

SAT Reading & Writing

Form, Structure, and Sense 3

Question # ID

3.1 f0864217

Rabinal Achí is a precolonial Maya dance drama performed annually in Rabinal, a town in the Guatemalan highlands. Based on events that occurred when Rabinal was a city-state ruled by a king, _____ had once been an ally of the king but was later captured while leading an invading force against him.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. *Rabinal Achí* tells the story of K'iche' Achí, a military leader who
- B. K'iche' Achí, the military leader in the story of *Rabinal Achí*,
- C. the military leader whose story is told in *Rabinal Achí*, K'iche' Achí,
- D. there was a military leader, K'iche' Achí, who in *Rabinal Achí*

3.2 ea0aa676

In the 1970s, Janaki Ammal, a prominent botanist, emerged as a powerful voice in India's environmental conservation movement. Her exhaustive chromosomal survey of plants in Silent Valley, a pristine tropical forest in Kerala, India, that is home to nearly 1,000 species of native flora (many of which are endangered), _____ instrumental in the government's decision to preserve the forest.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. are
- B. were
- C. have been
- D. was

3.3 dc645172

The artistic talents of Barbara Chase-Riboud, most known for her 1979 historical novel *Sally Hemings* and the conversation it inspired, _____ limited to the realm of prose: she first excelled in sculpture, where her affinity for bronze—a material she described as “timeless” due to its use across eras and cultures—became part of her artistic identity.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. hasn't been
- B. wasn't
- C. isn't
- D. aren't

3.4 3bceeb93

When they were first discovered in Australia in 1798, duck-billed, beaver-tailed platypuses so defied categorization that one scientist assigned them the name *Ornithorhynchus paradoxus*: “paradoxical bird-snout.” The animal, which lays eggs but also nurses _____ young with milk, has since been classified as belonging to the monotremes group.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. they're
- B. their
- C. its
- D. it's

3.5 dab8b8ee

Known as Earth's “living skin,” biocrusts are thin layers of soil held together by surface-dwelling microorganisms such as fungi, lichens, and cyanobacteria. Fortifying soil in arid ecosystems against erosion, _____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. a recent study's estimate is that these crusts reduce global dust emissions by 60 percent each year.
- B. an estimated 60 percent reduction in global dust emissions each year is due to these crusts, according to a recent study.
- C. these crusts reduce global dust emissions by an estimated 60 percent each year, according to a recent study.
- D. a recent study has estimated that these crusts reduce global dust emissions by 60 percent each year.

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3.6 Ofc5ce68

Ten of William Shakespeare's plays are classified as histories. Although each one of these plays, which include *Henry V* and *Richard III*, _____ on a single historical figure (specifically, an English king), some, such as *Henry VI Part One* and *Henry VI Part Two*, feature different episodes from the same monarch's life.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. focuses
- B. focus
- C. are focused
- D. were focused

3.7 5b8f9cf2

In the canon of North African literature, Moroccan author Driss Chraïbi's 1954 novel *The Simple Past* (*Le Passé simple*) looms large. A coming-of-age story, a social meditation, and a sober gaze into the dark maw of French colonialism, _____ interrogates systemic power with memorable intensity.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. Morocco gained its independence two years before the publication of Chraïbi's debut novel, which
- B. Chraïbi's debut novel, published two years before Morocco gained its independence,
- C. Chraïbi wrote a debut novel that, published two years before Morocco gained its independence,
- D. published two years before Morocco gained its independence, Chraïbi wrote a debut novel that

3.8 de3dd17d

Planetary scientist Briony Horgan and her colleagues have determined that as much as 25 percent of the sand on Mars is composed of impact spherules. These spherical bits of glass form when asteroids collide with the planet, ejecting bits of molten rock into the atmosphere that, after cooling and solidifying into glass, _____ back onto Mars's surface.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. to rain
- B. raining
- C. having rained
- D. rain

3.9 61160f0a

Author Madeline L'Engle, _____ to create a suspenseful tone that draws the reader in, begins her novel *A Wrinkle in Time* with descriptions of "wraithlike shadows" and "the frenzied lashing of the wind."

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. looked
- B. looks
- C. is looking
- D. looking

3.10 d46ac7e7

A second-generation Japanese American, Wataru Misaka _____ in World War II (1941-45) and won two amateur national basketball championships at the University of Utah when he joined the New York Knicks for the 1947-48 season, becoming the first non-white basketball player in the US's top professional league.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. already served
- B. was already serving
- C. already serves
- D. had already served

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3.11 50801257

In 1994, almost 200 years after the death of Wang Zhenyi, the International Astronomical _____ the contributions of the barrier-breaking 18th-century astronomer and author of "Dispute of the Procession of the Equinoxes," naming a crater on Venus after her.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. Union would finally acknowledge
- B. Union to finally acknowledge
- C. Union, having finally acknowledged
- D. Union, finally acknowledging

3.12 a14eef71

In 2015, a team led by materials scientists Anirudha Sumant and Diana Berman succeeded in reducing the coefficient of friction (COF) between two surfaces to the lowest possible level—superlubricity. A nearly frictionless (and, as its name suggests, extremely slippery) state, _____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. when their COF drops below 0.01, two surfaces reach superlubricity.
- B. two surfaces, when their COF drops below 0.01, reach superlubricity.
- C. reaching superlubricity occurs when two surfaces' COF drops below 0.01.
- D. superlubricity is reached when two surfaces' COF drops below 0.01.

3.13 a75d5984

Several advantages—the ability to react strongly with chip components, to avoid interference from other waves, and to be confined within tiny circuits—_____ acoustic waves as a promising alternative to electrical waves for transmitting data on computer chips; as a result, researchers are invested in developing more acoustic wave-based chips.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. have positioned
- B. positioning
- C. by positioning
- D. having positioned

3.14 9df6da04

Entomologists Yash Sondhi and Samuel Fabian have tried to explain why moths fly erratically around light sources at night. Knowing that flying insects keep their backs pointed toward sunlight during the day, _____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- the researchers theorize that moths, mistaking nighttime lights for the Sun, continually try to reorient their bodies while
A. flying near such lights.
- the researchers' theory is that moths mistake nighttime lights for the Sun, continually trying to reorient their bodies while
B. flying near such lights.
- moths mistake nighttime lights for the Sun and continually try to reorient their bodies while flying near such lights, the
C. researchers theorize.
- moths continually try to reorient their bodies while flying near nighttime lights, the researchers theorize, mistaking such
D. lights for the Sun.

3.15 dfbf5d33

In 1453, English King Henry VI became unfit to rule after falling gravely ill. As a result, Parliament appointed Richard, Third Duke of York, who had a strong claim to the English throne, to rule as Lord Protector. Upon recovering two years later, _____ forcing an angered Richard from the royal court and precipitating a series of battles later known as the Wars of the Roses.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. Henry resumed his reign,
- B. the reign of Henry resumed,
- C. Henry's reign resumed,
- D. it was Henry who resumed his reign,

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3.16 37e5c794

Despite being cheap, versatile, and easy to produce, _____ they are made from nonrenewable petroleum, and most do not biodegrade in landfills.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. there are two problems associated with commercial plastics:
- B. two problems are associated with commercial plastics:
- C. commercial plastics' two associated problems are that
- D. commercial plastics have two associated problems:

3.17 d2b81427

In assessing the films of Japanese director Akira Kurosawa, _____ have missed his equally deep engagement with Japanese artistic traditions such as Noh theater.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. many critics have focused on Kurosawa's use of Western literary sources but
- B. Kurosawa's use of Western literary sources has been the focus of many critics, who
- C. there are many critics who have focused on Kurosawa's use of Western literary sources, but they
- D. the focus of many critics has been on Kurosawa's use of Western literary sources; they

3.18 188f7e3c

In 2016, engineer Vanessa Galvez oversaw the installation of 164 bioswales, vegetated channels designed to absorb and divert stormwater, along the streets of Queens, New York. By reducing the runoff flowing into city sewers, _____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. the mitigation of both street flooding and the resulting pollution of nearby waterways has been achieved by bioswales.
- B. the bioswales have mitigated both street flooding and the resulting pollution of nearby waterways.
- C. the bioswales' mitigation of both street flooding and the resulting pollution of nearby waterways has been achieved.
- D. both street flooding and the resulting pollution of nearby waterways have been mitigated by bioswales.

3.19 512f0ac9

Working from an earlier discovery of Charpentier's, chemists Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer Doudna—winners of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry—re-created and then reprogrammed the so-called "genetic scissors" of a species of DNA-cleaving bacteria _____ a tool that is revolutionizing the field of gene technology.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. to forge
- B. forging
- C. forged
- D. and forging

3.20 b0fb36ad

Unique among animal species, humans use our vocal apparatuses primarily for two separate communicative purposes: to talk and to sing. The question of what cross-cultural traits distinguish these distinct modes, and secondarily what pressures led humans to develop them in the first place, _____ neuropsychologist Daniela Sammler's 2024 study "Signatures of Speech and Song: 'Universal' Links despite Cultural Diversity."

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. animates
- B. have animated
- C. animate
- D. animating

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3.21 2bca654a Forming extensive networks via mycorrhizal association—that is, a symbiotic relationship between plants and fungi—_____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. it is the entanglement of pine trees' roots and the fungus *Tricholoma matsutake's* fungal hyphae that makes nutrient transport possible.
- B. the transport of nutrients is possible through the entanglement of pine trees' roots and the fungus *Tricholoma matsutake's* fungal hyphae.
- C. nutrients can be transported through the entanglement of pine trees' roots and the fungus *Tricholoma matsutake's* fungal hyphae.
- D. pine trees and the fungus *Tricholoma matsutake* can transport nutrients through their entangled tree roots and fungal hyphae.

3.22 872a002e The present-day city of Dushanbe, Tajikistan, was for years the capital of the Tajik Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, one of many nominally autonomous republics within the Soviet Union. Like _____ peer autonomous Soviet socialist republics, the Tajik Republic was established along ethnolinguistic lines: most of the republic's residents spoke Persian.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. their
- B. they're
- C. its
- D. it's

3.23 863065c7 Legal scholars James Melton and Tom Ginsburg's analysis of de jure judicial independence and its growth over decades _____ six constitutional features that enhance such independence, including judicial tenure and selection procedure. Albania's constitution contains five of these features.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. are identifying
- B. identify
- C. have identified
- D. identifies

3.24 2784cbaf To fully describe the motion of an object requires knowing each of five _____ movement: displacement, time, initial velocity, final velocity, and acceleration. These are called kinematic variables.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. variable's that characterize objects'
- B. variables that characterize objects'
- C. variables that characterize object's
- D. variables that characterize objects

3.25 f10b7ce4 In the list "Adorable Things" from Sei Shōnagon's *Pillow Book*, the author delights in baby sparrows, a face drawn on a melon, and a young courtier in ceremonial garb. So shrewd an observer is Shōnagon, a lady-in-waiting to Empress Teishi, that her book's musings on tenth-century Japanese courtly life _____ readers a thousand years later.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. fascinate
- B. has fascinated
- C. fascinates
- D. is fascinating

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3.26 fced396a

The Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI), a commonly used measure of competition between companies in a particular market, ranges from a score of zero to 10,000 points. Compared with that of a highly concentrated market—that is, a market controlled by very few companies—_____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. a market that is less concentrated will have a much lower HHI score.
- B. the HHI score of a less concentrated market will be much lower.
- C. when a market is less concentrated, its HHI score will be much lower.
- D. a less concentrated market will have an HHI score that is much lower.

3.27 8b017d4e

Supported by biochemical analyses of over 2,000 skeletons from the Middle Ages, _____

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. vegetables and grains were, a 2022 study found, the primary components of early medieval rulers' diets.
- B. early medieval rulers' diets were found, in a 2022 study, to have primarily consisted of vegetables and grains.
- C. the primary components of early medieval rulers' diets were vegetables and grains, according to a 2022 study.
- D. findings from a 2022 study suggested that vegetables and grains were the primary components of early medieval rulers' diets.

3.28 4c335aea

In a recent analysis of lyrical trends in 350,000 songs, researchers cite increases in certain measures, such as the ratio of choruses to verses, as evidence music lyrics are becoming more repetitive. For instance, from 1970 to 2020, _____ chorus-to-verse ratios trended similarly, with each genre's data indicating that relative to the number of unique verses, the number of repeated choruses in songs increased.

Which choice completes the text so that it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- A. rocks and raps
- B. rock's and rap's
- C. rocks and rap's
- D. rock and rap's