

Reading and Writing

33 QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS

The questions in this section address a number of important reading and writing skills. Each question includes one or more passages, which may include a table or graph. Read each passage and question carefully, and then choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).

All questions in this section are multiple-choice with four answer choices. Each question has a single best answer.

1

Former astronaut Ellen Ochoa says that although she doesn't have a definite idea of when it might happen, she _____ that humans will someday need to be able to live in other environments than those found on Earth. This conjecture informs her interest in future research missions to the moon.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) demands
- B) speculates
- C) doubts
- D) establishes

2

Beginning in the 1950s, Navajo Nation legislator Annie Dodge Wauneka continuously worked to promote public health; this _____ effort involved traveling throughout the vast Navajo homeland and writing a medical dictionary for speakers of *Diné bizaad*, the Navajo language.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) impartial
- B) offhand
- C) persistent
- D) mandatory

3

Following the principles of community-based participatory research, tribal nations and research institutions are equal partners in health studies conducted on reservations. A collaboration between the Crow Tribe and Montana State University _____ this model: tribal citizens worked alongside scientists to design the methodology and continue to assist in data collection.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) circumvents
- B) eclipses
- C) fabricates
- D) exemplifies

4

The parasitic dodder plant increases its reproductive success by flowering at the same time as the host plant it has latched onto. In 2020, Jianqiang Wu and his colleagues determined that the tiny dodder achieves this _____ with its host by absorbing and utilizing a protein the host produces when it is about to flower.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) synchronization
- B) hibernation
- C) prediction
- D) moderation

5

Given that the conditions in binary star systems should make planetary formation nearly impossible, it's not surprising that the existence of planets in such systems has lacked _____ explanation. Roman Rafikov and Kedron Silsbee shed light on the subject when they used modeling to determine a complex set of factors that could support planets' development.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) a discernible
- B) a straightforward
- C) an inconclusive
- D) an unbiased

6

Seminole/Muscogee director Sterlin Harjo _____ television's tendency to situate Native characters in the distant past: this rejection is evident in his series *Reservation Dogs*, which revolves around teenagers who dress in contemporary styles and whose dialogue is laced with current slang.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical and precise word or phrase?

- A) repudiates
- B) proclaims
- C) foretells
- D) recants

7

In 2007, computer scientist Luis von Ahn was working on converting printed books into a digital format. He found that some words were distorted enough that digital scanners couldn't recognize them, but most humans could easily read them. Based on that finding, von Ahn invented a simple security test to keep automated "bots" out of websites. The first version of the reCAPTCHA test asked users to type one known word and one of the many words scanners couldn't recognize. Correct answers proved the users were humans and added data to the book-digitizing project.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A) To discuss von Ahn's invention of reCAPTCHA
- B) To explain how digital scanners work
- C) To call attention to von Ahn's book-digitizing project
- D) To indicate how popular reCAPTCHA is

8

The following text is from Edith Wharton's 1905 novel *The House of Mirth*. Lily Bart and a companion are walking through a park.

Lily had no real intimacy with nature, but she had a passion for the appropriate and could be keenly sensitive to a scene which was the fitting background of her own sensations. The landscape outspread below her seemed an enlargement of her present mood, and she found something of herself in its calmness, its breadth, its long free reaches. On the nearer slopes the sugar-maples wavered like pyres of light; lower down was a massing of grey orchards, and here and there the lingering green of an oak-grove.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence in the text as a whole?

- A) It creates a detailed image of the physical setting of the scene.
- B) It establishes that a character is experiencing an internal conflict.
- C) It makes an assertion that the next sentence then expands on.
- D) It illustrates an idea that is introduced in the previous sentence.

9

A study by a team including finance professor Madhu Veeraraghavan suggests that exposure to sunshine during the workday can lead to overly optimistic behavior. Using data spanning from 1994 to 2010 for a set of US companies, the team compared over 29,000 annual earnings forecasts to the actual earnings later reported by those companies. The team found that the greater the exposure to sunshine at work in the two weeks before a manager submitted an earnings forecast, the more the manager's forecast exceeded what the company actually earned that year.

Which choice best states the function of the underlined sentence in the overall structure of the text?

- A) To summarize the results of the team's analysis
- B) To present a specific example that illustrates the study's findings
- C) To explain part of the methodology used in the team's study
- D) To call out a challenge the team faced in conducting its analysis

10

The following text is adapted from Edith Nesbit's 1906 novel *The Railway Children*.

Mother did not spend all her time in paying dull [visits] to dull ladies, and sitting dully at home waiting for dull ladies to pay [visits] to her. She was almost always there, ready to play with the children, and read to them, and help them to do their home-lessons. Besides this she used to write stories for them while they were at school, and read them aloud after tea, and she always made up funny pieces of poetry for their birthdays and for other great occasions.

According to the text, what is true about Mother?

- A) She wishes that more ladies would visit her.
- B) Birthdays are her favorite special occasion.
- C) She creates stories and poems for her children.
- D) Reading to her children is her favorite activity.

11

The following text is from Maggie Pogue Johnson's 1910 poem "Poet of Our Race." In this poem, the speaker is addressing Paul Laurence Dunbar, a Black author.

Thou, with stroke of mighty pen,
Hast told of joy and mirth,
And read the hearts and souls of men
As cradled from their birth.
The language of the flowers,
Thou hast read them all,
And e'en the little brook
Responded to thy call.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- A) To praise a certain writer for being especially perceptive regarding people and nature
- B) To establish that a certain writer has read extensively about a variety of topics
- C) To call attention to a certain writer's careful and elaborately detailed writing process
- D) To recount fond memories of an afternoon spent in nature with a certain writer

12

“To You” is an 1856 poem by Walt Whitman. In the poem, Whitman suggests that readers, whom he addresses directly, have not fully understood themselves, writing, _____

Which quotation from “To You” most effectively illustrates the claim?

- A) “You have not known what you are, you have slumber’d upon yourself / all your life, / Your eyelids have been the same as closed most of the time.”
- B) “These immense meadows, these interminable rivers, you are immense / and interminable as they.”
- C) “I should have made my way straight to you long ago, / I should have blabb’d nothing but you, I should have chanted nothing / but you.”
- D) “I will leave all and come and make the hymns of you, / None has understood you, but I understand you.”

13

Born in 1891 to a Quechua-speaking family in the Andes Mountains of Peru, Martín Chambi is today considered to be one of the most renowned figures of Latin American photography. In a paper for an art history class, a student claims that Chambi’s photographs have considerable ethnographic value—in his work, Chambi was able to capture diverse elements of Peruvian society, representing his subjects with both dignity and authenticity.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the student’s claim?

- A) Chambi took many commissioned portraits of wealthy Peruvians, but he also produced hundreds of images carefully documenting the peoples, sites, and customs of Indigenous communities of the Andes.
- B) Chambi’s photographs demonstrate a high level of technical skill, as seen in his strategic use of illumination to create dramatic light and shadow contrasts.
- C) During his lifetime, Chambi was known and celebrated both within and outside his native Peru, as his work was published in places like Argentina, Spain, and Mexico.
- D) Some of the peoples and places Chambi photographed had long been popular subjects for Peruvian photographers.