

Section 1

1. What once seemed a **quixotic** vision----- the “Subway to the Sea,” connecting Union Station in downtown Los Angeles to the Pacific Ocean in Santa Monica---- no longer seems quite so _____

A. **impracticable**
B. prescient
C. banal
D. viable
E. beneficial

2. Unlike some mammals----cows and sheep, for instance----that are notably _____, lions have a wide range of **facial** expressions.

A. tractable
B. **impassive**
C. solitary
D. social
E. sluggish

3. The history of the region’s natural resources has been one of initial (i) _____ followed by (ii) _____; as such the region has over time gone from a resource-rich to a resource-dependent economy.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. disappointment	D. growing interdependence
B. abundance	E. draconian regulation
C. conservation	F. rapacious depletion

4. The author paints a rather dark picture of book publishing as a **hidebound** industry, one that is facing a profound change in its mode of production but is so (i) _____ its past as to be (ii) _____ opportunities offered by technological change.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. alienated from	D. eager to exploit
B. emboldened by	E. unable to seize
C. encumbered by	F. forced to reconsider

5. Folmer’s book on Edith Wharton seems far removed from recent trends in literary criticism; this need not to be a fault, except that, in its title and introduction, the book (i) _____ to be **conversant** with contemporary **discourse** in the field, but in its actual analysis of Wharton’s work, it is marked by a very (ii) _____ approach.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. designs	D. old-fashioned
B. fails	E. timely
C. purports	F. arcane

6. Viewing people as “social atoms” that obey rather simple rule (which are not unlike the laws of **physic**), one may discover certain (i) _____. Take, for example, the way channels emerge when people move in crowds. In the **midst** of initially (ii)_____ movements, one person begins to follow another---in an effort to avoid collisions---and streams of movement emerge. As more people join in, there is greater pull on others to join the flow, and the particular channels become (iii)_____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. apparent contradictions	D. inflexible	G. self-defeating
B. unproductive tendencies	E. straightforward	H. self-aggrandizing
C. lawlike regularities	F. chaotic	I. self-perpetuating

7. Few ideas are more _____ than the notion that cultures evolve in Darwin fashion; many academics have begun writing about cultural evolution, but few treat the underlying Darwinian logic with the care it deserves.
A. abused
 B. archaic
C. misused
 D. outdated
 E. divisive
 F. derivative
8. Any notion of justice in the **fortunes** of artists is _____: works of equal value and quality produce quite different returns or no returns at all.
A. baseless
 B. cliché
C. untenable
 D. insulting
 E. condescending
 F. idealistic
9. In a number of instances, investors hoping to **tap into** the region’s **meteoric** growth have instead faced problems ranging from unpredictable management practices to outright _____.
A. malfeasance
 B. incompetence
C. fraudulence
 D. capriciousness
 E. hysteria
 F. impulsiveness
10. After many years of feeling _____ by his senior managers, Clark was becoming hopeful of advancement.
 A. vilified
B. stymied
C. hindered
 D. aggrieved
 E. circumvented
 F. overlooked

Section 2

1. By pointing out the self-serving nature of the governor's motives for supporting the new health care policy, the **columnist** implied that the governor's idealistic-sounding explanation of her position on the issue was almost certainly_____.
- A. Impractical
B. Derivative
C. Simplistic
D. Disingenuous
E. ineffectual

2. The paleontologist examined the problem afresh, believing that the accepted classification_____ the essential continuity of the specimens by making specious distinctions among them.
- A. disproved
B. belied
C. conflated
D. divulged
E. relaxed

3. It would be naïve to treat remarks made in **diaries** or personal letters as giving especially candid access to historical truth or even as being expressions of the writer's true state of mind, since the (i)_____ for exaggeration and deception in those forms is virtually nonexistent. Diaries and letters are rarely sites for (ii)_____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A . motivation	A. premeditated manipulation
B . penalty	E. childish theatrics
C . tendency	F. balanced reflection

4. Many of the unusual behaviors attributed to crows---such as drinking coffee or presenting gifts to people who feed them---are based on (i)_____ and therefore fall into the category of (ii)_____ rather than science.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A . long-term observation	D. anecdote
B . controlled experiments	E. speculation
C . secondhand testimony	F. hypothesis

5. Any account of experimental music in the United States that (i)_____ the predominantly African American bebop and free jazz movements is (ii)_____, since this body of music constitutes what is arguably the most influential African experimental music in the decades following the Second World War.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A . neglects	D. underappreciated
B . exaggerates	E. problematic

C . reinterprets	F. self-serving
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6. Fifty pages of footnotes, some of them presenting quite **lengthy bibliographies**, suggest that very few pertinent sources on the Black Arts movement in literature have (i)_____. Thompson's search, (ii)_____, the text makes it clear that the author's examination of these sources has been similarly (iii)_____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A . eluded	D. moreover	G. valuable
B . characterized	E. however	H. timely
C. motivated	F. consequently	I. exhaustive

7. His **premiership**, seemingly cast-iron a year ago, is now so vulnerable that even a good day at the office does no more than buy him a few weeks of_____ from rebels within his own party.
A. controversy
B. reproach
C. respite
D. relief
E. blame
F. deference
8. Agencies responsible for protecting natural resources too often issue permits allowing **exploitation** of those resources, a process that remains_____ given that agencies have become experts at masking their decisions in scientific terms.
A. controversial
B. exacting
C. obscure
D. onerous
E. opaque
F. misleading
9. Despite her rather_____ choices, Moreland was neither a rebellious spirit nor someone who saw herself as anything out of the ordinary.
A. unconventional
B. impractical
C. quirky
D. flamboyant
E. successful
F. lucrative
10. Readers looking for another **condemnation** of private equity firms should look elsewhere, this book is not_____ such firms.
A. a rant against
B. a diatribe on
C. an exculpation
D. a disquisition on
E. a vindication of
F. an argument about

Section 3

1. To criticize a disaster film for being _____ is a bit **silly**, since people do not go to disaster movies to see an honest portrayed of reality.
- A. expensive
B. harrowing
C. derivative
D. convoluted
E. implausible

2. Though many **avant-garde** writers _____ traditional distinctions among literary categories, combining elements of biography and fiction, prose and poetry, this **fusion** of forms has been slow to catch on with publishers.
- A. flout**
B. presuppose
C. exploit
D. imitate
E. illuminate

3. Despite the abundance and importance of **maize**, its biological origin has been a long-running mystery. The bright yellow, mouth-watering treat does not grow in the wild anywhere on the planet, so its (i) _____ is not at all (ii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. utility	B. helpful
C. popularity	D. important
E. ancestry	F. obvious

4. If newspaper consumers are concerned about more than (i) _____ and prefer to read news that is consistent with their beliefs, then (ii) _____ is not a journalistic flaw, but, rather, a cultivated feature. In a competitive news market, producers can use **slant** to differentiate their products and stave off price competition.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. politics	D. bias
B. accuracy	E. sensationalism
C. expense	F. inconsistency

5. China's rapidly growing population is the main threat facing large **carnivores** in the People's Republic. Increasingly, policies aimed at limiting population growth have been (i) _____; nevertheless, the country's vast size and the isolation of many its regions mean that human populations in areas where large carnivores still occur(ii) _____. This human pressure has (iii) _____ the South China tiger.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. modified	D. could start to decline	G. celebrated
B. de-emphasized	E. can grow unchecked	H. doomed
C. implemented	F. have stabilized	I. bypassed

6. The slow pace of job creation was without precedent for the period of recovery from a recession, but the conditions that conspired to cause the recession were also (i)_____. The stock market declined sharply, and rampant business investment slumped. Then an ensuing spate of scandals (ii)_____ public trust in the way companies were run. And _____ yet, despite these powerful (iii)_____ to growth, the recession proved surprisingly mild.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. heartening	D. weakened	G. counterforces
B. atypical	E. illuminated	H. stimulants
C. ambiguous	F. consolidated	I. concomitants

7. Although legislators on both sides of the issues have repeatedly_____ a desire to find a middle ground, until now no acceptable compromise has been achieved.

A. discussed
B. proclaimed
C. professed
D. rejected
E. disowned
F. betrayed

8. Even before she went to art school, Veronica found the standard design categories_____ : she didn't understand why designing buildings and designing tables should require different sensibilities.

A. provocative
B. limiting
C. stimulating
D. confusing
E. confining
F. exhilarating

9. The author engages this issue from diverse **perspectives**, supports his arguments with many examples, and manages to avoid antagonizing others in dealing with a very _____ subject.

A. contentious
B. pedestrian
C. controversial
D. perplexing
E. mundane
F. intriguing

10. To call Kermode the finest English critic of his generation be a _____ **compliment**, since not many of its population are professionally engaged in literary criticism.

A. sincere
B. backhanded
C. paltry
D. heartfelt
E. meager
F. plausible

Section 4

1. The idea of a “language instinct” may seem _____ to those who think of language as the zenith of the human intellect and of instincts as **brute** impulse.

A. jarring
B. plausible
C. gratifying
D. inevitable
E. conciliatory

2. The maps in this volume are meant not as guides but as _____ they are designed to make the reader think anew about the city.

A. adornments
B. references
C. truisms
D. **provocations**
E. valedictions

3. Proponents of international regulation of environmental issues have always struggled against scientific uncertainty and economic hostility, two obstacles which, from a political standpoint, often have been closely related, as economic hostility toward environmental regulation for economic reasons have (i) _____ the considerable uncertainty underlying most environmental challenges to (ii) _____ of environmental regulation.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. resolved	D. exaggerate the efficacy
B. gainsaid	E. downplay the legitimacy
C. exploited	F. question the fallibility

4. It would be imprecise to characterize her scholarship as (i) _____: though her etymological discussion is necessarily **esoteric**, there is nothing (ii) _____ about the conclusions she derives from it.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. derivative	D. obscure
B. arcane	E. controversial
C. careless	F. innovative

5. The book is not comprehensive but is, instead, (i) _____ in the most positive sense: (ii) _____ rather than **settles**.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. definitive	D. stipulates
B. provocative	E. suggests
C. timely	F. disseminates

6. With the emergence of scientific history-writing in the late nineteenth century, several authors sought to ignore the glowing myths surrounding George Washington and uncover the human being within, but their biographies were still (i) _____ enough that Washington remained a marbled and remote figure. Indeed, by the 1920s Washington had become such (ii) _____ **personage** that **inevitably** someone had to go to the other extreme and try to (iii) _____ the legend.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. ponderous	D. a deified	G. debunk
B. empirical	E. an ignored	H. aggrandize
C. laudatory	F. a misunderstood	I. reproduce

7. Even though the original settlement may not hold up, it at least proves that the deadlock can be broken and that a hitherto _____ party is ready to bargain.
A. implacable
B. unyielding
 C. impeccable
 D. flawless
 E. unqualified
 F. capricious
8. The company is so old-fashioned and opposed to innovation that it can seem downright _____.
A. antediluvian
 B. flighty
C. archaic
 D. chauvinistic
 E. capricious
 F. patronizing
9. Space is often referred to as the final frontier, as the only realm of which humankind has still to gain substantial understanding, yet the ocean is also another vast area about which our knowledge is _____.
 A. erroneous
 B. confusing
 C. frustrating
D. rudimentary
 E. delusive
F. sketchy
10. In sharp contrast to the novel's **scenic** realism and precise characterized figure is its persistent philosophical _____.
 A. naturalism
B. abstraction
C. generality
 D. impartiality
 E. sincerity
 F. objectivity

Section 5

1. The Labrador duck is one of the most _____ extinct birds: although there are a fair number of specimens, few have yielded reliable data and little is known about the species' breeding patterns.
- A. anomalous
B. controversial
C. enigmatic
D. misrepresented
E. cherished

2. People frequently attempt to relieve their workplace frustrations via surreptitious comments around the water cooler but would be better able to resolve their resentment if they were less (i) _____ about their problem and imitated a more (ii) _____ dialogue.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. vexatious	D. equitable
B. clandestine	E. sincere
C. opportunistic	F. open

3. Pioneering medical research scientists' (i) _____ claims regarding the (ii) _____ new researches make the public wonder their own doctors are not dispensing miracles. There are forces, both external and internal, on scientists that most require them to (iii) _____. Without money, there is no science. Researchers must constantly convince administrators who control tax dollars, investors, and individual donors that the work they are doing will make a difference.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
modest	D. serious constraints on	G. improvise
inflated	E. overblown interpretations of	H. oversell
fastidious	F. potential benefits of	I. generalize

4. Traditional Vietnamese culture has long promoted the idea of gender equality. Founding myths (i) _____ the equal division of labor in child care for mothers and fathers. As is often the case, however theoretical commitments are (ii) _____ actual practices. In reality, gender-based (iii) _____ persists.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. obscure	D. incommensurate with	G. parity
B. celebrate	E. surpassed by	H. inclusiveness
C. countermand	F. inspired by	I. stratification

5. Despite the occasional (i) _____ of their venues, the culture of corporate conferences is a deeply (ii) _____ conference, each day consisted of nearly nine hours of continuous lectures and panels enlivened by pleasantries or anything that could be construed as a joke. The only (iii) _____ sensory deprivation of the sessions came from the handsome color slides favored by the corporate presenters

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
seclusion	D. sycophantic	G. allusion to

opulence	E. ascetic	H. ramification of
enormity	F. mercenary	I. respite from

6. Galaxy Zoo set a standard for citizen-scientist participation project. Zealous volunteers (i)_____ the project's organizers by classifying an entire catalog of galaxies years ahead of schedule, (ii)_____ by the (iii)_____ of the Galaxy Zoo team was inspired to pursue lines of research they had never even imagined

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. beguiled	D. baffled	G. insouciance
B. forestalled	E. buoyed	H. stoicism
C. astonished	F. embarrassed	I. alacrity

7. The professor's habitual air of _____ was misleading front, concealing amazing reserves of patience and a deep commitment to his students' learning.

- A. cordiality
- B. irascibility
- C. disorganization
- D. conviviality
- E. diffidence
- F. exasperation

8. Even manifest flaws in the sculptor's work have not _____ its respectful reception by most modern critics.

- A. determined
- B. controlled
- C. undermined
- D. prevented
- E. overshadowed
- F. precluded

9. Historically, the depletion of soil's nitrogen has been one of the most _____ problems faced by farmers: an essential nutrient, nitrogen is quickly leached from soil, and farmers have struggled to find ways to replenish it.

- A. capricious
- B. ubiquitous
- C. worrisome
- D. stubborn
- E. intractable
- F. unpredictable

10. The town's air was consistently _____: depending on the breeze, one might be greeted with the sour effluvia of twenty breweries, choking fumes from the coal factory, or brackish smells from the nearby river.

- A. malodorous
- B. toxic
- C. redolent
- D. benign
- E. noisome
- F. anodyne



Section 6

1. One view of historicism holds that systems of belief prevalent during different period in history are _____ and therefore cannot be understood except in their own terms.
- A. discriminatory
B. incommensurable
 C. anachronistic
 D. cosmopolitan
 E. objective

2. Neuroscientists are excited by technological progress that facilitates brain mapping, the most _____ of them comparing their growing abilities to tremendous advances that led to unimaginable success of the Human Genome Project.
- A. rigorous
B. sanguine
 C. punctilious
 D. unorthodox
 E. sophisticated

3. At Cerro Portezuelo, the task of separating grinding tools from the larger collection of excavated stone objects was (i) _____ the ancient practice of recycling grinding tool fragments for building materials, hammer stones, and other purposes that (ii) _____ their original use.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. complicated by	D. complemented
B. important to	E. obscured
C. independent from	F. underscored

4. The genius of the scientific method is that it (i) _____ the **dictum** of Aristotle that the goal of science is knowledge of the ultimate cause of things. True science, we now know, advances human knowledge by (ii) _____ ultimate causes and focusing instead on the testing of empirical hypotheses.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. qualifies	D. ignoring
B. jettisons	E. predicting
C. affirms	F. confirming

5. Unquestionably, the particular forms that folly and cruelty take in Jane Austen's novels are (i) _____ the character's social milieu, which was also Austen's own; but to realize that one's society motivates people in unfortunate ways is not necessarily to (ii) _____ it, for the alternatives, though different, might be no more (iii) _____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. shaped by	D. expose	G. salutary
B. removed from	E. condemn	H. corrosive
C. unrecognizable in	F. rationalize	I. realistic

6. To label Hamilton a foreigner because he was born outside what later became the United States is to assume anachronistically the existence of the nation before the fact. It is true that Hamilton came to believe that he was a (i)_____ the United States, but his (ii)_____ was stemmed not from his (iii)_____ but from his confrontation with American democracy, which he considered to be a disease afflicting the nation.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. symbol of	D. alienation	G. ideology
B. stranger in	E. ambition	H. profession
C. citizen of	F. patriotism	I. birthplace

7. Some experts estimate that the recreational salmon fishery in British Columbia contributes more to the province's economy than the commercial salmon fishery does---a surprising statistic given the political commercial_____ of the fishery in the province.

A. naiveté
B. prominence
 C. supremacy
 D. ingenuousness
E. salience
 F. resurgence

8. The jazz style called bebop was born and nurtured in New York City, and despite a _____ initial reception, it resonated three thousand miles away on the West Coast.

A. wary
 B. warm
C. confused
D. muddled
 E. convivial
 F. hostile

9. In 1884, Sewall and Dow agreed to join Roosevelt in the Dakota territory for reasons that appear to have been_____: Sewell later recalled that Roosevelt guaranteed them a share of anything made in his **cattle** business.

A. pecuniary
 B. straightforward
 C. economic
D. selfless
 E. quixotic
F. altruistic

10. Estimating demographic parameters in marine mammals is challenging, often requiring many years of data to achieve sufficient precision to_____ biologically meaningful change.

A. effect
 B. tolerate
C. discern
 D. envisage
 E. withstand
F. detect

Section 7

1. Though we live in an era of **stunning** scientific achievement, many otherwise educated people remain indifferent to or **contemptuous** of such achievement, even going so far as to _____ their ignorance or basic physics.
- A. decry
B. conceal
C. remedy
D. boast of
E. downplay

2. The company suffers from an almost total lack of _____: even the most innocuous communications between departments tend to devolve into **acrimony**.
- A. dissension
B. variance
C. comity
D. conformity
E. mordancy

3. It would be (i) _____ not to (ii) _____ these **tabloid** journalists for thriving in hard times: they deserve credit for doing well in a profession in financial **straits**.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. apropos	D. admire
B. churlish	E. envy
C. cagey	F. emulate

4. The author clearly supports the causes he writes about, but he is more a **narrator** than (i) _____. Some say he should have included more (ii) _____, but he is wise to let the fact speak for themselves. They are complex enough to prompt many kinds of interpretation, and he would **bog down** the complicated tale if he tried to **adjudicate** all of their **competing** claims.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. a reporter	D. statistical data
B. an advocate	E. analysis of events
C. an adversary	F. detailed descriptions

5. Architecture scholar Sandy McCreery recently argued that traffic congestion, far from being a sign of urban (i) _____, is a mark of urban (ii) _____; **congestion** promotes contemplation of our surroundings and provides us with a shared experience, thereby fulfilling the essential task of the city.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. plentitude	D. ambition
B. decline	E. privation
C. excitement	F. health

6. While some commentators suggest that abstraction and complexity in scientific research are signs that a given direction is misguided, Lisa Randall, a professor of physics at Harvard, counters that these qualities instead reflect the success of human ingenuity in (i)_____ the increasingly (ii)_____ challenges that nature presents. They can, however, make it more (iii)_____ to communicate scientific developments, even to colleague.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. creating	D. difficult	G. challenging
B. meeting	E. conspicuous	H. unproductive
C. eschewing	F. pragmatic	I. advantageous

7. Noise suppression in phones can play an important role in making cellphone networks more efficient, since when sounds that are _____ to the meaningful signal are transmitted, precious network bandwidth is wasted.
- A. unsuitable
B. detrimental
C. irrelevant
D. confined
E. limited
F. extraneous
8. Communicating articulately is typically regarded as an aggressive, persuasive talent, but it can also be **protective**; it allows a certain _____ **closeness**, conveying proximity while actually maintaining distance.
- A. feigned**
B. secretive
C. dubious
D. subtle
E. false
F. furtive
9. Tompkinson's prior donations to the university, while very generous, failed to _____ the magnitude of her latest gift.
- A. compensate for
B. portend
C. clarify
D. predict
E. offset
F. undermine
10. The union states its position **polemically**; its leaders say they are fighting to save good jobs while _____ corporations replace full-time workers with part-time ones in order to cut down on both wages and benefits.
- A. precarious
B. enterprising
C. rapacious
D. troubled
E. influential
F. avaricious

Section 8

1. The artists' career was remarkable **partly** because it was so _____: she died, with only a few paintings to her credit, while still in her twenties.
- A. felicitous
B. prolific
C. enduring
D. conventional
E. abbreviated

2. Paintings created in India during the Mughal dynasty were _____ in **ambition** but **ornamental** in presentation: in one direction they have an affinity with newspaper photographs, while in the other they have the **intricacy** of **jewels**.
- A. metaphorical
B. documentary
C. aesthetic
D. sectarian
E. baroque

3. The irony of digital networking is that it can produce more (i) _____ than did the geographical confinement it supposedly **transcended**. As human interactions become (ii) _____ physical location, people are less likely to have regular dealings with others who do not share the same values and outlooks.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. provincialism	D. more determined by
B. diversity	E. less contingent on
C. materialism	F. less insensitive to

4. The **controversy** about Alexander *the Great's personality* derives from the fact that our sources are (i) _____, all **eyewitness** accounts having **perished**. What remains is, at best, (ii) _____ (one history, for instance, is based largely on the now-lost memoirs of Alexander's alleged half-brother, Ptolemy) and at worst, highly unreliable.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. outdated	D. secondhand
B. inadequate	E. repetitious
C. abstruse	F. deceptive

5. **Gravitational** waves---**ripples** in the **geometry** of space-time--- are **analogous** to electromagnetic waves. The challenge in trying to observe these waves directly is that they are extremely weak. To make waves large enough to be (i) _____, the most (ii) _____ events in the universe are required: **supernova** explosions, the formation of black holes, or the collision of stars. Even so, the effects are (iii) _____. The geometry changes so little that a distance of several kilometers changes by less than the diameter of a proton.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. detectable	D. obvious	G. masked
B. usable	E. subtle	H. disastrous
C. explicable	F. violent	I. minuscule

6. Cultures can shape attitudes and beliefs in ways that (i)_____ conscious awareness or control; in other words, cultural orientations may develop from processes that do not entail (ii)_____ **participation**, and cultures may pervade subtle psychological dynamics in ways that individuals may not be able to (iii)_____. Thus, theories and tools developed to study **implicit** cognition may increase our understanding of the complex interplay between culture and individuals.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. operate outside of	D. active	G. report
B. tend to facilitate	E. random	H. maintain
C. may not alter	F. rote	I. condone

7. Writing about advances in climate science is often problematic, in part because the material is so_____: climate science is the study of shifting, interrelated, and sometimes paradoxical patterns.
 A. disheartening
 B. pedestrian
C. complicated
 D. depressing
E. knotty
 F. mundane
8. Contrary to certain recent analyses that paint a dire portrait of soil loss from farmland, a new study of surveying data reaching back to the 1930s shows that erosion rates have been steadily_____.
 A. intensifying
B. waning
 C. accelerating
 D. worsening
E. declining
 F. deteriorating
9. The performer can be _____ in his comedy, but he is fundamentally a **bighearted** person who displays a core sweetness even at his most **manic**.
A. inflammatory
 B. pedestrian
 C. gloomy
 D. uninspired
 E. puerile
F. provocative
10. There are many insights in the essays collected in *Observations on Modernity*, but they are embedded in a dense English translation of a dense German original that may make many of them_____ to most readers.
 A. vapid
B. inaccessible
 C. sagacious
 D. banal
 E. distressing
F. opaque

Section 9

1. The inconspicuous location and lack of **striking vistas** that characterize the villa reflect the ___ aspect of its creator's personality.

- A. volatile
- B. Grandiose
- C. Gregarious
- D. self-effacing**
- E. imperious

2. The chairman, faced with the need to forge a consensus on a number of proposals, Acknowledged that it would be difficult to reconcile the push for a radical **overhaul** with the **stance** of those who want ___ change.

- A. deliberate**
- B. indiscriminate
- C. genuine
- D. immediate
- E. wholesale

3. Recently released statistics on the prevalence of heart disease in the United States, while (i) ___, nevertheless reflect a decline from heights reached in the 1960s, before health officials began publicly (ii) ___ people to guard against heart disease.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. definite	D. entreating
B. sobering	E. defying
C. implausible	F. absolving

4. The humor in this play derives from its (i) ___. The new production, however, inexplicably goes in the opposite direction; it is so (ii) ___ that the audience does not even seem to realize that the play is supposed to be a comedy.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. verbal nimbleness	D. accessible
B. political allusions	E. plodding
C. deadpan dialogue	F. implausible

5. To say the actors were (i) ___ their director is an understatement: a director who is visibly bored by his cast and their performances is hard to (ii) ___.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. disappointment in	D. lambast
B. accepting of	E. displease
C. motivated by	F. suffer

6. However luminous an insight might seem initially, brilliance is not a reliable predictor of (i) ____, and sure enough the history of physical chemistry is replete with theories that were as (ii) ____ as any but that (iii) ____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. popularity	D. opaque	G. slowly developed
B. originality	E. ingenious	H. eventually-collapsed
C. validity	F. useful	I. ultimately prevailed

7. The company is so old-fashioned and opposed to innovation that it can seem downright ____.

- A. antediluvian**
- B. flighty
- C. archaic**
- D. chauvinistic
- E. capricious
- F. patronizing

8. The central idea of the worldview known as “**consilience**” is that all **tangible** phenomena are based on material processes that are ultimately reducible, however long and ____ the sequences, to the laws of physics.

- A. facile
- B. ethereal
- C. tortuous**
- D. superficial
- E. convoluted**
- F. protracted

9. Because archaeology explores the most profound changes in human history by means of a grossly incomplete record, it has invited the sort of **bold**, imaginative interpretation in which speculation too easily becomes ____ evidence.

- A. Replaced by
- B. constrained by
- C. untethered from**
- D. divorced from**
- E. substituted for
- F. constricted by

10. Although evolutionary psychologists do not seem quite as **imperialist** in their intellectual ambitions as their sociobiologist **forebears** of the 1970s, they tend, in some critics’ view, to be no less ____ in their claims.

- A. Abased,
- B. arrogant**
- C. impetuous
- D. hubristic**
- E. narcissistic
- F. diffident

Section 10

1. Needing an advocate who would be both precise and succinct, they rejected McIntock, whose inveterate ____ would automatically preclude meeting those requirements.

- A. punctiliousness
- B. concision
- C. cautiousness
- D. imperturbability
- E. prolixity

2. Barry was a skilled ____: though his arguments were completely flawed, they were clever-sounding enough to deceive everyone who heard them.

- A. sophist
- B. scholar
- C. quibbler
- D. doctrinaire
- E. pedant

3. (i) ____ may sound like the (ii) ____ novelty seeking, but in fact the latter can coexist with and balance that stick-to-it virtue strong-willed Victorians so promoted.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. ambition	D. antithesis of
B. creativity	E. foundation for
C. persistence	F. precursor to

4. Britain's deteriorating economy after 1945 was (i) ____ by politicians who favored the manufacturing sector over the service sector: rather than attempting to (ii) ____ the decline of manufacturing, they should have promoted service industries.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. mishandled	D. augment
B. bolstered	E. arrest
C. forestalled	F. escalate

5. The difficulty for nineteenth-century advocates of the claim that forests helped regulate climate was that their argument (i) ____ historical anecdote and observations. Proving the forest-climate link through verifiable and experimental scientific means rather than observation was (ii) ____ for these individuals, a situation that eventually led to the link (iii) ____ justifications for forest conservation.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. lacked	D. problematic	G. being revived in
B. discounted	E. unnecessary	H. dropping out of
C. employed	F. straightforward	I. losing out to

6. Parker's model of human affairs reflects (i) ___ outlook, in stark contrast to the generally (ii) ___ premises that her colleagues in the economics department adopt in their work. Accordingly, her conclusions (iii) ___ theirs.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. a sanguine	D. pessimistic	G. are somewhat more accessible than
B. an introspective	E. theoretical	H. are not so sunny as
C. a technical	F. distinctive	I. diverge markedly

7. The ___ of biographies of antebellum capitalists is particularly striking in contrast with the abundance of life stories of industrialists in later eras.

- A. brevity
- B. banality
- C. utility
- D. paucity
- E. triteness
- F. dearth

8. Those who read Empson's correspondence for the first time may be disappointed that so much of it is professional rather than personal, but the distinction in this case is ___: every letter bears the full stamp of Empson's personality.

- A. unambiguous
- B. artificial
- C. significant
- D. spurious
- E. clear-cut
- F. unique

9. Sports stars are often ___ figures, regarded as representative of the city or country for which they compete.

- A. totemic
- B. iconoclastic
- C. protean
- D. idealized
- E. irreverent
- F. emblematic

10. Upon realizing that the indicators of a stressful situation can be extremely ___, the psychologist reconsidered her claim that a reliable way of reducing stress is to recognize stressful situations and then avoid them.

- A. acute
- B. exiguous
- C. persistent
- D. overstated
- E. tenuous
- F. unrelenting

Section 11

1. Physicists' opinions diverge on whether the unexpected phenomena that can occur in systems more complex than individual particles represent new physical principles, or whether the principles involved are ____, in that they rely, albeit in an extremely complicated way, on known physical principles.
- A. extraneous
 - B. inexpressible
 - C. derivative
 - D. heterogeneous
 - E. uncorrelated

2. In an ironic twist, the recent ____ of the reductive observational methods that have enabled science to progress for four centuries may turn out to be science's biggest step forward.
- A. introduction
 - B. validation
 - C. acceptance
 - D. standardization
 - E. questioning

3. The contemporary trend whereby fashion designers flout mainstream tradition is unique only in its (i) ____; earlier fashion designers experienced the same (ii) ____ impulse, albeit in a less extreme form.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. subversiveness	D. indiscriminate
B. intensity	E. iconoclastic
C. culpability	F. temperate

4. It can be (i) ____ to read Margaret Fuller's travel writing, as she produced accounts of her travel that (ii) ____ conventions of bourgeois travel narrative, often capitulating to the most well-worn clichés of the genre at precisely the moments when she sought most energetically to cast them off in favor of some new, more passionate mode of discernment.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. frustrating	D. challenged
B. enlightening	E. conformed to
C. exciting	F. established

5. The prime minister's spokesman faces a difficult task in defending his boss from what he sees as the (i) ____ of a decidedly prejudiced press. To make his defense effectively he will certainly have to give specific examples of the media coverage he finds so (ii) ____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. overwrought panegyrics	D. objectionable
B. lowly calumnies	E. confusing
C. justified fulminations	F. unexciting

6. The slow pace of job creation was without precedent for the period of recovery from a recession, but the conditions that conspired to cause the recession were also (i) _____. The stock market declined sharply, and rampant business investment slumped. Then an ensuing spate of scandals (ii) _____ public trust in the way companies were run. And yet, despite these powerful (iii) _____ to growth, the recession proved surprisingly mild.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. heartening	D. weakened	G. counterforces
B. atypical	E. illuminated	H. stimulants
C. ambiguous	F. consolidated	I. concomitants

7. The book reaffirms the idea that Africans on the continent have not stopped _____ or responding to their own creations; in fact, African creative agents have **ushered** in their own modern forms rooted in traditional ideas.
- A. exposing,
B. detecting
C. absorbing
D. noticing
E. generating
F. originating
8. People enjoy listening to the governor's inspiring speeches, and his eloquence lulls his adversaries into underestimating his _____, the tempered steel beneath the sleek suits.
- A. tenacity**
B. resolve
C. resourcefulness
D. kindness
E. compassion
F. frankness
9. The author takes issue with the ideological blinders that have distorted much migration research, especially _____ modernization theorists and others for their untested assumptions of an immobile pre-industrial past.
- A. undermining
B. citing
C. castigating
D. chastising
E. endorsing
F. commending
10. Flash floods are common in desert regions and were widespread before the evolution of trees and woodland soils; in contrast, flash floods are _____ in woodlands, where floodwaters, impeded by trees, form ponds.
- A. overshadowed
B. redirected
C. obscured
D. precluded
E. mitigated
F. abated

Section 12

- The physical layout of the laboratory, although well adapted to the research being pursued when it was built, was not ____, making a thorough redesign necessary before a proposed new experimental program could be undertaken.
A. compromised
B. imprecise
C. convoluted
D. ubiquitous
E. plastic
- Like her literary heroine, George Eliot, Barbara Kingsolvers is an old-fashioned ____, deeply curious about all branches of human learning.
A. prodigy
B. polymath
C. tyro
D. dilettante
E. philistine
- Consolidating a memory is not **instantaneous** or even ____: every memory must be encoded and moved from short-term to long-term storage, and some of those memories are, for whatever reason, more vividly imprinted than others.
A. salutary,
B. deliberate,
C. sequential,
D. momentary,
E. inevitable
- Shirky argues that the Internet (i) ____ the need for **hierarchical** structures and the **sluggish** organizations that (ii) ____ them: the Internet makes it possible to do things cheaply and efficiently on one's own.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
A. delineates	D. circumvent
B. obviates	E. perpetuate
C. redoubles	F. undervalue

- Some climatologists dismiss as (i) ____ the debate among geophysicists over the role of carbon dioxide in global climate change across many millions of years. These climatologists say the evidence of a tie between carbon dioxide and planetary warming over the last few centuries is so (ii) ____ that any longer-term evidence against such a link must somehow be (iii) ____.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. unavoidable	D. unlikely	G. tainted
B. irrelevant	E. controversial	H. accommodated
C. undecidable	F. compelling	I. reinforced

6. Conventionally, the ultimate measure of a scientific work's validity is how broadly and confidently its conclusions become accepted in the relevant field, which in turn (i) ____ the extent to which its findings are replicated and extended. However, establishing such validity, especially for a novel experimental finding, can take years, and what (ii) ____ replication or extension may be (iii) ____ for some time.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
A. derives from	D. justifies	G. evident
B. works against	E. impugns	H. disputed
C. leads to	F. constitutes	I. touted

7. Baker was struck by the amount of ____ she saw at the renowned medical facility; for all their experience, the physicians could not seem to agree on the correct **diagnosis** for any given patient.
- A. discordance
B. contention
C. quackery
D. nepotism
E. indecision
F. cronyism
8. The book captures the ____ of several politicians who spoke publicly of old-time virtues in order to mask private vices.
- A. probity
B. dissemblance
C. opportunism
D. rectitude
E. ingenuousness
F. duplicity
9. Three of the nation's largest airlines could be operating under bankruptcy protection in coming weeks, analysts say, the latest sign of the industry's ____ as it lurches through a historic transformation.
- A. upheaval**
B. exorbitance
C. affluence
D. peril
E. convulsion
F. opulence
10. Given that the department director was such a feeble contributor, sitting silently at important policy meetings and usually deferring to low-level aides, it was surprising that he had such a reputation for ____.
- A. magnanimity
B. perspicacity
C. impartiality
D. detachment
E. benevolence
F. discernment