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### Passage 051

Elizabeth Bishop's *Complete Poems* (1927-1979) has come to seem to most of its readers so achieved and sufficient as a life's work that it is hard not to lose sight of how slowly Bishop wrote poems and of how few poems, finally, she completed. But Bishop herself never ceased to find her productivity inadequate. The size and pace of her output were always in her eyes a failing (vaguely moral in **complexion**) for which she apologized throughout her career, although, as I will argue in this essay Bishop's inability to write more poems than she did was also a refusal to do so. The small, manageable size of Bishop's body of work has facilitated its extraordinary critical reception since her death. (Robert Lowell, whose oeuvre is so much larger, has never had a complete edition of his poetry published.) Yet the size of her work is also a sign of Bishop's alienation, that is, her uneasy, resistant relation to the literary culture that today claims her as the major poet of her generation.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

1. The passage indicates that the small size of Bishop's body work contributed to bringing about which of the following?
  - A. Bishop's alienation from the literary culture of her generation
  - B. The favorable scholarly attention that Bishop's work has received since her death
  - C. An interest among readers regarding why Bishop wrote so slowly
2. In the context in which it appears, "complexion" most nearly means
  - A. appearance
  - B. constitution
  - C. hue
  - D. intricacy
  - E. personality



## Passage 052

Harriet Martineau's *Illustrations of Political Economy*, a series of didactic novellas that were popular upon their publication in 1832-1834, have an uneasy relation to the industrial novel genre. With their depiction of conflict between industrialist and worker, they are often considered the first industrial novels. But instead of foregrounding the suffering of individual workers, they champion the impersonal economic laws that determine those workers behavior. Martineau's explicit aim as expressed in the preface to the series is to convince her readers of certain economic principles, "which, if generally understood, would gradually remove all the obstructions and remedy the distresses and equalize the lot of the population" Martineau's allegiance to statistics, factories, and utilitarianism places her tales outside the broadly romantic tradition of literary revolt against industrialism within which the later industrial novels are often located. What's more, the novellas' embrace of predetermined truths results in a clipped and closed narrative shape that makes them paradoxically less convincing to later readers that if they'd been more morally complex. **Their claim to be illustrations, in which stories of human choice and suffering serve only to make vivid an abstract law, contravenes the relation in most industrial novels between abstract law and lived experience, in which the former is found inadequate to explain the latter.**

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - A. present an overview of Martineau's fiction
  - B. depict the place of Martineau's novellas in the industrial novel genre
  - C. provide an alternative reading of Martineau's novellas
  - D. discuss how Martineau began a career as a writer of industrial novels
  - E. criticize Martineau's unusual understanding of the industrial novel
2. It can be inferred from the passage that most authors of industrial novels would agree with which of the following statements regarding abstract laws?
  - A. Human choice and suffering can be used to illustrate the value of abstract laws.
  - B. The presentation of statistics in industrial novels detracts from the novel's ability to convey abstract laws.
  - C. Abstract laws are incapable of fully articulating the complexity of human experience.
  - D. Industrial novels can be used to convince people of certain abstract economic laws.
  - E. Worker's economic position could improve if certain abstract laws were generally understood.



3. According to the passage, Martineau's novellas are similar to later industrial novels in which of the following ways?
- A. Both are concerned with the conflict between industrialists and workers
  - B. Both aim to convince the reader of certain abstract economic principles
  - C. Both speak out against industrialism and capitalism.
  - D. Both are morally complex.
  - E. Both demonstrate the inherent value of utilitarianism in an industrial context.
4. Which of the following statements best describes the function of the highlighted sentence?
- A. It contrasts Martineau's industrial novellas favorably with realist fiction that gives less attention to abstract law.
  - B. It suggests that the claim of Martineau's novellas to be "illustrations" misrepresents their true purpose.
  - C. It questions the view, evident in most realist fiction, that abstract law is necessarily inadequate to explain lived experience.
  - D. It identifies a tendency in Martineau's novellas that distinguishes them from most realist fiction.
  - E. It points out an unexpected way in which Martineau's novellas anticipate certain qualities of later realist fiction.
5. The author of the passage makes which of the following points about Martineau's novallas?
- A. They are regarded as the first examples of a particular type of fiction.
  - B. They emphasize economic principles at the expense of their success as stories
  - C. They were intended to serve a pedagogical function.



### Passage 053

Some archaeologists speculate that the Americas might have been initially colonized between 40,000 and 25,000 years ago. However, to support this theory it is necessary to explain the absence of generally accepted habitation sites for that time interval in what is now the United States. Australia, which has a **smaller land area** than the United States, has many such sites, supporting the generally accepted claim that the continent was colonized by humans at least 40,000 years ago. Australia is less densely populated (resulting in lower chances of discovering sites) and with its overall greater aridity would have presented conditions less favorable for hunter-gatherer occupation. Proportionally, at least as much land area has been lost from the coastal regions of Australia because of post glacial sea-level rise as in the United States, so any coastal archaeological record in Australia should have been depleted about as much as a coastal record in the United States. Since there are so many resource-rich rivers leading inland from the United States coastlines, it seems implausible that a growing population of humans would have confined itself to coasts for thousands of years. If inhabitants were present 25,000 years ago, the chances of their appearing in the archaeological record would seem to be greater than for Australia.

1. The passage is primarily concerned with doing which of the following?
  - A. Presenting an objection to a claim
  - B. Accounting for an apparent anomaly
  - C. Outlining an alternative interpretation
  - D. Correcting a particular misconception
  - E. Questioning the validity of a comparison
  
2. The author of the passage notes Australia's "smaller land area" in order to
  - A. suggest that the number of habitation sites from between 40,000 and 25,000 years ago that have been found in Australia is somewhat surprising
  - B. help show why the absence of habitation sites from between 40,000 and 25,000 years ago in what is now the United States is problematic
  - C. indicate that Australia is not exactly comparable to the United States in size
  - D. emphasize a difference between Australia and the United States in population density
  - E. help explain a difference between Australia and the United States in the number of habitation sites from between 40,000 and 25,000 years ago



3. The author of the passage implies that, in what is now the United States, archaeological evidence of inhabitation in the period from 40,000 to 25,000 years ago is lacking because that region
- A. had its oldest habitation sites inundated following a postglacial rise in sea level
  - B. has many resource-rich rivers that facilitated the dispersal of early inhabitants from an initial concentration in coastal areas
  - C. was sparsely populated until about 25,000 years ago
  - D. was colonized less than 25,000 years ago
  - E. was inhabited only by hunter-gatherers until 25,000 years ago
4. The passage's reference to the effect of postglacial sea-level rise on Australia serves to
- A. introduce a conundrum
  - B. indicate how a date was arrived at
  - C. suggest that a particular pattern of habitation is unlikely
  - D. exclude a possible alternative explanation for a disparity
  - E. account for a lower chance of discovering sites in one place than in another



### Passage 054

To assess the impact of severe drought and drought-related fire on rain-forest vegetation, Leighton and Wirawan studied eastern Borneo following the 1982-1983 drought (when rainfall was nearly 70 percent below normal) by comparing post drought data from various rain-forest plots with 1977-1979 data from the same plots. Some of the plots had been burned; others were only affected by drought. The large, normally evergreen canopy trees had begun shedding their leaves in February 1983 and were leafless when fires began in April 1983. The study revealed that **canopy trees suffered more from drought than from fire**: there was no difference in mortality between burned and unburned plots. Drought impact was greatest (37 to 71 percent of canopy trees killed) on steep slopes and ridges due to the limited water reserves of the shallow soil in such sites, while drought damage was least (11 percent of canopy trees killed) in a valley-bottom plot, which had deeper soil. Small trees and vines were largely unaffected by drought but were more easily killed by fire than were canopy trees. Thus, areas affected by drought alone witnessed a decline in larger trees importance, whereas areas affected by drought and fire saw an increase in their relative importance because of their greater survival rate.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - A. discuss the causes of the severe drought that struck eastern Borneo in 1982-1983
  - B. assess the validity of data concerning the 1982-1983 drought in eastern Borneo by comparing it with data from 1977-1979
  - C. examine the causal relationship between drought and fire in rain-forest environments
  - D. evaluate the relative effects of drought and fire on plant life in rain-forest environments
  - E. compare the relative importance of soil depth and water reserves to the survival of plant life in rain-forest environments
2. The passage's description of Leighton and Wirawan's research suggests that which of the following was required for a rain-forest plot to be selected for study?
  - A. A wide variety of plant species and sizes
  - B. A wide range of soil depths and water reserves
  - C. Evidence of impact by both drought and fire
  - D. Ease of access for gathering post drought data
  - E. Availability of data on pre drought conditions



3. According to the passage, the conclusion that “canopy trees suffer more from drought than from fire” is based on data indicating that
- A. small trees and vines were largely unaffected by drought but were more easily killed by fire than were canopy trees
  - B. canopy trees had already begun to shed their leaves when fires began in April 1983
  - C. canopy trees that were affected by both drought and fire were no more likely to die than were those that were only affected by drought
  - D. canopy trees that grew on steep slopes and ridges were more likely to die than were those that grew at the bottom of a valley
  - E. canopy trees were more likely to be found growing in a shallow soil with limited water reserves than in deep soil





### Passage 055

Stylistic analysis of ancient works of visual art can help in determining their time and place of origin. It is therefore important to identify the elements that constitute style and their relative value for establishing relationships among artworks. Most helpful in this regard is Schapiro's breakdown of style into the three properties of art: form elements, form relationships, and qualities (including overall expression). Particularly helpful is his distinction between the first two categories. Citing the wide distribution over time of pointed and rounded arches in architecture, for example, Schapiro points out that form elements alone are insufficient for characterizing a style; one must also look at the different ways that the elements are combined—the compositional pattern or syntax. He compares style directly to language, as having a similar internal order and expressiveness; this order (or grammar) can distinguish one stylistic group from another. The way visual motifs are articulated and combined is crucial when dealing with themes that are shared by a number of different cultures contemporary with one another. As Winter has noted, subject matter or iconography then becomes much less important than style in determining the place of origin of a particular artwork.

1. The passage is primarily concerned with doing which of the following?
  - A. Comparing two writers' definitions of style
  - B. Refining a classification of stylistic elements
  - C. Describing a tool for the study of ancient works of art
  - D. Drawing a comparison between visual and verbal arts
  - E. Discussing formal characteristics of ancient works of art
  
2. In the passage, the point of comparing visual style to language is to emphasize that
  - A. similar cultures often share similar form elements in their visual art
  - B. subject matter is relatively unimportant in determining the place of origin of a work of visual art
  - C. the elements that constitute visual style differ in their value for establishing relationships between artworks
  - D. the arrangement of form elements in works of visual art observes certain conventions
  - E. the distinguishing features of a particular visual style are likely to have analogs in the literary style that prevails in the same time and place
  
3. Pointed arches are mentioned in the passage in order to do which of the following?



- A. Underscore the importance of compositional pattern for the stylistic analysis of works of visual art
- B. Highlight a connection between form elements and visual motifs in works of visual art
- C. Illustrate a means of dating ancient architectural works through form elements
- D. Cite a means of identifying ancient architectural works that may lead to errors in dating
- E. Provide an example of a visual motif used by Schapiro in the iconographical analysis of ancient architectural works



### Passage 056

In the absence of reliable data concerning the relationship between the material quality [i.e., physical condition and the price of used books, it is impossible to offer statistically exact information for the impact of the used- book market on the cost of reading in eighteenth-century England. Yet it can hardly be doubted that such an impact occurred, not only as **the standard behavior of markets** but inferentially through the **innovative design and packaging strategies** that London booksellers increasingly resorted to from 1760 in order to identify (and no doubt also create) more finely differentiated classes of readers. Fortunately, we can also call on extensive independent price lists for eighteenth-century books published in Britain to track differences in the cost of new and used volumes of the same title. Edition, and format. To the extent that new list prices for successive editions of the same work in a uniform format remain constant or increase at a lesser rate than consumer prices generally, the hypothesis that the secondary book market exercised a drag on book prices would gain fresh support. At the same time variance in price among new and used copies of any given title and edition can be used as a proxy for material quality determinations in the two markets.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - A. point out impediments to assessing the relative cost of books in eighteenth-century England
  - B. explain why eighteenth-century England saw significant growth in the availability of used books
  - C. identify means for evaluating the effects of used books on the book market in eighteenth century England
  - D. argue that the availability of used books lowered prices in the book market overall in eighteenth-century England
  - E. show how the decreasing price of books in eighteenth-century England led to the diversification of the book market
2. The author cites “the standard behavior of markets” primarily to
  - A. support a claim about differentiated classes of readers
  - B. support a claim about the used book market
  - C. account for certain marketing strategies on the part of bookseller
  - D. account for an absence of a particular kind of data
  - E. account for an increase in the cost of reading



3. The author of the passage mentions “innovative design and packaging strategies” primarily to
- A. note a way in which eighteenth-century English booksellers worked together to standardize book prices
  - B. highlight evidence that suggests a response on the part of eighteenth-century English booksellers to shifting prices in the book market
  - C. provide an example of how the presence of used books in the eighteenth-century English book market affected the average price of new books
  - D. indicate one means by which eighteenth-century English booksellers tried to counteract a drop in the total number of books being sold
  - E. discuss one strategy by which eighteenth-century English booksellers attempted to take advantage of an expansion in the number of readers



### Passage 057

*This passage is adapted from material published in 1998.*

Astronomers have had difficulty accounting for certain planets discovered outside our solar system. They are called hot Jupiters because each is similar in mass to Jupiter, the largest solar-system planet, but orbits its parent star at a fraction of the distance at which Earth, let alone Jupiter, orbits the Sun. In the standard solar system-based theory of planetary formation, such a massive planet could not form so close to a star. So, most attempts to explain a hot Jupiter's existence envision it forming farther away, then migrating inward. According to one hypothesis, the planet's gravitational field tugs on the protoplanetary disk of dust and gas from which it formed. The disk exerts its own gravitational tug, and this interplay of forces robs the planet of momentum in its orbital path, forcing it to spiral in toward the star. According to another hypothesis, the planet's gravitational field is so strong that it creates a groove in the disk, partitioning it into inner and outer regions: the resulting gravitational interactions between the planet and these regions cause the planet to lose orbital momentum and spiral inward. Another question remains: what prevents the planet from continuing its spiral until it collides with the star?

1. The author of the passage mentions “Earth” primarily in order to
  - A. stress the massive size of a hot Jupiter
  - B. emphasize the proximity of a hot Jupiter to its parent star
  - C. imply that hot Jupiters are unlikely to harbor extraterrestrial life
  - D. point out differences between Earth and Jupiter with regard to their orbital distance from the Sun
  - E. illustrate how hot Jupiters might fit into the standard theory of planetary formation
2. Which of the following elements is part of one but not both of the hypotheses discussed in the passage?
  - A. An interplay of gravitational forces
  - B. A loss of orbital momentum
  - C. A planet spiraling inward toward its parent star
  - D. A protoplanetary disk composed of dust and gas
  - E. A protoplanetary disk divided into two regions



## Passage 058

*The following passage comes from a study of gull bill markings.*

Some species of gulls have uniformly colored bills, but many (62 percent in our sample) have beaks with differently colored tips, stripes or spots that act as a focus for the pecking of newly hatched chicks as they beg for food. In an attempt to understand why, we determined whether adult gulls of those species with newly hatched chicks that are small in relation to the size of the adult are more likely to have such patterned beaks. This work is based on Hailman's (1967) suggestion that gulls with greater bill depths (large species) tend to have only a restricted area of red on the bill (i.e., a red tip or spot), whereas smaller-billed species have uniform bills. We suggest that the most plausible reason for any size-related difference is that concentrating a small chick's pecking on a particular part of the bill is more effective than is unfocused pecking in stimulating the adult to regurgitate food. As well as encouraging the chick to peck, the tip of the bill, or the gonys (where stripes and spots are located), might be more sensitive than are other parts of the beak to the feeble pecking of a small chick or a small chick might more effectively occupy the parent's visual field when pecking there.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - A. categorize the different kinds of markings that can appear on gull bills
  - B. present evidence that casts doubt on a theory regarding gull bill markings
  - C. speculate about the function of gull bill markings
  - D. show that the effectiveness of a gull chick's begging is determined by its size
  - E. examine the relationship between chick size and adult size in different gull species
  
2. The passage implies which of the following about food regurgitation in adult gulls as a chick-feeding behavior?
  - A. It occurs most frequently when chicks are newly hatched
  - B. It is at least partly prompted by tactile signals.
  - C. It is one of several means of feeding newly hatched chicks.
  - D. Its effectiveness is related to chick size.
  - E. Its occurrence is related to species bill depth.



3. The passage suggests which of the following about unfocused chick pecking?
- A. It is more effective in gull species in which chick size is large relative to parent size.
  - B. It is more effective in gull species with patterned bills than in species with uniform bills
  - C. It is more likely to occur in older chicks than in newly hatched chicks.
  - D. It is more likely to occur in species with greater bill depths.
  - E. It is more likely to occur when the chick is within the parent's visual field



### Passage 059

A basic assumption in contemporary models of primate behavioral ecology is that the social patterns we observe in wild subjects are adaptations, or the products of past evolutionary selection pressures. Yet, both ecological and demographic conditions can change during the course of an individual's life span, resulting in selection pressures that fluctuate on shorter time scales than the generations over which evolutionary processes occur. The varying fitness consequences of particular social patterns under different conditions can result in behavioral polymorphisms within populations and in high levels of intraspecific behavioral variation between populations. Social behavior is especially sensitive to local conditions, which reflect the demographic histories of groups and populations in addition to the phylogenetic histories of species. If evolution has favored “expedience,” or “the ability to select whatever tactic is necessary to solve an immediate problem, regardless of the possible long-term consequences of such action,” as Barrett and Henzi have suggested, then a great deal of primate social behavior may not be adaptive in a genetically determined, evolutionary sense.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to
  - A. describe the long-term effects of an event
  - B. note a diversity in patterns of behavior
  - C. cite an inconsistency in empirical studies
  - D. clarify an ambiguity in a thesis
  - E. question an accepted view
  
2. According to the passage, which of the following is true about primate social behavior?
  - A. Patterns exhibited by one population of a primate species can differ from patterns exhibited by other groups of that species.
  - B. Adoption of a particular pattern of behavior by a group of primates results in reduced contact with the neighboring groups.
  - C. Intraspecific behavioral variation between local populations of a species usually has negative fitness consequences for the species.
  - D. Asocial behavior that proves to be highly advantageous to a particular group is unlikely to be advantageous for most other groups.
  - E. Over the course of an individual life span, demographic pressures usually have greater impact on behavior than do ecological pressures.





**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply.**

3. As suggested by the passage, Barrett and Henzi would probably agree that
- A. social pressures play a much greater role than ecological conditions in shaping individual behavior in primates
  - B. patterns of social behavior in primates are usually much more stable in small groups than they are in larger ones
  - C. it would be difficult to predict the social patterns within a group of primates without knowing anything about the environment in which they live



### Passage 060

Astronomers who study planet formation once believed that comets-because they remain mostly in the distant Oort cloud, where temperatures are close to absolute zero-must be pristine relics of the material that formed the outer planets. The conceptual shift away from seeing comets as pristine relics began in the 1970s, when **laboratory simulations** revealed there was sufficient ultraviolet radiation reaching comets to darken their surfaces and there were sufficient cosmic rays to alter chemical bonds or even molecular structure near the surface. Nevertheless, Astronomers still believed that when a comet approached the Sun-where they could study it-the Sun's intense heat would remove the corrupted surface layer, exposing the interior. **About the same time, though scientists realized comets might contain decaying radioactive isotopes that could have warmed cometary interiors to temperatures that caused the interiors to evolve.**

1. The author suggests that the realization described in the final sentence of the passage had which of the following effects?
  - A. It introduced a new topic for study by astronomers interested in planetary formation.
  - B. It led astronomers to adopt a number of different strategies in trying to determine the composition of cometary interiors.
  - C. It called into question an assumption that astronomers had made about comets.
  - D. It cast doubt on astronomer's ability to study the interior parts of comets.
  - E. It caused astronomers to revise their account of the composition of the outer planets.

**Consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply**

2. It can be inferred that the author would agree with which of the following statements about the “laboratory simulations”?
  - A. The stimulations showed that despite the low temperatures in the Oort cloud there was sufficient energy there to alter comets.
  - B. Astronomers were initially reluctant to accept what stimulations showed about the composition of comets.
  - C. The stimulations themselves did not eliminate the possibility that comets contain pristine relics of material from the early solar system.

