

# Writing and Language Test

35 MINUTES, 44 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 2 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

## DIRECTIONS

Each passage below is accompanied by a number of questions. For some questions, you will consider how the passage might be revised to improve the expression of ideas. For other questions, you will consider how the passage might be edited to correct errors in sentence structure, usage, or punctuation. A passage or a question may be accompanied by one or more graphics (such as a table or graph) that you will consider as you make revising and editing decisions.

Some questions will direct you to an underlined portion of a passage. Other questions will direct you to a location in a passage or ask you to think about the passage as a whole.

After reading each passage, choose the answer to each question that most effectively improves the quality of writing in the passage or that makes the passage conform to the conventions of standard written English. Many questions include a “NO CHANGE” option. Choose that option if you think the best choice is to leave the relevant portion of the passage as it is.

Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage.

### Ghost Mural

In 1932 the well-known Mexican muralist David Alfaro Siqueiros was commissioned to paint a mural on the second-story exterior wall of a historic building in downtown Los Angeles. Siqueiros was asked to celebrate tropical America in his work, **1** he accordingly titled it “América Tropical.” He painted the mural’s first two sections, featuring images of a tropical rainforest and a Maya pyramid, during the day. **2** Also, to avoid

1

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) which he accordingly titled
- C) accordingly he titled it
- D) it was titled accordingly

2

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) However,
- C) Although,
- D) Moreover,

scrutiny, Siqueiros painted the final section of the mural, the **3** centerpiece at night.

**4** The reason for Siqueiros's secrecy became clear when the mural was **5** confided. The centerpiece of the work was dominated by images of native people being oppressed and **6** including an eagle symbolizing the United States. Siqueiros's political message did not please the wealthy citizens who had commissioned his work. They eventually ordered the mural to be literally whitewashed, or painted over with white paint.

However, by the 1970s, the white paint had begun to fade, and the bright colors of the mural were beginning to show through. At the same time, a social and civil rights movement for Mexican Americans was working to raise awareness of Mexican American cultural identity. Artists associated with **7** this began to rediscover and promote the work of the Mexican muralists, particularly Siqueiros. To them, "América Tropical" was an example of how art in public spaces could be used to celebrate Mexican American heritage while at the same time making a political statement. Inspired by Siqueiros and the other muralists, this new generation of artists strove to emulate the old mural masters.

3

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) centerpiece,
- C) centerpiece;
- D) centerpiece—

4

Which choice best connects the sentence with the previous paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) All three sections of the mural were on display
- C) The community turned out in large numbers
- D) Siqueiros was informed of people's reactions

5

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) promulgated.
- C) imparted.
- D) unveiled.

6

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) included
- C) includes
- D) had included

7

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) it
- C) them
- D) this movement

8 The result was an explosion of mural painting that spread throughout California and the southwestern United States in the 1970s. It was the Chicano mural movement. Hundreds of large, colorful new murals depicting elements of Mexican American life and history appeared during this period, some in designated cultural locations but many more in abandoned lots, on unused buildings, or 9 painted on infrastructure such as highways and bridges. Many of these murals can still be seen today, although some have not been well maintained.

8

Which choice most effectively combines the underlined sentences?

- A) The result was an explosion, the Chicano mural movement, of mural painting that spread throughout California and the southwestern United States in the 1970s.
- B) The result was the Chicano mural movement, an explosion of mural painting that spread throughout California and the southwestern United States in the 1970s.
- C) The explosion of mural painting that spread throughout California and the southwestern United States in the 1970s was the resulting Chicano mural movement.
- D) An explosion of mural painting resulted and it spread throughout California and the southwestern United States in the 1970s; it was the Chicano mural movement.

9

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) they were painted on
- C) on
- D) DELETE the underlined portion.

Fortunately, a new group of artists has discovered the murals, and efforts are underway to clean, restore, and repaint them. Once again, Siqueiros's "América Tropical" is **10** leading the way. After a lengthy and complex restoration process, this powerful work is now a tourist attraction, complete with a visitor center and a rooftop viewing platform. **11** Advocates hope that Siqueiros's mural will once more serve as an inspiration, this time inspiring viewers to save and restore an important cultural and artistic legacy.

10

Which choice most effectively sets up the information that follows?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) being cleaned and restored.
- C) at risk of destruction.
- D) awaiting its moment of appreciation.

11

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.

When it was painted in 1932, Siqueiros's mural was considered offensive, but now it is acclaimed.

Should the writer make this addition here?

- A) Yes, because it provides historical context for the changes discussed in the passage.
- B) Yes, because it provides a useful reminder of how people once viewed Siqueiros's work.
- C) No, because it unnecessarily repeats information from earlier in the passage.
- D) No, because it makes a claim about Siqueiros's work that is not supported by the passage.