GOUDA ACADEMY

SUPER SAT

15 DAY INTENSIVE STUDY GUIDE

DECEMBER 2026

SAT EDITION

15 QUESTION TYPES

175 QUESTIONS

175 VOCABULARY WORDS

READING & WRITING

December 2026 SAT Edition

Your 15-day intensive plan

Each day follows one clear order: lesson explanation, ten practice questions, then ten vocabulary words. Day 1 also includes extra vocabulary from its Words in Context questions.

What is inside

150 daily practice questions + 25 mixed review questions = 175 questions.
150 daily vocabulary words + 25 final vocabulary words = 175 scheduled words.
Plus 82 bonus terms from Day 1’s passages and answer choices.
Complete keys and explanations for every answer choice.

Your daily routine

5 minutes: Read the skill page and identify the main traps.

15–20 minutes: Complete the ten questions. Mark any answer you cannot prove.

15 minutes: Check the explanations and record your corrections.

10 minutes: Learn the ten daily words. Hide the meanings and explain each example.

5 minutes: Revisit yesterday’s uncertain words and two missed questions.

Day 1 extra: After attempting the questions, study the Words in Context bonus glossary in small groups. Its terms may overlap with the scheduled word lists.

Build accuracy before speed

For each answer, identify the exact clue, rule, or data point that proves it. Review uncertain correct answers too. Aim for at least 8 out of 10 with reasoning you can explain, then revisit every remaining error.

The November and December editions cover the same 15 skills with different practice questions and vocabulary. Complete either edition independently or use both in sequence.

Timing is a study suggestion. These practice sets are not official adaptive test modules.

Your roadmap

Follow Mr. Gouda’s classroom order. Record your score, then redo uncertain answers.

DAY	QUESTION TYPE	PAGE	SCORE	REDO
1	Vocabulary	5	___ / 10	_____
2	Function	21	___ / 10	_____
3	Main Purpose	28	___ / 10	_____
4	Structure	35	___ / 10	_____
5	Double Texts	41	___ / 10	_____
6	Main Idea	48	___ / 10	_____
7	Specific	55	___ / 10	_____
8	Graph	61	___ / 10	_____
9	If True	73	___ / 10	_____
10	Quote	80	___ / 10	_____
11	Paragraph Completion	86	___ / 10	_____
12	Punctuation	93	___ / 10	_____
13	Grammar	98	___ / 10	_____
14	Transitions	103	___ / 10	_____
15	Note	108	___ / 10	_____

DAY 1: WORDS IN CONTEXT BONUS VOCABULARY | page 10

FINAL 25: MIXED REVIEW | page 115

25 FINAL VOCABULARY WORDS | page 127

ANSWER LAB | page 130

Turn errors into progress

Use the three-line correction

1. I chose ___ because ___.
2. The decisive clue or rule is ___.
3. Next time, I will ___.

Name the mistake

Meaning: I misunderstood a word or phrase.
Evidence: I accepted a claim the text did not establish.
Scope: I changed some into all, or may into must.
Direction: I reversed a cause, contrast, time, or comparison.
Rule: I misread a sentence boundary or grammatical relationship.
Attention: I used the wrong row, unit, person, or writing goal.

Use spaced review

Revisit uncertain words and missed questions tomorrow, then three days later. Explain the reasoning without looking at the answer. After Day 15, complete the mixed review and identify the skills that still need practice.

Your error log

Question ID: _____ Error type: _____
My wrong assumption: _____
Decisive clue or rule: _____
Next-time action: _____
Revisit date: _____ Explained without help: yes / no

Before the mixed review

Explain all 15 methods aloud. Review the words you still hesitate over. Keep the Answer Lab closed until you finish the set.

DAY 01

Vocabulary

Translate before you choose

A blank or a word-in-context prompt asks for the meaning demanded by this sentence.

Your method

1. Find the clue that defines or contrasts with the blank.
2. Predict a very simple word before reading the options.
3. Check meaning, tone, and grammar in the complete sentence.

Traps to recognize

- A familiar definition may be wrong in this context.
- A positive word is not enough: it must express the exact relationship.
- Watch negatives such as not, rarely, and without.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Translation; Good/Bad Words

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write the clue, your simple prediction, and the rejected near-synonym.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

WORDS IN CONTEXT BONUS: After the ten regular daily words, learn extra vocabulary from today's question passages and answer choices.

DAY 01 PRACTICE

01 / D01-01

Nigerian American author Teju Cole's _____ his two passions—photography and the written word—culminates in his 2017 book, Blind Spot, which evocatively combines his original photographs from his travels with his poetic prose.

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

A) indifference to

B) enthusiasm for

C) concern about

D) surprise at

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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02 / D01-02

Ancient Inca inhabiting the Andes Mountains used terraces, rows of flattened land with built-in irrigation systems, to grow crops at different altitudes. This method of farming proved to be highly _____ , as evidenced by the great number and variety of crops grown at that time.

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

A) chaotic

B) uniform

C) effective

D) burdensome

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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03 / D01-03

The Apollo Moon landings (1969-1972) brought magnetic field sensors and soil sensors to the Moon and produced large amounts of data, much of which was stored on technologies that are now obsolete. A data-transfer project is working to _____ these data so that the information is available to researcher Noah Petro, who is investigating the geology of the Moon.

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

A) amend

B) salvage

C) simplify

D) improve

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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04 / D01-04

Mônica Lopes-Ferreira and others at Brazil's Butantan Institute are studying the freshwater stingray species Potamotrygon rex to determine whether biological characteristics such as the rays' age and sex have _____ effect on the toxicity of their venom—that is, to see if differences in these traits are associated with considerable variations in venom potency.

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

A) a disconcerting

B) an acceptable

C) an imperceptible

D) a substantial

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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05 / D01-05

In the early 1800s, the Cherokee scholar Sequoyah created the first script, or writing system, for an Indigenous language in the United States. Because it represented the sounds of spoken Cherokee so accurately, his script was easy to learn and thus quickly achieved _____ use: by 1830, over 90 percent of the Cherokee people could read and write it.

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

A) widespread

B) careful

C) unintended

D) infrequent

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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06 / D01-06

Featuring chapters by historians, designers, and workshop owners, Building a Community Archive is intended to _____ two groups of readers. Its editors expect the volume to interest academic researchers as well as volunteers planning archives in their own neighborhoods.

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

A) attract

B) assess

C) confuse

D) diminish

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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07 / D01-07

The museum's evening programs are deliberately _____: a single event may combine a conservator's demonstration, a dramatic reading of an artist's letters, and a discussion of the economic conditions in which a painting was produced.

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

A) circumscribed

B) perfunctory

C) redundant

D) multifaceted

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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08 / D01-08

The Westmere radio archive contains decades of interviews recorded in villages beyond the region's main roads. By weaving these voices together with carefully explained maps and timelines, a new series of audio programs is _____ the complex connections among those communities for listeners who have never visited them.

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

A) elucidating

B) discounting

C) dictating

D) anticipating

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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09 / D01-09

On an exposed hill, strong winds can make it difficult for young plants to retain moisture. A low stone wall interrupts the wind, reducing its speed on the sheltered side. The _____ conditions behind the wall allow delicate seedlings to grow without being continually battered by gusts.

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

A) hazardous

B) tranquil

C) temporary

D) unfamiliar

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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10 / D01-10

On an open shoreline, abrupt temperature changes can damage young salt-marsh plants. A belt of mature reeds shields a nearby inlet, moderating those fluctuations. The comparatively _____ conditions within the inlet allow seedlings to develop without repeated exposure to the sharp temperature swings recorded along the unprotected shore.

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

A) transient

B) inaccessible

C) stable

D) hostile

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 01 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

001 **Aberration** | something unusual
The sudden drop was an aberration in an otherwise steady pattern.

002 **Abstract** | about ideas, not physical things
Justice is an abstract concept.

003 **Accentuate** | make more noticeable
The dark frame accentuates the bright painting.

004 **Acclaim** | strong public praise
The novel received acclaim from critics.

005 **Accumulate** | gradually collect
Dust accumulated on the unused shelves.

006 **Acquiesce** | agree without protest
After a long debate, he acquiesced to the group's decision.

007 **Adapt** | change to suit new conditions
The birds adapted to living near people.

008 **Adequate** | good enough
The available evidence was adequate to support the claim.

009 **Advocate** | support publicly
The group advocates protecting wetlands.

010 **Aggregate** | combine into a total
The researchers aggregated results from six studies.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 1 of 11

EXTRA VOCABULARY FOR TODAY'S QUESTION TYPE

Today's lesson is Words in Context, so you get 82 extra terms from these ten question passages and answer choices, in addition to your ten regular daily words.

Complete the questions first. This alphabetical glossary covers every answer-choice term and useful passage vocabulary. Learn the incorrect choices too: knowing a definition does not make an option correct in context.

B01 **Abrupt** | sudden and unexpected
An abrupt drop in temperature damaged the plants.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B02 **Acceptable** | good enough to be allowed or approved
The repaired bridge met an acceptable safety standard.
Seen in: D01-04 (choice B)

B03 **Altitudes** | heights above sea level
Different plants grow at different altitudes.
Seen in: D01-02 (passage)

B04 **Amend** | change or correct
The editor will amend the report to fix the date.
Seen in: D01-03 (choice A)

B05 **Anticipating** | expecting something before it happens
Anticipating rain, the workers covered the equipment.
Seen in: D01-08 (choice D)

B06 **Archive** | a collection of records kept for future use
The archive contains letters written a century ago.
Seen in: D01-06 (passage); D01-08 (passage)

B07 **Assess** | judge or measure
The teacher will assess how well students understand the passage.
Seen in: D01-06 (choice B)

B08 **Associated** | connected or linked
The study found that longer practice was associated with better performance.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 2 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B09 **Attract** | draw someone's interest or attention
The exhibition may attract readers interested in history.
Seen in: D01-06 (choice A)

B10 **Battered** | hit repeatedly and forcefully
The small boat was battered by the waves.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B11 **Burdensome** | difficult or tiring to deal with
The extra paperwork became burdensome for the staff.
Seen in: D01-02 (choice D)

B12 **Careful** | taking care to avoid mistakes or harm
A careful reading revealed the missing detail.
Seen in: D01-05 (choice B)

B13 **Chaotic** | very disorganized or confused
The unexpected change made the schedule chaotic.
Seen in: D01-02 (choice A)

B14 **Characteristics** | features or qualities
The two plants share several characteristics, including leaf shape.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

B15 **Circumscribed** | limited to a narrow range
The study's scope was circumscribed, covering only one town.
Seen in: D01-07 (choice A)

B16 **Comparatively** | when compared with something else
The sheltered garden was comparatively warm.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 3 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B17 **Complex** | having many connected parts; not simple
The map shows the complex network of roads.
Seen in: D01-08 (passage)

B18 **Concern about** | worry or interest regarding something
The residents expressed concern about the damaged bridge.
Seen in: D01-01 (choice C)

B19 **Confuse** | make something difficult to understand
The unclear labels may confuse visitors.
Seen in: D01-06 (choice C)

B20 **Conservator** | a specialist who protects and repairs old objects or art
A conservator cleaned the fragile painting.
Seen in: D01-07 (passage)

B21 **Considerable** | large enough to matter
The repairs required considerable time.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

B22 **Culminates** | reaches a final or highest point
The festival culminates in a concert on Sunday.
Seen in: D01-01 (passage)

B23 **Deliberately** | on purpose
The curator deliberately placed the two paintings together.
Seen in: D01-07 (passage)

B24 **Delicate** | easily damaged
The delicate leaves tore in the strong wind.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 4 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B25 **Demonstration** | a showing of how something works or is done
The scientist gave a demonstration of the new instrument.
Seen in: D01-07 (passage)

B26 **Dictating** | controlling or stating what must happen
The narrow doorway was dictating the size of the equipment we could use.
Seen in: D01-08 (choice C)

B27 **Diminish** | make or become smaller or less
The clouds began to diminish as the day warmed.
Seen in: D01-06 (choice D)

B28 **Disconcerting** | making someone uneasy or confused
The sudden silence was disconcerting to the speaker.
Seen in: D01-04 (choice A)

B29 **Discounting** | treating something as less important or believable
The researcher was discounting reports that lacked evidence.
Seen in: D01-08 (choice B)

B30 **Effective** | successful in producing the intended result
The new watering system was effective at keeping plants healthy.
Seen in: D01-02 (choice C)

B31 **Elucidating** | making something clear or easy to understand
The diagram is useful for elucidating the complicated process.
Seen in: D01-08 (choice A)

B32 **Enthusiasm for** | strong interest or excitement about something
Her enthusiasm for astronomy led her to join the club.
Seen in: D01-01 (choice B)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 5 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B33 **Evocatively** | in a way that brings feelings or images to mind
The author describes the empty house evocatively.
Seen in: D01-01 (passage)

B34 **Exposed** | not sheltered or protected
The exposed hillside received strong winds.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B35 **Exposure** | being subjected to something
Repeated exposure to cold damaged the seedlings.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B36 **Fluctuations** | repeated changes in level or amount
The sensor recorded fluctuations in temperature.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B37 **Geology** | the study of rocks and how a world is formed
The course explores the geology of the Moon.
Seen in: D01-03 (passage)

B38 **Gusts** | short bursts of strong wind
Sudden gusts shook the young trees.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B39 **Hazardous** | dangerous
Ice made the road hazardous.
Seen in: D01-09 (choice A)

B40 **Hostile** | unfriendly or harmful
The dry, salty soil was hostile to most crops.
Seen in: D01-10 (choice D)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 6 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B41 **Imperceptible** | too slight to notice
The change in color was almost imperceptible.
Seen in: D01-04 (choice C)

B42 **Improve** | make or become better
Clearer labels will improve the display.
Seen in: D01-03 (choice D)

B43 **Inaccessible** | difficult or impossible to reach or use
After the storm, the island was inaccessible by boat.
Seen in: D01-10 (choice B)

B44 **Indifference to** | a lack of interest in something
His indifference to the result surprised his teammates.
Seen in: D01-01 (choice A)

B45 **Indigenous** | belonging to the original peoples of a place
The program supports the teaching of Indigenous languages.
Seen in: D01-05 (passage)

B46 **Infrequent** | not happening often
Visits became infrequent during the winter.
Seen in: D01-05 (choice D)

B47 **Inhabiting** | living in a place
The birds inhabiting the marsh feed near the water.
Seen in: D01-02 (passage)

B48 **Inlet** | a narrow area of water extending into the land
The boats waited in a sheltered inlet.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 7 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B49 **Intended** | planned or meant for a purpose
The guide is intended to help new volunteers.
Seen in: D01-06 (passage)

B50 **Irrigation** | supplying water to land or crops
The farm uses irrigation during dry months.
Seen in: D01-02 (passage)

B51 **Mature** | fully grown or developed
Mature trees provided shade for the seedlings.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B52 **Moderating** | making something less extreme
The lake was moderating the nearby air temperature.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B53 **Moisture** | a small amount of water or dampness
The soil retained moisture after the rain.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B54 **Multifaceted** | having several different parts or aspects
The multifaceted program combines art, history, and science.
Seen in: D01-07 (choice D)

B55 **Obsolete** | no longer used because something newer has replaced it
The data were stored on obsolete equipment.
Seen in: D01-03 (passage)

B56 **Passions** | strong interests or enthusiasms
Music and photography are her two passions.
Seen in: D01-01 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 8 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B57 **Perfunctory** | done with little care or interest
A perfunctory inspection failed to notice the crack.
Seen in: D01-07 (choice B)

B58 **Potency** | strength or power to have an effect
The venom's potency varied among the samples.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

B59 **Prose** | ordinary written language, rather than verse
The author writes both poetry and prose.
Seen in: D01-01 (passage)

B60 **Redundant** | unnecessary because it repeats something
The editor removed a redundant sentence.
Seen in: D01-07 (choice C)

B61 **Retain** | keep or hold onto
The thick soil can retain water for several days.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B62 **Salvage** | save or recover something in danger of being lost
The team tried to salvage the files from the damaged computer.
Seen in: D01-03 (choice B)

B63 **Scholar** | a person who studies a subject deeply
The scholar spent years studying ancient languages.
Seen in: D01-05 (passage)

B64 **Script** | a writing system
The script uses symbols to represent spoken sounds.
Seen in: D01-05 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 9 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B65 **Seedlings** | very young plants
The seedlings need shelter from strong winds.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage); D01-10 (passage)

B66 **Sheltered** | protected from harsh conditions
The sheltered courtyard stayed calm during the storm.
Seen in: D01-09 (passage)

B67 **Shields** | protects from harm
The roof shields the equipment from rain.
Seen in: D01-10 (passage)

B68 **Simplify** | make less complicated
The diagram will simplify the explanation.
Seen in: D01-03 (choice C)

B69 **Stable** | steady; not changing much
The storage room stayed at a stable temperature.
Seen in: D01-10 (choice C)

B70 **Substantial** | large in amount, size, or effect
The new system produced a substantial improvement.
Seen in: D01-04 (choice D)

B71 **Surprise at** | a feeling caused by something unexpected
The team expressed surprise at the unusual result.
Seen in: D01-01 (choice D)

B72 **Temporary** | lasting only a short time
The school used a temporary classroom during the repairs.
Seen in: D01-09 (choice C)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 10 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B73 **Terraces** | flat steps cut into a slope for growing crops
Farmers planted rice on terraces along the hillside.
Seen in: D01-02 (passage)

B74 **Toxicity** | how poisonous something is
The researchers measured the toxicity of the water.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

B75 **Tranquil** | calm and peaceful
The garden remained tranquil behind its high wall.
Seen in: D01-09 (choice B)

B76 **Transient** | lasting only a short time
The storm caused a transient drop in temperature.
Seen in: D01-10 (choice A)

B77 **Unfamiliar** | not known or recognized
The explorer heard an unfamiliar bird call.
Seen in: D01-09 (choice D)

B78 **Uniform** | the same throughout
The pots were uniform in size and color.
Seen in: D01-02 (choice B)

B79 **Unintended** | not planned or meant
The change had an unintended effect on traffic.
Seen in: D01-05 (choice C)

B80 **Venom** | poison produced by an animal and delivered through a bite or sting
The snake uses venom to subdue its prey.
Seen in: D01-04 (passage)

Day 01 bonus vocabulary

Words in Context / 11 of 11

Extra terms from today’s ten Words in Context questions. Definitions match their use here.

B81 **Volume** | a book
The library bought a volume about local history.
Seen in: D01-06 (passage)

B82 **Widespread** | found or used in many places or by many people
The invention quickly gained widespread use.
Seen in: D01-05 (choice A)

BONUS RETRIEVAL CHECK

Cover the meanings, explain each term, then return to its question and explain why the correct choice fits the sentence. Review unfamiliar terms in small groups over the next few days.

DAY 02

Function

Name the job of the part

Function asks what a particular sentence or portion does in the whole passage.

Your method

1. Read the sentence before and after the marked portion.
2. State the local idea in plain English.
3. Name its job: example, support, contrast, qualification, explanation, or consequence.

Traps to recognize

- Do not merely summarize what the sentence says.
- Do not turn an example in one field into a claim about every field.
- Match the exact marked portion, not a neighboring sentence.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Finish this sentence: This part helps the author by ...

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 02 PRACTICE

01 / D02-01

The following text is from Edith Wharton's 1905 novel The House of Mirth. Lily Bart and a companion are walking through a park. Lily had no real intimacy with nature, but she had a passion for the appropriate and could be keenly sensitive to a scene which was the fitting background of her own sensations. The landscape outspread below her seemed an enlargement of her present mood, and she found something of herself in its calmness, its breadth, its long free reaches. On the nearer slopes the sugar-maples wavered like pyres of light; lower down was a massing of grey orchards, and here and there the lingering green of an oak-grove.

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

A) It creates a detailed image of the physical setting of the scene.

B) It establishes that a character is experiencing an internal conflict.

C) It makes an assertion that the next sentence then expands on.

D) It illustrates an idea that is introduced in the previous sentence.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D02-02

Curious about how people visually perceive objects in their dreams, Stephen LaBerge and team recruited lucid dreamers—people aware that they're dreaming as it's happening—for a research study. These participants were reliably able to signal when they had entered a dream state; the team then observed participants' eye movements as they slept. The smoothness with which participants' eyes tracked objects in their dreams closely matched how sighted people who are awake visually track objects around them, suggesting to the team that the brain perceives dream objects as the product of something other than pure imagination.

Which choice best states the function of the underlined portion in the text as a whole?

A) To offer key evidence that undermines LaBerge and team's initial hypothesis

B) To show the unexpected result that led LaBerge and team to change the focus of their study

C) To illustrate an important real-world implication of LaBerge and team's main finding

D) To identify a comparable circumstance that helps justify LaBerge and team's conclusion

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D02-03

The following text is adapted from Cynthia Kadohata's 2004 novel Kira-Kira. [Uncle Katsuhisa] was as loud as my father was quiet. Even when he wasn't talking, he made a lot of noise, clearing his throat and sniffing and tapping his fingers. ©2004 by Cynthia Kadohata

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined sentence?

A) It lists the kinds of topics Uncle Katsuhisa enjoys discussing.

B) It suggests that Uncle Katsuhisa dislikes meeting new people.

C) It contrasts Uncle Katsuhisa with the narrator's father.

D) It describes a conversation between the narrator and the narrator's father.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D02-04

Individual elephants and Arctic herbivores such as caribou tend to have fixed geographic ranges throughout their lifetimes, which had prompted some researchers to speculate that the Arctic woolly mammoth, an extinct elephantid, might have exhibited similar behavior. Mammoth tusks grew in sequential layers, incorporating ingested minerals and organics, and so each ivory stratum reflects the ratio of strontium isotopes ($^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$) in the local environment; thus, the sequence of strata shows where the animal roamed during life. Recent analysis of the strontium ratios in the strata of one Arctic woolly mammoth tusk in relation to the geographic distribution of strontium ratios in the environment shows the animal's range begin to expand as it reached sexual maturity, only to contract again in its final 1.5 years.

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

A) It discusses a characteristic shared by certain animals in order to explain why researchers raised a possibility that turned out not to be supported by data described later in the text.

B) It illustrates a pattern of behavior among certain animals in order to present a theory about exceptions to that pattern that is weakened by a finding described later in the text.

C) It describes a similarity in the behavior of certain animals in order to show why a method described later in the text did not reveal whether another animal also showed that behavior.

D) It introduces a trait shared by certain animals in order to contextualize a hypothesis about the origin of that trait that is advanced later in the text.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D02-05

In the past, historians who wanted to examine Frederick Douglass's diary and other personal papers had to visit the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, to view them on microfilm (film containing scaled-down reproductions of documents). But traveling to the library often added time and costs to research projects. Now, by going to the library's website, researchers can access digitized versions of Douglass's papers without physically going anywhere.

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

A) It gives information about a famous person.

B) It explains the meaning of a word.

C) It describes a debate among historians.

D) It summarizes an unexpected finding.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D02-06

The mineralogical profile of clay from the eastern ridge is clearly distinct from those of neighboring deposits. By contrast, clay from the western terrace cannot be distinguished from riverbank clay on the basis of mineral proportions alone, since the two contain comparable concentrations of albite and orthoclase, among other feldspars. The relative abundance of these minerals in successive layers of pottery fragments from the old settlement indicates that western-terrace clay, riverbank clay, or both remained the principal material used by its potters for at least eight centuries.

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

A) It offers a reason why the potters' preferred clay sources remained largely unchanged for eight centuries.

B) It describes an assumption about two deposits that the analysis of pottery fragments calls into question.

C) It presents evidence that the settlement's potters shifted from one principal clay source to another over the period studied.

D) It explains why the pottery data allow more than one possibility concerning the settlement's principal clay source.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D02-07

When a difficult puzzle resists their efforts, people often feel that they should keep working rather than interrupt their concentration. Researchers investigated a different strategy. Participants first attempted a set of puzzles and were then randomly assigned either to continue working or to complete a brief sorting task before returning to the puzzles. The interrupted group subsequently solved more of the remaining puzzles. The researchers suggested that a break might loosen an unproductive approach, although the experiment did not establish the mechanism responsible for the advantage.

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

A) It describes a tendency whose prevalence is subsequently demonstrated by the experimental results.

B) It supplies an explanation for improved performance that the researchers later confirm through the experiment.

C) It identifies an assumption in the experimental design that prevents the researchers from comparing the groups.

D) It introduces a familiar response that provides context for a study of a contrasting strategy.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D02-08

People often assume that uninterrupted effort is always the best way to solve a difficult creative problem. A recent classroom experiment, however, suggests that a pause can sometimes be useful. Researcher Imani Ross randomly assigned participants either to continue working on a design puzzle or to spend several minutes on a simple, unrelated sorting task before returning to it. Participants in the second group subsequently produced more workable designs, on average, than those who had worked without a break.

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

A) It introduces a common belief that the experiment's findings call into question.

B) It states an assumption that the experiment's results ultimately confirm.

C) It identifies a general belief whose popularity the experiment was designed to explain.

D) It provides a psychological explanation for the sorting group's superior performance.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D02-09

Historian Celia Venn argues that the printers of Port Aster gained unusual influence during the city's rapid expansion. Publishers needed large editions of maps and directories before a major trade fair, but only a few workshops had presses capable of producing them. This shortage strengthened the printers' negotiating position: when workshop crews requested safer shifts and paid meal breaks, publishers accepted the terms rather than risk missing the fair. The episode illustrates how workers could turn specialized skills into practical leverage.

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

A) It shows that rapid city growth generally improved workers' bargaining power.

B) It explains why publishers decided to commission directories instead of maps.

C) It shows the practical outcome of the stronger negotiating position described just before it.

D) It identifies the technical features that distinguished the city's largest printing presses.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D02-10

Historian Lina Rell argues that a shortage of skilled binders increased their bargaining power in the city of Elar during a major library expansion. Libraries needed thousands of durable volumes before their new branches opened, but few workshops could finish them on time. The binders therefore occupied an unusually strong position: when workshop employees requested shorter shifts and compensation for damaged tools, library contractors accepted rather than jeopardize the opening dates. The episode shows how urgent demand could give a specialized workforce greater influence over employment conditions.

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

A) It establishes that all workers benefited equally from the library expansion.

B) It explains how the bindings were made more durable.

C) It introduces an exception to the claim that the binders had bargaining power.

D) It illustrates the practical effect of the negotiating advantage described just before it.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 02 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

011 **Allocate** | set aside for a purpose
The city allocated funds for library repairs.

012 **Alter** | change
The discovery altered the team's explanation.

013 **Amalgamate** | combine into one
The museum amalgamated two small collections.

014 **Ambiguous** | having more than one possible meaning
The ambiguous instruction confused the students.

015 **Ameliorate** | make a bad situation better
The new drainage system ameliorated the flooding problem.

016 **Amend** | make changes to improve or correct
The committee amended the rule to remove an unclear phrase.

017 **Amplify** | make stronger or greater
The microphone amplified her voice.

018 **Analogy** | a comparison used to explain
The teacher used an analogy between a cell and a factory.

019 **Anomaly** | something that differs from the pattern
One unusually warm year was an anomaly in the record.

020 **Anticipate** | expect beforehand
Engineers anticipated heavier traffic on the new road.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 03

Main Purpose

Find the purpose of the whole

Main Purpose asks what the writer is trying to accomplish across the entire text.

Your method

1. Summarize the whole passage in one sentence.
2. Choose an action verb: explain, describe, argue, introduce, or illustrate.
3. Check that the answer covers both the beginning and the ending.

Traps to recognize

- A true detail can still be too narrow.
- Do not invent an argument when the author merely describes.
- Distinguish what happens in a story from why the passage presents it.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY’S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write a purpose statement without borrowing an answer choice.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today’s vocabulary.

DAY 03 PRACTICE

01 / D03-01

The following text is from Georgia Douglas Johnson's 1922 poem "Benediction."

Go forth, my son,
Winged by my heart's desire!
Great reaches, yet unknown,
Await
For your possession.
I may not, if I would,
Retrace the way with you,
My pilgrimage is through,
But life is calling you!

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To express hope that a child will have the same accomplishments as his parent did

B) To suggest that raising a child involves many struggles

C) To warn a child that he will face many challenges throughout his life

D) To encourage a child to embrace the experiences life will offer

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D03-02

The following text is from Bram Stoker's 1911 novel The Lair of the White Worm. Adam is meeting his great-uncle Richard at a port. The meeting so auspiciously begun proceeded well. Adam, seeing that the old man was interested in the novelty of the ship, suggested that he should stay the night on board, and that he would himself be ready to start at any hour and go anywhere that the other suggested. This affectionate willingness to fall in with his own plans quite won the old man's heart. He warmly accepted the invitation, and at once they became not only on terms of affectionate relationship, but almost like old friends.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) It states the reasons why Adam and his great-uncle Richard decide to sleep on the ship rather than finding lodging on land.

B) It showcases how Adam's flexibility and consideration strengthen his relationship with his great-uncle Richard.

C) It describes why Adam and his great-uncle Richard are excited for their upcoming journey on the ship.

D) It contrasts great-uncle Richard's wary first impressions of Adam with his ultimate affection toward him.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D03-03

The following text is adapted from George Bernard Shaw's 1912 play Pygmalion. Henry Higgins has just arrived at the house of his mother (Mrs. Higgins). She is expecting her friends to visit soon. MRS. HIGGINS: I'm serious, Henry. You offend all my friends: they stop coming whenever they meet you. HIGGINS: Nonsense! I know I have no small talk; but people don't mind. MRS. HIGGINS: Oh! don't they? Small talk indeed! What about your large talk? Really, dear, you mustn't stay.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To describe what Henry's mother does when she goes out with her friends

B) To show that Henry's mother wants him to leave

C) To present a detailed account of what Henry's home looks like

D) To explain why Henry often visits his mother

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D03-04

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

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To discuss von Ahn's invention of reCAPTCHA

B) To explain how digital scanners work

C) To call attention to von Ahn's book-digitizing project

D) To indicate how popular reCAPTCHA is

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D03-05

Soundwalks are organized excursions during which participants pay close attention to the sounds of a place. A leader may ask a group to notice how a fountain masks traffic noise or how footsteps change between a tiled passage and a wooden bridge. At the end of a soundwalk, participants often compare the different details they heard along the same route.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To argue that walking is the best way to reduce traffic noise

B) To describe an activity that encourages attention to an environment's sounds

C) To compare the costs of constructing wooden and tiled walkways

D) To explain why listeners always hear the same sounds differently

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D03-06

The following text is from an original story. Nessa cares for her infant son while repairing fishing nets.

Now and then Nessa glanced from the tangled cord to the basket beside her chair. Whenever her son fixed his eyes on a fluttering scrap of sailcloth, she found herself waiting as intently as though some grand discovery were about to be announced. She put down her needle to watch his hand open, close, and reach again. Soon he would turn away, and she would resume her knots. Her shoulders ached from work, and the night had allowed her scarcely any sleep, but each small gesture of his brought a fresh brightness to the long afternoon.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To describe how Nessa's fellow workers take turns caring for her son

B) To portray Nessa's delight in observing her infant son

C) To suggest that Nessa plans to abandon her work repairing nets

D) To show Nessa imagining the occupation her son will choose as an adult

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D03-07

The following text is an original poem.

The Key I kept a light beside your childhood door; Tonight you carry brightness of your own. The key I give unlocks no room of mine: Its door is somewhere neither has yet known. Do not mistake my quiet for a plea To leave your coat upon its familiar nail. Beyond our street are songs I cannot teach; Go learn their measures. Let your courage sail.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To describe the practical difficulties of maintaining a childhood home

B) To encourage a child to pursue new experiences beyond the family home

C) To warn a child that unfamiliar experiences should be avoided

D) To ask a child to reproduce the speaker's most important achievements

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D03-08

The following passage is from an original short story.

Rafi had planned to spend the afternoon cataloging the little museum's coins. But when Mrs. Bell arrived with a box of faded photographs, he cleared the table and asked her to tell him about each face. He did not glance at the clock, even when her stories wandered far from the pictures. By closing time, Mrs. Bell, who had addressed him formally on every previous visit, was calling him Rafi and promising to bring the letters that belonged with the photographs.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To explain why Mrs. Bell considers photographs more historically valuable than coins

B) To contrast Rafi's enthusiasm for museum work with Mrs. Bell's lack of interest in history

C) To describe the research that enables Rafi to identify the people in Mrs. Bell's photographs

D) To show how Rafi's patient attention helps establish a warmer relationship with Mrs. Bell

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D03-09

For a series of plays about changing neighborhoods, director Inez Vale invited longtime residents to help develop the scripts. Their recollections shaped individual scenes, and several residents performed alongside professional actors. Vale also staged the plays in local shops and courtyards mentioned in those recollections. These choices gave the productions an immediacy that reinforced their exploration of how ordinary places become repositories of shared memory.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To explain how a director's use of residents' recollections turns the plays into factual records rather than thematic interpretations

B) To argue that residents portray neighborhood life more accurately than the professional actors who perform beside them

C) To explain how a director's production choices reinforce the central concerns of her plays

D) To describe how a director selects local performance sites chiefly to make participation more convenient for residents

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D03-10

For an exhibition exploring how people remember ordinary work, artist Mara Sen recorded former textile workers describing the rhythms of their shifts. She arranged the recordings beside worn tools donated by the speakers and placed both inside the mill where they had worked. Visitors thus encountered recollections in direct contact with the objects and spaces that had shaped them. These decisions made the relationship between memory and material surroundings central to the experience of the exhibition.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To argue that recordings provide more accurate histories than written records

B) To show how an artist's exhibition choices reinforce its central theme

C) To explain why former textile workers prefer museums to functioning mills

D) To describe how an artist restored tools so that they could be used again

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 03 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

021 **Appease** | calm or satisfy
The manager offered refunds to appease angry customers.

022 **Appropriate** | suitable for a purpose
A small table is appropriate for this room.

023 **Archetypal** | very typical of a kind
The character is an archetypal adventurous hero.

024 **Articulate** | express clearly
She articulated her objection in one precise sentence.

025 **Assess** | judge or evaluate
The team assessed the damage after the storm.

026 **Attenuate** | make weaker or less intense
The thick wall attenuates the sound from the street.

027 **Attrition** | gradual loss or reduction
Staff attrition left several positions unfilled.

028 **Authentic** | genuine, not fake
Tests confirmed that the signature was authentic.

029 **Auxiliary** | providing extra help
An auxiliary pump supplies water when the main pump stops.

030 **Banal** | ordinary and unoriginal
The review criticized the film's banal dialogue.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 04

Structure

Map the sequence

Structure asks how the passage develops from one part to the next.

Your method

1. Give each major part a short job label.
2. Link the labels in order: problem, study, result; claim, example, qualification.
3. Check every clause of the answer, not just its opening.

Traps to recognize

- An answer can begin correctly and end with an invented step.
- A proposed solution is different from an implemented solution.
- Track figurative comparisons without treating them as literal events.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Structure Question HACK; Time

TODAY’S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Make a three-part map and cross out any invented step.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today’s vocabulary.

DAY 04 PRACTICE

01 / D04-01

The north celestial pole (NCP)—the fixed point around which stars in the Northern Hemisphere (including the Sun) appear to rotate—is discernible only at night. Inspired by the navigational strategies of some insects and birds, researchers devised a method for locating the NCP in daytime using skylight polarization, which occurs as atmospheric particles scatter sunlight. A polarimetric camera captures images of polarization patterns, which rotate as the Sun's position in the sky changes; temporal variances across images can then be used to determine an observer's latitude and bearing relative to the NCP.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It illustrates how most navigational tools utilize the NCP, recounts how researchers discovered that certain animals are able to navigate without using the NCP, and then proposes that this discovery could be used to avoid problems in navigation associated with reliance on the NCP.

B) It presents a celestial-based method of navigation, enumerates the comparative benefits of an alternative method used by certain animals that is based on an unrelated natural occurrence, and then indicates how researchers assessed the relative accuracy of the two methods.

C) It explains how the NCP is typically located, emphasizes a key difference between how humans and certain animals use the NCP for navigation, and then suggests an alternative way of using the NCP to improve existing navigational instruments.

D) It notes an obstacle to observing an astronomical phenomenon, mentions a navigational ability of certain animals that inspired a solution to that obstacle, and then explains how researchers used an optical device to mimic that ability.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D04-02

Founded in Denver in 1991, the Museo de Las Americas is dedicated to art from Latin America, including the art of Indigenous peoples. Since its founding, it has acquired more than 4,800 objects for its permanent collection. More recently founded US-based institutions devoted to Latino cultures include LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes. Located in Los Angeles, it focuses on Mexican American art and culture.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It explains how one cultural institution was founded, then explains its plans to expand further.

B) It defines a certain type of cultural institution, then argues that this type of institution decisively influences society.

C) It describes a trend among cultural institutions in the United States, then identifies an institution that rejects that trend.

D) It discusses one cultural institution, then discusses a more recently founded cultural institution.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D04-03

The following text is adapted from Gwendolyn Bennett’s 1926 poem “Street Lamps in Early Spring.”

Night wears a garment
All velvet soft, all violet blue...
And over her face she draws a veil
As shimmering fine as floating dew...
And here and there
In the black of her hair
The subtle hands of Night
Move slowly with their gem-starred light.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It presents alternating descriptions of night in a rural area and in a city.

B) It sketches an image of nightfall, then an image of sunrise.

C) It makes an extended comparison of night to a human being.

D) It portrays how night changes from one season of the year to the next.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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04 / D04-04

What is a city? The answer depends on where you live! Many countries define an area as a city based on how many people live there. However, not every country uses the same numbers. Greenland defines a city as an area with a population of at least 200, while Switzerland defines a city as having a minimum population of 10,000. Some countries even define cities using other factors, like if there is a local government.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It poses a question, then explains why the question has many answers.

B) It offers a recommendation, then provides reasons for that recommendation.

C) It describes two locations, then explains why only one of the locations is considered a city.

D) It lists the number of cities in one country, then compares that number to the number of cities in another country.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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05 / D04-05

The flooded Bell Quarry is one of roughly twelve thousand abandoned stone quarries across the northern uplands, and their effects on surrounding habitats interest ecologists. Imani Pell and colleagues were particularly curious about the influence of flooded quarries on insect communities. At two quarry ponds they placed cedar and birch sampling trays at distances ranging from zero to 240 meters, recording three groups of insects: beetles, flies, and moths. Across all three groups, peak species diversity occurred on both kinds of tray approximately 140 meters from the ponds.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It notes a general interest in quarries' ecological effects, describes a study related to that interest, and reports one of its findings.

B) It gives the number of abandoned quarries, explains the historical significance of one quarry, and describes insects found there.

C) It introduces a widely discussed study of insect communities, summarizes its findings, and describes another team's response.

D) It names a flooded quarry, describes the timber used in its construction, and explains how that timber affects nearby insects.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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06 / D04-06

Mara Keene is best known in Northbridge for her illustrated travel essays, but a short manual she wrote for local libraries had a more lasting institutional influence. In it, Keene argued that a library should organize introductory displays around questions visitors might bring with them, rather than around the internal categories, developed primarily for staff use, that governed the cataloging of books. Her approach made unfamiliar collections easier to explore without requiring visitors to learn specialist terminology first. Later information centers adopted the same principle when designing signs and welcome desks, extending the manual's central idea beyond libraries.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It distinguishes a manual from others of its kind, summarizes the manual's main aim, and describes a recent revival of interest in it.

B) It characterizes a manual as having been overlooked, describes a central idea in it, and argues that the idea can be recognized in the writings of later authors.

C) It introduces an influential manual, explains a central principle in it, and shows how that principle shaped practices in a broader setting.

D) It traces the development of a manual, explains an argument presented in it, and suggests that the manual affected practices beyond its original field.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D04-07

Measuring tiny surface vibrations with an ordinary camera is difficult because the movements may be smaller than a single image pixel. Inspired by spiders' ability to detect minute disturbances through tension in their webs, engineers developed an optical sensor that registers changes too small to see directly. The sensor directs laser light onto a flexible membrane resting against a surface; vibration slightly stretches the membrane, altering the reflected light. A computer converts those alterations into measurements of the surface's motion, allowing movement below the camera's visual threshold to be recorded.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It identifies a measurement obstacle, introduces an animal ability that inspired a solution, and explains how the device converts tiny movement into usable measurements.

B) It identifies a measurement obstacle, introduces the spider ability that inspired a solution, and then compares the sensor's accuracy with a camera's to determine which is more reliable.

C) It identifies a limitation of ordinary cameras, explains the membrane-and-light mechanism of a new sensor, and then argues that the sensor should be used mainly to study spider webs.

D) It describes spiders' sensitivity to vibration, explains how engineers adapted that ability in an optical device, and concludes that the device eliminates camera limitations in every measurement setting.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D04-08

The irregular marks on a group of clay vessels were once interpreted as accidental scratches. Recent imaging revealed that the same sequences recur on vessels made in different workshops. Researchers therefore propose that the marks formed a shared system for identifying contents. They caution that the meaning of any individual sequence remains uncertain.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It introduces an earlier interpretation, presents evidence for a different interpretation, and qualifies the newer proposal.

B) It lists several interpretations and argues that none can be evaluated with existing evidence.

C) It presents a new proposal, rejects the evidence supporting it, and returns to an older interpretation.

D) It identifies a disagreement, resolves the meanings of the marks, and describes a new imaging method.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D04-09

The following is an original poem, “At the Bend.”

The river opens up its ledger,
Counts the stones beneath the foam,
Signs each bank in flowing silver,
Files the fallen branches home.
At the bend it pauses, thinking,
Taps one reed against the shore,
Then resumes its patient business,
Carrying the day’s accounts once more.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It develops an extended comparison between a river and a person doing office work.

B) It describes a series of efforts by a person to change the course of a river.

C) It follows a river through changes from winter to spring.

D) It contrasts a river's appearance in a city with its appearance in open country.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D04-10

The following is an original poem, "The Night Gardener."
The rain unrolls its silver hose,
Inspects each sleeping flower bed,
Adjusts the drops on folded leaves,
And waters roots beneath their spread.
It checks the pots along the wall,
Then, satisfied with what is done,
Packs up its tools beyond the hill
And leaves the garden to the sun.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It contrasts two gardeners who disagree about their work.

B) It describes an extended comparison between rain and a person tending a garden.

C) It explains the scientific causes of rainfall and evaporation.

D) It traces a garden's development from winter into summer.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 04 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

031 **Benevolent** | kind and helpful
A benevolent donor paid for the school library.

032 **Buttress** | support or strengthen
The new records buttress the historian's argument.

033 **Catalyst** | something that causes change
The discovery was a catalyst for further research.

034 **Clandestine** | done secretly
The group held a clandestine meeting after midnight.

035 **Coerce** | force someone to act
The threat was intended to coerce him into signing.

036 **Cohesive** | holding together well
Shared goals made the group cohesive.

037 **Compelling** | strongly convincing or interesting
The photographs provide compelling evidence of the change.

038 **Complacent** | too satisfied to notice problems
Early success made the team complacent about errors.

039 **Complicate** | make harder to understand or do
The missing records complicate the investigation.

040 **Comprise** | consist of
The collection comprises letters, diaries, and photographs.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 05

Double Texts

Keep the two voices separate

Double Texts asks how two claims, methods, or perspectives connect.

Your method

1. Write a short claim for Text 1 and a short claim for Text 2.
2. Identify agreement, disagreement, qualification, or different emphasis.
3. Apply only Text 2's stated reasoning when predicting its response.

Traps to recognize

- A plausible criticism is wrong if this author never makes it.
- Do not confuse shared topic with shared conclusion.
- Cautious disagreement does not mean complete rejection.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write: They agree on __, but differ about __.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 05 PRACTICE

01 / D05-01

Text 1
When companies in the same industry propose merging with one another, they often claim that the merger will benefit consumers by increasing efficiency and therefore lowering prices. Economist Ying Fan investigated this notion in the context of the United States newspaper market. She modeled a hypothetical merger of Minneapolis-area newspapers and found that subscription prices would rise following a merger.

Text 2
Economists Dario Focarelli and Fabio Panetta have argued that research on the effect of mergers on prices has focused excessively on short-term effects, which tend to be adverse for consumers. Using the case of consumer banking in Italy, they show that over the long term (several years, in their study), the efficiency gains realized by merged companies do result in economic benefits for consumers.

Based on the texts, how would Focarelli and Panetta (Text 2) most likely respond to Fan's findings (Text 1)?

A) They would recommend that Fan compare the near-term effect of a merger on subscription prices in the Minneapolis area with the effect of a merger in another newspaper market.

B) They would argue that over the long term the expenses incurred by the merged newspaper company will also increase.

C) They would encourage Fan to investigate whether the projected effect on subscription prices persists over an extended period.

D) They would claim that mergers have a different effect on consumer prices in the newspaper industry than in most other industries.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D05-02

Text 1
Good art often challenges and disrupts social and aesthetic norms, but the creation of public art—paintings, sculptures, and performance pieces displayed in nonmuseum or nontheatrical public settings—typically requires broad agreement among artists, civic officials, and community members about the works' message and artistic goals. Public art that fails to appease everyone by being sufficiently aesthetically and conceptually bland almost inevitably provokes backlash.

Text 2
Public art is commonly displayed in spaces intended for purposes other than meaningful aesthetic engagement. Some critics of public art therefore note that norm-defying pieces that aren't effectively integrated within their surroundings in a manner that primes passersby to appreciate the pieces' merits (as is often the case) tend to be regarded more unfavorably than similarly provocative art encountered in museums is.

Based on the texts, how would the critics mentioned in Text 2 most likely respond to the underlined claim in Text 1?

A) By arguing that the reason members of the general public might disagree about a public artwork's merits is unrelated to the unconventionality of its appearance and ideas

B) By agreeing with the idea that only works of art that are universally appealing are suitable for displaying in public spaces

C) By disputing the notion that civic leaders and community members are easily placated by art that is intended mainly to reinforce social norms

D) By contending that the kinds of reactions controversial public artworks often receive aren't exclusively the result of attributes inherent in the works themselves

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D05-03

Text 1
From the extinct Shasta ground sloth to the living Hoffmann's two-toed sloth, sloths are among the most appealing animals native to the Americas. But scientists still have a lot to learn about them. Unlike their ancient ground-dwelling relations, today's sloths spend most of their time high up in trees. The sloths' inaccessibility has made it hard for scientists to study them.

Text 2
By using a hat-like monitor, biologist Bryson Voirin and colleagues can at last discover the previously hidden activities of sloths. Such monitors can provide information to correct misconceptions. It was long believed that sloths are very gentle. But, in fact, sloths have very sharp claws and will attack if threatened.

Based on the texts, the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree with which statement about sloths?

A) Sloths typically live very long lives.

B) Sloths have been challenging to observe.

C) Sloths are usually unpleasant animals.

D) Sloths prefer certain types of trees over other types.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D05-04

Text 1 For thousands of years, O'odham farmers in the desert of the southwestern US and northern Mexico cultivated mesquite seeds and agave sap, sometimes planting these species together so that the mesquite trees provide shade for agaves. Doing so helps protect agaves from the harshest heat and light and thereby helps prevent soil moisture from evaporating.

Text 2 Agaves are well adapted to growing in the desert but grow best when shaded. Inspired by O'odham farmers, who often strategically plant agaves in the shade of sun-hardy species like mesquite trees for protection from the sun and heat, Gary Nabhan and colleagues planted agaves in the shade of solar panels in the Sonoran desert and found that the plants grew well, suggesting to Nabhan and colleagues that the panels provide a benefit similar to that provided by mesquite trees.

Based on the texts, the author of Text 1 and the author of Text 2 would most likely agree on which point?

A) Mesquite trees grow best when planted in shaded areas, while agaves do not require shade to thrive.

B) Compared with Nabhan's approach, the O'odham approach has the advantage of producing agave sap.

C) Mesquite trees can provide shade that protects agaves from high-intensity heat and light.

D) Nabhan's team's method could be refined to more actively prevent soil moisture from evaporating.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D05-05

Text 1 Essayist Lena Ortiz argues that drawing is unusually accessible. Whereas some art forms demand specialized premises and long stretches of uninterrupted work, a drawing may begin on the back of an envelope during a commute or in a few spare minutes before a meal. These modest circumstances, Ortiz maintains, do not prevent a person who earns a living elsewhere from producing accomplished work.

Text 2 An account of contemporary drawing must consider the institutions through which artists develop and exhibit their work. Although submission to a prominent gallery may technically be open to anyone, artists whose work appears there commonly have formal training and years of concentrated studio practice. Acquiring that preparation requires time seldom available to people employed full-time in other fields. Economic security thus helps determine who can become a practicing artist.

Based on the texts, how would Ortiz (Text 1) most likely respond to the argument in Text 2?

A) By suggesting that formal training prevents artists from depicting everyday subjects

B) By arguing that people with full-time jobs generally attend more exhibitions than professional artists do

C) By noting that meaningful drawings can be created outside the professional circumstances emphasized in Text 2

D) By claiming that gallery exhibitions provide most artists with enough income to stop working elsewhere

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D05-06

Text 1 The farming settlement at Lake Orven was occupied from about 1020 CE until the early fifteenth century, when its residents abandoned the region. Many historians attribute the departure to increasingly cold winters. They reason that the settlers arrived during a relatively warm interval, when cultivation was productive, and were able to remain only until a prolonged cooling period made their agricultural practices unsustainable.

Text 2 Mina Vell, Arin Sorell, and colleagues analyzed sediment samples from a lake beside the former Orven settlement to reconstruct its climatic history. They found no evidence of a substantial temperature decline during the occupation period. Instead, their reconstruction indicated a persistent shortage of rainfall. The team argues that this drought played a more important role in forcing the residents to leave than increasingly cold winters did.

Based on the texts, the researchers in both passages address which question?

A) Why did the residents leave the settlement at Lake Orven?

B) How frequently did the Orven settlers experience drought?

C) What was the average temperature across the entire continent during the settlement period?

D) Who first developed the method used to collect lake sediment?

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D05-07

Text 1 Independent sky watchers, who pursue astronomy without professional appointments, have traditionally worked outside the scientific research community. Recently, several observatories have begun inviting these observers to submit their records. Such programs have brought previously overlooked observations, including a long sequence of drawings by the amateur observer Eren Hale, to researchers' attention.

Text 2 Programs celebrating independent observers can unintentionally exaggerate the separation between amateur and professional astronomy. Amateurs have long adopted techniques described in professional journals, while professionals have used amateurs' sustained records of changing stars. These exchanges show that the two groups' activities have often informed one another.

Based on the texts, how would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the characterization of independent sky watchers in Text 1?

A) By disputing Text 1's prediction that the public will lose interest in amateur observations

B) By suggesting that Text 1 overstates how separate these observers have been from professional research

C) By agreeing that Text 1 identifies the term "independent" as misleading

D) By challenging Text 1's claim that observatories are unsuitable places to preserve amateur records

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D05-08

Text 1
Several species of cave bacteria persist in rock that appears to offer only one scarce source of energy. Standard ecological reasoning suggests that the species most efficient at using that source should eventually exclude the others. The continued diversity has therefore prompted researchers to search for an additional mechanism that prevents a dominant competitor from taking over.

Text 2
Microbiologist Rena Tal's team mapped the tiny pores occupied by bacteria in the same cave rock. Many pores were sealed off from neighboring pores, and energy-bearing fluids entered each through a separate microscopic channel. Tracer molecules introduced into one channel were rarely detected in adjacent pores, even when those pores contained bacteria of a different species.

Based on the texts, how would Tal and colleagues most likely respond to the standard ecological reasoning described in Text 1?

A) By proposing that differences in energy-use efficiency may explain why particular species dominate particular pores

B) By suggesting that the species may use chemically different forms of the apparent energy source

C) By arguing that exchange among pores is frequent enough to keep any species from becoming locally dominant

D) By questioning whether the bacteria directly compete for the same accessible supply as often as the reasoning assumes

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D05-09

Text 1
Archaeologist Nila Verin analyzed residues inside several ancient ceramic jars. Because the residues contained both pine resin and beeswax, materials found together in some surviving recipes for waterproofing wooden boats, Verin concluded that the jars had held a mixture prepared for shipbuilders.

Text 2
Chemists studying ancient vessel residues caution against assigning a mixture a specific use merely because a few ingredients match a known recipe. Pine resin and beeswax also appear in mixtures used to seal storage containers and attach ornaments. Differences in ingredient proportions and the presence of additional substances may help distinguish these uses; matching two ingredients alone does not.

Based on the texts, how would the chemists in Text 2 most likely characterize Verin's conclusion in Text 1?

A) As questionable because residue evidence cannot support a shipbuilding use unless the jars were excavated at a shipbuilding site

B) As questionable because the conclusion assumes that the surviving waterproofing recipes date from exactly the same period as the jars

C) As questionable because the same two ingredients occur in several known mixtures, so additional chemical evidence is needed before assigning a specific use

D) As questionable because Verin would first need to show that the ceramic jars themselves were watertight before proposing what their contents were used for

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D05-10

Text 1
Archaeologist Elin Tor identified traces of beeswax and vegetable oil inside ancient shallow bowls. Because those ingredients appear together in a surviving recipe for leather polish, Tor concluded that the bowls held a mixture used by leatherworkers.

Text 2
Researchers studying ancient compounds caution that identifying a few shared ingredients rarely establishes a mixture's purpose. Beeswax and vegetable oil also occur together in recipes for protective wood coatings and medicinal salves. Ingredient proportions and traces of other substances can help distinguish those preparations; the presence of the two main ingredients alone cannot.

Based on the texts, how would the researchers in Text 2 most likely characterize Tor's conclusion?

A) As insufficiently supported because several preparations share the identified ingredients

B) As impossible to assess unless the bowls were found inside a leather workshop

C) As mistaken because ancient leatherworkers never used vegetable oil

D) As convincing because a surviving recipe necessarily identifies the purpose of any matching residue

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 05 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

041 **Concur** | agree
Several reviewers concurred with her assessment.

042 **Conflate** | mistakenly treat as the same
The report conflates popularity with quality.

043 **Considerable** | large enough to matter
The repairs required considerable effort.

044 **Constitute** | make up or amount to
These fragments constitute most of the surviving evidence.

045 **Contentious** | causing disagreement
The proposed boundary became a contentious issue.

046 **Contrived** | artificial or forced
The story's sudden ending felt contrived.

047 **Conventional** | usual or widely accepted
Her design challenges conventional ideas about housing.

048 **Convey** | communicate
The painting conveys a sense of quiet.

049 **Correlate** | vary in a related way
In the sample, larger leaves correlated with greater water use.

050 **Corroborate** | support with further evidence
The diary corroborates the date given in the letter.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 06

Main Idea

Capture the central message

Main Idea asks what the text mainly says; a topic question asks what it is mainly about.

Your method

1. Find the central claim and its major support.
2. Separate background from the finding or correction.
3. Choose an answer broad enough for the passage but no broader.

Traps to recognize

- An interesting example is not always the main idea.
- Do not turn may into must or some into all.
- For main topic, do not substitute a narrow methodological criticism.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY’S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write a central-message sentence with its original degree of certainty.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today’s vocabulary.

DAY 06 PRACTICE

01 / D06-01

Culinary anthropologist Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor may be known for her decades of work in national public television and radio, but her book Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl is likely her most influential project. The 1970 book, whose title refers to Smart-Grosvenor's roots in the Low Country of South Carolina, was unusual for its time. It combined memoir, recipes, travel writing, and social commentary and challenged notions about conventions of food and cooking. Long admired by many, the book and its author have shaped contemporary approaches to writing about cuisine.

Which choice best describes the main idea of the text?

A) Smart-Grosvenor's unconventional book Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl is an important contribution to food writing.

B) Smart-Grosvenor held many different positions over her life, including reporter and food writer.

C) Smart-Grosvenor's groundbreaking book Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl didn't receive the praise it deserved when it was first published in 1970.

D) Smart-Grosvenor was a talented chef whose work inspired many people to start cooking for themselves.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D06-02

Studies of ocean wave breaking have predominantly focused on traveling waves (those propagating along the horizontal plane), so Mark McAllister et al. utilized a circular wave tank to produce and study spike waves, axisymmetric standing waves that can erupt vertically when traveling waves propagating in opposing directions intersect. Traveling waves break when wave steepness (height-to-length ratio) passes a critical threshold; breaking thus constrains wave height. McAllister et al. found that spike waves can exceed that constraint, as other factors than just steepness (e.g., jet stability and cavity shape) mediate spike-wave breaking.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Previous studies have suggested that steepness mediates breaking in traveling waves, but the study by McAllister et al. shows that jet stability and cavity shape may also influence breaking in such waves.

B) The process of breaking limits the height of traveling waves, but the study by McAllister et al. suggests that spike waves can exceed those limits if their height-to-length ratio reaches a critical threshold.

C) McAllister et al. suggest that spike waves can form when traveling waves propagating in opposing directions intersect and that spike waves tend to be higher than traveling waves.

D) The study by McAllister et al. suggests that when traveling waves intersect in specific ways, the resulting wave may be higher than would be expected based on the properties of traveling waves.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D06-03

From polar bears to short-tailed crickets, many animals practice some form of brood care (caring for offspring). Chenyang Cai and team claim to have found the earliest evidence of this behavior in insects in 163.5-million-year-old remains from the Haifanggou Formation in China, a location that has yielded many fossils, including those of feathered dinosaurs. Cai and team examined 157 specimens of the extinct water boatman species Karataviella popovi and noted thirty individuals that appear to carry eggs on one of their legs. This finding establishes brood care in insects approximately 38 million years earlier than previously known.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Research shows that feathered dinosaurs inhabited the location that is now the Haifanggou Formation long before K. popovi did.

B) Cai and team's study of K. popovi fossils suggests that brood care in insects began earlier than formerly established.

C) Cai and team concluded that K. popovi likely carried their offspring on one of their legs.

D) The Haifanggou Formation is an abundant source of fossilized dinosaurs and K. popovi.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D06-04

Mushrooms, including Coprinellus micaceus and species from the genus Cantharellus, are known to use the process of evapotranspiration to maintain internal temperatures below ambient temperatures. This hypothermic behavior is enhanced by the many thin gills (lamellae) on the fungi's caps, with substantial surface area contributing to capacity for evaporation. Examining fungal thermoregulation mechanisms, Radames Cordéro et al. determined that molds and yeasts also engage in evaporative cooling to facilitate hypothermia and suggest that, lacking features analogous to lamellae, these unicellular fungi aggregate into colonies to derive the benefit of greater surface area.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Although a certain thermoregulation process has been observed in colonies of unicellular fungi, it has yet to be observed at the individual organism level.

B) A recent analysis of specimens of Coprinellus micaceus and species from the genus Cantharellus substantiated the findings of earlier studies of thermoregulation mechanisms in several types of fungi.

C) A study of a fungal thermoregulation mechanism determined that it is used more efficiently by molds and yeasts than by mushrooms and other multicellular fungi due to variances in colony size.

D) Despite significant differences in their biological structures, mushrooms, molds, and yeasts have been observed to utilize the same thermoregulation process to achieve a particular effect.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D06-05

Few animals are known to spit: among them are humans, cobras, and camels. But in January 2022 at a nature preserve in southern England, bird-watcher Clare Jacobs observed a gray seal spitting a jet of water at a white-tailed eagle flying overhead. Seals had never been seen spitting before. Biologist Sean Twiss, who studies gray seals, believes that the seal may have been attempting to scare the eagle away from a food source or that the seal may have just been playing.

Which choice best states the main topic of the text?

A) Bird-watching in southern England

B) A previously unseen behavior of gray seals

C) How white-tailed eagles defend their territory against other predators

D) Differences between gray seals and white-tailed eagles

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D06-06

Many animals protect or carry their young, but evidence of such behavior can be difficult to identify in fossils. Paleontologist Lila Daren's team examined 146 specimens of an extinct freshwater arthropod from the Mereth rock formation, a site also known for fossil fish. Twenty-seven specimens appeared to carry clusters of eggs attached beneath their bodies. Dated to 158 million years ago, the specimens place this form of brood care in the group roughly 30 million years earlier than previously documented.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) The team found apparent egg clusters attached beneath some arthropod specimens.

B) Fish inhabited the Mereth formation before any freshwater arthropods appeared there.

C) The Mereth formation is a source of fossil fish and freshwater arthropods.

D) The team's fossils suggest that brood care in this animal group occurred earlier than previously documented.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D06-07

In a study of the marsh bird Lurena, researcher Nadia Sen reported that intermittent traffic noise substantially changed the timing of calls made during the species' early-morning activity. Her analysis, which compared the intervals between calls during quiet and noisy periods, used recordings from only twelve birds. A review published several years later examined conclusions from numerous studies on noise and bird communication and warned that such small samples can produce unstable estimates, especially when a few unusual individuals strongly affect the average. The review therefore urged caution about reports of very large behavioral changes based on limited recordings.

What is the main topic of the scientific research discussed in the text?

A) Changes in the equipment used to record wild birds

B) Differences in nesting sites among marsh birds

C) The effects of traffic noise on bird communication

D) The causes of population decline in urban birds

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D06-08

Museum directors have several reasons for choosing exhibitions, but they generally want their choices to reflect visitors' interests: poorly attended shows are difficult to sustain. Directors often learn about those interests from voluntary online comments. Yet such comments can create a misleading picture. Visitors with strong reactions, reliable internet access, and time to write are more likely to respond than other visitors are. The preferences expressed in the comments therefore need not reflect those of the museum's entire audience.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Visitors with strong reactions and time to write are especially likely to submit online comments about museums.

B) Voluntary comments help museum directors identify visitors' preferences and choose exhibitions that reflect them.

C) Museum directors seek to reflect visitors' interests, but the feedback they use may give a distorted picture of those interests.

D) Visitor interests are one of several factors museum directors consider when choosing exhibitions.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D06-09

Sound historian Mara Delen spent many years producing radio documentaries, but her 1986 book The Listening City may be her most enduring contribution. The book mixed neighborhood interviews, hand-drawn sound maps, and reflections on memory at a time when studies of urban sound usually concentrated on noise measurements. Widely discussed from its first publication, it showed how the sounds of ordinary work and conversation could illuminate a city's social life. Later writers on urban experience have repeatedly drawn on its approach.

Which choice best describes the main idea of the text?

A) Delen persuaded most city residents to record the sounds of their daily work.

B) Delen's unconventional book made a lasting contribution to writing about urban experience.

C) Delen's book initially received little attention because it lacked noise measurements.

D) Delen's radio documentaries were more influential than any of her books.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D06-10

Botanist Alia Renn spent much of her career publishing technical descriptions of alpine plants, but her 1991 book Paths of Seed may be her most enduring work. Combining field sketches, interviews with shepherds, and observations of seasonal travel, the book examined how human activity shaped the movement of plants through mountain valleys. At a time when such studies usually focused on physical dispersal mechanisms alone, its approach drew immediate attention. Later environmental historians have repeatedly adopted Renn's method of bringing local experience into ecological accounts.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Renn's distinctive book made a lasting contribution to how writers study environmental history.

B) Renn persuaded most shepherds to become professional botanists.

C) Renn's book became influential only after readers abandoned ecological research.

D) Renn's technical descriptions were more enduring than her work on plant movement.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 06 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

051 **Counterfactual** | describing what did not actually happen
The study considered a counterfactual world without railways.

052 **Counterproductive** | making the intended result harder
Constant interruptions were counterproductive to careful work.

053 **Criterion** | a standard for judging
Cost was one criterion used to compare the plans.

054 **Cumulative** | increasing through repeated additions
The cumulative effect of small changes was substantial.

055 **Cynical** | distrusting people's motives
She was cynical about the company's promise to help.

056 **Decry** | strongly criticize publicly
Residents decried the destruction of the old theater.

057 **Deference** | respect for another's judgment
He accepted the change in deference to her expertise.

058 **Denigrate** | unfairly criticize as inferior
The review denigrated local traditions without examining them.

059 **Derive** | come or obtain from
The word derives from an older expression.

060 **Deter** | discourage or prevent
The locked gate deters unauthorized entry.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 07

Specific

Answer the exact question

Specific asks about one detail or a limited inference supported by the passage.

Your method

1. Identify the person, object, time, and relationship named in the question.
2. Locate the relevant sentence or combine the necessary clues.
3. Choose the smallest inference the evidence supports.

Traps to recognize

- A nearby fact may answer a different question.
- Do not infer private motives without evidence.
- Preserve time, place, quantity, and who did what.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Copy or paraphrase the smallest piece of evidence that proves your answer.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 07 PRACTICE

01 / D07-01

The following text is from Jane Austen's 1811 novel Sense and Sensibility. Elinor lives with her younger sisters and her mother, Mrs. Dashwood. Elinor, this eldest daughter, whose advice was so effectual, possessed a strength of understanding, and coolness of judgment, which qualified her, though only nineteen, to be the counsellor of her mother, and enabled her frequently to counteract, to the advantage of them all, that eagerness of mind in Mrs. Dashwood which must generally have led to imprudence. She had an excellent heart;—her disposition was affectionate, and her feelings were strong; but she knew how to govern them: it was a knowledge which her mother had yet to learn; and which one of her sisters had resolved never to be taught.

According to the text, what is true about Elinor?

A) Elinor often argues with her mother but fails to change her mind.

B) Elinor can be overly sensitive with regard to family matters.

C) Elinor thinks her mother is a bad role model.

D) Elinor is remarkably mature for her age.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D07-02

The following text is from Mark Haber's 2022 novel Saint Sebastian's Abyss. The narrator and Schmidt are both art critics. When my first wife admitted to Schmidt over dinner that she didn't find art, painting in particular, especially compelling, Schmidt winced, set down his fork, and sighed dramatically; he then excused himself, explaining an appointment he'd forgotten about had suddenly and inexplicably been remembered, while making it abundantly clear there was no appointment at all. ©2022 by Mark Haber

Based on the text, what is notable about Schmidt's behavior?

A) Schmidt is only given to theatrical behavior when in the company of the narrator and his first wife.

B) Schmidt's absentmindedness regarding his schedule is uncharacteristic of him.

C) Schmidt's departure is occasioned by the resumption of a previous disagreement with the narrator's first wife about a particular painting.

D) Schmidt conveys his feelings about one of his dining companions without explicitly stating them.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D07-03

High-speed rail systems-in which trains can move at great speeds-are expanding in many countries because high-speed rail can reduce the number of automobiles on the road and ultimately conserve energy. In Austria, for instance, 254 kilometers of high-speed rail lines are in operation as of 2023, and 231 kilometers are under construction.

Based on the text, why might Austria be expanding its high-speed rail system?

A) Residents of Austria demand that high-speed rail be expanded despite the cost of doing so.

B) High-speed rail systems in Austria are currently viewed more favorably than they have been in the past.

C) The current high-speed rail systems in Austria are getting older and need improvements.

D) High-speed rail systems are a more energy-efficient choice for residents of Austria than automobile use is.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D07-04

The following text is adapted from Sylvia Acevedo's 2018 memoir Path to the Stars: My Journey from Girl Scout to Rocket Scientist. The narrator is traveling by car with her family to Mexico City. Mario and Laura are her brother and sister. Mario and I played games to see how many different license plates we could spot, and Laura liked to look for children in the back seats of the cars we passed. We were used to the forty-five- minute drive to El Paso and familiar with the six-hour ride to Chihuahua, but I wondered what the long journey to Mexico City would be like. ©2018 by Sylvia Acevedo

According to the text, what did the narrator and Mario do while riding in the car?

A) They read books.

B) They sang songs.

C) They went to sleep.

D) They played games.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D07-05

In the 1700s and 1800s, European composers experimented with volume in their musical works. They did so by increasing the number of musicians playing in the orchestra. For example, in some of his operas, German composer Richard Wagner added more horns, trombones, and tubas to the orchestra. With more instruments playing at the same time, the orchestra could play extremely loudly at key moments in his operas.

According to the text, how did Richard Wagner achieve moments of extremely high volume in his operas?

A) By moving the performances of his operas from outdoor stages to indoor ones

B) By increasing the number of musicians playing horns, trombones, and tubas in the orchestra

C) By building a concert hall whose shape would cause sounds to echo

D) By insisting that the singers undergo special training to sing for extended periods of time

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D07-06

Express rail networks are expanding in several countries because they can reduce private car travel and lower the energy required for transportation. In the country of Neral, 280 kilometers of express track are already operating, while another 190 kilometers are under construction.

Based on the text, why might Neral be expanding its express rail network?

A) Rail travel can provide a more energy-efficient alternative to private car travel.

B) Residents demand additional trains regardless of the cost of building tracks.

C) The existing rail network in Neral is aging and needs improvements.

D) Express trains have recently become more popular than they were in previous decades.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D07-07

An international study ranks workplaces by employee engagement, using workers' reported enthusiasm for speaking during group meetings as its principal indicator. The authors regard a willingness to contribute publicly as an expression of commitment to collective work. Critics note that professional cultures differ in what they regard as responsible participation: in some, attentive silence during a discussion and careful consultation afterward carry more weight than frequent public contributions. These practices can be especially valued when employees are expected to consider the group's position before presenting their own.

According to the text, what is a potential weakness of the study?

A) Its participating employees may differ in seniority from the wider workforces the study seeks to describe.

B) Its principal indicator may not represent engagement in the same way across professional cultures.

C) Its comparisons may mistake temporary fluctuations in meeting attendance for long-term changes in engagement.

D) Its translations of survey questions may invite workers to report different time periods when describing their behavior.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D07-08

Commentators sometimes separate the films of director Soren Vale into an early period of playful comedies and a later period of solemn family dramas. Film critic Ada Neri disputes the sharpness of this division. She notes that the early comedy The Missing Umbrella contains extended scenes of family estrangement, while moments of comic misunderstanding recur in the later dramas. The proportions may change, Neri argues, but the emotional interests of the films do not suddenly begin or disappear at a single point in Vale's career.

Based on the text, which statement about Vale's films would Neri most likely agree with?

A) Vale's early films contain no serious family concerns, whereas the later films focus exclusively on them.

B) Comic misunderstanding appears only in the earliest films and is absent from all later work.

C) The subject matter and tone of Vale's films make a clean separation into two periods appropriate.

D) Films from different stages of Vale's career share features that complicate a strict division into two periods.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D07-09

Until recently, every known example of a distinctive six-legged clay vessel had come from settlements in the southern Oris Valley. Archaeologists therefore associated this vessel type exclusively with that region. A team excavating a site north of the Kelan Mountains has now recovered several vessels with the same unusual arrangement of legs. Chemical testing indicates that the newly found vessels were manufactured near the northern site rather than brought there from the Oris Valley.

According to the text, why is the discovery at the northern site significant?

A) It shows that northern vessels were made earlier than the examples from the Oris Valley.

B) It establishes that the vessels were used mainly to transport goods through the mountains.

C) It proves that every six-legged vessel was produced with the same kind of clay.

D) It provides evidence that this vessel type was made outside the region previously associated with it.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D07-10

Until recently, every known example of a distinctive spiral-stamped brick had been found in settlements beside Lake Arven. Archaeologists therefore associated its manufacture solely with that area. Excavators at a site beyond the eastern hills have now discovered bricks bearing the same unusual pattern. Mineral analysis shows that these newly found bricks were made from clay obtained near the eastern site rather than transported there from Lake Arven.

According to the text, why is the eastern discovery significant?

A) It establishes the date when spiral-stamped bricks were first invented.

B) It reveals that the bricks were used chiefly for religious buildings.

C) It proves that all brickmakers obtained clay from a single deposit.

D) It shows that the brick type was produced outside the area previously associated with it.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 07 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

061 **Detrimental** | harmful
Excessive moisture is detrimental to the stored manuscripts.

062 **Diffuse** | spread out
The scent diffused through the room.

063 **Discontinuous** | interrupted by gaps
The fossils form a discontinuous record of the period.

064 **Discrepancy** | a difference that should not be there
The accountant noticed a discrepancy between the two totals.

065 **Disparage** | speak of as unimportant or inferior
The article disparages a method that other researchers value.

066 **Disparity** | a large difference
The survey revealed a disparity in access to public transport.

067 **Disperse** | scatter in different directions
The crowd dispersed after the announcement.

068 **Dissipate** | gradually disappear or spread away
The fog dissipated after sunrise.

069 **Distinct** | clearly separate or different
The team identified two distinct patterns.

070 **Dogmatic** | treating beliefs as unquestionable
The critic's dogmatic statements left no room for debate.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 08

Graph

Match the data to the claim

Graph questions require both the visual display and the precise task in the text.

Your method

1. Read the title, axes or columns, legend, and units.
2. Identify the requested row, series, interval, or comparison.
3. For evidence questions, connect the numerical pattern to the claim.

Traps to recognize

- A correct number from the wrong row is still wrong.
- A higher value may mean worse performance; read the scale definition.
- Do not infer causation, a trend outside the data, or an unmeasured outcome.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Number; The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Record the exact values, labels, and comparison that justify your answer.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 08 PRACTICE

01 / D08-01

Average Number and Duration of Torpor Bouts and Arousal Episodes, 2008–2011

Feature	Alaska marmots	Arctic ground squirrels
Torpor bouts	12	10.5
Duration per bout	13.81 days	16.77 days
Arousal episodes	11	9.5
Duration per episode	21.2 hours	14.2 hours

When hibernating, Alaska marmots and Arctic ground squirrels enter a state called torpor, which minimizes the energy their bodies need to function. Often a hibernating animal will temporarily come out of torpor (called an arousal episode) and its metabolic rate will rise, burning more of the precious energy the animal needs to survive the winter. Alaska marmots hibernate in groups and therefore burn less energy keeping warm during these episodes than they would if they were alone. A researcher hypothesized that because Arctic ground squirrels hibernate alone, they would likely exhibit longer bouts of torpor and shorter arousal episodes than Alaska marmots.

Which choice best describes data from the table that support the researcher's hypothesis?

A) The Alaska marmots' arousal episodes lasted for days, while the Arctic ground squirrels' arousal episodes lasted less than a day.

B) The Alaska marmots and the Arctic ground squirrels both maintained torpor for several consecutive days per bout, on average.

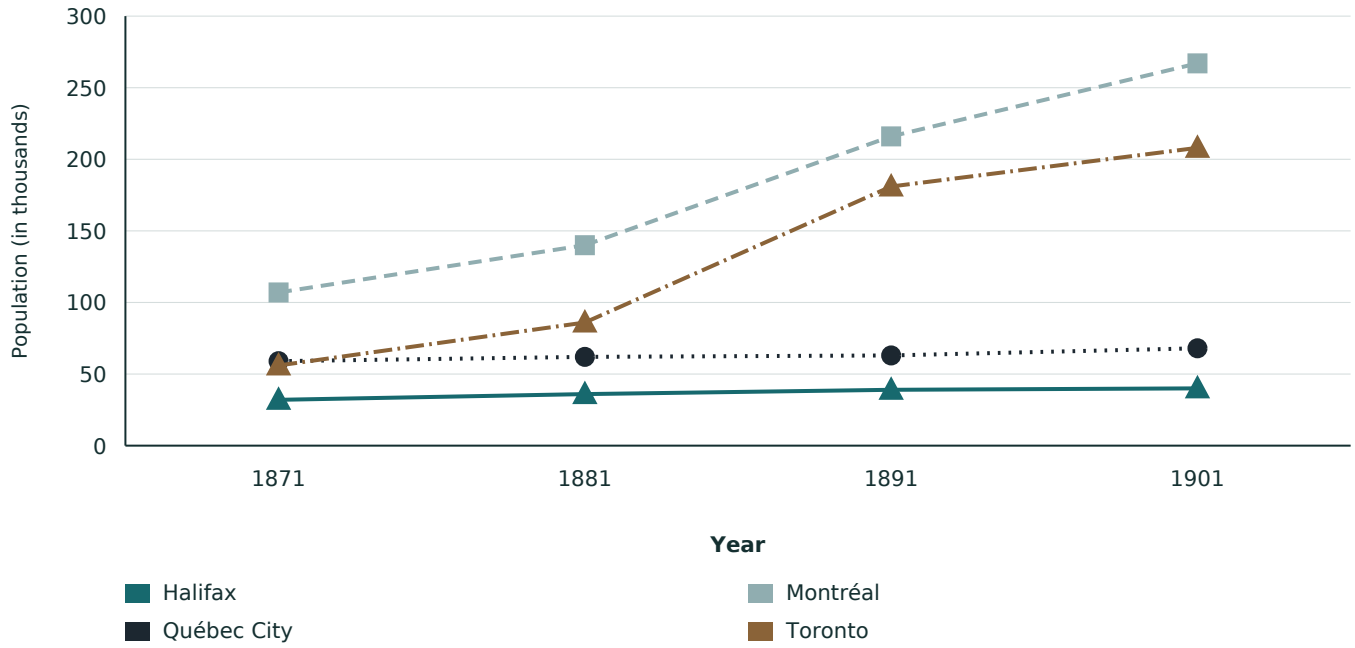
C) The Alaska marmots had shorter torpor bouts and longer arousal episodes than the Arctic ground squirrels did.

D) The Alaska marmots had more torpor bouts than arousal episodes, but their arousal episodes were much shorter than their torpor bouts.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D08-02

Census Data for Four Canadian Cities, 1871–1901



The first national census in Canada was conducted in 1871. The graph shows the population sizes of some of the largest Canadian cities from each of the first four national censuses, which occurred every ten years.

According to the graph, which city had the largest population in 1891?

A) Toronto

B) Montréal

C) Québec City

D) Halifax

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D08-03

Examples of Hoards Found in Ireland and Northern Ireland

Hoard name	Date of contents	Year of discovery	Description
Coggalbeg Hoard	24th–19th century BCE	1945	Gold pieces
Balline Hoard	4th century CE	1940	Silver pieces
Ardagh Hoard	10th century CE	1868	Silver and bronze pieces

An anthropologist is recording the metal contents of various historical deposits of valuables, called hoards, found in Ireland and Northern Ireland. She notes that the hoards differed in their contents; for example, _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement?

A) the Balline Hoard and the Ardagh Hoard each contained bronze.

B) the Coggalbeg Hoard was the only hoard that contained just gold.

C) the Coggalbeg Hoard contained no gold or silver.

D) the Ardagh Hoard was the only hoard that contained silver.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D08-04

Depths at Which Four Deep-Sea Fish Species Live

Species	Depth below the ocean surface
Footballfish	200–1,000 meters
Southern stoplight loosejaw	500–2,000 meters
Black seadevil	250–2,000 meters
Bollons’ rattail	300–800 meters

Some oceanic fish species live very deep underwater. Researchers collected data about the depths at which various species live.

Based on the information in the table, at what depth does the southern stoplight loosejaw live?

A) More than 2,000 meters below the surface

B) 150 to 400 meters below the surface

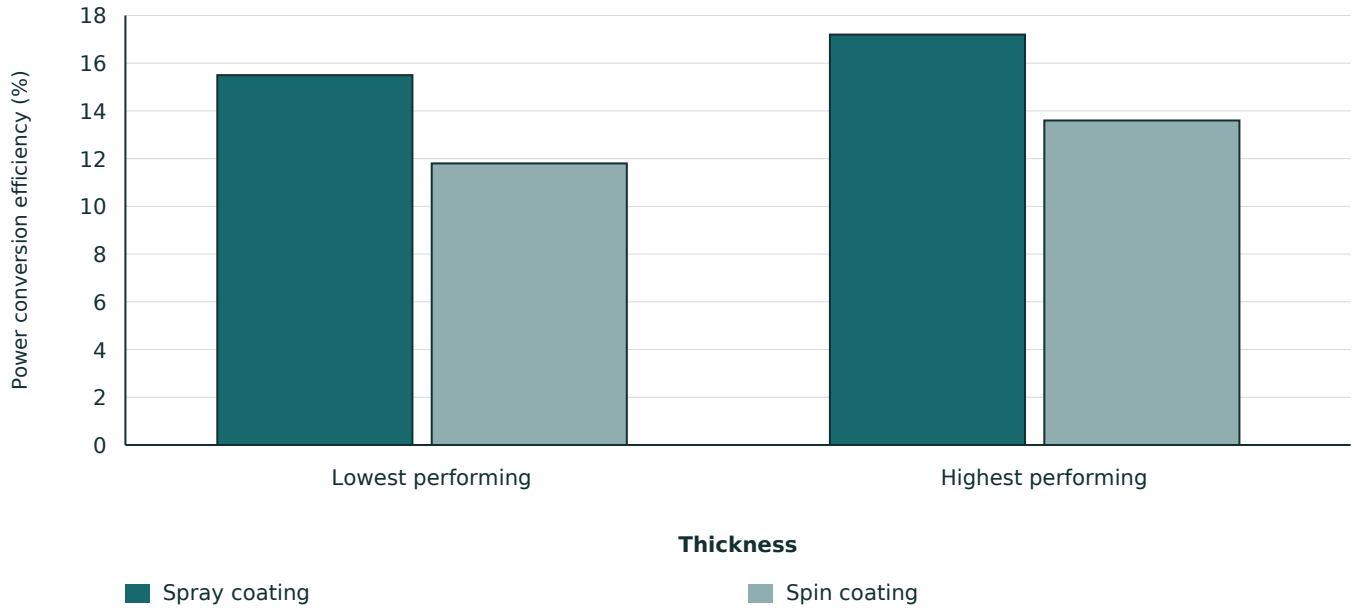
C) 500 to 2,000 meters below the surface

D) 250 to 500 meters below the surface

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D08-05

Power Conversion Efficiency of Lowest and Highest Performing Spin-coated and Spray-coated Electron Transport Layers



Perovskite solar cells convert light into electricity more efficiently than earlier kinds of solar cells, and manufacturing advances have recently made them commercially attractive. One limitation of the cells, however, has to do with their electron transport layer (ETL), through which absorbed electrons must pass. Often the ETL is applied through a process called spin coating, but such ETLs are fairly inefficient at converting input power to output power. André Taylor and colleagues tested a novel spray coating method for applying the ETL. The team produced ETLs of various thicknesses and concluded that spray coating holds promise for improving the power conversion efficiency of ETLs in perovskite solar cells.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that support Taylor and colleagues' conclusion?

A) Both the ETL applied through spin coating and the ETL applied through spray coating showed a power conversion efficiency greater than 10% at their lowest performing thickness.

B) The lowest performing ETL applied through spray coating had a higher power conversion efficiency than the highest performing ETL applied through spin coating.

C) The highest performing ETL applied through spray coating showed a power conversion efficiency of approximately 13%, while the highest performing ETL applied through spin coating showed a power conversion efficiency of approximately 11%.

D) There was a substantial difference in power conversion efficiency between the lowest and highest performing ETLs applied through spray coating.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D08-06

Objects Found in Three Ancient Deposits

Deposit	Date of objects	Discovery	Contents
Hillmere	18th–16th century BCE	1948	Gold ornaments
Eastbank	5th century CE	1936	Silver objects
Seabrook	9th century CE	1872	Silver and bronze objects

An archaeologist is recording the metal objects found in several ancient deposits. She notes that the deposits differed in their contents; for example, _____

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement?

A) the Hillmere Deposit was the only deposit that contained gold alone.

B) the Eastbank Deposit and the Seabrook Deposit each contained bronze.

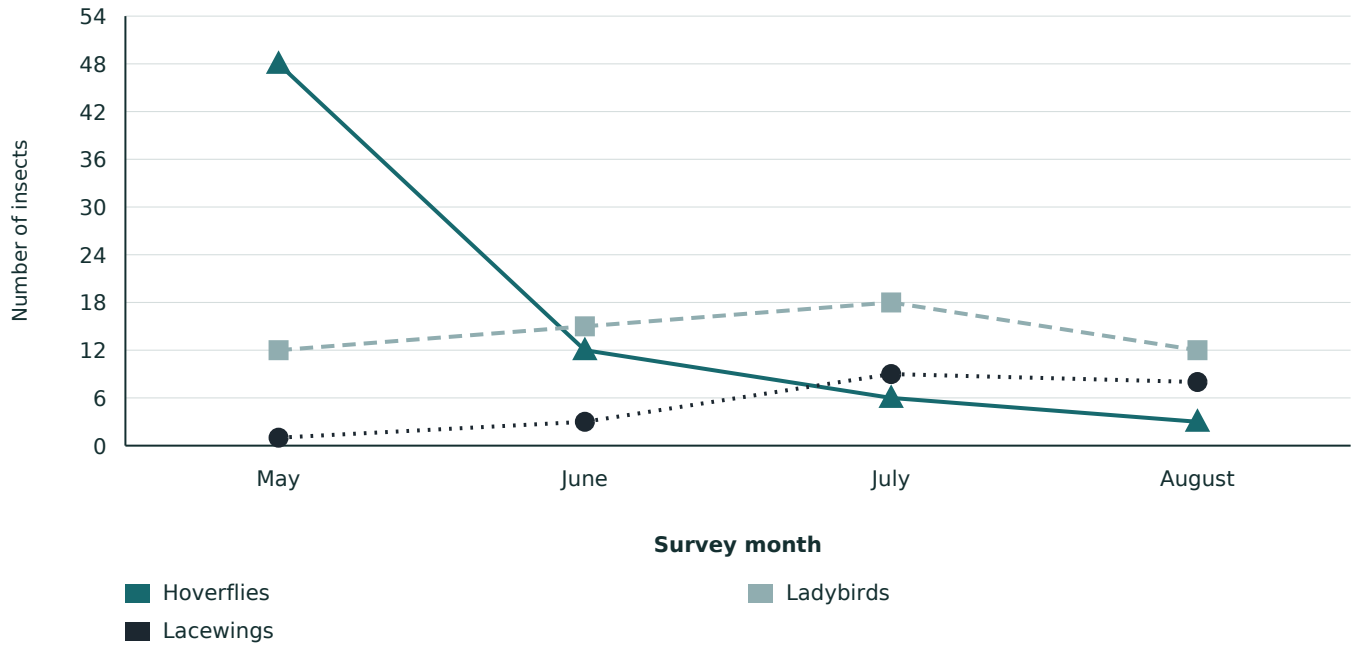
C) the Hillmere Deposit contained neither gold nor silver.

D) the Seabrook Deposit was the only deposit that contained silver.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D08-07

Insect Counts at a Garden



Researchers counted three types of insects at a garden on four survey dates. Some types reached much larger peak counts than others. For example, the highest hoverfly count was 48 in May, whereas the highest lacewing count was _____.

Which choice most effectively uses data from the graph to complete the example?

A) 18 in July

B) 48 in May

C) 9 in July

D) 8 in August

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D08-08

Average Workshop Prices, 2018–2021

Workshop	2018	2019	2020	2021
Bookbinding	$38.00	$32.40	$30.90	$31.50
Ceramics	$84.00	$72.50	$91.20	$68.00
Drawing	$28.50	$31.80	$33.10	$35.20
Weaving	$110.00	$123.00	$119.00	$94.00

An assistant at a community arts center is comparing the average prices of four kinds of workshop offered in 2021. Consulting the table, the assistant determines that the workshops with the lowest average price that year were _____.

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement?

A) drawing workshops.

B) weaving workshops.

C) ceramics workshops.

D) bookbinding workshops.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D08-09

Recorded Elevation Ranges of Four Wildflowers

Species	Elevation above sea level (meters)
Silver stitchwort	600–1,900
Copper bellflower	900–2,300
Ridge gentian	1,400–2,500
Meadow star	350–1,200

A botanical survey recorded the elevation ranges in which four wildflower species occurred in the Merin Highlands.

Based on the table, what was the recorded elevation range for copper bellflower?

A) 1,400 to 2,500 meters above sea level

B) 600 to 1,900 meters above sea level

C) 900 to 2,300 meters above sea level

D) Above 2,500 meters above sea level

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D08-10

Particle Removal by Filter Coating

Coating thickness (micrometers)	Continuous method (%)	Pulsed method (%)
20	72	84
40	77	88
60	81	91
80	79	89

Porous filters can remove fine particles from water, but the coating used to bind those particles may also block the filter's pores. Researchers ordinarily apply the coating in one continuous flow. Engineer Nara Pell and colleagues instead tested a pulsed method that applies the material in short bursts. The team prepared filters with coatings of several thicknesses using each method and measured the percentage of particles removed under otherwise identical conditions. Based on the results, the researchers concluded that the pulsed method shows promise for improving particle removal across the tested range of coating thicknesses.

Which choice best describes data from the table that support the researchers' conclusion?

A) Both methods achieved removal rates greater than 70 percent at their best-performing coating thickness.

B) The lowest removal rate for the pulsed method exceeded the highest removal rate for the continuous method.

C) The best-performing pulsed coating removed approximately 91 percent of particles, whereas the best-performing continuous coating removed approximately 85 percent.

D) The pulsed method showed a substantial decline in removal rate with every increase in coating thickness.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 08 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

071 **Eccentric** | unusually different in behavior or style
The inventor was known for eccentric habits.

072 **Efficacy** | ability to produce the intended result
The trial tested the treatment's efficacy.

073 **Elucidate** | make clear
The diagram elucidates the machine's operation.

074 **Empirical** | based on observation or experiment
The claim needs empirical evidence rather than speculation.

075 **Encapsulate** | express the main points briefly
The final sentence encapsulates the argument.

076 **Endorse** | publicly support
The association endorsed the conservation plan.

077 **Enhance** | improve or increase
Better lighting enhanced the photographs' detail.

078 **Entail** | involve as a necessary part
Restoring the building will entail replacing its roof.

079 **Enumerate** | list one by one
The report enumerates the project's major costs.

080 **Equitable** | fair
The committee sought an equitable way to divide the funds.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 09

If True

Test the reasoning

If True asks which new finding would strengthen, weaken, or test a specific claim.

Your method

1. Underline the exact claim and its proposed mechanism.
2. Predict what evidence would move that claim up or down.
3. Compare the choices by how directly they address that mechanism.

Traps to recognize

- A true-sounding fact may be irrelevant.
- A different species, period, or outcome may not test this claim.
- An alternative explanation can weaken a claim without proving it false.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write Claim → Evidence → Why this strengthens or weakens it.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 09 PRACTICE

01 / D09-01

When digging for clams, their primary food, sea otters damage the roots of eelgrass plants growing on the seafloor. Near Vancouver Island in Canada, the otter population is large and well established, yet the eelgrass meadows are healthier than those found elsewhere off Canada's coast. To explain this, conservation scientist Erin Foster and colleagues compared the Vancouver Island meadows to meadows where otters are absent or were reintroduced only recently. Finding that the Vancouver Island meadows have a more diverse gene pool than the others do, Foster hypothesized that damage to eelgrass roots increases the plant's rate of sexual reproduction; this, in turn, boosts genetic diversity, which benefits the meadows' health overall.

Which finding, if true, would most directly undermine Foster's hypothesis?

A) At some sites in the study, eelgrass meadows are found near otter populations that are small and have only recently been reintroduced.

B) At several sites not included in the study, there are large, well-established sea otter populations but no eelgrass meadows.

C) At several sites not included in the study, eelgrass meadows' health correlates negatively with the length of residence and size of otter populations.

D) At some sites in the study, the health of plants unrelated to eelgrass correlates negatively with the length of residence and size of otter populations.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D09-02

Olms are salamanders that live in underwater caves. Scientists once thought that olms stay in their caves all their lives. However, Raoul Manenti and team claim that olms regularly come to the surface to perform important activities such as finding food.

Which finding, if true, would most strongly support the underlined claim?

A) Researchers determine that olms don't breed often.

B) Researchers confirm that olms live in only a few cave systems.

C) Researchers discover that earthworms from surface soils are a major part of olms' diet.

D) Researchers learn that olms' brains differ from other salamanders' brains.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D09-03

In the mountains of Brazil, Barbacenia tomentosa and Barbacenia macrantha—two plants in the Velloziaceae family—establish themselves on soilless, nutrient-poor patches of quartzite rock. Plant ecologists Anna Abrahão and Patricia de Britto Costa used microscopic analysis to determine that the roots of B. tomentosa and B. macrantha, which grow directly into the quartzite, have clusters of fine hairs near the root tip; further analysis indicated that these hairs secrete both malic and citric acids. The researchers hypothesize that the plants depend on dissolving underlying rock with these acids, as the process not only creates channels for continued growth but also releases phosphates that provide the vital nutrient phosphorus.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

A) Other species in the Velloziaceae family are found in terrains with more soil but have root structures similar to those of B. tomentosa and B. macrantha.

B) Though B. tomentosa and B. macrantha both secrete citric and malic acids, each species produces the acids in different proportions.

C) The roots of B. tomentosa and B. macrantha carve new entry points into rocks even when cracks in the surface are readily available.

D) B. tomentosa and B. macrantha thrive even when transferred to the surfaces of rocks that do not contain phosphates.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D09-04

Researchers hypothesized that a decline in the population of dusky sharks near the mid-Atlantic coast of North America led to a decline in the population of eastern oysters in the region. Dusky sharks do not typically consume eastern oysters but do consume cownose rays, which are the main predators of the oysters.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the researchers' hypothesis?

A) Declines in the regional abundance of dusky sharks' prey other than cownose rays are associated with regional declines in dusky shark abundance.

B) Eastern oyster abundance tends to be greater in areas with both dusky sharks and cownose rays than in areas with only dusky sharks.

C) Consumption of eastern oysters by cownose rays in the region substantially increased before the regional decline in dusky shark abundance began.

D) Cownose rays have increased in regional abundance as dusky sharks have decreased in regional abundance.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D09-05

The linguistic niche hypothesis (LNH) posits that the exotericity of languages (how prevalent non-native speakers are) and grammatical complexity are inversely related, which the LNH ascribes to attrition of complex grammatical rules as more non-native speakers adopt the language but fail to acquire those rules. Focusing on two characteristics that are positive indices of grammatical complexity, fusion (when new phonemes arise from the merger of previously distinct ones) and informativity (languages' capacity for meaningful variation), Olena Shcherbakova and colleagues conducted a quantitative analysis for more than 1,300 languages and claim the outcome is inconsistent with the LNH.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Shcherbakova and colleagues' claim?

A) Shcherbakova and colleagues' analysis showed a slightly negative correlation between grammatical complexity and fusion and between grammatical complexity and informativity.

B) Shcherbakova and colleagues' analysis showed a slightly negative correlation between grammatical complexity and exotericity.

C) Shcherbakova and colleagues' analysis showed a slightly positive correlation between grammatical complexity and fusion.

D) Shcherbakova and colleagues' analysis showed a slightly positive correlation between fusion and exotericity and between informativity and exotericity.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D09-06

The coastal city of Selwick has built seawalls along 68 percent of its shoreline to protect roads and buildings from storm damage. To investigate how seawalls and inland development affect shorebird communities, Anika Dorr and colleagues surveyed fifty-eight bird species at several estuary sites. They assigned each community a Shorebird Integrity Score, with lower scores indicating poorer community condition. The researchers concluded that shoreline barriers harm these communities more than inland development for housing or farming does.

Which finding, if true, would most directly challenge the researchers' conclusion?

A) At North Marsh, where shoreline barriers were extensive and inland development was limited, bird communities scored lower than at Reed Cove, where barriers were limited and inland development was extensive.

B) Two sites with extensive barriers and extensive inland development had similar scores, whereas two sites with little of either had different scores.

C) At Stone Reach, where shoreline barriers were extensive and inland development was limited, bird communities scored higher than at Willow Bay, where barriers were limited and inland development was extensive.

D) A site with extensive barriers and extensive inland development scored lower than a site with little of either.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D09-07

Archaeologist Neri Vale and colleagues examined weaving tools and cloth fragments excavated from the ancient settlement of Tamor, which flourished for several centuries along the eastern edge of a large inland lake. They found fibers from a plant then grown only in the distant Ordan valleys, separated from Tamor by more than a thousand kilometers of mountain routes and river crossings. The tools also resembled looms used widely in Ordan during the same period, particularly in settlements associated with the cultivation of that plant. Because both the material and the technique had Ordan connections, the team concluded that commercial exchange, either direct or through intermediaries, must have linked the two regions. The fragments and tools were recovered from domestic rooms in several parts of the settlement, rather than from a single workshop.

Which finding, if true, would most directly weaken the team's conclusion?

A) Merchants in Tamor and Ordan both exchanged goods with a third region during the period in question.

B) Families from Ordan settled in Tamor during the period represented by the excavated remains.

C) Other objects made in Ordan have been found at settlements near Tamor.

D) Some Tamor cloth also contained fibers from plants grown in a different distant region.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D09-08

The fungus Luminella cava grows inside fallen branches whose outer wood contains little available nitrogen. Its filaments release enzymes that break down nitrogen-bearing compounds in the wood, simultaneously producing small tunnels and freeing soluble nitrogen. One explanation is that the enzymes serve only to clear a route through the branch, with any nitrogen release being incidental. Researcher Talia Nor instead proposes that accessing bound nitrogen is an essential function of the breakdown process, not merely a by-product of making space for the filaments.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support Nor's proposal?

A) Closely related fungi can inhabit wood that has already been broken down by other organisms.

B) The fungus produces tunnels of slightly different widths in branches from different tree species.

C) The fungus grows equally well in nitrogen-free artificial branches without any external nitrogen supply.

D) When open channels are already present, the fungus breaks down nitrogen-bearing wood but largely leaves nearby wood lacking bound nitrogen intact.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D09-09

When Mira Dalen became director of the Bellhaven Orchestra in 1996, most works on its programs had been written more than a century earlier. A music historian argues that one of Dalen’s aims during her twelve years as director was to increase the presence of living composers in the orchestra’s performances.

Which finding, if true, would most strongly support the historian’s claim?

A) The share of works by living composers on the orchestra’s annual programs rose during Dalen’s first four years and remained higher for the rest of her directorship.

B) Recordings Dalen made after leaving Bellhaven sold more copies than her earlier recordings.

C) In interviews after Dalen retired, many musicians praised the precision of her conducting.

D) Pieces written in earlier centuries received longer program notes during Dalen’s directorship.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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10 / D09-10

When curator Iman Rell became director of the Maren Gallery in 2004, most works displayed there were paintings produced before 1900. An art historian argues that one of Rell's aims during her ten-year directorship was to give contemporary sculpture a greater presence in the gallery's exhibitions.

Which finding, if true, would most strongly support the historian's claim?

A) Rell's essays published after she left the gallery received favorable reviews.

B) The proportion of contemporary sculptures in the gallery's exhibitions rose early in Rell's directorship and remained higher throughout it.

C) Visitors during Rell's directorship often praised the lighting of nineteenth-century paintings.

D) The gallery increased the length of its labels for older paintings.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 09 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

081 **Erratic** | irregular and unpredictable
The sensor produced erratic readings.

082 **Evince** | show clearly
Her careful revisions evince a strong commitment to accuracy.

083 **Exaggerate** | make seem greater than it is
The advertisement exaggerates the product's benefits.

084 **Exorbitant** | unreasonably high
The exorbitant fee discouraged visitors.

085 **Explicit** | stated clearly and directly
The instructions give explicit limits on word count.

086 **Expound** | explain in detail
The lecturer expounded her theory using several examples.

087 **Extraneous** | not relevant or needed
The editor removed extraneous details.

088 **Fabricate** | invent falsely
The witness fabricated a story about the missing keys.

089 **Facilitate** | make easier
Clear signs facilitate movement through the station.

090 **Fluctuate** | rise and fall irregularly
Water levels fluctuate throughout the year.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 10

Quote

Match every part of the claim

Quote asks you to select textual evidence that demonstrates a stated interpretation.

Your method

1. Break the claim into its essential parts.
2. Find a quotation showing all of those parts through words or actions.
3. Check that you are proving the claim, not merely mentioning the same character.

Traps to recognize

- Home-related imagery does not necessarily show responsibility at home.
- A statement of confidence alone does not show confidence contradicted by fear.
- Do not prefer dramatic language over relevant evidence.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Label the exact words in the quotation that match each part of the claim.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 10 PRACTICE

01 / D10-01

O Pioneers! is a 1913 novel by Willa Cather. In the novel, Cather portrays Alexandra Bergson as having a deep emotional connection to her natural surroundings: _____

Which quotation from O Pioneers! most effectively illustrates the claim?

A) “She had never known before how much the country meant to her. The chirping of the insects down in the long grass had been like the sweetest music. She had felt as if her heart were hiding down there, somewhere, with the quail and the plover and all the little wild things that crooned or buzzed in the sun. Under the long shaggy ridges, she felt the future stirring.”

B) “Alexandra talked to the men about their crops and to the women about their poultry. She spent a whole day with one young farmer who had been away at school, and who was experimenting with a new kind of clover hay. She learned a great deal.”

C) “Alexandra drove off alone. The rattle of her wagon was lost in the howling of the wind, but her lantern, held firmly between her feet, made a moving point of light along the highway, going deeper and deeper into the dark country.”

D) “It was Alexandra who read the papers and followed the markets, and who learned by the mistakes of their neighbors. It was Alexandra who could always tell about what it had cost to fatten each steer, and who could guess the weight of a hog before it went on the scales closer than John Bergson [her father] himself.”

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D10-02

Poems is an 1895 collection of poetry by Frances E.W. Harper. In one of Harper’s poems, the speaker declares her intention to create art that has a universal appeal across generations, saying...

Which quotation from Poems most effectively illustrates the claim?

A) ”A battle greater, grander far / Is for the present age; / A crusade for the rights of man / To brighten history’s page.” (from ”The Present Age”)

B) ”God help our native land, / Bring surcease to her strife, / And shower from thy hand / A more abundant life.” (from ”God Bless Our Native Land”)

C) ”Let me make the songs for the people, / Songs for the old and young; / Songs to stir like a battle-cry / Wherever they are sung.” (from ”Songs for the People”)

D) ”Our world, so worn and weary, / Needs music, pure and strong, / To hush the jangle and discords / Of sorrow, pain, and wrong.” (from ”Songs for the People”)

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D10-03

Memoirs of Elleanor Eldridge is an 1838 historical account by Elleanor Eldr dge and Frances Harriet Whipple Green. In the book, the authors caution against inquiring into the private life of the book's subject beyond what is presented in the text, writing, ____

Which quotation from Memoirs of Elleanor Eldridge most effectively illustrates the claim?

A) "Let us, dear reader, remember the punishment of idle curiosity, as taught in the true and affecting history named'Blue Beard;' and, striving to be content with the facts in the case, seek not to lift the veil, which the sensibility of true love, and feminine delicacy, have alike conspired to draw."

B) "Having thus so comfortably established ourselves, with no evil-minded eaves-dropper to make us afraid, bend now, dear reader, thy most earnest and delicately adjusted ear; for I am going to tell thee a secret."

C) "To give some idea of the high esteem in which the subject of the following narrative is held, and the strong interest her misfortunes have excited, a few, from the great number of recommendations in her possession, are selected."

D) "Blessed are the slumbers of the innocent! They are kindlier than balm, and they refresh and gladden the spirit of childhood, like ministerings from a better world."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D10-04

Life Among the Paiutes is an 1882 autobiographical narrative by Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins. In the work, Winnemucca creates suspense by emphasizing her physical response to an event, writing...

Which quotation from Life Among the Paiutes most effectively illustrates the claim?

A) ”Nothing happened during the day, and after awhile mother told us not to say a word about why we left, for grandpa might get mad with us.”

B) ”Oh, how my heart jumped when I heard a noise close by. It was a man. He came creeping close to the ground. It came close to us and stopped. Oh, how my heart beat! I thought whoever it was would hear my heart beat.”

C) ”Late in that fall, there came news that my grandfather was on his way home. Then my father took a great many of his men and went to meet his father, and there came back a runner, saying, that all our people must come together.”

D) ”So ended our feast, and every family went to its own home in the pine-nut mountains, and remained there till the pine-nuts were ripe. They ripen about the last of June.”

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D10-05

Founded in 1965 and originally established as a cultural extension of the United Farm Workers—a union representing many Mexican American agricultural workers at the time—the theater troupe El Teatro Campesino has achieved recognition as a source of inspiration for subsequent Chicano theater companies and as a contributor to the dramatic arts. In an article about the company, a theater historian posits that a significant stylistic influence on El Teatro's early performances was the audience-mediated slapstick comedy of carpa theater, vaudeville-style shows popular in Mexico and the US Southwest in the 1920s and '30s.

Which quotation from the article would best illustrate the theater historian's claim?

A) "The company presented actos, short comedy sketches, that often relied on exaggerated physical humor to groups of agricultural workers, whose reactions—enthusiastic cheers of appreciation and, occasionally, loud boos of disapproval—promoted improvisation."

B) "The company was focused on the reality of the present situation and discovered that humor was often found in that reality; consequently, comedy became a tool to convey social critique while entertaining and inspiring audiences."

C) "The company relied heavily on satire, humor, and references to contemporary popular culture as well as a make-do aesthetic—often referred to as rasquache—that reflected not only the troupe's limited financial resources but also its sociopolitical message."

D) "The members of the company, which in addition to founder Luis Valdez consisted entirely of nonprofessional actors, traveled into farm fields, where they, with minimal props and costumes, performed comedy in the form of brief humorous vignettes."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D10-06

In the original biographical essay Lives Behind the Portraits, the narrator suggests that accounts of celebrated people are often less forthright than they appear, writing, _____

Which quotation from Lives Behind the Portraits most effectively illustrates the claim?

A) "Neither a lofty station nor an illustrious name should be thought indispensable to a life that deserves the patient attention of a biographer."

B) "A writer ought to test even the humblest recollection, and to assure himself that what he has long supposed to be true can withstand examination before he asks a reader to accept it."

C) "There is a golden curtain which the chronicler is apt to hang before a celebrated face, delighting the reader with its splendor until neither the eye can discern the blemishes behind it nor the mind distinguish the person from the flattering portrait."

D) "The quiet hours of childhood return most vividly when the house has finally fallen asleep."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D10-07

In an original short story, the narrator describes a furniture maker named Tomas as combining exceptional physical strength with careful delicacy.

Which quotation from the story most effectively illustrates this characterization?

A) "Tomas raised the iron vise that two apprentices had struggled to move, carried it across the workshop, and lowered it beside the door with a thud."

B) "Tomas steadied the cracked porcelain cup with his fingertips, turning it a fraction at a time while he traced the faint line beneath its painted rim."

C) "Tomas studied the grain of the oak chest, selected a matching plank from the stack, and explained to his apprentice how the new panel should be cut."

D) "Tomas lifted the heavy oak chest without assistance, then set a cracked porcelain cup on its lid as softly as a leaf settling on water."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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08 / D10-08

In the original fantasy story The Clockmaker's Attic, a fox named Fen helps two young apprentices care for a workshop. The narrator sometimes depicts Fen as preparing for the apprentices' future needs in a humanlike way: _____.

Which quotation from the story best illustrates the claim?

A) "Both apprentices preferred the workbench nearest the window, where the afternoon light was strongest."

B) "The clockmaker kept a small brass key on the ribbon around his neck."

C) "Fen's sleeping mat lay between the staircase and the cabinet of spare gears."

D) "Knowing that the apprentices would return after sunset, Fen filled their lantern and placed it beside the outer gate before they left."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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09 / D10-09

Letters from the Harbor is an original short story in which Mina travels to a distant city for an exhibition. In her letters, Mina shows that she remains concerned about responsibilities at her home while she is away.

Which quotation from her letters most effectively illustrates this claim?

A) "Our host has asked me to bring the orange cake I used to bake for our autumn gatherings."

B) "Please check the roof over the pantry before the rain arrives, and remind Sami to bring his seedlings inside at night."

C) "Tomorrow we will visit the old harbor, where an entire warehouse has been filled with woven banners."

D) "Everyone here has found a new way to make my visit pleasant, and I have hardly had an hour to myself."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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10 / D10-10

Letters from the Valley is an original fictional story in which Sora travels to another town to study pottery. Her letters show that she remains attentive to obligations at home despite her absence.

Which quotation from Sora's letters most effectively illustrates this claim?

A) “Please ask Leen to collect the medicine on Thursday, and check that the shutters are fastened before the evening winds.”

B) “The clay here turns a warmer red in the kiln than any I have used before.”

C) “Our instructor has asked me to describe the bowls my grandmother kept on her kitchen shelf.”

D) “Tomorrow we will visit a workshop famous for its painted tiles.”

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 10 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

091 **Forestall** | prevent by acting early
The town repaired the wall to forestall further damage.

092 **Forsake** | abandon or give up
She refused to forsake the project after the first setback.

093 **Gratification** | pleasure or satisfaction
Finishing the difficult task brought considerable gratification.

094 **Hamper** | make progress difficult
Poor visibility hampered the search.

095 **Harbinger** | a sign of what may come
The first blossoms are a harbinger of spring.

096 **Homogeneous** | made of similar parts
The sample was too homogeneous to represent the whole population.

097 **Iconoclast** | someone who challenges accepted beliefs
The critic was an iconoclast who questioned the artistic rules of her time.

098 **Illusory** | seeming real but not real
The apparent depth in the painting is illusory.

099 **Imminent** | about to happen
Dark clouds suggested that rain was imminent.

100 **Impartial** | fair and not favoring a side
An impartial reviewer assessed both proposals.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 11

Paragraph Completion

Finish the logic, not the topic

Paragraph Completion asks for the conclusion most securely supported by the reasoning.

Your method

1. Identify the question, contrast, or result immediately before the blank.

2. Predict a limited conclusion in your own words.

3. Reject added causes, comparisons, guarantees, and recommendations the evidence cannot support.

Traps to recognize

• A related next experiment may miss the stated goal.

• Association does not automatically prove causation.

• Preserve cautious language and the direction of the relationship.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Citation is The Judge!

TODAY’S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write the evidence chain and explain why the nearest distractor goes too far.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today’s vocabulary.

DAY 11 PRACTICE

01 / D11-01

Among social animals that care for their young, such as chickens, macaque monkeys, and humans, newborns appear to show an innate attraction to faces and face-like stimuli. Elisabetta Versace and her colleagues used an image of three black dots arranged in the shape of eyes and a nose or mouth to test whether this trait also occurs in Testudo tortoises, which live alone and do not engage in parental care. They found that tortoise hatchlings showed a significant preference for the image, suggesting that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) face-like stimuli are likely perceived as harmless by newborns of social species that practice parental care but as threatening by newborns of solitary species without parental care.

B) researchers should not assume that an innate attraction to face-like stimuli is necessarily an adaptation related to social interaction or parental care.

C) researchers can assume that the attraction to face-like stimuli that is seen in social species that practice parental care is learned rather than innate.

D) newly hatched Testudo tortoises show a stronger preference for face-like stimuli than adult Testudo tortoises do.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D11-02

Like many other genera of wild bees, bumblebees have in recent decades experienced population collapse caused by, among other factors, habitat destruction and climate variation. Bumblebees are also one of the most researched bee genera, second only to honeybees. As a result, ecologists have gained much of their insight about wild-bee declines from bumblebees. In a 2021 paper, zoologist Guillaume Ghisbain notes that bumblebees are among the relatively few wild-bee genera that display social behaviors and dietary generalism (ability to obtain nectar and pollen from a diversity of plant species), two traits that are associated with increased resilience to some specific environmental changes. Ghisbain therefore contends that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) although bumblebees and many other wild bees have experienced similar population declines in the past, compared with other wild bees, bumblebees are likely at greater risk of being harmed by climate variation than by habitat destruction.

B) although bumblebees have been more extensively studied than most wild bees, researchers should not use bumblebees to draw conclusions about the decline of other wild bees, even ones with feeding patterns and levels of sociability that are similar to those of bumblebees.

C) because bumblebees and other bees with generalist diets are less negatively affected by environmental stress than bees with specialized diets are, they are less likely to experience major population changes in the future than bees with specialized diets are.

D) because the responses of bumblebees and other wild bees to environmental threats are not always comparable, researchers need to exercise caution when extrapolating information about wild-bee population declines from bumblebees.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D11-03

Mariana Lopes Barata and Pedro Simões Coelho collected data from 324 music-streaming service users to identify factors that influence users to opt for paid (premium) versions of music streaming services, like Apple Music. They found that performance expectancy (how much the use of a service is perceived to benefit the consumer) is positively correlated with users' intentions to adopt premium versions. They also found that users' intentions to purchase a premium service positively influence their intentions to recommend the premium service to others, which suggests that ___

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) by encouraging existing users of premium services to recommend those services to nonusers, music streaming companies may be able to increase the extent to which their existing users perceive the use of the premium version to be beneficial.

B) users' intentions to pay for premium streaming services are probably unaffected by factors other than performance expectancy.

C) if music streaming companies can increase the degree to which some potential users perceive the use of the premium version to be beneficial, they may be able to generate interest in their premium services from other potential users that they have not reached directly.

D) participants who strongly agreed with the statement "Overall, a paid music streaming service is advantageous" were more likely to express loyalty to Apple Music than to other streaming services.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D11-04

Birds of many species ingest foods containing carotenoids, pigmented molecules that are converted into feather coloration. Coloration tends to be especially saturated in male birds' feathers, and because carotenoids also confer health benefits, the deeply saturated colors generally serve to communicate what is known as an honest signal of a bird's overall fitness to potential mates. However, ornithologist Allison J. Shultz and others have found that males in several species of the tanager genus Ramphocelus use microstructures in their feathers to manipulate light, creating the appearance of deeper saturation without the birds necessarily having to maintain a carotenoid-rich diet. These findings suggest that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) individual male tanagers can engage in honest signaling without relying on carotenoid consumption.

B) feather microstructures may be less effective than deeply saturated feathers for signaling overall fitness.

C) scientists have yet to determine why tanagers have a preference for mates with colorful appearances.

D) a male tanager's appearance may function as a dishonest signal of the individual's overall fitness.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D11-05

Archaeologist Christiana Kohler and her team excavated the Egyptian tomb of Queen Merneith, the wife of a First Dynasty pharaoh. Some scholars claim that she also ruled Egypt on her own and was actually the first female pharaoh. The team found a tablet in Merneith's tomb with writing suggesting that she was in charge of the country's treasury and other central offices. Whether Merneith was a pharaoh or not, this discovery supports the idea that Merneith likely _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) had an important role in Egypt's government.

B) lived after rather than before the First Dynasty of Egypt.

C) traveled beyond Egypt's borders often.

D) created a new form of writing in Egypt.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D11-06

Researchers Nera Bell and Owen Farr surveyed 360 users of online language-learning platforms, including Lexora, to identify factors associated with choosing paid subscriptions. They found that perceived usefulness—how strongly users believed a paid service would help them learn—was positively associated with an intention to subscribe. They also found that users who intended to subscribe were more likely to intend to recommend the paid service to other people. These findings suggest that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) encouraging existing paid users to recommend the service may increase how useful those users perceive the service to be.

B) perceived usefulness is the only factor that can influence a user's decision to purchase a subscription.

C) participants who described paid lessons as advantageous were more likely to express loyalty to Lexora than to other platforms.

D) increasing some users' perception of a paid service's usefulness may help generate interest among people the provider has not contacted directly.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D11-07

Female seabirds choose nest sites ranging from exposed shelves to sheltered recesses, a preference that might reflect inheritance, local conditions, or experience at the parental colony. Researchers followed females that established nests after leaving their mothers' nesting areas. Daughters generally settled nearby, and their site preferences resembled their mothers' for the first two years, but the association was absent by year five. Unrelated females nesting on similar cliffs showed a modest resemblance in preferences. After accounting for habitat, resemblance to nonmaternal relatives, such as cousins, was no greater than resemblance to unrelated females. The findings suggest that _____.

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) early experience and local conditions may affect nest-site preferences temporarily, while inherited tendencies make a separate, measurable contribution

B) local nesting conditions explain the early mother-daughter resemblance more fully than experience at the parental colony does

C) experience at the parental colony may have an influence that diminishes over time, although local conditions remain a possible contributing factor

D) changes in the mothers' nesting habitats account for the fading mother-daughter resemblance, with early learning mainly influencing the mothers' later choices

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D11-08

Reviewers often describe Mira Delan's novel The Empty Conservatory as autobiographical. The description has a basis: its narrator shares Delan's childhood occupation and later journey across the sea. Yet several central characters have no known counterparts in Delan's life, and the novel's decisive meeting never occurred outside its pages. Readers who concentrate exclusively on matching each scene to an event in the author's biography may therefore _____.

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) deny that the novel contains any details drawn from Delan's life.

B) underestimate the imaginative work involved in creating the novel.

C) overestimate how widely the novel was read when it first appeared.

D) exaggerate the influence of earlier novelists on Delan's writing.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D11-09

Some treatments for crop-damaging molds interfere with several cellular processes at once, making their effects difficult to predict. In laboratory trials, researchers found that a compound called caldin stopped the growth of one mold by disabling a single protein, P7. Further analysis showed that the same functional form of P7 occurs in every mold species responsible for a particular group of crop diseases. Hoping to develop more precisely targeted treatments for those diseases, the researchers would therefore have a strong reason to _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) identify other proteins that caldin affects in the successfully treated mold.

B) measure how P7 production changes during mold growth.

C) compare P7 with related proteins in mold species outside this disease group.

D) search for additional compounds that can disable P7.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D11-10

Some treatments for bacterial contamination disrupt several cellular processes at once, making their effects difficult to control. In laboratory trials, researchers found that a compound called selvan stopped the growth of one contaminating bacterium by disabling a single enzyme, E4. Further analysis revealed the same functional form of E4 in every bacterial species responsible for a particular group of contamination problems. Hoping to develop treatments directed at this common vulnerability, the researchers would therefore have a strong reason to _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) measure changes in the color of untreated bacterial colonies.

B) seek additional compounds capable of disabling E4.

C) compare unrelated enzymes in species outside the affected group.

D) determine which other cellular processes selvan can disrupt.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 11 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

101 **Imperative** | extremely necessary
Accurate measurements are imperative for the experiment.

102 **Implausible** | hard to believe
The proposed explanation seemed implausible given the evidence.

103 **Impugn** | question the truth or honesty of
The new evidence impugns the accuracy of the account.

104 **Inane** | silly and without meaning
The discussion was interrupted by an inane comment.

105 **Inconclusive** | not providing a definite answer
The first test was inconclusive.

106 **Inconsequential** | not important
The tiny delay was inconsequential to the final result.

107 **Incredulity** | inability or unwillingness to believe
The surprising announcement was met with incredulity.

108 **Indifferent** | not interested or concerned
The audience seemed indifferent to the announcement.

109 **Indispensable** | absolutely necessary
Careful observation is indispensable to the investigation.

110 **Induce** | cause to happen
A change in temperature induced the chemical reaction.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 12

Punctuation

Find the sentence structure first

Punctuation choices depend on clause boundaries and the role of inserted material.

Your method

1. Find each subject and finite verb; decide which parts can stand alone.
2. Check whether information is essential, parenthetical, or part of a list.
3. Insert the choice and reread the entire completed sentence.

Traps to recognize

- Do not separate a subject from its verb or a preposition from its object.
- A semicolon joins independent clauses; a colon needs a complete clause before it.
- Close a parenthetical interruption with matching punctuation.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Sentence-boundary check

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Mark the independent clauses and state the rule that eliminates each wrong choice.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 12 PRACTICE

01 / D12-01

Sociologist Todd Gitlin co-opted the term “recombinant,” normally used in reference to genetic engineering, to describe serialized television shows of the 1980s. Gitlin’s use of the term referenced TV studios’ practice of repackaging successful narrative formulas as new _____ even shows that varied only slightly from other shows still attracted sizeable audiences.

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

A) content, in that era

B) content; in that era,

C) content in that era,

D) content, in that era,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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02 / D12-02

The part of a compound that determines the compound’s color is _____ the chromophore. One example of a chromophore is hemoglobin, which gives human blood its red color.

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

A) called,

B) called

C) called—

D) called;

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

03 / D12-03

The forty-seven geothermal springs of Arkansas’ Hot Springs National Park are sourced via a process known as natural groundwater recharge, in which rainwater percolates downward through the earth—in this case, the porous rocks of the hills around Hot _____ collect in a subterranean basin.

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

A) Springs to

B) Springs: to

C) Springs—to

D) Springs, to

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

04 / D12-04

English poet and Shakespeare contemporary John Donne’s _____ much admired during his lifetime (1572–1631) and in the decades that followed, had, at the time of their enthusiastic rediscovery by the early twentieth-century modernists, been essentially gathering dust for the intervening 250 years.

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

A) works were

B) works, were

C) works,

D) works had been

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

05 / D12-05

When external forces are applied to common glass made from silicates, energy builds up around minuscule defects in the material, resulting in fractures. Recently, engineer Erkka Frankberg of Tampere University in Finland used the chemical _____ to make a glassy solid that can withstand higher strain than silicate glass can before fracturing.

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

A) compound, aluminum oxide

B) compound aluminum oxide,

C) compound, aluminum oxide,

D) compound aluminum oxide

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D12-06

In the island province of Nerra, towns often have nicknames linked to features such as scenery, _____ or local industries. The town of Bellport, for example, is known as the "Harbor of Lanterns," a name associated with its long tradition of making decorative lights.

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

A) climate, celebrated residents,

B) climate celebrated residents,

C) climate; celebrated residents;

D) climate celebrated residents

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D12-07

An overreliance on measurements from easily accessible lowland sites was one of the limitations environmental statistician Nadi Vale and her colleagues _____ a collection of nearly four hundred reports on seasonal plant growth, which had been compiled by field teams working in several mountain regions.

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

A) identified. While reviewing

B) identified; while reviewing

C) identified while reviewing

D) identified, and while reviewing

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D12-08

How an apprenticeship begins depends partly on the workshop in which it _____ workshops in the Rivet district ask new trainees to observe experienced workers for a week. Those in the Loom district, by contrast, often begin with a supervised practical task.

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

A) takes place many

B) takes place. Many

C) takes place many,

D) takes place, many

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D12-09

After the town introduced an online renewal system in 2017, requests at the permit office fell by nearly forty _____ reductions proved temporary: as more residents learned about the permits available, the total number of requests began to rise again.

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

A) percent such

B) percent and such

C) percent, such

D) percent. Such

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

10 / D12-10

Some architects promote roof gardens as a recent innovation in urban design. Historical records complicate that _____ several nineteenth-century apartment buildings already had planted terraces accessible to residents.

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

A) claim,

B) claim

C) claim;

D) claim; because

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 12 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

111 **Inevitable** | certain to happen
Without repairs, further damage was inevitable.

112 **Inextricable** | impossible to separate
The histories of the port and the railway are inextricable.

113 **Infinitesimal** | extremely small
The instrument detects infinitesimal changes in mass.

114 **Inherent** | existing as a basic part
The method has an inherent limitation.

115 **Insolvency** | inability to pay debts
The company's insolvency forced it to close.

116 **Insurmountable** | too difficult to overcome
The missing bridge seemed an insurmountable obstacle.

117 **Integrate** | combine into a whole
The course integrates reading with discussion.

118 **Invoke** | refer to as support or authority
The lawyer invoked an earlier ruling to support her argument.

119 **Juxtapose** | place side by side for comparison
The exhibit juxtaposes old and new photographs.

120 **Meticulous** | extremely careful with details
Her meticulous notes recorded every change.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 13

Grammar

Find the real grammatical job

Grammar asks for agreement, verb form, tense, pronouns, possession, or modifier placement.

Your method

1. Identify the true subject or antecedent, ignoring nearby distractor nouns.
2. Determine whether a finite verb, infinitive, participle, or possessive is needed.
3. Check the whole sentence for time, parallel structure, and a logically attached modifier.

Traps to recognize

- A plural noun inside a phrase does not make the subject plural.
- After a shared modal, coordinated verbs use base forms.
- The noun after an introductory modifier must be what that modifier describes.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Subject and verb check

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write the sentence skeleton with the distracting phrase removed.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 13 PRACTICE

01 / D13-01

In the historical novel The Surrender Tree, Cuban American author Margarita Engle uses poetry rather than prose _____ the true story of Cuban folk hero Rosa La Bayamesa.

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

A) tells

B) told

C) is telling

D) to tell

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

02 / D13-02

Ganga is a folk singing tradition that originated in the Dinaric Alps in southern Europe. Ganga singers sing different melodies at the same time. The clashing notes can echo a long way across the mountains, which is why _____

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

A) ganga has been used as a communication method?

B) ganga has been used as a communication method.

C) has ganga been used as a communication method.

D) has ganga been used as a communication method?

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

03 / D13-03

In 1979, the suffragist Susan B. Anthony _____ the first woman featured on a US coin. Her image appeared on the $1 coin.

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

A) became

B) having become

C) becoming

D) to become

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

04 / D13-04

In order to prevent nonnative fish species from moving freely between the Mediterranean and Red Seas, marine biologist Bella Galil has proposed that a saline lock system be installed along the Suez Canal in Egypt's Great Bitter Lakes. The lock would increase the salinity of the lakes and _____ a natural barrier of water most marine creatures would be unable to cross.

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

A) creates

B) create

C) creating

D) created

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

05 / D13-05

Lucía Michel of the University of Chile observed that alkaline soils contain an insoluble form of iron that blueberry plants cannot absorb, thus inhibiting blueberry growth. If these plants were grown in alkaline soil alongside grasses that aid in iron solubilization, _____ Michel was determined to find out.

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

A) could the blueberries thrive.

B) the blueberries could thrive.

C) the blueberries could thrive?

D) could the blueberries thrive?

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D13-06

One example of an outdoor artwork accessible to everyone _____ the sculpture Turning Leaves. The piece stands in a public courtyard near Bellmere's central library.

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

A) is

B) being

C) are

D) were

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D13-07

At North Ridge Observatory, director Leena Mar favors devoting the next observing season to a small set of nearby stars. Jon Eran, who directs South Quay Observatory, instead advocates a wider survey of distant systems. A joint committee will evaluate the _____ competing proposals before deciding how to distribute observing time across the regional network.

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

A) observatory's director's

B) observatories' directors'

C) observatories' directors

D) observatory's directors'

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D13-08

During the early years of the city's expansion, there _____ several public gardens along the eastern canal.

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

A) are

B) was

C) having been

D) were

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D13-09

Engineers designing a flood-control gate propose adding a narrow side channel. The channel would divert excess water away from the main gate and _____ pressure on the gate's hinges during heavy storms.

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

A) reduces

B) reduce

C) reducing

D) reduced

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D13-10

Engineers developing a new railway bridge propose installing adjustable bearings. The bearings would permit small movements of the steel during large temperature changes and _____ stress on the supporting columns.

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

A) reduce

B) reduces

C) reducing

D) reduced

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 13 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

121 **Mitigate** | make less severe
The trees help mitigate the effects of strong winds.

122 **Multifarious** | many and varied
The archive preserves multifarious records of village life.

123 **Negligible** | too small to matter
The difference between the readings was negligible.

124 **Objective** | based on facts, not feelings
The team sought an objective measure of performance.

125 **Opaque** | hard to understand or see through
The report's opaque language confused nonspecialists.

126 **Parameters** | limits or conditions of a task
The researchers defined the parameters of the experiment.

127 **Perfunctory** | done with little care or interest
A perfunctory glance failed to reveal the error.

128 **Precarious** | unstable or at risk
The vase rested in a precarious position near the edge.

129 **Preclude** | prevent or rule out
Heavy cloud cover precluded observation of the stars.

130 **Proponent** | a supporter of an idea
She is a proponent of open access to research.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 14

Transitions

State the relationship

Transitions connect ideas. Choose the relationship before choosing the transition.

Your method

1. Summarize the ideas on both sides of the blank.
2. Name the link: contrast, addition, example, result, sequence, or qualification.
3. Read the completed passage to check direction and scope.

Traps to recognize

- A repeated topic does not guarantee agreement.
- An example can contradict a general tendency rather than illustrate it.
- Do not invent cause and effect when the second sentence merely adds detail.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

The Translation

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write the two ideas and name the relationship in one or two words.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 14 PRACTICE

01 / D14-01

Before California's 1911 election to approve a proposition granting women the right to vote, activists across the state sold tea to promote the cause of suffrage. In San Francisco, the Woman's Suffrage Party sold Equality Tea at local fairs. _____ in Los Angeles, activist Nancy Tuttle Craig, who ran one of California's largest grocery store firms, distributed Votes for Women Tea.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) For example,

B) To conclude,

C) Similarly,

D) In other words,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

02 / D14-02

The traditional process of Turkish paper marbling (ebru) generally proceeds like this: First, the artisan fills a shallow tray with a water bath solution. Next, the artisan adds inks or paints to the solution, which can then be manipulated into intricate designs. _____ the artisan slips paper in and out of the liquid, transferring the design onto the paper.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Actually,

B) Therefore,

C) Nevertheless,

D) Finally,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

03 / D14-03

In a 1993 study by Vales and Peek, the researchers used microhistological fecal analysis to determine the ratio of three plant subtypes (graminoids, forbs, and browse) within the diets of North American ungulates. The researchers did not perform this analysis on all such ungulates, _____ they focused exclusively on elk in Wyoming.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) for instance;

B) regardless;

C) however;

D) in other words;

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

04 / D14-04

From mountains to monuments, deserts to rainforests, and isolated islands to teeming cities, the sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List are chosen because they hold cultural or natural value that the organization wishes to preserve for future generations. _____in 2008, UNESCO recognized the importance of France's Lagoons of New Caledonia, making up one of the largest reef systems in the world, by adding them to the list as a natural heritage site.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) By contrast,

B) Next,

C) Accordingly,

D) In other words,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

05 / D14-05

Earth’s auroras—colorful displays of light seen above the northern and southern poles—result, broadly speaking, from the Sun’s activity. _____ the Sun releases charged particles that are captured by Earth’s magnetic field and channeled toward the poles. These particles then collide with atoms in the atmosphere, causing the atoms to emit auroral light.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Specifically,

B) Similarly,

C) Nevertheless,

D) Hence,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

06 / D14-06

Centuries ago, the rulers who commissioned the hilltop palace lost control of the valley. _____ the enormous stone gateways they built still stand. Two of the gateways are tall enough for a loaded wagon to pass beneath them.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Consequently,

B) Earlier,

C) Secondly,

D) Nevertheless,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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07 / D14-07

When the library's new annex opened, reviewers complained that its angular design clashed with the surrounding buildings. _____ after years of use, the annex became one of the neighborhood's most admired landmarks, and local artists began featuring its silhouette in their work.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Consequently,

B) For example,

C) Eventually,

D) Similarly,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

08 / D14-08

The studio's printing method builds a design from separate layers of color. First, the printer uses one block to stamp a pale background onto the sheet. _____ a second block adds the darker shapes that form the main image. Last, a third block supplies the fine outlines and small details.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Next,

B) First,

C) Instead,

D) In other words,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

09 / D14-09

A survey of erosion along the Fenna River became highly influential in local land-use planning. _____ its maps provided the basis for a rule requiring new buildings to stand at least forty meters from the riverbank.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Specifically,

B) Alternatively,

C) Despite this,

D) Earlier,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

10 / D14-10

A survey of nesting sites along the Ivara coast substantially influenced regional conservation policy. _____ its maps supplied the basis for a rule restricting nighttime lighting within two hundred meters of nesting beaches.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) Instead,

B) Specifically,

C) Nevertheless,

D) Previously,

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 14 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

131 **Quintessential** | perfectly typical of a kind
The building is a quintessential example of the style.

132 **Reciprocal** | given or felt by both sides
The agreement established reciprocal access to the two collections.

133 **Rectify** | correct
The team rectified the error before publication.

134 **Refute** | show to be false
The experiment refuted the claim that light was required.

135 **Renounce** | formally give up or reject
The writer renounced her earlier political views.

136 **Resilience** | ability to recover
The community showed resilience after the storm.

137 **Resolve** | settle or solve
The additional evidence resolved the disagreement.

138 **Salvage** | save something from loss or damage
Workers salvaged books from the flooded building.

139 **Simulation** | a model that imitates a real process
The simulation predicts how water moves through the channel.

140 **Spurious** | false or not genuine
The apparent connection was spurious, caused by a sampling error.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

DAY 15

Note

Let the goal choose the notes

Note questions ask you to use selected research notes for a precise writing purpose.

Your method

1. Read the student's goal first.
2. List its required parts: comparison, aim, finding, introduction, or overview.
3. Select an accurate answer that satisfies every required part.

Traps to recognize

- True information can serve the wrong goal.
- Aim, method, and result are different.
- Consider what the audience already knows and what must be introduced.

CLASSROOM CONNECTION

Goal-first check

TODAY'S ERROR-LOG PROMPT

Write a two-item checklist for the prompt and show how the answer meets it.

Next: complete the ten practice questions, then study today's vocabulary.

DAY 15 PRACTICE

01 / D15-01

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• Physicist Muluneh Abebe was working on a garment suited for both warm and cold conditions.
• He analyzed the emissivity, or ability to emit heat, of the materials he planned to use.
• Abebe found that reflective metal fibers emitted almost no heat and had an emissivity of 0.02.
• He found that silicon carbide fibers absorbed large amounts of heat and had an emissivity of 0.74.
• The amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount of heat it emits.

The student wants to contrast the emissivity of reflective metal fibers with that of silicon carbide fibers. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) The ability of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers to emit heat was determined by an analysis of each material's emissivity.

B) The amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount it emits, as evidenced in Abebe's analyses.

C) Though the reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers had different rates of emissivity, Abebe planned to use both in a garment.

D) Whereas the reflective metal fibers had an emissivity of just 0.02, the silicon carbide fibers absorbed large amounts of heat, resulting in an emissivity of 0.74.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / D15-02

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• Leaders of the Province of Guatemala proclaimed independence for Central America from the Spanish Empire on September 15, 1821.
• The accompanying Declaration of Independence was written by Honduran scholar and politician José Cecilio del Valle.
• The 1812 Spanish Constitution had provided some degree of independence for Central America, but it was repealed by the Spanish king in 1814.
• Valle, a loyal advisor to the Spanish Empire's administrators in Central America, had long opposed independence.
• He changed his mind after Colonel Rafael del Riego's 1820 revolt, which demanded the return of rights lost in 1814.

The student wants to place the 1821 Declaration of Independence in the context of Valle's changing political beliefs. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Colonel Riego's revolt was the inspiration that Valle, a long-standing opponent of Central American independence, needed to change his political beliefs.

B) Long an opponent of Central American independence, Valle changed his mind after an 1820 revolt and wrote the 1821 declaration.

C) A change in Valle's political beliefs that occurred when the Spanish king repealed the 1812 constitution led to Valle writing Central America's Declaration of Independence.

D) The writing of Central America's Declaration of Independence may not have happened were it not for Colonel Riego's 1820 revolt.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / D15-03

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• There are around 90 automated snow measurement sites in Wyoming.
• One site is at Cottonwood Creek.
• At the start of February 2021, the site's snow depth was 75 inches.
• At the start of March 2021, the site's snow depth was 50 inches.

The student wants to specify the snow depth at Cottonwood Creek at the start of March 2021. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) In 2021, the site at Cottonwood Creek was one of about 90 automated snow measurement stations in Wyoming.

B) At the Cottonwood Creek site, there were 75 inches of snow on the ground at the start of February 2021.

C) Located in Wyoming, the Cottonwood Creek site monitors snow conditions, such as snow depth.

D) At the start of March 2021, 50 inches of snow covered the ground at the Cottonwood Creek site.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / D15-04

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• The James River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is a protected natural area in Virginia.
• It encompasses 4,147 acres.
• The James River NWR was established to safeguard the habitat of the bald eagle, an endangered species.
• The James River NWR is managed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.
• The US Fish & Wildlife Service limits human activities in the area.

The student wants to emphasize the role the US Fish & Wildlife Service plays in safeguarding the habitat of the bald eagle. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) The 4,147-acre James River NWR was established to safeguard the habitat of the bald eagle, an endangered species.

B) Human activities are limited in the James River NWR, a protected natural area in Virginia.

C) Home to the bald eagle, the James River NWR is located in Virginia, where it encompasses 4,147 acres.

D) By limiting human activities in the James River NWR, the US Fish & Wildlife Service safeguards the habitat of the bald eagle.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / D15-05

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• In 2020, theater students at Radford and Virginia Tech chose an interactive, online format to present a play about woman suffrage activists.
• Their “Women and the Vote” website featured an interactive digital drawing of a Victorian-style house.
• Audiences were asked to focus on a room of their choice and select from that room an artifact related to the suffrage movement.
• One click took them to video clips, songs, artwork, and texts associated with the artifact.
• The play was popular with audiences because the format allowed them to control the experience.

The student wants to explain an advantage of the “Women and the Vote” format. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) “Women and the Vote” featured a drawing of a Victorian-style house with several rooms, each containing suffrage artifacts.

B) To access video clips, songs, artwork, and texts, audiences had to first click on an artifact.

C) The “Women and the Vote” format appealed to audiences because it allowed them to control the experience.

D) Using an interactive format, theater students at Radford and Virginia Tech created “Women and the Vote,” a play about woman suffrage activists.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

06 / D15-06

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

• Alia Sen wrote "Five Windows for Home."• The poem appeared in her 2018 collection Doorways.• It consists of a sequence of five short prose poems.• The publisher describes Doorways as a collection about departure and belonging.• Sen said the sequence allowed her to preserve separate memories of home.

The student wants to describe the format of "Five Windows for Home." Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) "Five Windows for Home" appeared in Alia Sen's 2018 collection Doorways.

B) "Five Windows for Home" consists of a sequence of five short prose poems.

C) Sen chose the poem's form because it allowed her to preserve separate memories of home.

D) Every poem in Doorways consists of five short prose sections.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

07 / D15-07

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

• The Meridian Design Society awards the Liora Venn Prize.

• The prize is named for engineer Liora Venn.

• Venn developed tools for people with limited hand mobility.

• The prize recognizes achievements in accessible design.

• Designer Malik Aras received the prize in 2024.

The student wants to identify whom an award is named for and name one recipient. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) The Meridian Design Society awards the Liora Venn Prize for achievements in accessible design.

B) The Liora Venn Prize is named for engineer Liora Venn; designer Malik Aras received it in 2024.

C) Malik Aras received a design prize from the Meridian Design Society in 2024.

D) Liora Venn developed tools that could be used by people with limited hand mobility.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

08 / D15-08

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

• The fictional Elven Reserve contains grassland and woodland habitats.

• More than 180 butterfly species have been recorded there.

• One of these species is the copper skipper.

• Volunteers help maintain the reserve's species records.

The student wants to emphasize the number of butterfly species recorded in the reserve. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) The copper skipper is one kind of butterfly found in the reserve.

B) Butterflies have been recorded in the Elven Reserve.

C) The Elven Reserve contains both grassland and woodland habitats.

D) More than 180 butterfly species have been recorded in the Elven Reserve.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

09 / D15-09

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:• Most sand on Pelin Beach comes from nearby cliffs.• Some mineral grains in the sand do not match the cliff rock.• Geologist Imra Vale investigated whether those grains arrive from an offshore ridge.• Her team compared mineral samples from the beach, cliffs, and ridge.• The comparison indicated that currents carry some ridge material to the beach.

The student wants to emphasize the aim of Vale's study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Vale's study sought to determine whether an offshore ridge supplies some of the mineral grains on Pelin Beach.

B) The unmatched grains suggested that an offshore ridge might also supply material to Pelin Beach.

C) Vale compared mineral samples collected from three locations.

D) Currents carry some material from an offshore ridge to Pelin Beach, Vale's study indicated.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / D15-10

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:
• Most gravel in the bed of the Luma River comes from nearby hills.
• Some stones do not match the rock found in those hills.
• Geologist Eren Vale investigated whether a distant tributary supplied those stones.
• The team compared mineral samples from the riverbed, hills, and tributary.
• The comparison indicated that the tributary supplied some of the riverbed material.

The student wants to emphasize the aim of Vale's study. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Vale sought to determine whether a distant tributary supplies some stones in the Luma River's bed.

B) The unmatched stones made a distant tributary a possible source of material.

C) Vale compared mineral samples from three locations.

D) Vale's results indicated that the tributary supplies some riverbed material.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Day 15 vocabulary

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

141 **Substantial** | large or important
The change produced a substantial improvement.

142 **Subtle** | not obvious or easy to notice
The two versions differ in subtle ways.

143 **Supersede** | replace something older
The revised rule supersedes the previous version.

144 **Supplement** | add to make more complete
Interviews supplement the written records.

145 **Tentative** | not final or certain
The team offered a tentative explanation pending further tests.

146 **Theoretical** | based on ideas rather than direct practice
The prediction remained theoretical until it was tested.

147 **Undermine** | weaken
The conflicting records undermine the witness's account.

148 **Unequivocal** | clear and leaving no doubt
Her refusal was unequivocal.

149 **Viable** | able to work successfully
The proposal offers a viable alternative.

150 **Yield** | produce or provide
The excavation yielded several tools.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

The final 25

All 15 skills. One mixed set.

Complete these additional questions after the 15 daily lessons. Identify the question type before solving. Work carefully first; for a timed practice block, try about 30–35 minutes.

After checking

Group your errors by question type. Return to the matching day and explain its method aloud. Prioritize high-confidence errors: they reveal a rule or assumption that needs correction.

Review score: _____ / 25
Uncertain correct answers: _____
My three priority skills: _____
Next review date: _____

01 / R-01

The following passage is original fiction.

Jonah had been told that his sister would not return until winter. When she stepped into the courtyard in September, he dropped the basket he was carrying. "You're here, you're really here, you're here!" he cried, running forward before she could set down her bag.

Which choice best describes the function of the underlined words in the passage?

A) They show that Jonah is annoyed by his sister's arrival.

B) They suggest that Jonah cannot recognize the visitor.

C) They emphasize the intensity of Jonah's delighted surprise.

D) They explain why Jonah's sister changed her travel plans.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

02 / R-02

A materials team found that the surface of a desert beetle's wing case channeled condensed droplets into narrow grooves. In laboratory replicas, the groove pattern delivered substantially more water to a collection chamber than a smooth surface did. The team suggests that further study of the pattern could inform the design of low-energy water collectors.

Which choice best describes the overall structure of the text?

A) It describes an engineering failure and then presents a commercially proven solution.

B) It introduces two theories about a beetle and then explains why both theories are incorrect.

C) It reports findings about a surface pattern and then identifies a possible application for further investigation.

D) It lists the steps in a laboratory procedure and then explains how the beetle evolved its wing case.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

03 / R-03

Large evaporative panels, including the R-6 and T-8 models, maintain surface temperatures below ambient air temperature by releasing water vapor through microscopic pores. Their numerous thin ridges increase the surface area available for evaporation. Investigating thermoregulation in these materials, Leda Marin and colleagues determined that small porous beads also exhibit evaporative cooling and suggested that, lacking structures analogous to the panels' ridges, the beads form permeable aggregates that expose sufficient combined surface area to support the process.

Which choice best states the main idea of the text?

A) Although evaporative cooling has been observed in bead aggregates, researchers have yet to observe it in individual panels.

B) Despite differences in their physical structures, panels and bead aggregates use the same process to lower their temperatures.

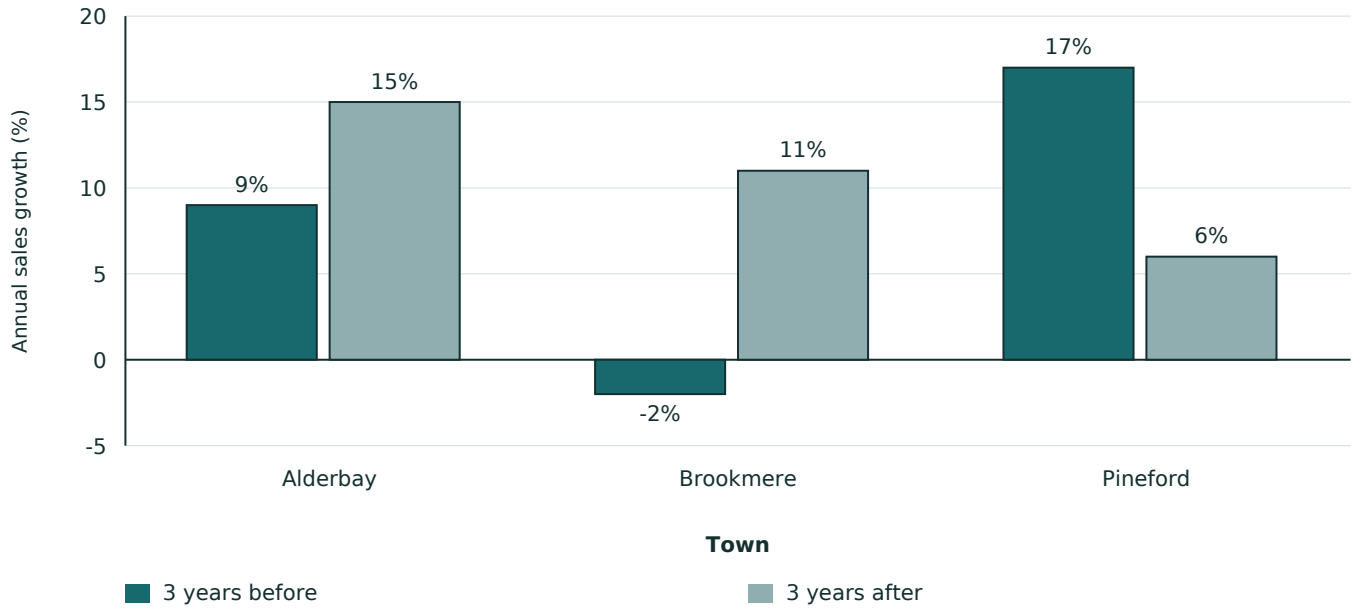
C) A recent analysis of the R-6 and T-8 panels confirmed earlier findings about the thermoregulation of several kinds of porous beads.

D) Because aggregate size varies, porous beads use evaporative cooling more efficiently than larger ridged panels do.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

04 / R-04

Workshop Sales Growth (hypothetical data)



In a hypothetical study, an analyst compared the annual growth of workshop sales before and after three towns opened shared exhibition halls. A student claims that opening a hall increased the sales growth rate in every town shown.

Which choice best describes data from the graph that weaken the student's claim?

A) All three towns had positive sales growth rates after their halls opened.

B) Brookmere's sales changed from a 2% decline before its hall opened to 11% growth afterward.

C) Pineford's sales continued growing after its hall opened, but its growth rate fell from 17% to 6%.

D) Alderbay's sales growth rate increased from 9% before its hall opened to 15% afterward.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

05 / R-05

A student argues that the narrator of an original adventure story builds suspense by describing a bodily response to an uncertain threat.

Which quotation most effectively supports the student's claim?

A) "My uncle had promised to return before sunset, and I had already placed a cup beside his chair."

B) "We sorted our supplies on the table, placing the candles in one pile and the folded blankets in another."

C) "The path beyond the cottage led past three empty fields and then turned sharply toward the village bridge."

D) "Something scraped the other side of the door. My breath caught; the key trembled between my fingers as I waited for the sound to come again."

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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06 / R-06

The sculptor Eva Sato works with several materials. Her newest installation, which combines paper and _____ suspended above the museum's entrance.

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

A) wire, is

B) wire; is

C) wire: is

D) wire is

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

07 / R-07

In a puzzle league, teams are ranked by the number of puzzles they solve. During one round, the Lantern team solved six additional puzzles while the other teams' totals stayed unchanged; _____, Lantern moved from eighth place to fifth.

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

A) for example

B) as a result

C) meanwhile

D) in other words

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

08 / R-08

One way to assess the _____ of a researcher's work is to examine how often other studies build upon it. Materials scientist Jalen Rook's method for testing flexible films, for example, is cited frequently by laboratories that use it to design their own experiments, suggesting that his work has had a significant effect on the field.

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

A) cost

B) consistency

C) difficulty

D) influence

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

09 / R-09

While organizing a large recording archive, software designer Eli Varo noticed that listeners could often identify a speaker's name even when automatic transcription software failed. He built a short verification task for the archive's website: visitors heard one clip with a known name and one clip whose name was unresolved. Correctly identifying the known name helped confirm that a visitor was a person, while repeated agreement on the unresolved name helped improve the archive's index.

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

A) To describe the full history of automatic transcription software

B) To explain how Varo developed a verification task that also improved an archive

C) To argue that recording archives should stop using computers

D) To establish that Varo's website became the most widely used archive

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

10 / R-10

Text 1 Braided mats, carved bowls, and other household crafts often draw their patterns from familiar plants and daily routines. Such objects can be difficult to place within fixed artistic categories, yet their appeal frequently rests on intimacy: their makers transform ordinary materials into things that belong comfortably in everyday life. Their beauty lies in that warmth and familiarity.

Text 2 The handmade bowls and woven cloth of the Hillcraft revival deserve admiration for qualities missing from uniform factory goods. They also differ from elite gallery art, whose pursuit of novelty and refinement can distance it from ordinary experience. Rooted in established household skills, Hillcraft objects offer an accessibility that neither industrial production nor highly specialized gallery practice reliably provides.

Which choice best describes how Text 1 differs from Text 2?

A) Both texts praise household crafts, but Text 1 emphasizes their intrinsic qualities, whereas Text 2 evaluates them in relation to other forms of production.

B) Both texts emphasize the principally utilitarian character of household crafts, but only Text 1 recognizes a complementary decorative role.

C) Text 1 establishes characteristics shared by household crafts across cultures, while Text 2 illustrates a universal craft characteristic within one tradition.

D) Text 1 presents traditional craft aesthetics as resistant to change, while Text 2 suggests consumer culture has altered how crafts are made.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

11 / R-11

Television adaptations of popular novels often attract large audiences. To investigate whether adaptations also change the reception of the books themselves, two researchers examined online activity surrounding three novels before and after their adaptations premiered. The premieres coincided with increases in the number of users marking the novels as books they wanted to read. Average reader ratings of the novels, however, did not rise.

Information in the text best supports which statement about television adaptations of novels?

A) They temporarily damage the reputations of the novels before the reputations recover.

B) They may increase interest in the original novels without increasing readers' liking of those novels.

C) They are least popular among viewers who have already read the original novels.

D) They are usually admired commercially but criticized as lacking artistic value.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

12 / R-12

Researchers asked volunteers to infer the purpose of unfamiliar tools from short videos showing the tools being handled. Volunteers selected the intended purpose more often than chance would predict, leading the researchers to propose that a tool's shape can reveal its function even to an inexperienced observer. However, some of the successful identifications may have depended on contextual clues in the videos rather than on the tools' shapes.

Which finding, if true, would most strongly support the underlined claim?

A) Volunteers often identified a tool as a seed sorter when loose grain and discarded husks were visible in separate piles beside it.

B) Volunteers identified tools equally often when the videos had sound and when they were silent.

C) Volunteers were more accurate for some curved tools than for other curved tools.

D) Volunteers selected the correct answer more often than would be expected from random guessing.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

13 / R-13

Researchers studying visual preference use the term favorability for how pleasant a viewer finds a pattern. A common view holds that cultural experience is the main influence on such judgments. To examine that view, Imani Senn's team asked residents of ten widely separated communities to rank the same ten abstract patterns. Across the communities, the rankings were strikingly similar: participants consistently preferred one curved pattern to a sharply irregular one. These results suggest that _____

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) people's pattern preferences have a greater effect on their communities' traditions than previously thought.

B) the standard view that cultural experience mainly determines pattern favorability may need reconsideration.

C) participants agreed more about disliked patterns than about liked patterns.

D) the conventional belief that visual favorability can be measured objectively may be questionable.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

14 / R-14

The Harbor Rescue Corps has included captains Lina Dell and Omar Venn along with hundreds of volunteer crew members. At a recent ceremony, these volunteers were recognized for _____ service during severe winter storms.

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

A) they're

B) their

C) there

D) it's

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

15 / R-15

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

• Lake Selan has northern and southern basins.• The northern basin has a higher salt concentration than the southern basin.• Reed shrimp live in the southern basin.• Reed shrimp are small crustaceans.• Blue-thread algae also live in the southern basin.• Blue-thread algae are photosynthetic microorganisms.

The student wants to emphasize a difference between reed shrimp and blue-thread algae.

Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Both reed shrimp and blue-thread algae inhabit the southern basin of Lake Selan.

B) The northern basin of Lake Selan is saltier than its southern basin.

C) Reed shrimp are small crustaceans, whereas blue-thread algae are photosynthetic microorganisms.

D) Reed shrimp are small crustaceans that live in Lake Selan's southern basin.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

16 / R-16

Counterfactual planning exercises ask participants to imagine how a city might respond if one major condition were different. What if a bridge closed for a month? What if a district's largest employer moved away? Scenarios of this kind can generate engaging classroom discussions, but transport analysts and economic planners also use them to expose assumptions in existing plans and determine which of their recommendations depend on conditions remaining stable. Carefully specified imagined situations can therefore contribute to practical decisions about current infrastructure.

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

A) It provides examples of the situations considered in counterfactual planning exercises.

B) It shows that classroom discussions first introduced methods later adopted by professional planners.

C) It challenges the idea that imagined situations can inform real infrastructure decisions.

D) It identifies questions that professional planners have found impossible to investigate.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

17 / R-17

Text 1 In separate experiments, teams led by Mara Chen and Luis Ortiz tested whether beetles could locate companions through airborne sound. Chen placed the insects in chambers divided by a perforated screen, preventing direct contact while allowing sound to pass. By excluding alternative means of communication, Chen's design isolated airborne sound more successfully than Ortiz's unscreened arrangement did.

Text 2 The openings in Chen's screen were too small for beetles to pass through, but they were left open to let airborne sound pass directly between the chambers. Air carrying volatile chemicals could also move through those openings. Beetles of the species Chen studied release such chemicals, and other members of the species can detect them.

How would the author of Text 2 most likely respond to the characterization of Chen's design in Text 1?

A) By denying that Chen intended to investigate communication through airborne sound

B) By claiming that Text 1 has exchanged the procedures used by Chen and Ortiz

C) By arguing that Text 1 exaggerates how completely the design excluded alternative communication pathways

D) By citing a separate experiment that proved the beetles cannot detect airborne sound

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

18 / R-18

A student of architectural history may seek to understand a building on its own terms: the methods available to its makers, the needs they recognized, and the arguments through which they defended their choices. A designer also encounters those choices, but the encounter takes place within a new set of demands. An older building can become an interlocutor whose solutions prompt questions about the present project. Such an exchange may lead to adaptation or disagreement; it need not end either in reproducing the earlier design or in dismissing it.

Which choice best describes the relationship between the two activities discussed in the text?

A) Designing architecture extends historical study chiefly by applying earlier solutions to practical problems while leaving their underlying assumptions unchanged.

B) Designing architecture draws on historical study but requires rejecting earlier solutions in order to develop a response suited to a new site.

C) Designing architecture can build on historical understanding through a critical exchange in which earlier solutions are reconsidered for new circumstances.

D) Studying architectural history and designing architecture differ primarily in whether they require knowledge of the construction methods available to earlier builders.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

19 / R-19

Ecologists studying gardens on the island of Brena observed that flowering vine seedlings became less abundant after a local lizard population declined. They proposed that the lizards had indirectly protected the vines. The lizards do not eat the plants; instead, they feed on leaf beetles, which consume the vines' tender seedlings.

Which finding, if true, would most directly support the ecologists' proposal?

A) As lizards became less abundant, leaf beetles became more abundant in the same gardens.

B) Gardens without leaf beetles had fewer seedlings than gardens containing both beetles and lizards.

C) Lizards sometimes ate insects other than leaf beetles when those insects were especially abundant.

D) The number of beetle-damaged seedlings fell before the decline in the island's lizard population began.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

20 / R-20

Experienced employees at a small manufacturing firm once taught new workers how to adjust its older machines, whose worn components often required procedures absent from the manuals. After those employees retired, managers worried that the knowledge would disappear. An observer later followed technicians who had apprenticed with the retirees and found that they could diagnose irregular vibrations and restore the machines' alignment, with new hires frequently watching their repairs. These observations suggest that the firm _____.

Which choice most logically completes the text?

A) can now use its written manuals to replace the instruction previously supplied by experienced employees

B) has reduced the number of adjustments required by older machines through the training of new technicians

C) may retain important practical knowledge through workers trained by the retired employees

D) has preserved the full range of procedures used by its retired employees, including those the observer did not see

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

21 / R-21

One example of a public installation that visitors can explore without buying a ticket _____ The Listening Wall. The artwork stands beside the city's main pedestrian walkway.

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

A) is

B) being

C) are

D) were

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

---

22 / R-22

A student has taken the following notes:

• Lena Voss and colleagues detected large magma reservoirs beneath volcanoes in the Orven Range.• Some of the volcanoes have been dormant for thousands of years.• Seismic waves slowed through reservoirs located 4 to 8 miles underground.• The reservoirs contained 5–29 percent liquid rock.• In the model used for this study, potential eruption requires more than 38 percent liquid rock.• The findings challenge the assumption that magma reservoirs exist only immediately before eruptions.• The discovery could help improve volcano-monitoring methods.

The student wants to undermine a scientific assumption about underground magma reservoirs. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

A) Magma reservoirs beneath long-dormant volcanoes in the Orven Range challenge the view that such reservoirs exist only immediately before an eruption.

B) An eruption threshold above 38 percent liquid rock refutes the assumption that long-dormant volcanoes contain partially melted rock.

C) The discovery may improve monitoring because seismic waves can reveal partially molten underground rock.

D) Researchers used seismic waves to locate reservoirs 4 to 8 miles below the surface of the Orven Range.

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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23 / R-23

Turtles at a Rehabilitation Center

ID	Species	Age (years)	Mass (kg)
T-17	River turtle	12	9
T-42	Marsh turtle	7	4
T-28	River turtle	5	3
T-63	Marsh turtle	9	6

A conservation team recorded the species, age, and approximate mass of four turtles at a rehabilitation center. According to the table, turtle T-42 was _____.

Which choice most effectively uses data from the table to complete the statement?

A) a river turtle, 12 years old, with a mass of 9 kilograms

B) a marsh turtle, 7 years old, with a mass of 4 kilograms

C) a river turtle, 5 years old, with a mass of 3 kilograms

D) a marsh turtle, 9 years old, with a mass of 6 kilograms

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

24 / R-24

During the observatory's first public season, visitors queued to use the _____ people who had previously seen planets only in books, the view through the lens was astonishing.

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

A) telescope. For

B) telescope for

C) telescope, which for

D) telescope, for

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

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25 / R-25

A _____ maintenance log may initially seem an unnecessary demand on a theater technician's time: surely repairing lights matters more than recording each adjustment. Yet when a system fails, a log that leaves out crucial wiring changes can force technicians to reconstruct the system's history before they can fix it.

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

A) decorative

B) deficient

C) tentative

D) exhaustive

Answer: _____ Confidence: low / medium / high

Final vocabulary / 1

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

151 **Nebulous** | unclear or poorly defined
The proposal remained nebulous about costs.

152 **Nullify** | make legally or practically ineffective
The ruling nullified the earlier restriction.

153 **Orthodox** | following accepted beliefs or methods
The discovery challenged the orthodox explanation.

154 **Paradoxical** | seemingly contradictory
It seems paradoxical that adding choices made decisions harder.

155 **Partitioned** | divided into separate parts
The hall was partitioned into smaller rooms.

156 **Permeate** | spread throughout
Water permeated the porous rock.

157 **Pertinent** | directly relevant
The witness supplied information pertinent to the investigation.

158 **Pervasive** | spread widely throughout
The influence of the style is pervasive in the city's buildings.

159 **Plausible** | reasonable or believable
The historian offered a plausible explanation for the gap.

160 **Precipitate** | cause to happen suddenly
The shortage precipitated a rapid change in policy.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

Final vocabulary / 2

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

161 **Presage** | be a sign that something will happen
The decline in rainfall may presage a dry summer.

162 **Presuppose** | assume beforehand
The argument presupposes that all participants had equal access.

163 **Prohibitive** | so high or difficult that it prevents action
The prohibitive cost stopped the project.

164 **Proxy** | a substitute used to represent something
Researchers used pollen counts as a proxy for past vegetation.

165 **Repertory** | the works a performer or group can present
The theater added three comedies to its repertory.

166 **Reprisal** | an act of retaliation
The group feared reprisals for reporting the misconduct.

167 **Rigor** | great care and strictness
The study was praised for its methodological rigor.

168 **Scrupulous** | very careful to be correct and honest
The editor was scrupulous about checking quotations.

169 **Stipulate** | state as a required condition
The agreement stipulates that the data must be shared.

170 **Supposition** | an assumption without definite proof
The explanation rests on an untested supposition.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

Final vocabulary / 3

Cover the definition. Say the meaning. Then explain the example.

171 **Transcend** | go beyond usual limits
The novel's appeal transcends national borders.

172 **Unfounded** | not based on evidence
The rumor was unfounded.

173 **Upended** | completely overturned or disrupted
The discovery upended the accepted account of the settlement.

174 **Validate** | confirm as sound or correct
Independent results validated the method.

175 **Warranted** | justified by the evidence or situation
The uncertainty makes further testing warranted.

RETRIEVAL CHECK

Hide the meanings and test all the words. Mark any hesitation. Revisit those words tomorrow and again three days later.

Answer Lab

Check the reasoning, not just the letter.

Read the correct explanation and the reasons the other three choices fail. Turn each uncertain answer into a rule you can use next time.

Daily quick keys

Day 01 Vocabulary

01 B 02 C 03 B 04 D 05 A 06 A 07 D 08 A 09 B 10 C

Day 02 Function

01 D 02 D 03 C 04 A 05 B 06 D 07 D 08 A 09 C 10 D

Day 03 Main Purpose

01 D 02 B 03 B 04 A 05 B 06 B 07 B 08 D 09 C 10 B

Day 04 Structure

01 D 02 D 03 C 04 A 05 A 06 C 07 A 08 A 09 A 10 B

Day 05 Double Texts

01 C 02 D 03 B 04 C 05 C 06 A 07 B 08 D 09 C 10 A

Day 06 Main Idea

01 A 02 D 03 B 04 D 05 B 06 D 07 C 08 C 09 B 10 A

Day 07 Specific

01 D 02 D 03 D 04 D 05 B 06 A 07 B 08 D 09 D 10 D

Day 08 Graph

01 C 02 B 03 B 04 C 05 B 06 A 07 C 08 D 09 C 10 B

Day 09 If True

01 C 02 C 03 C 04 D 05 D 06 C 07 B 08 D 09 A 10 B

Day 10 Quote

01 A 02 C 03 A 04 B 05 A 06 C 07 D 08 D 09 B 10 A

Day 11 Paragraph Completion

01 B 02 D 03 C 04 D 05 A 06 D 07 C 08 B 09 D 10 B

Day 12 Punctuation

01 B 02 B 03 C 04 C 05 D 06 A 07 C 08 B 09 D 10 C

Day 13 Grammar

01 D 02 B 03 A 04 B 05 D 06 A 07 B 08 D 09 B 10 A

Day 14 Transitions

01 C 02 D 03 C 04 C 05 A 06 D 07 C 08 A 09 A 10 B

Day 15 Note

01 D 02 B 03 D 04 D 05 C 06 B 07 B 08 D 09 A 10 A

Mixed review quick key

01 C 02 C 03 B 04 C 05 D

06 A 07 B 08 D 09 B 10 A

11 B 12 A 13 B 14 B 15 C

16 A 17 C 18 C 19 A 20 C

21 A 22 A 23 B 24 A 25 D

Make the explanation your own

After reading a solution, close the book and explain why the correct answer works. Then identify the smallest change that would make your rejected answer accurate.

Vocabulary review

The daily words and bonus list are alphabetical. Each definition gives a useful, simple meaning, and every example shows that meaning in context. A word can have more than one meaning; always let the sentence guide you.

Your next practice target

Skill: _____
Rule or clue I need to notice: _____
Question to revisit: _____
Words I still hesitate over: _____

DAY 01 ANSWERS

Vocabulary

01 / D01-01 / B

Correct: B. Enthusiasm expresses the strong positive interest already established by passions. Indifference would contradict that interest.

A: describing Cole as feeling “indifference to” his two passions wouldn’t make sense in context. If Cole is indifferent to his passions, that would mean he doesn’t care about photography or writing—in which case they wouldn’t be his passions at all.

C: there’s nothing in the text to suggest that Cole feels “concern about,” or uneasiness about, his passions. The text’s use of the word “culminates” indicates that Blind Spot represents a triumphant climax of Cole’s passions, not a work that results from his sense of discomfort with photography and writing.

D: there’s nothing in the text to suggest that Cole feels “surprise at,” or astonished by, his passions. The text indicates that Cole’s feeling about his passions “culminates” in a book that “evocatively” combines photographs and writing, suggesting that Cole has a long-standing and skillful relationship to his passions, not that he is startled by them.

Takeaway: Enthusiasm expresses the strong positive interest already established by passions. Indifference would contradict that interest.

02 / D01-02 / C

Correct: C. Those results show effectiveness. Variety does not establish uniformity, and no evidence supports chaos or excessive burden.

A: to describe the Inca farming method as “chaotic” contradicts the text’s description of a systematic approach using deliberately constructed terraces with built-in irrigation systems. Moreover, the “great number and variety of crops” yielded by this method seems unlikely to result from a disorganized, or chaotic, approach.

B: “uniform” means consistent or the same throughout. It does not make sense in this context to describe a farming method as highly uniform if it produced a “great number and variety of crops.” Moreover, the text indicates that Inca terrace farming was specifically designed to accommodate different crops at different altitudes, highlighting the diversity rather than uniformity of this approach.

D: the success of the method, “as evidenced by the great number and variety of crops grown,” does not support the claim that the Inca farming method was “burdensome,” or difficult to implement or maintain. In fact, the context clearly emphasizes the advantages, rather than the burdens, of Inca terrace farming.

Takeaway: Those results show effectiveness. Variety does not establish uniformity, and no evidence supports chaos or excessive burden.

03 / D01-03 / B

Correct: B. The data exist on obsolete storage technologies and need to become accessible again. SALVAGE means recover material at risk of being lost or unusable.

A: AMEND means alter or correct the data, which is not the project's stated purpose.

C: SIMPLIFY means reduce complexity, not recover access.

D: IMPROVE suggests changing data quality rather than preserving existing information.

Takeaway: The data exist on obsolete storage technologies and need to become accessible again. SALVAGE means recover material at risk of being lost or unusable.

04 / D01-04 / D

Correct: D. The restatement after that is defines the size of the possible effect. Substantial matches considerable; imperceptible means too small to notice.

A: there's nothing in the text that suggests that the researchers have been studying whether the stingrays' age and sex have "a disconcerting," or an unsettling and disturbing, effect on the stingrays' venom. The text indicates that the researchers wish to determine if stingray age and sex cause large variations in the toxicity of stingray venom, not if the effect of age and sex is disconcerting.

B: the text indicates that researchers want to find out whether differences in stingray age and sex produce differences in stingray venom, not that the researchers want to find out whether age and sex have "an acceptable," or a satisfactory, effect on venom. The text makes no mention of what would make an effect on venom toxicity acceptable and gives no indication that the researchers are interested in that question.

C: it wouldn't make sense in context for the researchers to be looking for "an imperceptible," or an unnoticeable, effect of age and sex on stingray venom. The text says that the researchers are trying to determine if there are "considerable variations" in venom toxicity linked to age and sex, not that the researchers are trying to find effects that they can't perceive.

Takeaway: Match the repeated meaning, not an emotional judgment about the topic.

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05 / D01-05 / A

Correct: A. Widespread fits a writing system used by more than 90 percent of the community.

B: Careful describes manner of use, but the evidence measures how many people used the system.

C: Unintended describes lack of intention, which the passage does not establish.

D: Infrequent means rare and conflicts with the evidence of broad literacy.

Takeaway: A numerical clue about reach supports a word about prevalence, not manner or intention.

---

06 / D01-06 / A

Correct: A. Attract fits the editors' hope that two kinds of readers will find the book interesting. The next sentence explains who those readers are and why the book is meant for them.

B: Assess means evaluate. The book is not said to test or judge its readers.

C: Confuse contradicts the stated intention to interest readers.

D: Diminish means reduce or make less important, which does not fit the editors' purpose.

Takeaway: Use the explanation after the blank: "expect ... to interest" means attract readers.

---

07 / D01-07 / D

Correct: D. Multifaceted means having several distinct aspects. Demonstration, performance, and historical discussion make the programs varied in form.

A: Circumscribed means restricted in scope, whereas the examples emphasize several modes of engagement.

B: Perfunctory means done with minimal care or interest, neither of which is suggested by the program.

C: Redundant means unnecessarily repetitive; the activities supply different kinds of engagement, not repeated versions of the same activity.

Takeaway: Multifaceted means having several aspects.

---

08 / D01-08 / A

Correct: A. The programs use voices, maps, and timelines to explain connections for unfamiliar listeners. "Elucidating" means making something clear or explaining it. The programs help listeners understand existing connections rather than command them or predict new ones.

B: Vocab HACK 1 - Predict the meaning from the context before choosing a word. "Discounting" means treating something as less important or credible, which does not fit the effort to explain it.

C: Vocab HACK 1 - Predict the meaning from the context before choosing a word. "Dictating" means prescribing or commanding; the programs describe connections rather than control them.

D: Vocab HACK 1 - Predict the meaning from the context before choosing a word. "Anticipating" concerns expecting something ahead of time, whereas these connections already exist in the historical record.

Takeaway: Preserve the difference between explaining an existing situation and predicting one.

09 / D01-09 / B

Correct: B. "Tranquil" means calm and undisturbed. It precisely describes the sheltered, less windy conditions behind the wall.

A: Contradiction: The sheltered side reduces the danger described on the exposed hill.

C: Extra Information: Nothing establishes that the sheltered conditions last only briefly.

D: Extra Information: The passage does not discuss whether the plants or gardeners recognize these conditions.

Takeaway: Use context to choose the most precise synonym, not merely the simplest one.

10 / D01-10 / C

Correct: C. Stable means relatively steady. Moderated fluctuations and fewer sharp swings supply the definition.

A: Transient means short-lived; duration is not the contrast described.

B: Inaccessible means difficult to reach; the passage concerns temperature rather than access.

D: Hostile means unfavorable or threatening, the opposite of the protected conditions.

DAY 02 ANSWERS

Function

01 / D02-01 / D

Correct: D. The target sentence illustrates that idea by linking the landscape's calm breadth with her present mood. It is an example, not a new internal conflict.

A: the underlined sentence describes the scene only in very general terms, referring to its calmness, breadth, and long stretches of land. It's the next sentence that adds specific details about colors, light, and various trees nearby.

B: nothing in the underlined sentence suggests that Lily is experiencing an internal conflict. In fact, the sentence indicates that Lily thinks the landscape reflects her own feeling of calmness.

C: the only assertion in the underlined sentence is that Lily feels that broad aspects of the landscape, such as its calmness, reflect her current mood, and that assertion isn't expanded on in the next sentence. Instead, the next sentence describes specific details of the scene without connecting them to Lily's feelings.

Takeaway: The target sentence illustrates that idea by linking the landscape's calm breadth with her present mood. It is an example, not a new internal conflict.

02 / D02-02 / D

Correct: D. The awake condition provides the comparison supporting the interpretation of dream perception. No original hypothesis or change of research focus is reported.

A: the text never presents LaBerge and team's initial hypothesis, only what question they were interested in studying and what they found. So although the underlined portion does present evidence, that evidence doesn't serve to undermine any hypothesis in the text.

B: the text gives no indication that LaBerge and team changed the focus of their study at any point or that the finding described in the underlined portion (or any other finding) was unexpected or surprising.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Rather than illustrating an implication of the main finding by LaBerge and team, the underlined portion only presents the finding itself, stating that the team found that the movements of lucid dreamers' eyes while dreaming were very similar to those of sighted people visually tracking objects while awake. The next part of the text indicates what the finding implied to the team but still doesn't offer a real-world example as illustration.

Takeaway: The awake condition provides the comparison supporting the interpretation of dream perception. No original hypothesis or change of research focus is reported.

03 / D02-03 / C

Correct: C. The sentence directly contrasts the two people's manners; the next sentence illustrates the uncle's noisiness.

A: the text doesn't indicate what kinds of topics Uncle Katsuhisa enjoys discussing, only that he is loud even when he isn't speaking.

B: the text never indicates how Uncle Katsuhisa feels about meeting new people, only how loud he is.

D: the text never describes a conversation occurring between any people; it refers to talking only when stating that Uncle Katsuhisa is loud even when he isn't speaking.

Takeaway: The sentence directly contrasts the two people's manners; the next sentence illustrates the uncle's noisiness.

04 / D02-04 / A

Correct: A. A includes both the reason for the hypothesis and the later evidence against it. The study did reveal a pattern, and it did not investigate the origin of the trait.

B: Choice B is incorrect. Though the underlined statement presents a pattern of behavior (the habit of certain animals of staying within a fixed geographic range), the rest of the text does not present a theory of exceptions to that pattern; rather, the researchers are merely concerned with whether one particular animal has behavior consistent with the pattern.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Though the underlined statement does describe a similarity in the behavior of certain animals (their tendency to stay within a fixed geographic range), this is not done in order to show why a method described later in the text failed to show whether another animal showed that behavior; rather, the method of analysis of strata of a woolly mammoth tusk showed that the mammoth's behavior was different from that of the animals mentioned in the underlined statement.

D: Choice D is incorrect. Though the underlined statement mentions a trait shared by a number of animals (their fixed geographic range), the rest of the text does not present a hypothesis regarding the origin of that trait; rather, the researchers are concerned with whether another particular animal shares that trait.

Takeaway: A includes both the reason for the hypothesis and the later evidence against it. The study did reveal a pattern, and it did not investigate the origin of the trait.

05 / D02-05 / B

Correct: B. The underlined wording defines a term for the reader, rather than supplying biographical information or a research result.

A: Choice A is incorrect. Although the text is about accessing the writings of a famous historical figure (Douglass), the underlined portion doesn't give information about Douglass or any other person. Instead, it explains what microfilms are.

C: the text never describes any kind of debate or disagreement; it simply describes a change in how researchers can access historical documents, with the underlined portion defining an important term.

D: the text never makes any mention of a particular finding, unexpected or otherwise; it simply describes a change in how researchers do some of their work, with the underlined portion defining an important term.

Takeaway: The underlined wording defines a term for the reader, rather than supplying biographical information or a research result.

06 / D02-06 / D

Correct: D. The two deposits have indistinguishable profiles under this test. A matching pottery fragment could come from either deposit, so the conclusion allows the terrace, the riverbank, or both.

A: The mineral similarity explains uncertainty about which source was used, not why potters continued using those sources.

B: The analysis uses the similarity to interpret the fragments; it does not disprove that similarity.

C: The test cannot distinguish these two sources. It therefore cannot establish a shift between them.

Takeaway: Before/After Function Question HACK: connect the indistinguishable mineral patterns to "or both" in the conclusion.

07 / D02-07 / D

Correct: D. The opening introduces the impulse to persist without interruption. The study then examines an alternative, taking a break, whose observed advantage gives the initial expectation a surprising context.

A: The experiment compares strategies; it does not measure how prevalent the initial impulse is.

B: The opening does not explain why interruptions help, and the mechanism remains uncertain.

C: The opening describes an everyday response, not a design assumption that invalidates the group comparison.

Takeaway: The familiar response provides context for a contrasting strategy.

---

08 / D02-08 / A

Correct: A. The underlined sentence presents the belief that continuous effort is always best. The result gives a counterexample: a group that paused performed better. The study investigates performance under two conditions, not why the public holds the belief or what mental mechanism produced the result.

B: Contradiction - Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. Better results after a pause challenge the claim that uninterrupted effort is always best.

C: Structure Question HACK - Identify what the words do in the argument. The experiment compares outcomes; it does not investigate the popularity of the belief.

D: Structure Question HACK - Identify what the words do in the argument. The sentence reports what people assume, not a mechanism explaining the sorting group's performance.

Takeaway: Identify what the target does in the argument, not merely what it says.

---

09 / D02-09 / C

Correct: C. The crews obtain safer shifts and paid breaks because publishers cannot risk delay. The example is the practical outcome of the stronger negotiating position.

A: Overbroad Interpretation: One episode during Port Aster's expansion does not establish that rapid city growth generally strengthened workers' bargaining power.

B: Extra Information: The publishers need both kinds of publication; no decision to replace one with the other occurs.

D: Misplaced Information: The example concerns employment terms, not the mechanics of presses.

Takeaway: Connect an underlined example to the specific claim it demonstrates, not to a broader trend the passage never establishes.

---

10 / D02-10 / D

Correct: D. Obtaining shorter shifts and compensation demonstrates what the strengthened bargaining position enabled.

A: The passage concerns one specialized workforce, not all workers.

B: The underlined example concerns employment terms, not binding techniques.

C: The accepted demands support the claim instead of contradicting it.

DAY 03 ANSWERS

Main Purpose

01 / D03-01 / D

Correct: D. The speaker offers support for unknown future experiences rather than requiring the child to repeat the parent's life or emphasizing danger.

A: the speaker encourages the child to pursue new experiences (“Great reaches”) without knowing exactly what those experiences will be (“yet unknown”) or suggesting that they should match the speaker’s own accomplishments.

B: the speaker focuses on positive possibilities for her son (“Great reaches, yet unknown”) and her enthusiastic encouragement to embrace those possibilities (“life is calling you!”), while there is no mention of raising a child or associated struggles.

C: the speaker frames the possibilities for her son in a positive light when she says that “great reaches, yet unknown” are waiting for him, and this positive outlook for the son is consistent throughout the text.

Takeaway: The speaker offers support for unknown future experiences rather than requiring the child to repeat the parent's life or emphasizing danger.

02 / D03-02 / B

Correct: B. The passage connects consideration and flexibility with a warmer relationship. It does not begin with wary impressions or describe an upcoming voyage together.

A: Choice A is incorrect. Although the text explains Adam’s reason for suggesting that Richard spend the night on the ship rather than finding lodging on land (which is that Adam perceives Richard’s interest in the ship), this isn’t the text’s main purpose. Rather, Adam’s suggestion about where to sleep for the night serves as an example of the consideration Adam shows toward Richard, and the text mentions it mainly to explain how an affectionate relationship developed so quickly between them. Moreover, the text only states that Adam encourages Richard to stay on the ship; it doesn’t specify where Adam plans to spend the night.

C: the text doesn’t describe why Adam and his great-uncle Richard are excited about their journey. While the text mentions that Adam is willing to “start at any hour and go anywhere,” it provides no details about any planned journey, its destination, or even whether they will be continuing by ship or some other mode of transportation, nor does the text mention anything about either character’s feelings of excitement about their plans. We learn only that Adam is accommodating about potential travel plans, not that either character is particularly eager about the journey itself. The text’s main focus is on Adam and Richard’s developing relationship, not on any anticipated travel experiences.

D: the text doesn’t show a contrast between initial wariness and later affection. On the contrary, the text begins by stating that the meeting between Adam and his great-uncle Richard has begun in an “auspicious,” or promising, manner and is “proceed[ing] well,” suggesting that Richard’s impression is positive from the outset. There’s no indication of any initial suspicion, caution, or reserve on Richard’s part that later changes to affection. Instead, the text describes a consistently positive interaction that deepens from a good first impression into a stronger, more familiar relationship because of Adam’s considerate behavior.

Takeaway: The passage connects consideration and flexibility with a warmer relationship. It does not begin with wary impressions or describe an upcoming voyage together.

03 / D03-03 / B

Correct: B. Her explanation and final request show that she wants Henry to leave.

A: The dialogue concerns friends visiting her house, not what she does when going out with them.

C: The exchange provides no detailed description of the house.

D: The text does not explain how often Henry visits or his reasons for visiting.

Takeaway: Let a character’s explicit request anchor the purpose of the conversation.

---

04 / D03-04 / A

Correct: A. The invention unifies the background and the description of its two uses. Digitizing books alone is too narrow, and popularity is not discussed.

B: the text doesn’t address how digital scanners work.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Although the text mentions von Ahn’s book-digitizing project, that information is provided as a detail, not as the main purpose of the text.

D: the text doesn’t provide any indication of reCAPTCHA’s popularity; instead, it describes reCAPTCHA’s origin.

Takeaway: Choose the purpose that connects the background to the outcome.

---

05 / D03-05 / B

Correct: B. The text defines soundwalks and gives examples of what participants do. Its main purpose is to describe the listening activity.

A: It does not propose a method of reducing traffic noise.

C: The surfaces illustrate differences in sound; their construction costs are not discussed.

D: The text notes differing observations but offers no general explanation of why all listening differs.

Takeaway: The purpose is to describe this sound-focused activity.

---

06 / D03-06 / B

Correct: B. The passage repeatedly shows Nessa becoming absorbed in her son's small actions. The final contrast between exhaustion and "fresh brightness" confirms that her delight is the focus. Neither a future occupation nor a group of coworkers is described.

A: Extra Information - Check for a claim the passage never establishes. Only Nessa's interactions with the baby appear; coworkers are not mentioned.

C: Extra Information - Check for a claim the passage never establishes. She repeatedly resumes her knots; there is no plan to abandon the work.

D: Extra Information - Check for a claim the passage never establishes. Her anticipation concerns the infant's immediate movements, not his adult occupation.

Takeaway: Use the emotional pattern across the passage to identify its purpose.

---

07 / D03-07 / B

Correct: B. The images of a new door, unfamiliar songs, and sailing courage all support encouragement to explore. The speaker explicitly says the quiet is not a plea to stay. The poem values the child's independent experiences rather than demanding a copy of the speaker's life.

A: Misplaced Information: household objects are poetic images, not a discussion of home maintenance.

C: Contradiction: the final lines invite exploration and courage rather than avoidance.

D: Contradiction: the new door is not the speaker's, and the songs are ones the speaker cannot teach.

Takeaway: Identify the speaker's attitude and final push. A familiar object in a poem may be an image, not its topic.

---

08 / D03-08 / D

Correct: D. Rafi sets aside his plan, listens without rushing, and receives a warmer response: Mrs. Bell uses his first name and offers more material. The passage links his consideration to their growing rapport.

A: Mrs. Bell never compares the historical value of coins and photographs.

B: Her detailed stories and promised letters demonstrate interest rather than indifference.

C: The passage centers on listening and a relationship, not research used to identify faces.

Takeaway: For literary purpose, connect the character's action to the change at the end. Avoid choices that merely reuse a detail.

---

09 / D03-09 / C

Correct: C. The participation of residents and use of remembered locations reinforce the plays' concern with place and shared memory.

A: The recollections contribute to a thematic exploration of shared memory; the passage does not oppose factual records to interpretation or say the plays cease to interpret experience.

B: Residents and professionals collaborate, but their accuracy is not compared.

D: The locations reinforce the connection between place and memory. Convenience is not identified as the main reason for choosing them.

Takeaway: Production choices strengthen the plays' central concerns.

---

10 / D03-10 / B

Correct: B. The recordings, tools, and location all connect remembered experience with physical surroundings, the exhibition's theme.

A: Accuracy across historical media is not compared.

C: The passage gives no such preference or comparison.

D: The tools are displayed, not restored for renewed operation.

DAY 04 ANSWERS

Structure

01 / D04-01 / D

Correct: D. D matches the obstacle, biological inspiration, and explanation of the polarimetric camera in sequence.

A: The text does not say most navigational tools use the NCP or recount discovery of animal navigation without it.

B: The text neither lists comparative benefits nor reports a test of the two methods' relative accuracy.

C: The text does not compare human and animal use of the NCP; animal strategies inspire a new daytime technique.

Takeaway: Map each section's function, then reject choices that add a stage the passage never contains.

02 / D04-02 / D

Correct: D. D accurately follows the description of one institution with the description of a newer institution.

A: There are no future expansion plans.

B: The text gives examples rather than defining a category and arguing for its decisive social influence.

C: The second institution is not said to reject a trend.

Takeaway: For structure, describe the job of each part in order.

03 / D04-03 / C

Correct: C. These repeated human attributes create an extended personification. The poem does not move between settings, seasons, or night and sunrise.

A: the text never mentions any particular location; instead, it focuses on presenting a single description of night as a person with certain clothing and features.

B: the text doesn't make any reference to the sun or sunrise; instead, it focuses on presenting a single image of night as a person with certain clothing and features.

D: Choice D is incorrect. Rather than describing how nighttime changes seasonally (or in any other way), the text presents a single image of night as a person with certain clothing and features.

Takeaway: Track a sustained figurative comparison rather than reading each image literally.

04 / D04-04 / A

Correct: A. The opening asks what a city is, and the examples explain why countries answer differently. Choice A captures question followed by varying definitions.

B: The passage makes no recommendation.

C: It discusses national criteria rather than deciding which of two particular places qualifies.

D: The population thresholds are not counts of cities.

Takeaway: The opening asks what a city is, and the examples explain why countries answer differently. Choice A captures question followed by varying definitions.

05 / D04-05 / A

Correct: A. The passage moves from broad ecological interest, to one team's tray-sampling study, to the result that diversity peaked about 140 meters from the ponds.

B: The number and insects appear, but the text does not explain Bell Quarry's historical significance.

C: No scholarly reception or second team's response is described. The last part reports the original study's result.

D: Cedar and birch were used for sampling trays, not to construct the quarry. This assigns a real detail to the wrong purpose.

Takeaway: Summarize each stage in a few words: interest, study, finding. Match the whole sequence.

06 / D04-06 / C

Correct: C. The first sentence introduces Keene's manual and its lasting influence. The middle explains its visitor-centered organizing principle. The ending describes information centers applying that principle outside libraries. The correct choice captures all three stages in their actual order.

A: Divide: Every necessary part of the answer must fit. The text summarizes a central idea, but it neither compares this manual with other manuals nor describes a recent revival of interest.

B: Divide: Every necessary part of the answer must fit. Being less associated with Keene's reputation does not establish neglect. The ending describes later practices, not ideas in other authors' writings.

D: Divide: Every necessary part of the answer must fit. The middle and ending broadly fit, but the opening introduces the manual's importance rather than tracing how it was developed.

Takeaway: Reject a structure answer if even one proposed stage never occurs.

07 / D04-07 / A

Correct: A. A structure answer must track the jobs of the passage in order. The text first identifies a problem with ordinary cameras, next gives the spider ability that inspired a solution, and finally explains the membrane-light-computer chain that converts tiny motion into measurements. Choice A preserves all three stages without adding a new purpose or a result the passage never gives.

B: the first two stages are right, but the passage never reports an accuracy comparison between the sensor and a camera.

C: the membrane-and-light mechanism is real, but the passage does not redirect the device toward studying spider webs; spiders provide the inspiration, not the final research target.

D: the passage says the device records movement below a camera's visual threshold. It does not prove that every camera limitation disappears in every measurement setting.

Takeaway: For structure questions, make a three-part map before reading the choices. A distractor can accurately describe two stages and still be wrong because it changes the third. Two out of three is not a bargain here.

08 / D04-08 / A

Correct: A. All three stages appear in the stated order.

B: The imaging evidence does help compare interpretations, even if it does not reveal each mark's meaning.

C: The evidence supports the newer proposal; the text does not return to accidental scratches.

D: The meanings remain uncertain, and the method is not described in detail.

Takeaway: Map beginning, middle, and end before reading long structure choices.

09 / D04-09 / A

Correct: A. The poem consistently gives the river the actions of an office worker. These related human activities sustain one comparison throughout the text.

B: Misreading Figurative Language: The river performs the human actions figuratively; no literal person changes its course.

C: Extra Information: The poem does not move between seasons.

D: Extra Information: No city-country contrast is established.

Takeaway: Look for a repeated family of figurative actions across the whole poem, not just one vivid image.

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10 / D04-10 / B

Correct: B. The hose, inspections, watering, checking, and packed tools sustain one comparison throughout.

A: The poem personifies rain; it does not present two literal gardeners.

C: These are figurative actions, not an explanation of meteorological mechanisms.

D: The transition is from rainy night to daylight, not across seasons.

DAY 05 ANSWERS

Double Texts

01 / D05-01 / C

Correct: C. Their response would target the time horizon: check whether higher newspaper prices persist. Text 2 does not establish a newspaper-specific exception.

A: Text 2 doesn’t indicate that Focarelli and Panetta connect the effects of mergers to specific locations. Instead, Focarelli and Panetta focus on the length of time over which the effects of mergers should be evaluated.

B: Text 2 indicates that Focarelli and Panetta found that merged companies experience “efficiency gains” over the long term, meaning that their expenses go down relative to their output, not that their expenses increase.

D: there’s no indication in Text 2 that Focarelli and Panetta believe that the newspaper industry is different from any other industry when it comes to the effects of mergers. Although their own research was about consumer banking, Text 2 suggests that they view their conclusions as applicable to mergers in general.

Takeaway: Their response would target the time horizon: check whether higher newspaper prices persist. Text 2 does not establish a newspaper-specific exception.

02 / D05-02 / D

Correct: D. The critics would add context as a cause of negative reactions. They need not deny that a work's unconventional attributes matter, but those attributes are not the only factor.

A: the critics in Text 2 do not argue that unconventionality is unrelated to public disagreement about a public artwork’s merits. Rather, they acknowledge that norm-defying pieces do face unfavorable reactions, but they attribute such reactions to contextual factors like poor integration with the environment rather than dismissing the role of unconventionality entirely.

B: the critics in Text 2 do not advocate for restricting public art to universally appealing works. Instead, they argue that better integration with the surroundings and situating the work in appropriate contexts could help norm-defying art be better received by passersby.

C: the critics in Text 2 do not address whether civic leaders and community members are easily satisfied by norm- reinforcing art. The critics in Text 2 instead argue that installation and integration with the surrounding environment factor into how norm-defying art is received by the general public, rather than disputing how people respond to conventional art.

Takeaway: The critics would add context as a cause of negative reactions. They need not deny that a work's unconventional attributes matter, but those attributes are not the only factor.

03 / D05-03 / B

Correct: B. Text 1 describes inaccessible tree-dwelling sloths, and Text 2 says monitors reveal previously hidden activities. Both acknowledge observation difficulties.

A: Neither passage discusses lifespan.

C: Text 2 corrects universal gentleness but does not label sloths usually unpleasant, and Text 1 does not claim that.

D: Neither text compares preferences among tree types.

Takeaway: Text 1 describes inaccessible tree-dwelling sloths, and Text 2 says monitors reveal previously hidden activities. Both acknowledge observation difficulties.

04 / D05-04 / C

Correct: C. C is directly supported by both accounts of the protective shade.

A: A reverses the stated relationship: agaves benefit from shade and mesquite supplies it.

B: Neither text establishes that Nabhan's plants cannot produce sap.

D: Text 1 does not assess or propose changes to Nabhan's method.

Takeaway: Agreement requires support in both texts, not just a plausible extension of one.

---

05 / D05-05 / C

Correct: C. Ortiz would challenge the suggestion that the professional route described in Text 2 determines who can make worthwhile drawings. Her examples show another route: brief periods of work around other employment.

A: Ortiz argues that formal training is not required to make meaningful work; she does not claim that training prevents particular subjects.

B: Neither text compares exhibition attendance.

D: Neither text establishes that gallery income supports most artists.

Takeaway: Separate creating valuable work from receiving professional recognition.

---

06 / D05-06 / A

Correct: A. Both passages seek to explain the same departure. They disagree about the most important cause: colder winters in Text 1, drought in Text 2. A shared question does not require a shared answer.

B: Text 1 discusses cooling, not drought frequency. Text 2 identifies persistent drought but does not make its frequency the question shared by both passages.

C: Both focus on one settlement, not continent-wide average temperatures.

D: Neither discusses who invented sediment-collection methods.

Takeaway: Divide the question from the answer: the explanations differ, but the event being explained is the same.

---

07 / D05-07 / B

Correct: B. Text 1 characterizes independent observers as traditionally outside the research community. Text 2 emphasizes longstanding exchanges in both directions, which qualify that characterization. It does not deny the value of new programs or attribute a different claim to Text 1.

A: Divide - Every necessary part of the answer must fit. Text 1 makes no prediction about declining public interest, so the proposed disagreement lacks a target.

C: Divide - Every necessary part of the answer must fit. Text 2 questions a sharp distinction, but Text 1 does not call the term misleading.

D: Divide - Every necessary part of the answer must fit. Text 1 describes observatories bringing records to attention; it does not claim they are unsuitable repositories.

Takeaway: A response must address a view actually expressed in the other text.

---

08 / D05-08 / D

Correct: D. Tal's findings challenge the shared-resource assumption behind the exclusion prediction. Organisms using the same kind of energy source may not have access to the same actual supply.

A: Incomplete Response: Local dominance within a pore could still occur, but that does not address why multiple species persist across physically separated pores.

B: Unsupported Mechanism: Text 2 does not show that the species use chemically different forms of energy.

C: Contradiction: The tracer evidence indicates that exchange among pores is rare, not frequent.

Takeaway: Identify the premise behind Text 1's prediction, then ask whether Text 2 accepts or weakens that premise.

---

09 / D05-09 / C

Correct: C. Verin moves from two detected ingredients to one specific purpose: shipbuilding. Text 2 says pine resin and beeswax also occur in other mixtures and that proportions or additional substances may help distinguish those uses. The chemists would therefore call the conclusion questionable because more chemical evidence is needed before choosing one use.

A: Text 2 never says a shipbuilding-site excavation is required. Its criticism is about the mixture's composition, not the excavation location.

B: Text 2 does not raise a dating mismatch between the recipes and jars. That concern may sound reasonable, but it is not the criticism the text gives.

D: whether the jars themselves were watertight is not the issue. The debate concerns what the residue mixture was prepared to do.

Takeaway: In paired passages, separate observation from interpretation. The observation - pine resin plus beeswax - can be accepted while the interpretation - "therefore shipbuilding" - is challenged. Do not import a different criticism just because it sounds scholarly.

---

10 / D05-10 / A

Correct: A. The same ingredients occur in several preparations. Further compositional evidence is needed to choose among them.

B: Text 2 does not require a particular excavation location.

C: The text acknowledges the leather-polish recipe and does not deny oil was used.

D: This repeats the inference Text 2 cautions against.

DAY 06 ANSWERS

Main Idea

01 / D06-01 / A

Correct: A. A captures both its unconventional form and its importance. The text does not claim it initially lacked recognition or inspired readers to become cooks.

B: Choice B is incorrect. Although the text mentions that Smart-Grosvenor worked in national public television and radio and was a food writer, these details aren't the main focus. Rather than focusing on Smart-Grosvenor's various jobs, the text focuses specifically on one specific book she wrote.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Although the text suggests that Vibration Cooking: or, the Travel Notes of a Geechee Girl was groundbreaking, it doesn't suggest that the book didn't receive praise when it was published. In fact, the text states that the book is "long admired."

D: the text states that Smart-Grosvenor was a culinary anthropologist and that her book influenced later approaches to food writing but doesn't indicate that Smart-Grosvenor or her book influenced people to begin cooking for themselves.

Takeaway: A captures both its unconventional form and its importance. The text does not claim it initially lacked recognition or inspired readers to become cooks.

02 / D06-02 / D

Correct: D. D connects their formation to heights exceeding the usual traveling-wave expectation. A assigns the new result to the wrong wave type, and B reimposes the constraint the study challenges.

A: it misrepresents the information in the text; the text indicates that McAllister et al. showed that jet stability and cavity shape (along with steepness) influence breaking in spike waves, not in traveling waves. Further, the information about specific influences is not the main focus of the text.

B: it misrepresents the information in the text; the text indicates that McAllister et al. found that spike waves can pass the steepness threshold at which traveling waves break because factors like jet stability and cavity shape affect the breaking of spike waves, not because they've simply reached a critical threshold of steepness.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Although the text does explain that spike waves can form when traveling waves intersect, it presents this as a known fact that McAllister et al.'s study was based on, not as something the researchers suggested. Further, the text indicates that spike waves can exceed a threshold that limits traveling wave height but doesn't focus on the idea that spike waves typically are higher than traveling waves.

Takeaway: D connects their formation to heights exceeding the usual traveling-wave expectation. A assigns the new result to the wrong wave type, and B reimposes the constraint the study challenges.

03 / D06-03 / B

Correct: B. Egg-carrying fossil insects provide evidence of brood care 38 million years earlier than previously known. The discovery's effect on the timeline is the main point.

A: No chronological comparison between the dinosaurs and insects is given.

C: The egg-carrying detail is evidence, but omits the major implication about earlier brood care.

D: The formation's fossil abundance is background, not the central discovery.

Takeaway: Egg-carrying fossil insects provide evidence of brood care 38 million years earlier than previously known. The discovery's effect on the timeline is the main point.

04 / D06-04 / D

Correct: D. Mushrooms, molds, and yeasts all use evaporative cooling despite different structures. The details explain ways of achieving the same cooling effect.

A: The passage does not limit observation to colonies or claim individual-level cooling is unobserved.

B: No sequence of confirming earlier studies is described.

C: It does not establish that molds and yeasts cool more efficiently than mushrooms.

Takeaway: Mushrooms, molds, and yeasts all use evaporative cooling despite different structures. The details explain ways of achieving the same cooling effect.

05 / D06-05 / B

Correct: B. The observation is the organizing topic. Bird-watching supplies context, and the text does not establish the eagle's defensive behavior.

A: while the text does mention bird-watcher Clare Jacobs making an observation in southern England, bird-watching itself is not the main topic. The reference to bird-watching is incidental to the central focus of the novel behavior of a gray seal spitting water at an eagle.

C: the text only mentions a white-tailed eagle as the target of a seal’s spitting behavior; it doesn’t provide any information about how these eagles typically behave when defending territory or interacting with other predators.

D: the text doesn’t discuss differences between gray seals and white-tailed eagles. While both animals are mentioned, the text is focused on the seal’s unusual spitting behavior rather than comparing the two animals in any way.

Takeaway: The observation is the organizing topic. Bird-watching supplies context, and the text does not establish the eagle's defensive behavior.

06 / D06-06 / D

Correct: D. The key result is not merely that egg clusters were found. Their age extends the known record of brood care by roughly 30 million years. D captures the finding and its significance.

A: This reports a supporting detail but omits the important finding that the evidence pushes the known date of brood care much earlier.

B: The passage does not compare the arrival times of fish and arthropods.

C: The location detail is supported but misses the main finding: the fossils extend the known record of brood care.

Takeaway: For a study's main idea, include what was found and why it matters.

07 / D06-07 / C

Correct: C. Both the initial study and the later review concern how noise affects bird communication. Sample size and unstable estimates describe a debate about the reliability of that research; they do not change its subject. The question asks for the research topic, not a summary of the methodological criticism.

A: Irrelevant Information: A detail must answer this particular question. Recordings are mentioned, but the passage does not discuss changes in recording technology.

B: Irrelevant Information: A detail must answer this particular question. The researchers investigate calls, not the selection of nesting sites.

D: Extra Information: Check for a claim the passage never establishes. No population decline or its causes are investigated.

Takeaway: Distinguish what researchers study from how well they study it.

08 / D06-08 / C

Correct: C. C preserves both the directors' aim and the warning about their evidence. Directors want to reflect visitors' interests, but a self-selected group of commenters may not represent the whole audience. The passage identifies a risk of distortion; it does not prove that every group of commenters has different preferences.

A: Part/Whole: this accurately describes who is more likely to comment. It omits the directors' goal and the consequence for interpreting those comments.

B: This captures the aim and feedback method but drops the central qualification: the feedback may misrepresent the audience. It makes the method sound more reliable than the text establishes.

D: Part/Whole: this summarizes the opening idea, but leaves out the selection problem that the rest of the paragraph explains.

Takeaway: A summary must preserve the author's qualification, not merely an accurate opening idea.

---

09 / D06-09 / B

Correct: B. Choice B covers the whole passage: the book blends forms in an unusual way and shapes later writing. Delen's radio career provides context, while the main focus is the book's distinctive contribution.

A: Extra Information: influence on later writers does not establish that most residents began recording their work.

C: Contradiction: the book was widely discussed from the beginning, not initially ignored.

D: Contradiction: the book is described as possibly her most enduring contribution.

Takeaway: A main idea should cover both the work's distinctive feature and the passage's main claim about it.

---

10 / D06-10 / A

Correct: A. The unusual combination of methods and repeated later adoption support this broad claim.

B: Interviewing shepherds does not establish career changes.

C: The book drew immediate attention and connects with ecological research rather than replacing it.

D: The passage identifies the book as possibly her most enduring work.

DAY 07 ANSWERS

Specific

01 / D07-01 / D

Correct: D. Her judgment and self-control demonstrate maturity beyond her years. The text says her advice is effective, not that it fails.

A: it isn't supported by the text: although the text says that Elinor advises her mother and often counteracts her mother's impulses, there's no mention of Elinor arguing with her mother or failing to change her mother's mind.

B: it isn't supported by the text: although the text mentions that Elinor has strong feelings, it doesn't indicate that she's excessively sensitive when it comes to family issues.

C: it isn't supported by the text: there's no mention of what Elinor thinks about her mother and no suggestion that she thinks her mother is a bad role model. Because she's described as having "an excellent heart," Elinor likely doesn't think ill of her mother.

Takeaway: Her judgment and self-control demonstrate maturity beyond her years. The text says her advice is effective, not that it fails.

02 / D07-02 / D

Correct: D. These actions communicate disapproval without a direct statement. The passage does not establish a prior dispute, a schedule lapse, or how he behaves in other company.

A: the text provides no evidence that Schmidt's theatrical behavior—wincing, sighing dramatically, and abruptly leaving dinner—is unique to situations involving the narrator and his first wife. The text describes only one interaction involving Schmidt, so there's no basis for determining whether his dramatic reactions are typical of him in all situations or limited to this particular social context.

B: nothing in the text suggests that Schmidt is typically mindful of his schedule or that forgetting appointments would be uncharacteristic of him. Rather, the text makes it clear that Schmidt hasn't actually forgotten an appointment at all—the narrator indicates that Schmidt's reason for leaving is an obvious fabrication, not a genuine instance of absentmindedness.

C: the text doesn't mention any previous disagreement between Schmidt and the narrator's first wife about a particular painting or any other topic. The text presents what appears to be a spontaneous reaction by Schmidt to the wife's statement about not finding art compelling, not the continuation of an earlier conversation or dispute.

Takeaway: These actions communicate disapproval without a direct statement. The passage does not establish a prior dispute, a schedule lapse, or how he behaves in other company.

03 / D07-03 / D

Correct: D. The text says high-speed rail reduces automobile use and conserves energy. Energy efficiency is the supplied reason for expansion.

A: Public demand despite cost is not mentioned.

B: No change in public approval over time is discussed.

C: The text does not describe deterioration of Austria's existing system.

Takeaway: The text says high-speed rail reduces automobile use and conserves energy. Energy efficiency is the supplied reason for expansion.

04 / D07-04 / D

Correct: D. D directly states the action assigned to the narrator and Mario. Laura's different activity and the travel times do not change that detail.

A: the text doesn’t mention the narrator and Mario reading during the car ride and instead describes them playing games.

B: the text doesn’t mention the narrator and Mario singing songs during the car ride and instead describes them playing games.

C: the text doesn’t mention the narrator and Mario sleeping during the car ride and instead describes them playing games.

Takeaway: Match the stated action to the requested people.

---

05 / D07-05 / B

Correct: B. More musicians playing those instruments enabled higher volume. The text supplies no special venue design, relocation, or singer training.

A: the text never indicates that Wagner moved his operas indoors to achieve moments of extremely high volume, nor does it indicate that his operas were previously performed outdoors. The only technique discussed in the text for achieving extremely high volume is Wagner’s addition of more instruments to create a bigger, louder orchestra.

C: the text never says that Wagner built or used a specially designed concert hall to increase volume through echoes. The only technique discussed in the text is Wagner’s addition of more instruments to create a bigger, louder orchestra.

D: the text never mentions any special training for singers related to volume or singing for extended periods. The text’s focus is entirely on the orchestra and how Wagner and other European composers used instruments to experiment with volume in their musical works.

Takeaway: Use the mechanism stated in the passage, not another plausible mechanism.

---

06 / D07-06 / A

Correct: A. The text directly gives an energy-saving reason: express rail can replace some car journeys and reduce transportation energy use. Neral is presented as an example of this expansion.

B: The passage does not discuss public demands or willingness to ignore cost.

C: The passage does not identify aging infrastructure or needed repairs as a reason for expansion.

D: There is no comparison of popularity across decades.

Takeaway: The Citation is The Judge!: use the reason stated in the text, not a reason that merely could be true.

---

07 / D07-07 / B

Correct: B. The critics describe different culturally valued expressions of commitment. Enthusiasm for speaking publicly may therefore fail to capture engagement consistently across those cultures.

A: An unrepresentative sample would be a concern if supported, but the text provides no evidence about participants' seniority.

C: The text does not compare time periods or describe fluctuations in attendance.

D: Different cultural meanings of behavior are discussed, but no translation or reporting-period problem is identified.

Takeaway: Public speaking may not measure engagement consistently across cultures.

---

08 / D07-08 / D

Correct: D. Neri points to serious scenes in an early comedy and comic moments in later dramas. Those overlaps weaken a sharp division without requiring the claim that every film is identical or that no change occurred. The correct answer preserves that qualified argument.

A: Contradiction - Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. The early film includes family estrangement, and the later films retain comic moments.

B: Contradiction - Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. The passage says comic misunderstanding recurs in later dramas.

C: Contradiction - Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. Neri explicitly disputes the sharp division; this answer adopts the position she challenges.

Takeaway: Track who holds each view, and preserve a critic's qualification rather than overstating it.

---

09 / D07-09 / D

Correct: D. The discovery broadens the known geographic range of production. Both the location and chemical evidence support production beyond the Oris Valley.

A: Extra Information: The passage supplies no relative dates for the northern and southern vessels.

B: Extra Information: The purpose of the vessels and any transport route are not stated.

C: Too Extreme: The testing establishes local manufacture, not identical clay in all examples.

Takeaway: When a discovery matters because of location, do not substitute a claim about age, function, or materials.

---

10 / D07-10 / D

Correct: D. The matching pattern and locally sourced clay jointly establish manufacture beyond Lake Arven.

A: No dates or evidence of first invention are provided.

B: The buildings' purposes are not described.

C: Local eastern clay indicates a different source, not one universal deposit.

DAY 08 ANSWERS

Graph

01 / D08-01 / C

Correct: C. The squirrel has both the longer torpor and shorter arousal predicted by the hypothesis. C states the equivalent comparison from the marmot's perspective.

A: it inaccurately describes data from the table and doesn't support the researcher's hypothesis. The table shows that the average duration of arousal episodes was less than a day for both Alaska marmots (21.2 hours) and Arctic ground squirrels (14.2 hours). Additionally, information about arousal episodes for Alaska marmots and Arctic ground squirrels isn't sufficient to support a hypothesis involving comparisons of both arousal episodes and torpor bouts for those animals.

B: it doesn't support the researcher's hypothesis, which involves comparisons of arousal episodes as well as torpor bouts for Alaska marmots and Arctic ground squirrels. Noting that both animals had torpor bouts lasting several days, on average, doesn't address arousal episodes at all, nor does it reveal how the animals' torpor bouts compared.

D: it doesn't support the researcher's hypothesis. Although the table does show that Alaska marmots had more torpor bouts (12) than arousal episodes (11) and that their arousal episodes were much shorter than their torpor bouts (21.2 hours and 13.81 days, respectively), comparing data across only Alaska marmot behaviors isn't sufficient to support a hypothesis about torpor and arousal behaviors of both Alaska marmots and Arctic ground squirrels.

Takeaway: The squirrel has both the longer torpor and shorter arousal predicted by the hypothesis. C states the equivalent comparison from the marmot's perspective.

---

02 / D08-02 / B

Correct: B. Read the vertical slice for the requested year, then match the highest plotted symbol to the legend.

A: Toronto's population in 1891 was approximately 180,000, which is the second largest among the four cities shown but still clearly smaller than Montréal's population of approximately 220,000.

C: Québec City had a population of approximately 60,000 in 1891, making it only the third largest of the four cities shown.

D: Halifax had a population of approximately 40,000 people in 1891. Of the four cities shown in the graph, Halifax has the smallest population, not the largest.

Takeaway: Read the vertical slice for the requested year, then match the highest plotted symbol to the legend.

---

03 / D08-03 / B

Correct: B. Coggalbeg lists gold pieces only; Balline lists silver and Ardagh lists silver plus bronze. Only Coggalbeg contains just gold.

A: Balline lists silver, not bronze.

C: Coggalbeg explicitly contains gold, contradicting this choice.

D: Balline also contains silver, so Ardagh is not the only silver hoard.

Takeaway: Coggalbeg lists gold pieces only; Balline lists silver and Ardagh lists silver plus bronze. Only Coggalbeg contains just gold.

---

04 / D08-04 / C

Correct: C. Select the species first, then copy its full depth interval. Neither an endpoint alone nor a range associated with another fish answers the question.

A: the table indicates that the southern stoplight loosejaw lives 500–2,000 meters below the ocean surface, not at depths more than 2,000 meters below the surface.

B: the table indicates that the southern stoplight loosejaw lives 500–2,000 meters below the ocean surface, not 150–400 meters below the surface.

D: the table indicates that the southern stoplight loosejaw lives 500–2,000 meters below the ocean surface, not 250–500 meters below the surface.

Takeaway: Keep the lower and upper limits together.

---

05 / D08-05 / B

Correct: B. The weakest spray result surpasses the strongest spin result, directly demonstrating the proposed advantage.

A: Both methods exceeding 10% is true but does not establish that spray coating improves on spin coating.

C: The stated values are wrong: the highest results are roughly 17% for spray and 13.5% for spin.

D: Variation within spray coating does not directly compare spray coating with the existing spin method.

Takeaway: To support a better-method claim, compare methods; a true isolated statistic may miss the claim.

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06 / D08-06 / A

Correct: A. Hillmere contains gold ornaments only. Eastbank contains silver, and Seabrook contains silver and bronze. Therefore, Hillmere is the only deposit with gold alone.

B: Eastbank has silver objects, not bronze objects.

C: Hillmere explicitly contains gold.

D: Eastbank also contains silver, so Seabrook is not the only one.

Takeaway: ETC HACK: check each statement against the contents column, especially words such as "only" and "each."

---

07 / D08-07 / C

Correct: C. The lacewing series has counts 1, 3, 9, and 8. The highest is 9 in July, even though August is close to that maximum.

A: 18 in July belongs to the ladybird series.

B: 48 in May belongs to the hoverfly series.

D: 8 in August is a lacewing count, but the July count of 9 is higher.

Takeaway: Track the lacewing series rather than the largest value on any series.

---

08 / D08-08 / D

Correct: D. The 2021 prices are $31.50 for bookbinding, $68.00 for ceramics, $35.20 for drawing, and $94.00 for weaving. The lowest is $31.50. Drawing was cheaper than bookbinding in 2018, but that is not the year requested.

A: Graph WAIC HACK (Graph WAKE UP HACK!) - Ask what is being compared, including the column and units. Drawing costs $35.20 in 2021, which is more than bookbinding's $31.50; choosing its earlier low price uses the wrong column.

B: Graph WAIC HACK (Graph WAKE UP HACK!) - Ask what is being compared, including the column and units. Weaving costs $94.00 in 2021, the highest of the four prices.

C: Graph WAIC HACK (Graph WAKE UP HACK!) - Ask what is being compared, including the column and units. Ceramics costs $68.00 in 2021, above the minimum.

Takeaway: A tempting minimum from another year does not answer a time-specific comparison.

---

09 / D08-09 / C

Correct: C. The correct interval includes both endpoints listed for copper bellflower, with the same units and reference point.

A: Wrong Row: This is the range for ridge gentian.

B: Wrong Row: This is the range for silver stitchwort.

D: Contradiction: Copper bellflower's recorded upper limit is 2,300 meters, not an elevation above 2,500 meters.

Takeaway: For an interval, verify both the lower and upper limits and keep the units.

---

10 / D08-10 / B

Correct: B. The lowest pulsed value is 84 percent and the highest continuous value is 81 percent. Even the weakest pulsed result exceeds the strongest continuous result.

A: This shared success does not directly establish the pulsed method's advantage.

C: The best values are 91 and 81 percent, not 91 and 85 percent.

D: Pulsed performance rises from 84 to 91 before dropping slightly to 89; it does not decline at every step.

DAY 09 ANSWERS

If True

01 / D09-01 / C

Correct: C. A negative relationship between eelgrass health and otter population size or residence would run against the proposed beneficial pattern. Other plant species are not the target.

A: finding that small, recently introduced otter populations are near other eelgrass meadows in the study wouldn't weaken Foster's hypothesis. If otter populations were small and only recently established, they wouldn't be expected to have caused much damage to eelgrass roots, so even if those eelgrass meadows were less healthy than the Vancouver Island meadows, that wouldn't undermine Foster's hypothesis. In fact, it would be consistent with Foster's hypothesis since it would suggest that the greater damage caused by larger, more established otter populations is associated with healthier meadows.

B: the existence of areas with otters but without eelgrass meadows wouldn't reveal anything about whether the damage that otters cause to eelgrass roots ultimately benefits eelgrass meadows.

D: the health of plants other than eelgrass would have no bearing on Foster's hypothesis that damage to eelgrass roots leads to greater genetic diversity and meadow health. It would be possible for otters to have a negative effect on other plants while nevertheless improving the health of eelgrass meadows by damaging eelgrass roots.

Takeaway: A negative relationship between eelgrass health and otter population size or residence would run against the proposed beneficial pattern. Other plant species are not the target.

02 / D09-02 / C

Correct: C. A diet largely composed of surface-soil worms supports access to surface food. Breeding frequency, limited range, and brain differences do not directly support the claimed activity.

A: information about olms' breeding frequency wouldn't support the claim about their leaving their underwater habitats to obtain food. While breeding patterns might be relevant to understanding olm behavior in general, this finding doesn't address whether olms surface to find food, which is the specific behavior that the underlined claim addresses.

B: learning that olms live in only a few cave systems wouldn't support the claim about their regular visits to the surface. This finding would provide information about the geographic distribution of olm habitats but wouldn't address whether olms leave these caves to find food or perform other activities on the surface.

D: the differences between olms' brains and other salamanders' brains have no clear connection to olms' movement beyond their underwater habitats or to their feeding habits. A finding about the uniqueness of olms' brains wouldn't address whether olms leave their caves to find food or support Manenti and team's claim about olms' motivation for coming to the surface.

Takeaway: A diet largely composed of surface-soil worms supports access to surface food. Breeding frequency, limited range, and brain differences do not directly support the claimed activity.

03 / D09-03 / C

Correct: C. Making new holes even when cracks are available suggests a benefit beyond merely finding space. That pattern supports the proposed nutrient benefit; thriving without phosphates would weaken it.

A: the existence of soil-inhabiting members of the Velloziaceae family with similar root structures to those of the two species discussed in the text wouldn't support the researchers' hypothesis that the species discussed in the text depend on dissolving rock. If other such members exist, that might suggest that the root structures can serve more functions than secreting acids to dissolve rock (since dissolving rock may not be necessary for plants living in soil), but that wouldn't suggest anything about whether the species discussed in the text benefit from dissolving rock.

B: differences in the proportions of citric and malic acid secreted by the two species would be irrelevant to the hypothesis that the plants depend on dissolving rock. There's no information in the text to suggest that the proportion of each acid has any bearing on the process of dissolving rock or on any benefits the plants might receive from that process.

D: if the two species thrive on rocks without phosphates, that would weaken the researchers' hypothesis that the plants depend on dissolving rock partly because dissolving rock gives them access to phosphates. If the plants can survive on rocks without getting a vital nutrient by dissolving those rocks, then either the nutrient isn't actually vital for those plants or they can get the nutrient in some way other than by dissolving rocks.

Takeaway: Look for evidence that distinguishes a proposed benefit from an obvious alternative.

04 / D09-04 / D

Correct: D. Trace the chain: fewer sharks can mean more rays, which can consume more oysters. D supplies the missing middle link needed to support the proposed effect.

A: a finding that there's an association between a decline in the regional abundance of some of dusky sharks' prey and the regional abundance of dusky sharks wouldn't directly support the researchers' hypothesis that a decline in dusky sharks has led to a decline in eastern oysters in the region. Although such a finding might help explain why shark abundance has declined, it would reveal nothing about whether the shark decline is related to the oyster decline.

B: a finding that eastern oyster abundance tends to be greater when dusky sharks and cownose rays are present than when only dusky sharks are present wouldn't support the researchers' hypothesis that a decline in dusky sharks has led to a decline in eastern oysters in the region. The text indicates that the sharks prey on the rays, which are the main predators of the oysters; if oyster abundance is found to be greater when rays are present than when rays are absent, that would suggest that rays aren't keeping oyster abundance down, and thus that a decline in rays' predators, which would be expected to lead to an increase in the abundance of rays, wouldn't bring about a decline in oyster abundance as the researchers hypothesize.

C: a finding that consumption of eastern oysters by cownose rays increased substantially before dusky sharks declined in regional abundance wouldn't support the researchers' hypothesis that the decline in dusky sharks has led to a decline in eastern oysters in the region. Such a finding would suggest that some factor other than shark abundance led to an increase in rays' consumption of oysters and thus to a decrease in oyster abundance, thereby weakening the researchers' hypothesis.

Takeaway: Track each link in a food chain before deciding the final direction.

05 / D09-05 / D

Correct: D. Positive relationships between exotericity and both complexity indicators oppose the inverse relationship predicted by the LNH.

A: Negative relations between complexity and its proposed indicators do not directly test the predicted exotericity-complexity relationship.

B: A negative relationship between exotericity and complexity agrees with the LNH, opposing the researchers' claim of inconsistency.

C: A positive complexity-fusion relationship confirms fusion as an indicator but says nothing about exotericity.

Takeaway: Identify whose claim the question asks you to support before choosing a positive or negative correlation.

06 / D09-06 / C

Correct: C. The conclusion blames barriers more than inland development. To challenge it, look for the opposite pattern: more barriers but healthier birds, compared with more development but less healthy birds. C gives exactly that pattern. Higher scores mean better condition, so Stone Reach does better despite having more barriers.

A: This is the pattern the conclusion predicts: the barrier-heavy site has poorer bird communities. It supports rather than challenges the conclusion.

B: The pairs do not separate the effects of barriers from those of development. Both factors are high together or low together.

D: Both potential harms change together. We cannot tell which contributes more to the lower score.

Takeaway: Divide: label each site for barriers, development, and score. Do not confuse a higher score with greater harm.

07 / D09-07 / B

Correct: B. The conclusion says trade must explain the Ordan connections. Migration offers another possible explanation: people moving from Ordan could have brought familiar fibers, tools, or weaving knowledge with them. This weakens the claim that trade was necessary without proving that no trade occurred.

A: "IF TRUE" Questions HACK: Accept the choice, then test its effect on the exact conclusion. A shared trading partner supplies a possible indirect commercial link, which supports rather than weakens the conclusion.

C: "IF TRUE" Questions HACK: Accept the choice, then test its effect on the exact conclusion. More Ordan-made objects are consistent with movement between the regions and do not identify a noncommercial explanation.

D: "IF TRUE" Questions HACK: Accept the choice, then test its effect on the exact conclusion. Materials from another region do not explain why the Ordan materials need not have arrived through trade.

Takeaway: Evidence of another plausible route can weaken a claim of necessity without proving the original route impossible.

08 / D09-08 / D

Correct: D. Open channels remove the need to tunnel, yet the fungus still targets nitrogen-bearing wood and largely ignores nearby wood lacking bound nitrogen. That selective pattern supports a nutrient-access function without directly stating nutrient uptake.

A: Misplaced Information: Evidence about related fungi does not directly show why this species breaks down nitrogen-bearing wood.

B: Extra Information: Variation in tunnel width does not reveal whether nutrient acquisition is a function of breakdown.

C: Contradiction: Growth without any available nitrogen would undercut the claim that accessing the bound nutrient is essential.

Takeaway: When two explanations predict the same action, look for a comparison that removes one reason and leaves the other.

09 / D09-09 / A

Correct: A. The correct finding measures exactly the change the historian describes: the proportion of programmed works by living composers rises and stays higher while Dalen is director. That pattern supports the proposed aim, although it does not prove what she privately thought. The other choices discuss her skill, sales, or notes about older music. Those facts could all be true without supporting this particular claim.

B: Sales after her directorship concern a different outcome and period.

C: Conducting skill does not tell us whether she increased the programming of living composers.

D: Longer notes about older works do not show that living composers became more represented in performances.

Takeaway: For “strongest support,” match the person, time period, and outcome. Evidence about a famous person is not automatically evidence for every claim about that person. Fame is not a universal answer key.

---

10 / D09-10 / B

Correct: B. This tracks the relevant medium, time period, and sustained increase in representation. It supports the proposed aim without proving a private intention.

A: Later essay reviews do not measure the stated change during her directorship.

C: Lighting older paintings is not evidence of more contemporary sculpture.

D: Longer labels for older paintings do not establish a change in sculpture's representation.

DAY 10 ANSWERS

Quote

01 / D10-01 / A

Correct: A. The heart and music imagery directly expresses Alexandra’s emotional bond with her surroundings.

B: Learning about crops and poultry shows practical interest in farming rather than deep emotional attachment.

C: The wagon, wind, and lantern establish a rural scene without stating Alexandra’s emotional connection to it.

D: Market knowledge and livestock estimates show business competence, not an emotional relationship with nature.

Takeaway: Evidence must establish the claim’s key quality—in this case emotional attachment—not merely its setting.

---

02 / D10-02 / C

Correct: C. C supports both requested parts: songs for everyone, including old and young.

A: A discusses a present-age struggle, not art appealing across generations.

B: B prays for the nation but does not describe the speaker's artistic intention.

D: D describes the world's need for music but does not specifically establish appeal across generations.

Takeaway: When a claim has two requirements, the evidence must support both.

---

03 / D10-03 / A

Correct: A. The quotation warns against idle curiosity and urges readers not to lift the veil beyond presented facts. It directly supports respecting the subject's privacy.

B: Inviting the reader to hear a secret encourages disclosure rather than restraint.

C: Selected recommendations establish esteem, not a limit on private inquiry.

D: The description of innocent sleep is unrelated to readers investigating private life.

Takeaway: The quotation warns against idle curiosity and urges readers not to lift the veil beyond presented facts. It directly supports respecting the subject's privacy.

---

04 / D10-04 / B

Correct: B. B explicitly repeats the narrator's racing heartbeat while describing an approaching figure.

A: A concerns a warning about what to say, without an emphasized bodily response.

C: C reports news and travel arrangements without a physical reaction.

D: D calmly describes seasonal activities and timing rather than suspense.

Takeaway: Match both the effect and the technique named in an evidence claim.

---

05 / D10-05 / A

Correct: A. A includes exaggerated physical humor and audience reactions that encouraged improvisation. The other choices describe comedy without establishing both requested features.

B: Choice B is incorrect. Although the quotation refers to El Teatro's use of comedy and mentions audiences, it focuses on the company's use of comedic aspects of reality as a tool to critique society while providing audiences with entertainment and inspiration; it doesn't give any indication that El Teatro's performances featured slapstick, or very physical, comedy or that they were directly shaped by the audience.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Although the quotation refers to El Teatro's aesthetic, or style, and mentions comedy, it indicates only that the company relied on satire and humor and had a style that reflected their limited financial means and sociopolitical message; it doesn't give any indication that El Teatro's performances featured slapstick, or very physical, comedy or that they were directly shaped by the audience.

D: Choice D is incorrect. Although the quotation refers to El Teatro's performance of comedy, it mentions only that the company performed brief humorous vignettes, or short humorous scenes, in farm fields; it doesn't give any indication that El Teatro's performances featured slapstick, or very physical, comedy or that they were directly shaped by the audience.

Takeaway: A includes exaggerated physical humor and audience reactions that encouraged improvisation. The other choices describe comedy without establishing both requested features.

06 / D10-06 / C

Correct: C. The golden curtain is a metaphor for flattering presentation. Its splendor keeps readers from seeing faults or distinguishing the real person from the idealized portrait. This directly supports the claim that such accounts are not entirely forthright.

A: This argues that ordinary people deserve biographies; it does not describe dishonesty in accounts of famous people.

B: This advises writers to check facts. It does not show celebrated people's faults being hidden under praise.

D: This concerns childhood memories, not flattering biographies.

Takeaway: Divide: look for evidence of both praise and concealment. A general statement about truth is not enough.

07 / D10-07 / D

Correct: D. Lifting the chest alone demonstrates strength; placing the fragile cup softly demonstrates delicacy. The quotation supports both parts of the characterization.

A: Moving the heavy vise demonstrates strength, but lowering it with a thud does not demonstrate the required careful delicacy.

B: The controlled handling of the cup demonstrates delicacy, but the quotation gives no evidence of exceptional physical strength.

C: Selecting wood and explaining a cut demonstrate craft knowledge; neither required physical trait is established.

Takeaway: The heavy chest and softly placed fragile cup satisfy both requirements.

08 / D10-08 / D

Correct: D. Fen prepares a lantern before the apprentices leave because their return will be after dark. The action connects a future need with advance preparation, demonstrating the humanlike anticipation specified in the claim.

A: Irrelevant Information - A detail must answer this particular question. The apprentices' preference concerns their own work area; Fen does not act in this quotation.

B: Irrelevant Information - A detail must answer this particular question. The clockmaker's key does not show Fen anticipating a need.

C: Irrelevant Information - A detail must answer this particular question. The sleeping mat establishes Fen's location, not any planning.

Takeaway: Match both the character and the particular behavior named in the claim.

---

09 / D10-09 / B

Correct: B. Checking a roof and protecting seedlings are specific requests about things that need care in Mina's absence. That quotation directly demonstrates continuing concern for home. Match both parts of the claim: she is away, and she is thinking about responsibilities back home.

A: Misplaced Information: a recipe associated with home appears, but the quotation concerns a request at her present visit.

C: Misplaced Information: this describes a future excursion during the trip.

D: Misplaced Information: this reports her current enjoyment and busy schedule, not responsibilities at home.

Takeaway: Choose evidence that proves the entire claim. A shared keyword like "home" is not enough.

---

10 / D10-10 / A

Correct: A. The requests concern medicine and protection of the home, demonstrating continuing attention to responsibilities while away.

B: This describes her current studies, not obligations at home.

C: A memory of home is not itself attention to a continuing obligation.

D: This reports a planned activity during her trip.

DAY 11 ANSWERS

Paragraph Completion

01 / D11-01 / B

Correct: B. Their preference shows the attraction need not depend on social living or parental care. The experiment does not compare adult tortoises or establish learned attraction.

A: the text indicates that the tortoise hatchlings, which are solitary and don't practice parental care, were attracted to the face-like stimuli, not that they perceived the stimuli as threatening.

C: the phenomenon discussed in the text is an attraction to faces and face-like stimuli on the part of newborn animals, which can't show any learned characteristics since they were just born. Additionally, the text tells us that the tortoises Versace and colleagues studied aren't social and don't practice parental care, so any findings about those tortoises wouldn't be relevant to the question of whether an attraction to faces in social species that practice parental care is innate or learned.

D: the text gives no indication that adult tortoises were tested on face-like stimuli and, if adults were in fact tested, no information about how they responded is provided. Since no information about adult tortoises' responses is provided, no conclusion comparing those responses to the responses of newly hatched tortoises can be supported.

Takeaway: Their preference shows the attraction need not depend on social living or parental care. The experiment does not compare adult tortoises or establish learned attraction.

02 / D11-02 / D

Correct: D. Those differences limit how confidently their responses can represent other bees. D preserves caution without banning every comparison or predicting all future population outcomes.

A: the text doesn't indicate that climate variation is more of a threat to bumblebees than habitat destruction is or that it is a bigger threat to bumblebees than it is to other wild bees. The text simply indicates that climate variation and habitat destruction are among the factors that have caused population collapses for bumblebees and other wild-bee genera.

B: Choice B is incorrect. As it is presented in the text, Ghisbain notes that bumblebees may respond to environmental changes differently than many other wild-bee genera do; this suggests that bumblebees shouldn't be treated as representative of all wild bees, but there's no reason to think that Ghisbain would go so far as to assert that bumblebee data shouldn't be used to draw conclusions about other wild-bee genera that are similar to bumblebees in their dietary and social traits, even if there are relatively few. The text suggests caution in extrapolation, not a complete rejection of using bumblebee research.

C: Choice C is incorrect. Although the text indicates that dietary generalism is linked to increased resilience to specific environmental changes (that is, to some but not all environmental stresses), it doesn't suggest that bumblebees and other bees with this trait are less likely than bees with specialized diets to experience major population changes. In fact, the text makes it clear that like many other wild-bee genera—most of which don't display dietary generalism—bumblebees are already experiencing population collapse.

Takeaway: Those differences limit how confidently their responses can represent other bees. D preserves caution without banning every comparison or predicting all future population outcomes.

03 / D11-03 / C

Correct: C. Perceived benefits predict purchase intentions, which in turn predict recommendations. Increasing perceived benefits may therefore reach additional users indirectly through recommendations.

A: This reverses the stated chain by making recommendations increase the existing user's perceived benefits.

B: The study does not establish that performance expectancy is the only influence.

D: No comparison of loyalty to Apple Music versus competing services is provided.

Takeaway: Perceived benefits predict purchase intentions, which in turn predict recommendations. Increasing perceived benefits may therefore reach additional users indirectly through recommendations.

04 / D11-04 / D

Correct: D. Color normally signals diet-linked health, but these structures can produce the appearance without the same dietary investment. The cautious may in D preserves the possibility of a misleading signal.

A: Shultz’s finding suggests that some tanagers can signal fitness without consuming the carotenoids that contribute to fitness, thereby making those signals dishonest, not that tanagers can give honest signals of their fitness without consuming carotenoids.

B: Shultz’s finding suggests that the microstructures in certain tanagers’ feathers can give a dishonest signal of fitness, not that the microstructures are less effective than actual pigmentation for signaling fitness. Whether the signal of fitness is honest or dishonest has no bearing on how effective the signal is: a signal is effective if potential mates behave as though it’s true, regardless of whether it’s actually true. Since there’s no information in the text about how potential mates respond to the dishonest signals of some tanagers, there’s no support for the idea that the dishonest signals are less effective than the honest signals.

C: Shultz’s finding suggests that certain male tanagers may appear to be fitter than they actually are, not that scientists haven’t determined why tanagers prefer mates with colorful appearances.

Takeaway: Separate an outward signal from the condition it is supposed to indicate.

05 / D11-05 / A

Correct: A. Control of the treasury and central offices supports a significant role in government.

B: The tablet does not revise her chronology to a time after the First Dynasty.

C: No evidence about travel beyond Egypt is provided.

D: Finding writing in her tomb does not show that she invented a writing system.

Takeaway: Choose the conclusion established by the evidence without assuming the stronger disputed claim.

06 / D11-06 / D

Correct: D. Follow the chain: greater perceived usefulness is associated with stronger subscription intentions, and stronger subscription intentions are associated with stronger recommendation intentions. If users recommend the service, it may reach additional people. D keeps the conclusion cautious with "may"; the survey does not prove an inevitable causal effect.

A: This reverses the relationship studied. The researchers linked perceived usefulness to subscription intentions and those intentions to recommendations, not recommendations to perceived usefulness.

B: The study identifies one factor; it does not rule out price, convenience, or other factors.

C: The findings concern usefulness, subscription intentions, and recommendations. No comparison of loyalty to Lexora and other platforms is reported.

Takeaway: Divide: check each link in the chain, and reject certainty that goes beyond the evidence.

07 / D11-07 / C

Correct: C. The early mother-daughter resemblance is consistent with learning at the parental colony, and its disappearance by year five suggests that any such influence may diminish. Because daughters tend to settle nearby and habitat similarities also show an association, environmental contributions cannot be ruled out. The observational design does not isolate a single cause.

A: The comparison with nonmaternal relatives does not establish a separate measurable inherited effect.

B: The findings do not determine that habitat explains more of the resemblance than early experience does; these influences remain intertwined.

D: The text does not report changes in the mothers' habitats or establish this causal explanation for the fading association. It also gives no basis for the proposed effect on mothers' later choices.

Takeaway: Early experience may have a diminishing influence without isolating the cause.

---

08 / D11-08 / B

Correct: B. The passage accepts some autobiographical overlap but emphasizes invented people and events. An exclusive search for biographical matches can obscure that invention, causing readers to undervalue the author's imagination. The conclusion preserves both the real parallels and the creative additions.

A: Contradiction - Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. These readers search for real-life correspondences; the problem is excessive emphasis on them, not denying their existence.

C: Extra Information - Check for a claim the passage never establishes. Readership and publication reception are not discussed.

D: Extra Information - Check for a claim the passage never establishes. The text compares fiction with the author's life, not with earlier writers' work.

Takeaway: Do not turn a qualification of a label into a total rejection of it.

---

09 / D11-09 / D

Correct: D. Searching for additional compounds that disable the shared target directly extends the demonstrated mechanism toward more precise treatments for the whole disease group.

A: Related but Off-Target: Identifying other proteins affected by caldin may clarify side effects, but it does not exploit the shared P7 target.

B: Related but Off-Target: Changes in P7 production during mold growth concern timing, not the discovery that one common functional target links the disease group.

C: Related but Off-Target: Comparing P7 with proteins outside the disease group may be biologically useful but does not directly advance the stated treatment goal.

Takeaway: Choose the next step that most directly carries the discovered mechanism into the stated research goal.

---

10 / D11-10 / B

Correct: B. Additional compounds acting on the shared target directly extend the demonstrated mechanism toward the stated goal.

A: Colony color does not directly advance the identified enzyme-targeting strategy.

C: The goal concerns the shared vulnerability within this particular group.

D: Investigating other effects may be useful but does not directly pursue the single common vulnerability.

DAY 12 ANSWERS

Punctuation

01 / D12-01 / B

Correct: B. Each side forms an independent clause. A semicolon separates them, and in that era introduces the second clause.

A: it results in a comma splice. Without a conjunction following it, a comma can't be used in this way to join two main clauses. Further, this choice fails to mark the boundary between the supplementary phrase "in that era" and the rest of the main clause that follows ("even…audiences").

C: it results in a run-on sentence. The two main clauses ("Gitlin's… content" and "in…audiences") are fused without punctuation and/or a conjunction.

D: it results in a comma splice. Without a conjunction following it, a comma can't be used in this way to join two main clauses.

Takeaway: Each side forms an independent clause. A semicolon separates them, and in that era introduces the second clause.

---

02 / D12-02 / B

Correct: B. No punctuation should split the verb from the naming complement required to complete it.

A: no punctuation is needed between the verb and its complement.

C: no punctuation is needed between the verb and its complement.

D: no punctuation is needed between the verb and its complement.

Takeaway: No punctuation should split the verb from the naming complement required to complete it.

---

03 / D12-03 / C

Correct: C. A matching dash closes that inserted explanation. Removing it leaves percolates downward through the earth to collect in a basin.

A: it fails to use appropriate punctuation to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence.

B: a colon can't be paired with a dash in this way to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence.

D: a comma can't be paired with a dash in this way to separate the supplementary element from the rest of the sentence.

Takeaway: Pair the punctuation around an inserted explanation.

---

04 / D12-04 / C

Correct: C. Much admired ... and in the decades that followed is an inserted description. The opening comma in C pairs with the printed closing comma; extra finite verbs would break the structure.

A: it fails to offset the supplementary element ("much…followed") with appropriate punctuation, and using the finite verb "were much admired" results in an ungrammatical sentence.

B: using the finite verb "were much admired" results in an ungrammatical sentence.

D: it fails to offset the supplementary element ("much…followed") with appropriate punctuation, and using the finite verb "had been much admired" results in an ungrammatical sentence.

Takeaway: Remove the insertion to find the sentence's real main verb.

---

05 / D12-05 / D

Correct: D. Keep compound and its identifying name together, then connect them directly to to make. The commas in the other choices break these necessary connections.

A: no punctuation is needed.

B: no punctuation is needed.

C: the noun phrase “aluminum oxide” is a restrictive appositive. Setting the phrase off with punctuation suggests that it could be removed without affecting the coherence of the sentence, which isn’t the case.

Takeaway: Keep compound and its identifying name together, then connect them directly to to make. The commas in the other choices break these necessary connections.

---

06 / D12-06 / A

Correct: A. The list has four items: scenery, climate, celebrated residents, and local industries. Commas separate the items. A gives each item a clear boundary.

B: The comma between "climate" and "celebrated residents" is missing.

C: Semicolons are not appropriate separators in this simple series, which already begins with a comma.

D: Both required commas in the blank are missing.

Takeaway: Name the list items before choosing punctuation. Do not let a long example after the list distract you.

---

07 / D12-07 / C

Correct: C. The main statement is "An overreliance ... was one of the limitations." Inside the relative clause describing limitations, "Vale and her colleagues identified while reviewing..." is continuous: while reviewing explains when they identified the limitation.

A: The period leaves the material beginning "While reviewing" without an independent main clause.

B: The semicolon is followed by a dependent modifying phrase rather than an independent clause. The later which clause is also dependent and does not complete that fragment.

D: And has no coordinated finite action to introduce; "while reviewing" is a modifier of identified, not a parallel main clause.

Takeaway: No sentence boundary belongs before the dependent phrase.

---

08 / D12-08 / B

Correct: B. The first complete statement ends at "takes place." The next begins "Many workshops ... ask ..." A period separates them. The embedded clause "in which it takes place" belongs to the first statement and does not change the need for a boundary before the second.

A: RUN ON 5.8 HACK - Separate independent clauses with a valid boundary. No punctuation separates "depends" and its completed complement from the new main clause.

C: First Step Punctuation HACK [5.8 HACK!] - Find the clauses before choosing a boundary. The comma is placed after many, separating that determiner from workshops, while the actual sentence boundary remains unmarked.

D: RUN ON 5.8 HACK - Separate independent clauses with a valid boundary. A comma alone cannot connect the two complete statements.

Takeaway: Locate the main clauses even when the first contains embedded clauses.

---

09 / D12-09 / D

Correct: D. A period correctly separates the complete clauses, and "Such" is capitalized to begin the new sentence. The later colon introduces an explanation of why the reductions were temporary.

A: Run-on: There is no punctuation or coordinating conjunction between complete clauses.

B: Boundary Error: In this structure, a comma is needed before "and" joining the two independent clauses.

C: Comma Splice: A comma alone cannot join the independent clauses.

Takeaway: Finish tracing the first sentence after its introductory "after" clause; then check whether another complete sentence begins.

---

10 / D12-10 / C

Correct: C. Both sides are complete clauses. The semicolon supplies a valid boundary before the supporting evidence.

A: A comma alone cannot join the two independent clauses.

B: No punctuation creates a run-on between complete clauses.

D: Because makes the following clause dependent, so it cannot follow a semicolon here.

DAY 13 ANSWERS

Grammar

01 / D13-01 / D

Correct: D. To tell supplies the purpose of using poetry. Uses is already the finite verb, so another unconnected finite verb does not fit.

A: the finite present tense verb “tells” can’t be used in this way to explain the reason that Engle uses poetry in her novel.

B: the finite past tense verb “told” can’t be used in this way to explain the reason that Engle uses poetry in her novel.

C: the finite present progressive tense verb “is telling” can’t be used in this way to explain the reason that Engle uses poetry in her novel.

Takeaway: To tell supplies the purpose of using poetry. Uses is already the finite verb, so another unconnected finite verb does not fit.

---

02 / D13-02 / B

Correct: B. Use statement order, ganga has been used, and a period. Direct-question inversion and a question mark are inappropriate here.

A: Choice A is incorrect. It’s unconventional to use a question mark to punctuate a declarative sentence that presents an indirect question.

C: Choice C is incorrect. The structure requires a declarative clause at the end of the sentence, not an interrogative clause that asks a direct question, such as “has ganga been used as a communication method.”

D: Choice D is incorrect. The structure requires a declarative clause at the end of the sentence, not an interrogative clause that asks a direct question, such as “has ganga been used as a communication method.”

Takeaway: Use statement order, ganga has been used, and a period. Direct-question inversion and a question mark are inappropriate here.

---

03 / D13-03 / A

Correct: A. The sentence needs a main verb describing the 1979 event. BECAME supplies the finite past tense.

B: HAVING BECOME is a nonfinite participial construction.

C: BECOMING alone cannot serve as the finite predicate.

D: TO BECOME is an infinitive, leaving the sentence incomplete.

Takeaway: The sentence needs a main verb describing the 1979 event. BECAME supplies the finite past tense.

---

04 / D13-04 / B

Correct: B. The auxiliary would applies to both coordinated verbs: would increase and would create. Create therefore stays in the base form.

A: the finite present tense verb “creates” can’t be used in this way with the modal “would” to describe what the lock would do.

C: the present participle “creating” can’t be used in this way with the modal “would” to describe what the lock would do.

D: the finite past tense verb “created” can’t be used in this way with the modal “would” to describe what the lock would do.

Takeaway: A shared auxiliary can govern more than one parallel verb.

---

05 / D13-05 / D

Correct: D. D supplies both direct-question word order and the required question mark.

A: Could the blueberries thrive has question word order but incorrectly ends with a period.

B: The blueberries could thrive is statement word order and lacks the question mark needed here.

C: The question mark is right, but a direct question requires could before the subject.

Takeaway: Check question structure and terminal punctuation separately; both must fit.

---

06 / D13-06 / A

Correct: A. The subject is "One example," which is singular. "Is" provides the singular main verb the sentence needs. The words between the subject and verb describe the example; they do not change its number.

B: Being alone cannot serve as the sentence's main verb.

C: Are is plural, but "one example" is singular.

D: Were is plural in this ordinary statement and does not agree with "one example."

Takeaway: Strip away the description: "One example is the sculpture."

---

07 / D13-07 / B

Correct: B. North Ridge and South Quay are distinct observatories, so observatories must be plural possessive: observatories'. Mar and Eran are their directors, and the proposals belong to those directors, requiring the plural possessive directors' as well.

A: The singular forms refer to one observatory and one director, although the committee is evaluating the competing proposals from the named observatories and directors.

C: Directors needs an apostrophe to show that the proposals belong to them.

D: Observatory's incorrectly makes the first possessor singular; the proposals come from directors of distinct observatories.

Takeaway: Both possessors require plural possessive forms.

---

08 / D13-08 / D

Correct: D. In the existential construction "there were several public gardens," the plural gardens determines agreement. The opening locates their existence in a past period, so were supplies both plural agreement and past tense.

A: Verb Tense HACK - Use the time cue for the action being tested. "Are" uses present tense, conflicting with the specified early years of the city's expansion.

B: 1.1b HACK (Subject Verb Agreement HACK) - Match the verb to the real subject. "Was" is singular, while the noun phrase is "several public gardens."

C: It’s NOT OVER till it’s OVER HACK [Don’t STOP… until you see a FULL STOP HACK!!!] - Read to the end to find the main verb. "Having been" leaves the sentence without a finite main verb.

Takeaway: With existential there, inspect the noun phrase after the verb for agreement.

---

09 / D13-09 / B

Correct: B. After "would," both verbs take their base forms. The complete structure is "would divert ... and reduce ..."; the second "would" is understood.

A: Verb Form: "Reduces" is a present-tense singular form, not the base form required after the shared "would."

C: Parallelism: "Reducing" cannot serve as the second coordinated base verb in this construction.

D: Verb Form: "Reduced" does not match the base-form verb "divert" governed by "would."

Takeaway: A helping verb before the first item can govern every verb joined by "and."

---

10 / D13-10 / A

Correct: A. The shared modal would governs both base-form verbs: would permit ... and reduce.

B: Reduces is a finite singular form, not the base form governed by would.

C: Reducing breaks the coordination of the two base-form verbs.

D: Reduced is not the required base form after would.

DAY 14 ANSWERS

Transitions

01 / D14-01 / C

Correct: C. Similarly connects parallel tactics in different places. The Los Angeles case is not an example of the San Francisco organization itself.

A: “for example” illogically signals that the activity described in this sentence exemplifies the activity described in the previous sentence. Instead, the two activities are similar, and both support the preceding claim about selling tea to promote women’s right to vote.

B: “to conclude” illogically signals that the activity described in this sentence concludes or summarizes the information in the previous sentences. Instead, the activity is similar to the one described in the previous sentence, and both support the preceding claim about selling tea to promote women’s right to vote.

D: “in other words” illogically signals that the activity described in this sentence paraphrases the activity described in the previous sentence. Instead, the two activities are similar, and both support the preceding claim about selling tea to promote women’s right to vote.

Takeaway: Similarly connects parallel tactics in different places. The Los Angeles case is not an example of the San Francisco organization itself.

02 / D14-02 / D

Correct: D. Finally marks the last described step in the ordered process. The sentence is not a contradiction or merely a logical consequence.

A: “actually” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about slipping paper in and out of liquid to transfer a design onto paper is unexpected in light of the previously described steps. Instead, the sentence describes the final step in the process of Turkish paper marbling.

B: “therefore” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about slipping paper in and out of liquid to transfer a design onto paper is a consequence of the previously described steps. Instead, the sentence describes the final step in the process of Turkish paper marbling.

C: “nevertheless” illogically signals that the information in this sentence about slipping paper in and out of liquid to transfer a design onto paper contrasts with the previously described steps. Instead, the sentence describes the final step in the process of Turkish paper marbling.

Takeaway: Finally marks the last described step in the ordered process. The sentence is not a contradiction or merely a logical consequence.

03 / D14-03 / C

Correct: C. HOWEVER belongs to the clause qualifying the broad introduction: the analysis did not cover all ungulates. The semicolon then introduces the specific sample of Wyoming elk, so the source A key is corrected to C.

A: FOR INSTANCE fails to mark the limitation placed on the broad opening description.

B: REGARDLESS suggests ignoring a consideration rather than clarifying the study's scope.

D: IN OTHER WORDS suggests an equivalent restatement, not a qualification of the initial breadth.

Takeaway: HOWEVER belongs to the clause qualifying the broad introduction: the analysis did not cover all ungulates. The semicolon then introduces the specific sample of Wyoming elk, so the source A key is corrected to C.

04 / D14-04 / C

Correct: C. UNESCO selects sites for cultural or natural value. ACCORDINGLY introduces its action consistent with that principle: recognizing and listing the lagoons.

A: BY CONTRAST would oppose the example to the selection principle it illustrates.

B: NEXT suggests an event sequence that the passage has not established.

D: IN OTHER WORDS would restate the principle, rather than introduce a particular application.

Takeaway: UNESCO selects sites for cultural or natural value. ACCORDINGLY introduces its action consistent with that principle: recognizing and listing the lagoons.

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05 / D14-05 / A

Correct: A. Specifically moves from a general cause to the exact process. The details do not contrast with the opening claim.

B: “similarly” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is similar to the general information about auroras in the previous sentence. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details about how auroras form.

C: “nevertheless” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is despite the general information about auroras in the previous sentence. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details about how auroras form.

D: “hence” illogically signals that the information in this sentence is a result of the general information about auroras in the previous sentence. Instead, this sentence provides specific, precise details about how auroras form.

Takeaway: Specifically moves from a general cause to the exact process. The details do not contrast with the opening claim.

---

06 / D14-06 / D

Correct: D. The rulers' power ended, yet their structures survived. "Nevertheless" expresses that contrast between something disappearing and something enduring.

A: The loss of political power is not presented as the cause of the gateways' survival.

B: Earlier would move backward in time, while the sentence describes what remains now.

C: No numbered or ordered list is being developed.

Takeaway: Look for the tension: the rule ended, but the buildings remain.

---

07 / D14-07 / C

Correct: C. Eventually marks the change in reception over time, from initial criticism to later admiration.

A: The text does not establish that criticism caused later admiration.

B: Admiration is not an example of the earlier complaints.

D: The two reactions differ; they are not similar.

Takeaway: Eventually marks the later development.

---

08 / D14-08 / A

Correct: A. The text presents three ordered steps. The blank introduces the second, between First and Last, so "Next" marks the correct sequence. Each block adds a different part of the image rather than replacing or rephrasing the previous step.

B: Transition “ STUCK ” HACK {Transition Q. HACK} - Use the actual relationship between the connected ideas. The first step has already occurred, so labeling the second step First breaks the sequence.

C: Transition “ STUCK ” HACK {Transition Q. HACK} - Use the actual relationship between the connected ideas. The second block adds another layer; it does not replace the use of the first block.

D: Transition “ STUCK ” HACK {Transition Q. HACK} - Use the actual relationship between the connected ideas. The second sentence describes a new action, not the same action in different words.

Takeaway: Choose the transition that matches the step's position in the process.

---

09 / D14-09 / A

Correct: A. "Specifically" moves from the general claim that the survey was influential to a concrete example of its influence.

B: Wrong Relationship: The sentence gives an instance of the influence, not an alternative to it.

C: Wrong Relationship: The building rule demonstrates influence rather than contrasting with it.

D: Wrong Relationship: The maps' later use does not occur earlier than the survey.

Takeaway: General claim followed by a precise case often calls for "specifically" or "for example."

---

10 / D14-10 / B

Correct: B. The second sentence gives a concrete instance of the general influence described in the first.

A: The rule is not a replacement for the influence.

C: The rule illustrates rather than contradicts the survey's influence.

D: The policy use follows the survey; it is not presented as an earlier event.

DAY 15 ANSWERS

Note

01 / D15-01 / D

Correct: D. D supplies the values and uses whereas to emphasize their contrast. Saying only that the rates differ does not specify the difference.

A: Choice A is incorrect. The sentence emphasizes the ability of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers to emit heat; it doesn't contrast the emissivities of the two fibers.

B: Choice B is incorrect. The sentence states a law of thermodynamics: the amount of heat a material absorbs is equal to the amount it emits. The sentence doesn't contrast the emissivity of reflective metal fibers with that of silicon carbide fibers.

C: Choice C is incorrect. While the sentence includes a generalization about the emissivities of reflective metal fibers and silicon carbide fibers, it emphasizes Abebe's plans for their use in a garment; it doesn't contrast the emissivities of the two fibers.

Takeaway: D supplies the values and uses whereas to emphasize their contrast. Saying only that the rates differ does not specify the difference.

---

02 / D15-02 / B

Correct: B. B includes his former opposition, the 1820 change, and his writing of the 1821 declaration. A omits the document, while C gives the wrong trigger and D speculates.

A: Choice A is incorrect. The sentence states that Valle's political beliefs changed after Riego's revolt but doesn't indicate how these changed beliefs provide context for the 1821 Declaration of Independence.

C: it misrepresents information from the notes. Valle's political beliefs changed after Riego's 1820 revolt, not when the Spanish king repealed the 1812 constitution.

D: Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence indicates a relationship between Colonel Riego's 1820 revolt and Central America's Declaration of Independence, it doesn't mention Valle's changing political beliefs.

Takeaway: B includes his former opposition, the 1820 change, and his writing of the 1821 declaration. A omits the document, while C gives the wrong trigger and D speculates.

---

03 / D15-03 / D

Correct: D. The requested Cottonwood Creek depth is 50 inches at the start of March 2021. Choice D supplies the exact place, time, and value, correcting the original C key.

A: The statewide number of sites is not snow depth.

B: 75 inches is the February measurement, not March.

C: Location and monitoring purpose omit the requested depth and date.

Takeaway: The requested Cottonwood Creek depth is 50 inches at the start of March 2021. Choice D supplies the exact place, time, and value, correcting the original C key.

---

04 / D15-04 / D

Correct: D. Choice D names the agency and connects its restriction of human activity to protecting eagle habitat. It directly foregrounds the requested role.

A: The refuge's purpose is stated without identifying the agency's action.

B: The restriction is described without naming the responsible agency.

C: Area and location do not explain the agency's protective role.

Takeaway: Choice D names the agency and connects its restriction of human activity to protecting eagle habitat. It directly foregrounds the requested role.

---

05 / D15-05 / C

Correct: C. C identifies the benefit and its appeal directly. Describing the house or click sequence alone does not explain the advantage.

A: Choice A is incorrect. The sentence describes a digital drawing on the “Women and the Vote” website; it doesn’t explain an advantage of the play’s format.

B: Choice B is incorrect. The sentence explains how audiences interacted with the “Women and the Vote” website; it doesn’t explain an advantage of the play’s format.

D: Choice D is incorrect. While the sentence mentions that “Women and the Vote” had an interactive format, it doesn’t explain what advantage this format might have.

Takeaway: C identifies the benefit and its appeal directly. Describing the house or click sequence alone does not explain the advantage.

---

06 / D15-06 / B

Correct: B. Format means how the work is arranged. The notes state that this poem is a sequence of five short prose poems, and B reports that structure directly.

A: Publication date and collection title do not describe the poem's format.

C: This gives the author's reason for choosing the form rather than naming the form itself.

D: The notes describe this poem, not the format of every poem in the collection.

Takeaway: Note Question Steps HACK: separate format from publication details and the author's purpose.

---

07 / D15-07 / B

Correct: B. B fulfills both goals: it explicitly identifies Liora Venn as the namesake and Malik Aras as a recipient.

A: It gives the awarding society and purpose, but no recipient and no explicit identification of the namesake.

C: It names a recipient without identifying whom the award is named for.

D: It describes Venn's work but does not identify a recipient.

Takeaway: B explicitly supplies both people and their roles.

---

08 / D15-08 / D

Correct: D. The correct answer supplies the count and retains the qualifier "more than." The goal concerns the number of species, not merely the presence of butterflies, an example species, or the reserve's habitats.

A: LIST Question HACK 1 [Note Question HACK 1] - Read the goal, then check whether the facts accomplish it. One named example does not state how many species have been recorded.

B: Number - Preserve the exact numerical claim, including its units and qualifiers. This confirms presence but omits the count and its qualifier.

C: LIST Question HACK 1 [Note Question HACK 1] - Read the goal, then check whether the facts accomplish it. Habitat types do not answer the requested numerical question.

Takeaway: A numerical emphasis requires both the number and any qualifying words.

---

09 / D15-09 / A

Correct: A. "Sought to determine whether" explicitly frames the research objective and identifies the possible source being tested.

B: Hypothesis, Not Aim: The unmatched grains make an offshore source plausible, but this wording states the possibility rather than the study's objective to test it.

C: Wrong Goal: Comparing samples describes the method used to pursue the aim.

D: Wrong Goal: This reports the finding rather than the question the researchers intended to answer.

Takeaway: Separate the motivating observation or hypothesis from the explicit aim, method, and result.

---

10 / D15-10 / A

Correct: A. Sought to determine whether explicitly states the objective and the possibility being investigated.

B: This describes a plausible hypothesis, not explicitly the study's aim to test it.

C: Comparing samples is the method, not the aim.

D: This gives the finding, not the question the study set out to answer.

FINAL 25 ANSWERS

Function

01 / R-01 / C

Correct: C. The repeated exclamation, together with his eager movement, conveys strong delight and surprise.

A: His eager response supports delight, not annoyance.

B: He addresses her with excitement; nothing suggests a failure to recognize her.

D: The words react to the arrival but do not explain the changed plans.

Takeaway: Read an emotional quotation alongside the actions around it.

Structure

02 / R-02 / C

Correct: C. The text first presents observations and a laboratory result, then suggests water-collector design as a possible use worth investigating. The wording could inform keeps the application prospective.

A: The passage gives promising findings, not an initial engineering failure or a proven commercial product.

B: There are no competing theories or refutations.

D: It does not list a full procedure or discuss evolutionary origins.

Takeaway: Distinguish what the study found from what researchers hope to develop. Do not upgrade a possible application to an established one.

Main Idea

03 / R-03 / B

Correct: B. Panels release water vapor and cool by evaporation. The researchers find the same process in bead aggregates. Their ridges and aggregate structures differ, but their mechanism and effect are shared.

A: The first sentence states that the panels cool through evaporation. This wrongly makes the phenomenon unobserved in panels.

C: The passage does not describe earlier bead findings that a panel analysis confirmed. It moves from known panel behavior to a finding about beads.

D: Surface area explains how both systems can cool. No efficiency ranking between the systems is reported.

Takeaway: Divide: verify the shared process and the structural difference separately.

Graph

04 / R-04 / C

Correct: C. Pineford provides a counterexample: growth stayed positive but became slower, so the rate did not increase in every town.

A: Positive growth after opening does not establish whether the rate rose or fell relative to before.

B: Brookmere also supports an increase in the growth rate.

D: Alderbay supports the claim rather than weakening it.

Takeaway: Growth can stay positive while the growth rate decreases.

Quote

05 / R-05 / D

Correct: D. Caught breath and trembling fingers are physical reactions to an unidentified sound, directly supporting both suspense and bodily response.

A: Waiting for a relative does not itself describe a bodily response or uncertain threat.

B: Sorting supplies describes an ordinary action without the claimed suspense.

C: The route description provides setting but no physical response to a threat.

Takeaway: Check both parts of the claim: physical reaction and uncertain danger.

Punctuation

06 / R-06 / A

Correct: A. A comma closes the nonessential which-clause before the main verb is.

B: A semicolon cannot separate this nonessential clause from the main verb.

C: A colon cannot close the insertion or split the subject from its verb.

D: Without the second comma, the inserted clause is not properly closed.

Takeaway: An interrupting which-clause needs matching commas.

Transitions

07 / R-07 / B

Correct: B. Solving more puzzles caused the team's rank to improve, so a result transition fits.

A: The ranking change is a consequence, not an example of solving six puzzles.

C: Meanwhile signals simultaneous events without expressing the causal relationship specified here.

D: A new rank is not merely a rewording of the number solved.

Takeaway: Name the relationship before reading the transition choices.

Vocabulary

08 / R-08 / D

Correct: D. Other laboratories repeatedly build on Rook's method, indicating that it has affected later research. That is its influence. Frequent use supports an effect on the field, not a conclusion about cost or difficulty.

A: No prices, funding totals, or expenses are provided.

B: Consistency concerns agreement or stability, not how much other work is affected.

C: Frequent use or citation does not show that a method is difficult.

Takeaway: Use the actual clue, a significant effect on the field, to identify influence. Frequent citation alone does not tell you cost or difficulty.

Main Purpose

09 / R-09 / B

Correct: B. The main purpose is to explain the development and operation of this particular invention, including its usefulness for verification and indexing.

A: Too Broad: The text mentions transcription software but does not give its history.

C: Contradiction: Varo uses software to combine human judgments; the passage does not advocate abandoning computers.

D: Extra Information: No comparison of website popularity appears.

Takeaway: An observation, resulting invention, and explanation of its function usually form an invention-focused purpose.

Double Texts

10 / R-10 / A

Correct: A. Text 1 values warmth, familiarity, and everyday belonging. Text 2 builds its praise through comparisons with factory goods and elite gallery art. Both are favorable, but their approaches differ.

B: Text 2 also evaluates aesthetic and artistic qualities, so decorative value is not exclusive to Text 1. Neither text is mainly an account of practical utility.

C: Text 1 describes qualities that household crafts often have; it does not establish a universal cross-cultural rule. Text 2 chiefly makes comparisons with other forms rather than illustrating such a rule.

D: Text 1 does not claim resistance to change. Text 2 contrasts craft with factory production; it does not describe factory culture changing craft methods.

Takeaway: Divide: identify each text's attitude, then compare how each supports that attitude.

Specific

11 / R-11 / B

Correct: B. More users wanted to read the novels, but average ratings stayed the same. That separates increased interest from increased liking. B reflects both findings and uses "may" rather than claiming every adaptation must have this effect.

A: Unchanged average ratings do not show a temporary fall and later recovery.

C: No comparison between readers and nonreaders as viewers is supplied.

D: The study does not assess the adaptations' artistic value.

Takeaway: Divide: interest and liking are different outcomes. Check both before selecting an answer.

If True

12 / R-12 / A

Correct: A. The separate piles of grain and husks could suggest a sorting function independently of the tool's shape. This supplies a specific contextual explanation for some successful identifications, without proving that context was their only basis.

B: Equal performance with and without sound does not provide positive evidence that context supplied the answer; visual context could still be present in both.

C: Differences among curved tools do not identify a contextual source of information.

D: Above-chance performance is compatible with either shape-based inference or contextual inference and does not distinguish them.

Takeaway: Those contextual clues could explain some correct identifications.

Paragraph Completion

13 / R-13 / B

Correct: B. If culture were the main driver, widely different cultural settings might produce different rankings. Instead, the study found similar rankings across communities. That gives a reason to reconsider the standard view, while stopping short of claiming culture has no role at all.

A: The study did not test whether preferences change cultural traditions.

C: No separate comparison of agreement about liked and disliked patterns is supplied.

D: The belief tested concerns culture's role, not whether favorability can be measured objectively. This criticizes a different claim.

Takeaway: Keep the conclusion modest: similar results challenge the stated view, but do not prove a universal rule.

Grammar

14 / R-14 / B

Correct: B. The service belongs to the volunteers, so we need the plural possessive "their." The phrase becomes "their service."

A: They're means "they are." "For they are service" does not work.

C: There refers to a place or introduces a statement; it does not show ownership.

D: It's means "it is" or "it has," not possession, and it does not match the plural volunteers.

Takeaway: Expand contractions when checking them. If "they are" fails, "they're" fails too.

Note

15 / R-15 / C

Correct: C. C compares the two organisms on the same basis: what kind of organism each is. Shrimp are crustaceans; algae are photosynthetic microorganisms. "Whereas" makes the difference explicit.

A: This emphasizes a similarity: their shared habitat.

B: This compares parts of the lake, not the two organisms.

D: This describes only the shrimp, so it does not establish a difference between both organisms.

Takeaway: Note Question Steps HACK: a difference goal needs both subjects and a contrasting feature.

Function

16 / R-16 / A

Correct: A. The opening defines counterfactual exercises, and the two underlined questions illustrate the kind of changed condition such exercises consider. Later sentences explain their uses. Nothing in the examples establishes a historical direction of influence or suggests that the scenarios are impossible to investigate.

B: Extra Information: Check for a claim the passage never establishes. Classroom and professional uses are both mentioned, but their historical order is not supplied.

C: Contradiction: Find the detail that conflicts with the choice. The examples develop the concept that the conclusion finds useful; they do not challenge that conclusion.

D: Extra Information: Check for a claim the passage never establishes. The passage does not say planners cannot investigate these questions; it describes such exercises as useful.

Takeaway: Examples show what a category includes without necessarily explaining its history.

Double Texts

17 / R-17 / C

Correct: C. The perforations that allow sound through also allow chemical signals through. Text 2 therefore gives a reason to question Text 1's claim that alternative communication pathways were excluded, even though direct contact was prevented.

A: Text 2 accepts the stated sound-investigation setup; it questions what the design can establish, not Chen's intention.

B: Text 2 does not claim that the procedures of Chen and Ortiz were exchanged.

D: No separate experiment proving inability to hear is cited. The point is that another signal could also reach the beetles.

Takeaway: Text 1 overstates the exclusion of other communication pathways.

Specific

18 / R-18 / C

Correct: C. The passage presents design as a new encounter with earlier choices: historical understanding informs questions, adaptations, or disagreements appropriate to present demands. C captures that relationship without reducing it to copying or mandatory rejection.

A: The encounter can question earlier choices and assumptions; the passage does not limit design to applying unchanged solutions.

B: Disagreement is possible, but rejecting earlier solutions is not a requirement. Adaptation is also explicitly allowed.

D: Historical study includes construction methods, but the key distinction is how earlier choices are engaged under new demands, not whether such knowledge is required.

Takeaway: Historical understanding can support a critical exchange rather than copying or mandatory rejection.

If True

19 / R-19 / A

Correct: A. An increase in beetles following the lizard decline supplies the missing middle step. It explains how losing a predator could indirectly harm a plant the predator never eats.

B: Unhelpful Comparison: This pattern does not show that lizards suppress beetles or thereby protect seedlings.

C: Extra Information: Other prey do not establish what happened to the beetles responsible for seedling loss.

D: Wrong Direction and Timing: Falling beetle damage before the lizard decline does not support the proposed increase in herbivory after that decline.

Takeaway: Write the causal chain with up and down arrows; evidence should support a required link.

Paragraph Completion

20 / R-20 / C

Correct: C. Technicians trained by the retirees can still carry out adjustments that manuals do not cover, and new hires observe that work. Their behavior provides a possible route for retaining and passing on practical knowledge, without proving that all of it survives.

A: The text says the manuals omit relevant procedures; it does not say they have been expanded or can replace instruction.

B: The technicians can make adjustments, but nothing shows that the machines need fewer of them.

D: Observed repairs support preservation of some knowledge, not the survival of every unobserved procedure.

Takeaway: Some practical knowledge may survive through trained workers.

Grammar

21 / R-21 / A

Correct: A. The subject is the singular phrase "One example." "Is" agrees with it and gives the sentence a complete main verb. The intervening description does not make the subject plural.

B: Being by itself is not a complete main verb.

C: Are is plural, but the subject is one example.

D: Were is plural in this ordinary statement and does not agree with one example.

Takeaway: Reduce the sentence to its core: "One example is The Listening Wall."

Note

22 / R-22 / A

Correct: A. The disputed assumption says reservoirs exist only just before eruptions. Finding reservoirs beneath volcanoes that have been dormant for thousands of years directly challenges that restriction. A links the new evidence to the exact assumption it undermines.

B: An eruption threshold does not refute the existence of lower-percentage reservoirs. The observed 5-29 percent reservoirs support the presence of partially melted rock under dormant volcanoes.

C: This describes a possible practical benefit instead of explaining the conflict with the assumption.

D: This describes method and depth but does not connect the discovery to the challenged assumption.

Takeaway: Note Question Steps HACK: pair the old claim with evidence that does not fit it.

Graph

23 / R-23 / B

Correct: B. The T-42 row lists marsh turtle, age 7, and approximate mass 4 kilograms. All three details match B.

A: These are the details for T-17, not T-42.

C: These are the details for T-28.

D: These are the details for T-63.

Takeaway: Read across the named row and match all three details.

Punctuation

24 / R-24 / A

Correct: A. The period completes "visitors queued to use the telescope." The next sentence begins with the prepositional phrase "For people..." and has the subject and verb "the view...was."

B: The first clause runs into a second independent clause without a valid boundary.

C: Which does not have a grammatical role that would connect the clauses as written.

D: Here for introduces the group of people, rather than an independent clause of explanation; the comma leaves the two independent clauses improperly joined.

Takeaway: The period supplies the needed sentence boundary.

Vocabulary

25 / R-25 / D

Correct: D. Exhaustive means covering every relevant detail. The missing-details example explains why such a complete record is useful.

A: Decorative means ornamental; the log is a practical record.

B: Deficient means lacking something essential. That is the problem the passage warns against, not the useful quality being defended.

C: Tentative means provisional or uncertain; the issue is completeness, not certainty.

Takeaway: Use the contrast: missing details waste time, so complete records help.
