney" for the verb "made."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer A :

Choice (A) involves an unclear subject. In the passive sentence "Mickey was made to talk," there is no subject for the verb "made."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer B :

Choice (B) involves an error in verb form. There is no reason for the sentence to shift from simple past tense ("produced") to a participle ("making"). The second verb should be "made," not "making."

More SAT information and tests at <http://www.cracksat.net>

Explanation for Incorrect Answer C :

Choice (C) involves awkward phrasing. The awkward phrase "with the result being Mickey talking" should be changed to the more precise and idiomatic "so that Mickey talked."

Explanation for Incorrect Answer D :

Choice (D) involves a pronoun error. "In where" should be "in which."

UnRegistered