

## Verbal Reasoning MCAT Practice Items (AAMC)

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### **Q1 C**      **P2, L1; P3, L1-4; P5, L1-2; P7, L2-3**

The best way to answer this question is through elimination, by locating the true statements in the passage. The author says that *Ovis ammon hodgsoni* is one of the argali subspecies not listed as endangered by CITES (P3, L1-4), eliminating answer choice **A**. Paragraph two (P2, L1) indicates that the argali were killed in China, which suggests they were found in China, eliminating answer choice **B**. When the hunters were challenged, they claimed to have shot the *Ovis ammon darwini*, not on the endangered list (P3, L3-4), thereby eliminating answer choice **D**. Experts suggest twice in the passage that the names *dalai lamae* and *hodgsoni* refer to the same subspecies (P5, L1-2; P7, L2-3), but not *dalai lamae* and *darwini*, as answer choice **C** contends.

### **Q2 B**      **P3, L3-4; P4, L3-5; P5, L1-2**

According to the passage, only *Ovis ammon hodgsoni* is on the endangered list (P3, L3-4). To find the reason supporting the expert's claim that the argali killed on the hunt were on the list, look for the hunter's claim in the passage which is found in paragraph four (P4, L3-5). Immediately after the statement (P5, L1-2), we learn that the wildlife experts say that the argali named by the hunters as *Ovis ammon dalai lamae* are actually the same subspecies as the *hodgsoni*, and that the nomenclature mix-up comes from the literature. Therefore, according to experts, the argali killed by the hunters are the same ones listed as endangered. Note that paragraph five states that the "animals killed on the hunt assuredly were *not darwini*," eliminating answer choices **A** and **B**.

**Q3 A** P5, L1-7; P6, L8; P7, L2-3

Answer choice **B.** and **C.** can be eliminated because the confusion surrounding the nomenclature arose over the synonymous names of the *hodgsoni* and *dalaie lamae* subspecies which are “assuredly not *darwini*,” according to wildlife experts (P5, L1-4; P7, L2-3). Therefore it can be concluded that *darwini* were not confused with either *hodgsoni* or *dalai lamae*. Although the passage makes it clear that the argali were present in Europe in the 19th century, there is no information about the makeup of the argali population since then, other than the fact that they are disappearing rapidly (P5, L5; P6, L8). To find the source of the confusion, first consider the confusion itself: according to experts, there were two names given to the same subspecies. Now, the source of the confusion can be traced back to the European explorers who named the argali in the north *dalai lamae* and the same argali in the south *hodgsoni* (P5, L5-7).

**Q4 D** P5, L1-7

To answer this question, let’s first summarize the subspecies from the information in the passage. There are three subspecies mentioned: the *hodgsoni*, the *dalai lamae* and the *darwini*. According to experts, the *hodgsoni* and *dalai lamae* are synonymous names describing the same sheep type, which is “assuredly not *darwini*” (P5, L1-4). From these facts, the subspecies *darwini* should be distinguishable from either *dalai lamae* or *hodgsoni*. This eliminates answer choices **A.** and **D.** The fact that there are at least two distinguishable subspecies eliminates answer choice **B.** Experts claim that *hodgsoni* and *darwini* are synonyms and that the dichotomy in nomenclature arose as a result of the same subspecies being given two different names based on where they were found (P5, L1-2, L5-7). This supports the observation that if these two sheep were taken out of their environments, they would be indistinguishable.

**Q5 D** P4, L1-7

The wildlife experts from the Smithsonian and the Scientific Authority of the Fish and Wildlife Services supported the hunters’ claims that the sheep they had killed were actually *dalai lamae* and not *darwini* as they had originally stated, both types which are absent from the endangered list (P4, L1-7). It is unlikely that the experts would write a letter to CITES supporting the hunters (as stated in P4, L5-7) if they believed that the *dalai lamae* and *hodgsoni* subspecies were the same since this would imply that the hunters had shot an endangered species. Similarly, admitting a mix-up in the taxonomic literature would not be in the best interest of the hunters because it would mean that the *dalai lamae* argali they had shot were on the endangered list (the mix-up centers around *dalai lamae* and *hodgsoni* being synonyms). The experts supporting the hunters would most likely agree that the *dalai lamae* and the *hodgsoni* are different subspecies because this implies that the hunters have not violated the international treaty banning the

*hodgsoni* from being shot. From the information in the passage, we cannot accurately assess if the experts would agree that the argali species as a whole should not be on the endangered list, eliminating answer choice **A**.

**Q 6 A**      **P 3, L 3-6**

The only subspecies officially listed as endangered by CITES is *Ovis ammon hodgsoni*. Therefore, CITES would most likely add the *dalai lamae* to the list if experts agreed that the *dalai lamae* were in fact the same subspecies as the *hodgsoni*.

**Q 7 B**      **P3, L7; P5, L1-2, L4-7**

To answer this question, let's consider the involvement of the four groups listed with regard to the argali sheep. Although China did not object to India's request to protect the *hodgsoni* during the convention (P3, L7), there is no information in the passage suggesting any direct involvement in the taxonomy dispute. The Smithsonian Institution supported the hunters and would most likely agree that the *hodgsoni* and the *dalai lamae* are two distinct subspecies (see Q5) while the independent wildlife experts believe that they are one and the same (P5, L1-2). European explorers in the north used the name *dalai lamae* while explorers in the south used the name *hodgsoni* (P5, L4-7). Both groups were likely unaware that the same subspecies was being called something different in another area. Therefore, if the taxonomy was left unchanged by CITES and the *dalai lamae* were not placed on the endangered list (implying that *dalai lamae* and *hodgsoni* are distinct subspecies), the decision would most likely enforce the Smithsonian Institution's position that the two subspecies are distinct.

**Q 8 D**      **P3, L1-7**

Although historic accounts named several subspecies of the argali, India asked that only the *hodgsoni* be placed on the endangered list (P3, L1-7). It is unlikely that the term was meant to cover all argali subspecies since India was probably aware that there were multiple subspecies, making answer choice **D** correct. It is possible that the term was meant to cover both *hodgsoni* and *dalai lamae* because many experts say that the names represent the same species. In fact, CITES would probably have placed both names on the list if they were aware of this confusion at the time the *hodgsoni* were protected.

**Q 9 C**      **P2, L1; P3, L3-4**

Answer choices **A** and **B** can be eliminated because the passage indicates that only the *hodgsoni* are on the endangered list (P3, L3-4). Answer choice **D** is false because the animals were killed in China (P2, L1). If *dalai lamae* were not found in China, the hunter's credibility would suffer by claiming that they killed *dalai lamae* in China. It is

most likely that the hunters changed their identification because the experts claimed assuredly that the animals killed were not *darwini*.

**Q 10 C P3, L1-2, L7-10**

In this passage, the author parallels the contemporary changes in our view of science to the evolution of European art from the orthodoxies of the early Renaissance paintings and sculptures a century ago (P3, L1-2). “They are still the subterranean...” refers to the beginnings of the perception that science is now emerging into a “school of consciousness” from the long regarded view that science is a single valid picture of the world; that is, a redefinition of science (P3, L7-10).

**Q 11 A P1, L11-13; P2, L12-14; P3, L4-10**

The passage states that European art has evolved from the orthodox standards of the early Renaissance period through the broadening of techniques practiced by the artists of those times such that the earlier works have now become one part of a school of art instead of representing art entirely. The changes in art served to open “our minds to a more global conception of art” (P2, L12-14). Similarly, the third paragraph describes how scientists’ realities are one part of a broader picture (P3, L4-7).

**Q 12 C P1, L7-8, L17-18**

The answer to this question is contained in the first paragraph where the author contrasts “the representative convention” (e.g. the traditional art) to the “innovation of the arts” (P1, L7-8, L17-18).

**Q 13 B P4, L3-5**

The key word here is “orthodox” which essentially means traditional. The author is asking how far our new perceptions of science will liberate us from our old or traditional perceptions. The statement given (P4, L3-5) requires the assumption that the world view of the technocratic establishment is the traditional view. Answer choice **A**. is incorrect; the technocratic establishment would likely encourage scientific inquiry since the traditional view is that science is “our single valid picture of the world.” Answer choice **C**. is incorrect because the broadening of the perceptions of science and art were paralleled, however, the current perceptions were not deemed identical (you should always beware of words like “identical” in these questions). Answer choice **D**. is incorrect because it attempts to equate the traditional view of the technocratic establishment with the people who brought about changes in the artistic forum. These are not parallels.

**Q 14 D P1, L7-10**

It is a good idea to make a note in the margin whenever you see a list of examples illustrating a point or a specific concept. In paragraph one, examples of the aesthetic orthodoxies of the past are listed.

**Q 15 C P4, L1-2, L6-9**

The main idea of the last paragraph is that the new perceptions of science are fragile and scattered (P4, L1-2). The author illustrates this by suggesting that some rebels against the traditional establishment are transformed into followers (P4, L6-7), and that there is little but “submerged unease” challenging the view of the technocratic establishment (P4, L8-9). The word submerged is underscoring the weakness of the movement challenging the traditional views of science.

**Q 16 B P 4, L6-9**

In paragraph four, the author claims that many who go against the traditional views are transformed into followers whose gestures are “converted into oaths of allegiance.” From this we can infer that the author would most likely consider someone who does not agree with him as already following or conforming to the view of the technocratic establishment, which he considers to be a “lingering authority of science and technique” (P4, L9).

**Q 17 B P1, L5-6; P3, L7-10; P4, L1-2, L4, L8-9**

Note that the question is asking for the most reasonable answer, which means we must compare them all. Answer choice **A**. is incorrect because the author considers the change from orthodox views to new perceptions as “liberating” (P4, L4). The author says that science is emerging as part of a broader spectrum which includes “alternative realities” (P3, L7-10). Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the author would feel that these other views could contribute to the scientific community, as contended by answer choice **B**. In paragraph one (P1, L5-6), the author refers to the evolution of art as “innovative” and “stylistic,” hardly words describing something not taken seriously, eliminating answer choice **C**. Finally, answer choice **D**.’s claim about the rash embrace of new theories is contradicted by the author’s description of society where there is only “submerged unease” challenging the traditional views (P4, L8-9). The reference to the “fragile and scattered beginnings” also contradicts the rash embrace suggested in answer choice **D**. (P4, L1-2).

**Q 18 A P1, L12-13; P3, L7**

This question is testing your interpretation of the main idea of the passage. First, let's eliminate. Answer choice **B.**'s claim that we should return to established values goes against the theme that both art and science are becoming part of a broader spectrum which departs somewhat from the traditional views (P1, L12-13; P3, L7). Answer choices **C.** and **D.** are false; there is no supporting evidence in the passage of either of these claims. Answer choice **A.** is consistent with the author's views that traditional beliefs in science and art are only a part "of a far broader spectrum" (P3, L7).

**Q 19 A P1, L2; P2, L1-4; P6; P7; P8, L1-2**

Answer choices **B.** and **C.** can be discounted together by looking at paragraph two (P2, L1-4) where the author states that increasing combustion has polluted the air of Europe and the northeastern U.S. Answer choice **A.** is confirmed by statements that acid precipitation damages farms, cities and people (P6; P7; P8, L1-2). Although answer choice **D.** is tempting, note the use of the word "any," which discredits the answer because the polluting fuels are fossil fuels (P1, L2). You should be on the lookout for very broad words like "any" in the MCAT questions, since they often (but not always) make the answer incorrect.

**Q 20 D P5; P8, L2-7; P9, L3-6**

This question will make you lose a lot of time if you're not in the habit of taking note of words like "worst" or "best" etc. during your first readthrough. If you are in the habit, you would have noticed that the three problems listed in answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **C.** were listed in no particular order of gravity.

**Q 21 C P5, L6-8; P9, L3-8**

It is clear throughout the passage that the author believes that acid rain is getting worse and needs to be controlled. Some of the effects of acid rain are stated in the passage to be fish death (P5, L6-8), and aggravation of lung disease (P9, L6-8). These can be expected to continue or get worse as long as acid rain continues. This eliminates answer choices **A.** and **B.** In addition, the author indicates that the high smokestacks increase the pollution on a broader geographical scale, eliminating answer choice **D.** Another effect of acid rain is the contamination of water supplies (P9, L3-6). Based on indications of increasing fossil-fuel combustion, it is reasonable to conclude that an increasing number of water supplies will be contaminated as a result of acid rain.

**Q 22 A P3, L1-2**

If you don't already know this from the chemistry section (shame on you!), the author indicates that acidity rises as the pH drops. Therefore, the lowest pH indicates the highest acidity.

**Q 23 C**      **P12, L3-5; P13, L5-7**

In the passage, governments are criticized because they require extensive evidence with regard to environmental pollution before implementing programs to deal with it. In addition, the author believes that we should implement measures now instead of waiting for all the causes of pollution to be uncovered, which rules out answer choice **A.**'s appointment of a commission to study the problem. Treating lakes with lime is considered a temporary way to clean up after emissions, but this technique also affects the ecological system and does not restore lakes to their prior state (P12, L3-5). This means that the author would not give his greatest support to the notion of asking industries to clean up their emissions (answer choice **B.**). In the concluding paragraph, the author states that conservation is the best solution, which is in accordance with answer choice **C.**

**Q 24 C**      **deduce**

If the levels of fossil fuels burned are constant but the problem is worsening, it is likely that there is another factor contributing to the increase in acid rain. This challenges the notion that fossil fuels are the primary cause of acid rain, as answer choice **C.** states.

**Q 25 A**      **P4, L6-8; P11**

The author states that the "only credible reason for the severity of acid rain" is industrial emissions. Later in the passage, he faults the government for requiring an excessive amount of evidence about the causation of the problem before taking action to combat acid rain. This question is relatively easy as answer choices **B.**, **C.** and **D.** are not mentioned in the passage in any context.

**Q 26 B**      **deduce; P8**

In paragraph eight, the author cites the results of a study which show that a decrease in pH in rain correlates with a decrease in crop yields. These results are preceded by stating that contradictions (= inconsistencies) have been found in these studies. From this, we can infer that there must be other results which conflict with the findings stated in the passage (answer choice **B.**), rendering this type of study inconclusive. Answer choices **A.**, **C.** and **D.** are incorrect because they suggest a consistent link between acid rainfall and crop yields.

**Q 27 D**      **deduce**

Be careful: all four of the answer choices are true statements taken from the passage. The key is to figure out which one conflicts with the study claiming that the natural soil conditions, rather than pollution, are acidifying lakes. Answer choice **B.** has nothing to do with pollution of lakes. Answer choices **A.** and **C.** are comments that apply to acidification of lakes, regardless of the cause of it. Only answer choice **D.** opposes the findings of the study. The statement that industry is the only credible cause of lake acidification excludes the possibility that natural soil conditions could be acidifying many lakes, and thus this claim requires modification given the results of the study.

**Q 28 D deduce**

When looking for the central theme, it helps to summarize each paragraph in a few words to see the overall pattern; the central idea should dominate a large part of the passage. The majority of this passage is devoted to the explanation of the three theories of moon origin and their inconsistencies with the evidence uncovered thus far, as suggested by answer choice **D.** The Apollo program is mentioned briefly and does not constitute the central theme of the passage (P2, L1-2). Similarly, the fact that the moon formed at the same time as Earth could be interpreted as part of the sister or daughter theories, however, these two theories were not supported by the evidence found and therefore this was not the main point. Answer choice **C.** is never mentioned in the passage.

**Q 29 A P1, L3-6**

The author mentions Venus early in the paragraph then goes on to discuss the giant planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune). Since Venus is not listed as a giant planet, we can infer that it must be smaller than the four mentioned (as must the planets listed in answer choices **A., B.** and **D.**). There is no information in the passage about the relative size of Venus to the planets mentioned in the other answer choices.

**Q 30 D P1, L5-8**

The giant planets are compared to a small solar system with “a large mass and many tinier worlds revolving around it.” Since we know that the Sun is at the center of our solar system, we can infer that the “large mass” in our solar system is the Sun while the “tinier worlds” are the planets. Answer choices **A., B.** and **C.** are not implied in the passage.

**Q 31 C P1, L4-5; P2, L16-18; P6, L8-12**

On their own, the two statements appear to be contradictory (= inconsistent), since Mars is said to have captured its two moons while Earth could not have captured its moon.



However, we must examine other information in the passage first in order to determine the reasons why these two statements were made. In the first paragraph, Mars is said to have captured its moons from a nearby asteroid belt. In paragraph six, three problems with the pickup theory of the origin of the moon are discussed. From this information, answer choice **A.** can be eliminated because the two situations are different: Mars picked up its moons from a nearby asteroid belt, while Earth would have to have picked up its moon from another part of the solar system. Given this information, it is not contradictory that Mars was able to do this and Earth was not.

Answer choice **B.** can be eliminated since the information about the origin of these moons is not mutually supportive. The fact that Mars was able to pick up its moons does not support the fact that Earth was not, and vice versa. To eliminate answer choice **D.**, consider the information given: Mars appears to have captured its moons from a nearby asteroid belt, and evidence suggests that Earth did not pick up its moon from another part of the solar system. The passage states that the capture of the moon by the Earth is extremely improbable, but no indication of the probability of Mars picking up its moons is given. Therefore, there is no reason to believe that an unlikely event occurred and in fact both statements could be true.

**Q 32 C      P2,L8-18; P4, L4-10**

This question is asking us to interpret the three theories of the origin of the moon to see which would be consistent with finding similar chemical composition on the Earth and the moon. The major problem stated for the sister theory is the lack of similar minerals in the two structures, which makes it unlikely that they evolved side by side. Therefore, the discovery of similar minerals suggested in the question supports the sister theory, eliminating answer choices **B.** and **D.** Now we need only determine whether the information in the question supports the daughter theory or not. If the moon was a spin-off of the Earth (that is, the two used to be one), as suggested by the daughter theory, it is likely that the chemical composition of the two would be very similar, making answer choice **C.** correct.

**Q 33 D      P4**

Answer choice **B.** can be quickly eliminated since there is no analytical data quoted in the passage. Dynamics were mentioned to explain problems with both the daughter and pickup theories but never to support the lack of iron on the moon, eliminating answer choice **A.** The passage indicates that the chemical composition of the lunar rocks did not support the three theories. The author then goes on to discuss one of the major problems of the sister theory being the lack of iron in the Moon. From this information, we can infer that the lack of iron on the moon was determined by analyzing the chemical composition of the lunar rocks, making answer choice **D.** correct.

**Q 34 B**      **P4, L5-10; P6, L8-12**

If parts of the Earth aggregated to form the moon, as suggested by the great impact theory, we would expect that the Earth and the moon would have similar chemical compositions. This eliminates answer choices **C.** and **D.** since the earth has an abundance of both iron and water (P4, L5-10). The notion that the moon comes from the earth (analogous to the daughter theory) contradicts the pickup theory that the Earth captured the moon from a separate part of the solar system. Also, the pickup theory was never concluded to be correct and so answer choice **A.** is incorrect. The passage states that the fact that the earth and moon share identical oxygen isotope ratios suggests that they come from the same basic material. The great impact theory explains why this is so, making answer choice **B.** correct.

**Q 35 D**      **P2, L13-16**

Even if you're not familiar with the word "tidal," you can deduce its meaning from the context. In this example, the sun is said to have used its "tidal forces" to tear the moon from the Earth. Of the answer choices provided, only a gravitational force could accomplish this (you should know this from your physical science review). In fact, tides are caused by the gravitational pull of the moon on the earth.

**Q 36 B**      **P5, L4-8; P6, L6-7**

To answer this question, let's first locate the areas of the passage that discuss angular momentum. In P5, the daughter theory is said to be unlikely because the Earth's angular momentum is only one fourth of the amount required to spin off the moon and it is not easy for the system to lose that much momentum. From this statement, we can infer most reasonably that the angular momentum is fairly constant over time, making answer choice **B.** correct.

**Q 37 C**      **P3, L17-22**

The author indicates that the moral requirement to always do the optimific act has the implication that to relax is to do wrong since during a person's relaxation time, there will always be "opportunities to produce greater good." By failing to take the opportunities to produce greater good we are failing to do the optimific act and thus are doing wrong. In this context, "optimific act" refers to producing the greatest amount of good in the world.

**Q 38 D**      **P3**

Answer choice **A.** is found in the first few lines of the third paragraph and is followed by specific examples, as indicated by the words “for instance” (P3, L3). Answer choice **B.**, a paraphrase of a sentence also in the third paragraph, states that we do not have an obligation to produce the greatest amount of good in the world. As discussed in Q37, this statement is supported by the example of relaxation that does not neglect moral duties. In fact, answer choice **C.** illustrates the statement made in answer choice **B.** and itself is supported in the passage by further examples of relaxation (“...the worker who, after a tiring day...”; P3, L24-25). By elimination, answer choice **D.** is the correct answer. This statement is not qualified in the passage by evidence, explanations or examples (P3, L22-23).

**Q 39 C P3, L5-8**

The author states that a person is doing wrong when they omit to help someone who is in need when that person is in a position to help. To say that it is not wrong to relax necessitates that there must be some periods of time during which a person is not in a position to help another in need (and therefore is not omitting to help in favor of relaxing). The author must deny, then, that everyone is always in a position to help someone in need because this would mean that relaxing is morally wrong.

**Q 40 A P1, L9-12; P2, L1-8**

The author believes that anyone who engages in non-reversible behavior is doing something wrong, irrespective of social recognition (eliminating answer choice **D.**) or consequences (eliminating answer choices **B.** and **C.**). Reversible behavior is defined as a behavior that is acceptable to a person, whether that person is the giver or the receiver of the behavior. Non-reversible behavior is that which a person would not want done to them if they were on the receiving end of it. Non-reversible behavior is considered wrong, and so it would be morally wrong to lie if no one would want to be lied to in that situation.

**Q 41 B deduce**

In essence, the author believes that we have a moral obligation to help people who are in need of assistance when we are in a position to help. The question is asking which answer choice would be the most helpful to those attempting to do this. Knowing how to determine if someone is in need would allow us to identify situations whereby people would or would not have moral obligations to help someone.

**Q 42 C P1, L9-12; P2, L7**

Answer choice **A.** can be eliminated since the author analyzes the practice of morality,

not the state of people's morality in general. The author does not mention a person's overall character (eliminating answer choice **B.**) and directly contradicts answer choice **D.** by stating that non-reversible behavior is morally wrong irrespective of individual recognition (P2, L7). Answer choice **C.**, a paraphrase of the definition of reversible behavior (deemed moral by the author) states that the behavior must be acceptable to everyone involved, given equal chance of being the giver or the receiver. This is most consistent with the theme of the passage.

**Q 43 B deduce**

After the last few questions you should be very familiar with the central concern of the passage, which is stated in answer choice **B.** Answer choice **A.** is an unlikely candidate since the most of the passage was devoted to explaining the author's views on morality, not to convince the reader of the absolute importance of morality. Answer choice **C.**'s claim that "people should do whatever they can to help each other" is not consistent with the author's statement that we should help only those who need assistance. The claim that no one likes to be harmed was never made nor defended in the passage, eliminating answer choice **D.**

**Q 44 D deduce**

Since the question is asking us to base our decision on the passage, let's sort out what directions are given with regard to these types of situations. We know (from all preceding questions) that the author believes we have a moral obligation to help those who are in need and in addition, any non-reversible behavior is considered wrong, irrespective of consequences.

Now let's look at our example. You have two choices of action: to kill or not to kill the innocent bystander. "Sacrificing" anyone would constitute non-reversible behavior since the behavior is probably not acceptable to the victim, eliminating answer choice **A.** Since we are not looking at the consequences, it is irrelevant that three people could be saved by killing the innocent bystander. This act would be wrong, regardless. However, by failing to kill the bystander, you are essentially causing the deaths of three other people. If you were one of the three who died, failing to kill the bystander would probably not be acceptable to you, and so this also is non-reversible behavior. Based on the passage, it is unclear how someone should proceed when faced with two choices that both violate the condition of reversibility.

**Q 45 B deduce**

Since the author believes that our moral obligation consists of assisting those who are in need of our help, any act done to help people who are not in need of our assistance will be considered supererogatory. Answer choices **A.** and **C.** are reasonable examples of

what would fall under moral duty, since the accident victim and the worthy charity can be considered in need of help. Answer choice **D.** is a non-reversible act; remember that according to the author, the act itself is what counts, not the consequences (which in this case are positive). This leaves us with answer choice **B.:** bringing pleasure to someone not in need is considered an act that is not required by the moral duty the author describes in the passage.

**Q 46 D**      **P1; P2**

This answer can be located in the first two paragraphs of the passage. In paragraph one, the authors claim that myth is story and intuitive, eliminating answer choices **A.** and **C.** Myth is referred to in paragraph two as a favorite term of criticism, eliminating answer choice **B.** The authors state that myth is “contraposed” (= opposite in position) to philosophy at the end of paragraph two, making answer choice **D.** correct.

**Q 47 B**      **P1, L1-2; P2, L5-6; P4, L8-10; P5, L5-6**

The authors never claim that myth need be literary, only that it is a favorite term in literary criticism, eliminating answer choice **A.** Furthermore, the authors state that myth is “story, as against dialectical discourse” (P1, L1-2), eliminating answer choice **C.** The authors refer to Nietzsche’s view that intellectuals were responsible for the downfall of Greek culture (P2, L5-6), however, there is no mention of myth in this context, eliminating answer choice **D.** This leaves us with answer choice **B.:** the authors state in the passage that “myth comes to mean any anonymously composed story telling” (P4, L8-10) and that in literary theory the myth is “social, anonymous, communal...” (P5, L5-6).

**Q 48 C**      **P7, L5-8**

In the concluding paragraph, the authors state that people “fill their voids by crude, extemporized, fragmentary myths” because “they can’t live by abstractions alone,” as stated by answer choice **C.** Be careful: the fact that myth is historically or scientifically untrue (answer choice **B.**) is stated in the passage (P2), however, it has nothing to do with the flourishing of false myths in today’s society.

**Q 49 B**      **P4, L1-2**

The key words here are “most closely.” Answer choice **C.** can be quickly eliminated since myth is contraposed to science (P2, L5-6). In the third paragraph, the authors state that the meaning of the word myth has shifted from fiction to an equivalent of truth, eliminating answer choice **D.** Myth is said to follow and correlate with ritual historically (P4, L1-2), making answer choice **B.** correct. Art is mentioned in the passage as being

hovered over by myth, a term which does not depict a close relationship between art and myth, eliminating answer choice **A**.

**Q 50 D**      **P6, L2-4; P6, L12-16**

At a glance, answer choices **B**. and **C**. can be eliminated since they contradict the positions of the authors that the term myth had a pejorative (= disparaging) connotation during the age of Enlightenment (P3, L2-3) and that people are impoverished without myth (P6, L12-16). Answer choice **A**., taken directly from the passage, has no relevance to Nietzsche's view, leaving us with the correct answer choice **D**. Nietzsche's view that the intellectuals have destroyed the life of Greek culture is one of the conceptions stated in paragraph six to introduce the notion in the concluding paragraph that people are impoverished without myth.

**Q 51 D**      **P3, L4-9**

The German Romanticists are included in the group of individuals that shifted the meaning of myth from fiction to a "kind of truth or equivalent of truth, not a competitor to historic scientific truth but a supplement" (P3, L5-9).

Answer choice **A**. can be eliminated since it was never mentioned in the passage. Answer choice **B**. is untrue since myth is said to "supplement" history and science, not be inferior (= secondary) to them. Answer choice **C**. may be considered a valid assertion from the passage, however, it has nothing to do with the German Romanticists' involvement in the shift of the conception of myth. The comparison of myth to poetry (P3, L7), the reference to myth as a supplement (P3, L9), and the implication that people's lives are poorer without myth (P6, L14-16) all imply that myths serve to enrich people's lives.

**Q 52 C**      **P4, L8-12; P6, L19-21**

The passage states that myths are sometimes used to explain the world to the young and that the disruption of these rituals (and accompanying myths) impoverishes most people. In the final sentence of the passage, the author states that to show a need for myth (e.g. to lack myth) is a sign of a need for communion with society (e.g. to be alienated from society). Therefore, we can conclude that the alienation of the young Americans may be partly due to the lack of myths providing explanations about the way the world is.

Answer choice **A**. can be discounted since the government is not mentioned in the passage. Answer choice **B**. is incorrect because the authors present arguments in the passage supporting the theory that modern society has disrupted mythology, not emphasized it. Lastly, equality is mentioned in the sixth paragraph as being considered a false myth by "other writers." In this context, it is being used to further the authors' view

that people are impoverished without real myths and by itself, answer choice **D.** does not lead us to conclude that students would become alienated from society because of attaining equality and universal education.

**Q 53 A**      **P2, L5; P3, L7-9**

In the third paragraph, the authors discuss the relationship between myth and science; they state that myth is an equivalent of truth that should be used to supplement science rather than compete with it. On this basis, the authors would not agree that we should turn away from the superstition of myth and look to science since they believe that myth has something important to add to science. This view implies that there is more than one way to look at the world. Answer choice **D.** is incorrect because the passage states that myth is contraposed to history and therefore myths cannot be based on historical truth. Answer choices **B.** and **C.** are not addressed in the passage.

**Q 54 B**      **P4; P6, L19-22**

In the concluding paragraph, the authors discuss the effects of the destruction of myths on society. The authors believe that “the need for myth...is a sign of [one’s] felt need for communion with [one’s] society” (P6, L19-22). Paragraph four is dedicated to demonstrating the role that myth plays in society. Based on these statements, it is likely that the destruction of societal myths would endanger a society’s sense of community.

**Q 55 D**      **deduce**

Campbell believes that myths are timeless because they originate from the unconscious human mind, in accordance with answer choice **A.** (thereby eliminating it). Campbell’s theory challenges the idea that modern humanity lacks myths because he believes that myths reflect the workings of the human unconscious mind. To say that modern humanity lacks myths would be to deny that they have an unconscious mind, and so this theory challenges the contention that modern humanity lacks myths.

**Q 56 C**      **P1, L3-5; P3, L1-6; P6, L6-9**

The fashionable theory of aging suggests that natural selection declines after an animal has reproduced; it is based on evidence gathered from opossums isolated on a small island that reproduce later in life and age slower (answer choice **C.**) than their mainland counterparts. Answer choice **A.** is contradictory to the information in the passage about diets, which states that semi-starved mice live up to 50% longer than normally fed mice (P8, L2-3). Similarly, answer choice **B.** runs counter to Dr. Austad’s claim that creatures may only have limited stores of energy for life (P8, L5-6). Finally, answer choice **D.** can be discounted because although it is a paraphrase (P4, L2-3), the particular sentence it

refers to in the passage is followed by discrediting evidence (i.e. cats and dogs are the same size as opossums yet live longer).

**Q 57 A P7, L1-3**

The question is asking us to evaluate the possible outcomes of an experiment whereby we kill the progeny of younger mothers of fruit flies for successive generations and allow the eggs of older mothers to survive. Based on the fashionable theory of aging, we expect that natural selection will remain powerful longer when successful reproduction is delayed. If only those progeny that are born late are allowed to survive, natural selection will favor those genes that allow the flies to live longer and will decrease deleterious mutations that act in old age, thereby preventing the flies from dying off before reproduction occurs. These changes in the gene pool are passed on, producing successively more flies that live longer. Note that the amount of flies in the progeny should remain constant (eliminating answer choice C.) while we expect the average age of the oldest mother in each succeeding generation to increase (eliminating answer choice D.).

**Q 58 A P1, L3-5; deduce**

Let's eliminate. The statement that longer-lived species bear less offspring (answer choice D.) is contradicted by the isolated opossums which live longer and produce larger litters than their mainland counterparts (P6, L12-14). Answer choice C. can be discarded because of the evidence in the passage, which tells us that a small bat has a faster metabolism than an opossum, which is a larger animal (P4, L4-7). Although the passage discusses deaths due to genetic defects (P3, L6-9), BEWARE of the absolute word "all" in answer choice B. The author mentions deaths due to predators and accidents (P5, L4-5), indicating that there are other ways of dying that do not correlate with genetic defects. This leaves us with answer choice A.'s assumption that genetic defects are usually manifested as physical characteristics.

The theory of aging described is based on a decline in the power of natural selection later in life and "not simply a matter of a creature wearing out" (P1, L3-5). The passage describes how after an individual has reproduced, there is no reason for natural selection to act against harmful traits which arise. Genes which code for diseases or other harmful characteristics that manifest themselves only after the age of reproduction are allowed to be passed on to successive generations because they are not physically evident around the age of reproduction, when natural selection would act against them. Deleterious genes that manifest themselves as physical characteristics before the age of reproduction hinder an individual's ability to reproduce and thus are acted on by natural selection. It is made clear in the discussion, but you should know from biology that natural selection can only operate on displayed characteristics and so the theory of aging described depends on the assumption that genetic defects are expressed physically at one point or another.



**Q 59 D**      **P7, L1-3**

This question is asking “did you get Q57 right?” If you did, answer choice **D.**, which states that species that reproduce at a later age tend to produce offspring that live longer, should jump out at you as the correct answer. Answer choices **A.** and **C.** were never implied in the passage. Answer choice **B.**, which may be tempting because it goes along with the general idea of the passage (that species that reproduce at a later age usually live longer), should be discounted because it applies to one particular case. Natural selection, on the other hand, is a phenomenon that occurs over successive generations in populations, not individuals.

**Q 60 C**      **P6, L12-14**

The words “for example” after the statement that the island opossums are aging more slowly should tip you off to the right answer. The author states that a sure sign of more gradual aging is that the island opossums “produced larger and faster-growing litters in their second years than in their first,” as compared to the mainland opossums who produced only a few slow growing young in the second year. This makes answer choice **C.** the winner.

**Q 61 D**      **deduce**

Based on the theory of aging that populations which reproduce at a later age tend to live longer, we can discount answer choices **B.** and **C.** because the life span of the population is not related to the frequency of reproduction. Answer choice **A.** can be eliminated because the impact of technological advancement was not discussed in the passage. Finally, if people of a certain culture tend to marry at a younger age, then assuming that those who marry also tend to reproduce, we expect that these populations will reproduce at a younger age and consequently be shorter-lived.

**Q 62 B**      **deduce**

If you’ve answered any of the previous questions in the passage, it should now be clear that populations that reproduce later in life tend to have a longer life span. From this, it follows that the island opossums that age more slowly probably reproduce later in life than the mainland opossums (answer choice **B.**). Answer choice **D.** is contradicted in the passage (P6, L12-14) while answer choices **A.** and **C.** are not mentioned in the passage.

**Q 63 C**      **P8, L1-6**

When the author mentions the study involving semistarved mice, he specifically states that they were “not malnourished.” The study found that if mice were semistarved they lived longer, implying that they lived longer than they would have if they had access to a normal diet. This study did not compare the life spans of mice who were malnourished with mice who were semistarved, eliminating answer choice **A**. Answer choice **B**. should be discounted since the only study of Dr. Austad’s that was mentioned was done on island and mainland opossums, not humans. Answer choice **D**. is incorrect because no mention of natural selection is made in the discussion of a limited amount of energy for life. The concluding paragraph begins by saying that diet, time of reproduction and longevity seem to be related, and ends with Dr. Austad’s theory of how these variables may be related: through limited energy for life.

**Q 64 B**      **P1, L1-3; P3, L1-4; P4; P5, L8-11; P6, L15-18**

These “central point” questions usually present us with three choices mentioned briefly in the passage and one (the correct answer) discussed at length. Answer choices **A**., **C**. and **D**. are statements made about comets taken from the passage which contribute to the main point of the passage which is stated in answer choice **B**. In fact, the central idea is introduced in the first paragraph by saying that “comets...have a special role to play in achieving [the] goals of understanding the origin and earliest history of the solar system.” This statement is backed up throughout the passage by descriptions of what could be learned from comets and how (P3, L1-4; P4; P5, L8-11; P6, L15-18)

**Q 65 B**      **deduce**

Although all four of the answer choices represent information that could be provided by NASA’s experiments on the comet sample, we must choose the one which bears most directly on the theory that comets originated far beyond the solar system and contain interstellar material which predates the solar system. Knowing the age and composition of the comets would provide us with the most useful information, given this theory.

**Q 66 D**      **P3**

This question is relatively straightforward. The passage indicates that the cometary samples are the best preserved; examples of modifications undergone by asteroidal material in meteorite collections are given at the end of the third paragraph.

**Q 67 A**      **P1, L4-6; P2, L6, L9-11**

If you are a sci-fi fan, you probably know the meaning of the word cryogenics, and thus this question will be simple. However, the meaning can also be inferred from some references in the passage. The passage indicates that the primordial material is

“preserved at low temperatures” and in a distant region where “solar heating is negligible,” making answer choice **A** the winner. The other three choices can be eliminated by contradictory information in the passage stating that comets are located within the solar system in areas of low illumination, where objects are dispersed (P2).

**Q 68 C P2, L4-7**

The paragraph in which the reference to low illumination is found (P2) discusses how the location of comets is optimal for preservation of materials. Comets reside at “great distances from the Sun” which makes solar heating and illumination minimal. From this, we can infer that the statement about the low illumination levels is referring to the limited ability of the sun’s rays to reach the outer edges of the solar system and illuminate comets, rather than some intrinsic ability of the comet to produce illumination.

**Q 69 D P2**

The second paragraph discusses reasons why materials in the solar system furthest from the Sun are under the best conditions for preservation and can remain “unchanged for aeons.” From this information, we would expect that the body furthest from the Sun would remain the closest to its original state.

**Q 70 A deduce**

The most essential goal with respect to the discovering the role of comets in the origin of life would be to determine the presence of biogenic [bio = biological (pertaining to life); genic = generating] compounds in comets.

**Q 71 B P3, L4-7**

The goal of the scientists is to extract a sample which has been least modified from its original composition. Asteroidal materials are said to be less preserved than comets because of modifications caused by “melting, collisions, heating...” (P3, L4-7). Since these forces are at work in the solar system, we expect that the outer surface of the comet will be more affected than the inner surface. Consequently the best preserved samples are located at the center of the comet. There is nothing in the passage to suggest that more silicate dust would be found in the center (answer choice **A**), nor that the outer material has been observed optically (answer choice **D**). There is no reason to believe that the scientists want the comet sample to resemble asteroid material, eliminating answer choice **C**.

**Q 72 C P2**

As discussed previously (Q64-71), comets are well preserved as a result of their distance from the Sun which provides low temperatures and illumination as well as an area of the solar system where objects are dispersed such that collisions are less likely. Although paragraph two mentions the smaller size of comets, this property is not associated with a benefit related to preservation.

**Q 73 C      P4, L1-3**

The passage indicates that while economists have declared the nation in a recession, the author does not believe it to be true (P3). The source of the economists' underestimation lies in basing their judgements on "old indexes, and most of those are buried in the dying industries," as contended by answer choice **C**. The gross national product, the will of the people and the trade balance are not mentioned.

**Q 74 B      P12; P13, L1-3**

The author states in the twelfth paragraph that an increase in economic interdependence would lead to increased chances of peace (answer choice **B**). He later qualifies this opinion by suggesting that we would be less likely to bomb a country if we were somewhat interdependent with it financially.

**Q 75 A      P7, L1-5; P9, L1-3**

The author believes that the developed countries should invest in the Third World countries by providing aid in order to encourage development of their industries. The Third World countries would benefit by receiving aid, and the developed countries would gain a new partner for future trading.

**Q 76 C      P1**

The author begins the first paragraph by implying change ("yesterday is over") as the Third World "prepares to take over the major industrial tasks," as stated by answer choice **C**. The takeover of industrial tasks by Third World countries will be accompanied by developed countries moving on to new enterprises. These changes will undoubtedly affect world economic trends. Answer choices **B**. and **D**. are not discussed in the passage, and answer choice **A**. is countered by statements about the U.S. moving out of the role of the dominant economic force.

**Q 77 B      P11, L1-4**

Note that when the author says “we” (P7, L3-7), he is referring to the U.S. (the MCAT is an American exam). In paragraph eleven, the passage indicates that “we” should buy more goods from abroad (= imports) and that it is also the time for exports (P11, L1-4). The author also stresses the fact that we are moving toward an interdependence with other countries, including Third World countries. To have only one good to trade (strategic materials) or to have only exports without imports (or vice versa) does not imply interdependence, and thus answer choice **B.** is correct.

**Q 78 C P13, L1-6**

Answer choice **B.** and **D.** can be eliminated because Third World countries are not discussed with respect to the relationship between Japan and the United States. Answer choice **A.** is also incorrect because there is no indication that trade imbalances cause tension. The author is simply stating that because Japan and the United States are so economically interdependent, any tension that arises (for whatever reason) will be resolved without resorting to drastic measures such as war. In other words, economic ties promote cooperation.

**Q 79 D P2, L3; P3, L2-5; P6**

The economy is illustrated in paragraph two by the use of the terms “sunrise industries” and “sunset industries.” This question requires that we understand the use of the analogies of the sunrise and the sunset. In the next paragraph (P3), the author states that some businesses are prospering and some are depressed. In paragraph six, the author states that we should not bemoan “the loss of the old industries” because there are new technologies that will prosper. It is not hard to liken the phenomena of sunset and sunrise to the contrast of business and industries that are dying off with those that are new and full of potential. Sunset signals the end of the day, and in the passage refers to the dying industries. Sunrise signals the beginning of a new day, full of the potential that new, advanced industries offer.

With this in mind, we can finally answer the question. We are looking for a sunrise industry, so it must be a new, previously unexplored industry. Answer choice **C.** can be discounted since it represents a sunset industry. Answer choices **A.** and **B.** are incorrect because they refer to people (an importer and a political party), not industries. A company dealing in such a technologically advanced field as alternative energy sources (new automobile fuel) qualifies as a prosperous sunrise industry (answer choice **D.**).

**Q 80 A P11, L9**

This question is a gift. Paragraph eleven explicitly states that the Mexican Stock exchange is “one of the world’s fastest growing,” making answer choice **A.** correct.

**Q 81 B P9, L1-2**

By now you should be aware that the author believes that the success of the United States' economical future lies in increased interdependence with developing nations through increases in trade. The methods suggested in answer choices **A.**, **C.** and **D.** are not discussed in the passage as ways to increase economic success.

**Q 82 C deduce**

Although the passage explains why objectivity is a goal of scholarly criticism (P1, L1-5), it is quickly recognized that this goal is perhaps unattainable (P1, L5-8), and the passage moves on to suggest consequences of and solutions to the problems of Careful and Critical Discourse. This eliminates answer choice **A.**, as the author is suggesting that perhaps objectivity is not the essential requirement of academic criticism. Answer choices **B.** and **D.** are topics discussed in the passage in brief (P1, L15-17; P3, L5-7). The main idea of the passage is summarized by answer choice **C.** The first paragraph, which discusses the purpose and shortcomings of objective criticism from scholars, is followed by the consequences of such expectations (alienation; P2) and possible solutions to this problem (authenticity; P3; P4). Feminists are mentioned throughout the passage as being among "the most severe victims" of alienation (P2, L14-15) who will probably benefit most from the solutions put forth.

**Q 83 D P1, L5-8; deduce**

The passage indicates that scholars will experience difficulty in maintaining critical objectivity because they will be drawn to study those things that either appeal to them or dismay them. This statement necessitates that objectivity is affected when studying things that provoke such emotional responses.

**Q 84 C P1, L15-20**

The answer to this question can be found directly after the statement about violations of the conventions of Careful and Critical Discourse (P1, L15-17). Expressions of indignation, anguish or anger are violations of the conventions of CCD because the show of such strong emotion puts into question the neutrality of the critic (P1, L17-20).

**Q 85 B P1, L20-27; deduce**

This might seem difficult at first because the sentence in question is quite long and complex, however, try to focus on the bottom line. The given sentence follows one that focuses on violations of CCD which compromise its goal of objectivity. The given sentence begins with the word conversely, so something about the idea being introduced will be opposite to the one previously explored (violations of CCD leading to decreased

objectivity). The sentence states that critics may become less objective if they devalue texts not written in their own dialect (the dialect of CCD; P1, L11-12), if they ignore objects which cannot be described in their own dialect (CCD), or if they ignore their intuitions during investigations of objects. The ideas of both sentences include decreased objectivity as a result. The difference between the two ideas (and thus the reason for using the word conversely) is that in one, *violations* of CCD lead to a decrease in objectivity, and in the other, *using* CCD leads to a decrease in objectivity. Therefore, the main point of the sentence is best expressed by answer choice **B**.

**Q 86 C deduce**

The author believes that as a result of forgoing intuition, experience and passion in order to present oneself as professional and neutral, scholars are alienated from their purpose. With this in mind, the author would not favor dispassionate critical language. We can also infer that the author would not likely favor critical language which is simple or colloquial (= informal) since the use of critical language is supposed to allow for “professionalized discourse” (P1, L1-5). The author advocates the use of authenticity to prevent the alienation of scholars (P3). The use of words such as integrity, fidelity and intensity in the description of the use of authenticity makes it likely that the author would favor the use of engaged (= committed to) critical language by the scholar.

**Q 87 D P1, L13-20**

The passage indicates that CCD allows authors to “remove themselves from their writings,” and that the worst violations of the parameters specified by the CCD are expressions of emotions since these compromise the neutrality of the author (P1, L11-20). Since we expect writings that follow the conventions of CCD to be void of emotions, it is not probable that audiences will react to them with excitement, pleasure or anguish. Instead, it is most likely that they would react to the neutral text with indifference (answer choice **D**).

**Q 88 D P2, L14-21; deduce**

In paragraph two, the author states that the use of CCD by feminist critics deprives feminists outside the academic community of “any validation of their own perceptions and judgements.” From this, we can infer that these women would most likely not embrace feminist literary criticism written in CCD for any reason (eliminating answer choices **A** and **B**). Feminists outside the academic community would still be interested in the same issues, and so they would not reject feminist literary criticisms written in CCD on the basis of subject matter. They would probably reject those writings on the basis that they do not agree with their own responses to the same subjects (answer choice **D**).

**Q 89 B P5, L11-13**

Paragraph five indicates that polysaccharides made by microbes in the soil help to offset erosion by keeping soil particles together. Therefore, it is likely that an abundance of this organic material will lead to an increase in gluing of soil particles and a resultant increase in protection against soil erosion.

**Q 90 A P7, L1-3, L6-8**

Answer choices **C.** and **D.** can be eliminated since there are no conclusive studies or cost comparisons mentioned in the passage which support or disprove the higher profitability of conventional farming. In fact, the author supports the notion that most people accept the fact that conventional farming has higher short-term profitability by stating that most farmers select a conventional agriculture system for this reason. This point is further strengthened by the fact that research and USDA policy has supported conventional agriculture over the past forty years.

**Q 91 C P2, L4-10**

Paragraph two contains a good description of what constitutes a sustainable farm. One characteristic of a sustainable farm is that it must be environmentally safe. Converting wildlife habitats to farms could not be considered environmentally responsible by any stretch of the imagination, and therefore, answer choice **A.** is eliminated. The passage also states that a sustainable farm is one that depends on renewable natural resources within the farm as opposed to fertilizers and pesticides (eliminating answer choice **B.** and **D.**). From the description in the passage, a farm using the manure from animals (a natural, renewable resource) to fertilize its soil would be considered sustainable.

**Q 92 D P4, L2-3; P5, L1-7**

This question is a gift; the description of healthy soil in paragraph five includes the characteristics listed in answer choices **A., B.** and **C.,** but not **D.** In addition, the passage explicitly states that “soil is not just another instrument of crop production” (P4, L2-3).

**Q 93 B P3, L1-6**

Paragraph three provides us with a list of issues addressed by sustainable farming, which includes soil erosion, low farm income and high energy costs. It is a good idea to make a note whenever you encounter lists of this type in the passage for quick reference when answering questions.



**Q 94 B**      **P7, L1-3**

Since nitrogen fixation is listed as an essential activity for productivity (P6), it is unlikely that farmers would use chemicals for the purpose of removing nitrogen, as answer choice **C.** contends. Similarly, the addition of chemical pesticides and fertilizers would probably increase the risk of groundwater contamination, eliminating answer choice **D.** There is no association between soil erosion and pesticides and fertilizers given in the passage, and so there is no reason to believe that soil erosion would be reduced by using these chemicals. In paragraph seven, the author indicates that conventional farmers are more interested in short-term profitability than in the preservation of their soil. This suggests that farmers use the chemicals despite their long-term negative effects on soil, in order to increase short-term gain.

**Q 95 A**      **P5, L3-5**

The passage indicates that plant nutrients cling to the internal surface area of the soil. If this surface area is decreased, there would be a reduction in the amount of nutrients available in the soil for plants. This problem could be reduced by the addition of fertilizer (which contains nutrients) to the soil.

**Q 96 C**      **P2, L6-10; P8, L4-7**

This question is probably best answered using elimination. Conventional farms would not be more profitable than sustainable farms because of low fertilizer cost. Sustainable farms use natural, renewable resources such as cow manure for fertilizer, and this costs nothing. No matter how low the cost of fertilizer, free is always lower. This eliminates answer choice **A.** The passage states that if environmental and health costs were factored in, sustainable farms would be more profitable, eliminating answer choice **B.** The production costs associated with conventional and sustainable farms should not be equal, since conventional farms rely on purchased materials, while sustainable farms use “natural processes and renewable resources drawn from the farm itself.” This eliminates answer choice **D.** and leaves answer choice **C.**, which states that the production costs of a conventional farm are higher. This makes sense because the passage indicates that conventional farms are initially more profitable than sustainable farms. The higher production costs of the conventional farm should eventually even out this imbalance.

**Q 97 D**      **deduce**

The harmful effects of conventional agriculture are listed in paragraph three. Since there are no studies cited in the passage, answer choices **A.** and **B.** can be eliminated.

Although the author does claim that sustainable agriculture protects the environment, this does not constitute evidence for the negative effects of conventional agriculture.

**Q 98 B P3, L1-2**

In paragraph three, the author states that people tend to focus on extremes, making answer choice **B.** correct, however, let's eliminate the other answer choices to be on the safe side. Faith healing is used as an example of focusing on the good whereby the healer takes credit for any "accidental improvement" but does not take responsibility for failed attempts. These statements do not suggest a belief that faith healing really works, eliminating answer choice **A.** In addition, the passage claims that radio, television and film have benefited audiences by exposing them to world-class talent, eliminating answer choice **C.** Finally, paragraph two states that the average scientists from the U.S. and Belgium are comparable, eliminating answer choice **D.**

**Q 99 B P1, L1-2; P3, L1-2; deduce**

The filtering phenomenon refers to the tendency of people to focus on extremes while ignoring the average or normal. With this logic in hand, admiring an average baseball player, buying something local to encourage the economy or using a service recommended by friends does not constitute focusing on extremes. Conversely, refusing to take a vacation because of terrorist activity qualifies as filtering because you would be focusing on the extreme chance of a terrorist act and filtering out the likely situation of the absence of such an act during one vacation.

**Q 100 A P4, L4-8**

The author believes that the media has helped audiences by exposing them to world-class talent. This situation is bad for performers of mediocre talent who must now compete for audiences with the best performers in the world. This argument is strengthened by answer choices **B., C. and D.,** all of which point to the fact that professional sports and famous entertainers (i.e. the best) are increasing in popularity in the community. However, an increase in popularity of mediocre talent such as that normally found on high school sports teams (answer choice **A.**) weakens the claim that "media have been...bad for performers," because these budding athletes would be enjoying an increase in popularity despite the exposure of society to professional athletes.

**Q 101 D P4, L4-8**

An increase in support for recorded music (likely of world-famous musicians) at the expense of the popularity of local musicians is in agreement with the author's view that the media is causing an increased demand for world-class talent. The explanation of Q100 may also be useful here.

**Q 102 D deduce**

We can discount answer choices **A.** and **B.** since the author states that “the filtering phenomenon is very widespread and manifests itself in many ways” (P2, L1-2) without placing emphasis on any one manifestation in particular. Although the passage mentions that local performers are negatively affected by the filtering phenomenon, he also acknowledges that the community benefits from it. Therefore, he does not imply that the phenomenon usually harms those it affects, eliminating answer choice **C.** However, the example of the way that the filtering phenomenon affects audiences and performers illustrates the claim that the filtering phenomenon can lead to undue (= excessive) expectations. Audiences who are exposed to the very best performers begin to expect that quality of performance from all performers and thus are disappointed by mediocre performers who previously were considered very good.

**Q 103 A P2, L7-17**

The claim that the average value of a large collection is the same as the average value of a small collection is supported in the second paragraph by the example of the water level in a given river, and the average scientist in two countries. This question is relatively easy since the claim in line 16-18 is followed by the words “for example.”

**Q 104 A P1, L1-7**

The author indicates that casinos encourage the tendency to focus on the good and successful by having blinking lights go off for every winner and allowing each quarter to fall separately from the slot machines to maximize the amount of noise made. In this manner, surrounding people will be given the impression that most players are winning and consequently, they will be encouraged to play.

**Q 105 C P3, L5-9**

Although the original claim of focusing on the good and filtering out the bad is supported by examples in the first paragraph (e.g. casino, faith healer), the author goes on to introduce an example of focusing on the bad. In the third paragraph the author discusses how international news is worse than local news as a result of focusing on the worst cases in the world. Based on the examples provided by the author, we can say that the filtering phenomenon sometimes leads to focusing on the bad, as suggested by answer choice **C.**

**Q 106 D deduce**

If the population focuses on extremes, as suggested by the filtering phenomenon, it is likely that they will focus on the political scandal because it is an unusual occurrence. Consequently, we would expect the public to grow increasingly distrustful of the government officials and their motives. Answer choice **A**. goes against the filtering phenomenon; we would expect that voters should have increased name recognition for the U.S. Senator involved in the scandal, not the local politicians who are presumably going about their normal business. It is also doubtful that the public would gain trust for the government or grow less interested in the candidates' positions if they are focusing on the recent scandal.

**Q 107 C P2, 1-2**

The passage indicates that the process of political socialization begins early in life. The author supports this assertion with an example about second graders who are politically aware. However, the passage does not indicate that political socialization begins in second grade, only that its effects can be clearly observed by this time. The exact time of the beginning of political socialization is not given; we only know that it is early in life.

**Q 108 D P4, L1-5**

This question is relatively straightforward. The fourth paragraph indicates that positive early perceptions of politics facilitates bonding between the citizen and government "that is essential to the establishment of the legitimacy of a government's right to rule" (P4, L1-5). This is consistent with answer choice **D**.

**Q 109 B P5, L8-15**

The author discusses the transition from childhood to adolescence in the concluding paragraph. He outlines the different transformations undergone in this period as a result of political socialization. One of these, the need to choose a side, is referred to as a critical stage that will "color their political attitudes for the rest of their lives." Based on this information, it is most likely that the low voting rates seen in the age range of eighteen to twenty-five years are caused by people avoiding the critical aspect of political socialization in which sides are taken on various issues. Avoiding having to choose a side affects the ability to vote for a particular candidate. The other three answer choices are not discussed at length in the passage.

**Q 110 A P4, L6-8**

The passage indicates that the failure to form positive perceptions of government during childhood interferes with the establishment of the legitimacy of the government. The passage states that those who do not believe in the legitimacy of the government are

unlikely to participate in its processes. Voting is one of the processes of government, making answer choice **A**. correct.

**Q 111 D P1, L1; P2, L1-2**

As discussed in Q109, the author believes that critical periods of the process of political socialization occur in adolescence and that during this time, “perceptions of the political world tend to grow in sophistication.” This suggests that some definite perceptions have already formed and that these perceptions are built upon in adolescence. This view, coupled with the author’s opening statement that political socialization is an endless process, leads us to the correct answer choice **D**.

**Q 112 B deduce**

If race or parental occupation can affect attitudes toward the president then it follows that families (with parents who have occupations) play an important role in such political socialization. Schools, religion and the media cannot influence race or parental occupation and therefore cannot affect political socialization through these aspects.

**Q 113 C P5**

As discussed in Q109, the concluding paragraph indicates that as children become adolescents, perceptions become more sophisticated as adolescents are exposed to political parties and “confronted by the need to choose a side.” Although these decisions are being presented “as children move into adolescence” (which might be considered preadolescence), it is made clear that the final result of this process, actually choosing a side, occurs some time after a person is presented with the choice (likely in adolescence). Therefore, the choices that will determine a political affiliation occur during the period of adolescence, as answer choice **C**. states.

**Q 114 D P1, L3-7**

The author mentions that in early childhood, the view of government is mostly limited to the president of the U.S. and the policeman, however, nowhere is it implied that a negative experience with policemen could bring about criticism of the government later in life (answer choice **A**.). Answer choice **B**. refers to a step of political socialization that occurs during adolescence (P5). We would not expect that the simple recognition of the levels of government would lead to dissatisfaction with politics. Answer choice **C**. is contradictory to what we are looking for; it would hardly be reasonable to assume that a positive view of political figures would lead to criticism of government. In fact, the passage states that a positive view of political figures early in life contributes to the establishment of a belief in the legitimacy of the government. It is plausible, however,

that information acquired in adulthood leads to dissatisfaction since the author states in the introductory paragraph that attitudes can be refined throughout life.

**Q 115 A      P3, L10-13**

The author supports his claim that children's views may be influenced by personal characteristics with the examples of race and parental occupation. In this question, the fact that more young girls than young boys favor a woman for president could be a third example of a personal characteristic (i.e. sex) that can influence children's views.

**Q 116 C      deduce**

If you've done the other questions in this passage, this one should be easy for you. A study that showed that adolescents, but not preadolescents, recognize the distinction between national and state governments supports the ideas presented in the concluding paragraph regarding the changing political perceptions of children as they enter adolescence. The claim by the author that adolescence is a time when perceptions become more informed and sophisticated is supported by the fact that adolescents recognize more complexity in the political system than preadolescents.

**Q 117 D      deduce**

Remember that the central thrust will be something that recurs in the passage, while the incorrect answers are usually points that are briefly mentioned, or not discussed at all. In this question, answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **C.** are all incorrect. Although the passage states that arctic hurricanes form more quickly and move faster across the water than tropical hurricanes (P1, L7-11), it also states that arctic hurricanes do not have as high a wind speed as tropical hurricanes, and thus are not as powerful (P4, L16-18). It is also mentioned that surface winds over arctic waters do not put enough water vapor into the air to fuel a hurricane and so the winds cannot be the primary cause of the storms. The only time that rotational forces are mentioned is to say that they offset the storm's rotation. Rotational forces are not implicated in the quick formation of hurricanes.

Therefore, not only are the ideas presented in answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **C.** not the main point of the passage, they are also false. Answer choice **D.**'s statement about the unusual set of environmental conditions required to form an arctic hurricane constitutes the main idea. The topic of arctic hurricanes is introduced, and then basic information concerning usual, tropical hurricanes is presented and contrasted with the unusual conditions that can lead to hurricanes happening in the arctic.

**Q 118 D      deduce**

This question is a matter of eliminating statements that are made in the passage. In paragraph two (P2, L1-2), hurricanes are said to use ocean water as fuel (answer choice **A.**); paragraph five (P5, L1-2) indicates that floating chunks of ice drift southward (answer choice **B.**). Answer choice **C.** may be confusing because the passage states that the windspeed of arctic hurricanes is less than that of tropical hurricanes (P4, L16-18). However, this is the speed of the wind *in* the hurricane, not the speed at which the whole hurricane travels.

In the first paragraph, it is stated that arctic hurricanes travel over ocean waters “two to three times faster than most tropical storms” (P1, L7-11), and so answer choice **C.** is also incorrect. Answer choice **D.** is also a little confusing because the passage states that the heat energy of an arctic hurricane is as great (per square meter) as that of a tropical storm twice its size. However, the heat referred to is the *combined* heat, not just the heat energy from water vapor. The passage states that the heat in the water vapor is not enough to fuel an arctic hurricane (P4, L1-3), however, the heat in the water vapor of tropical storms *is* enough to fuel them (P2, L1-2, L12-14). This means that answer choice **D.** is correct.

**Q 119 C P4, L16-20**

The passage indicates that the rotational forces of the earth are stronger at the poles and counter the rotation of the storm. As a result, wind speeds of arctic hurricanes are slower than tropical ones. Therefore, the hurricane furthest away from the poles will experience less countering force and consequently, will have the greatest wind speed.

**Q 120 A P1, L1-2**

The author introduces the topic by claiming that satellites have “confirmed the existence of arctic hurricanes” where scientists had spotted storm activity, making answer choice **A.** correct. There are no statistical data in the passage, eliminating answer choice **B.** The claim in answer choice **D.** about rotational forces preventing the development of hurricanes is not relevant to the claim that some arctic storms are hurricanes. In addition, the simple fact that the passage claims that arctic hurricanes exist makes this statement false. Answer choice **C.** is tempting because the passage states that satellite photographs confirmed the existence of arctic hurricanes without mentioning the fact that some arctic storms are actually hurricanes. However, it is not a stretch to assume that storm activity occurred in the arctic before this discovery, and if the photographs only now confirmed the existence of hurricanes, this weather phenomenon must have previously been called something else (i.e. a storm).

**Q 121 B P1, L7-9; P4, L5-8**

Since the author indicates that tropical storms take a week or more to develop while arctic ones take several hours, we can assume that the hurricane observed on the new planet arose because of conditions similar to those that produce arctic hurricanes on Earth. Therefore, we can discount answer choices **C.** and **D.**, which refer to tropical regions. The only difference in the remaining choices is the presence or absence of water. The importance of both water and ice in the formation of arctic hurricanes is discussed when the “extra source of energy” needed to create an arctic hurricane is described (P4, L5-11; P5). So, if a hurricane similar to an arctic hurricane was observed on another planet, it is most likely that the planet has both water and ice masses similar to our arctic regions.

**Q 122 A**      **P6, L6-8**

At the end of paragraph five, the author asks the same question: how are hurricanes triggered? He goes on to explain how storm systems coming from the western Atlantic lead to swirling disturbances in the air, or small vortexes, which trigger cyclones (= hurricanes) when they descend over the ice.

**Q 123 B**      **deduce**

The fact that a smaller arctic hurricane contains an amount of energy equal to a larger tropical hurricane has nothing to do with the speed of the storms or how commonly they occur, thereby eliminating answer choices **A.** and **D.** In addition, this statement probably strengthens (not weakens, as stated in answer choice **C.**) the argument that arctic hurricanes are more compact than tropical ones. This leaves us with answer choice **B.**; from the information provided in the question, we can infer that if the hurricanes were of equal size, the arctic hurricane would contain a greater amount of energy despite the fact that arctic waters are relatively cold. The temperature of the water is relevant because a good portion of the energy of a hurricane is derived from the water through water vapor.

**Q 124 D**      **P4, L6-8**

As mentioned in Q119, the earth’s rotational force is the only thing that makes arctic hurricanes slower than tropical ones, eliminating answer choice **C.** Answer choice **B.** can also be eliminated because water vapor is the fuel required by hurricanes (P2, L1-2, L12-14). A relationship between size and wind speed is not established in the passage, and so you can only infer that as the energy decreases (as it would in a smaller hurricane) the wind speed would also decrease, eliminating answer choice **A.** Paragraph four indicates that the extra energy needed by arctic hurricanes to make up for the lack of heat in arctic water vapor is obtained through temperature gradients between the ocean water and the air above it. Later in the paragraph it is made clear that the heat energy is converted to wind. An increase in the temperature difference would likely lead to an increase in heat



energy available to be converted into wind, thus increasing the wind speed of the hurricane.

**Q 125 D deduce**

The statement is made on its own in the introductory paragraph; it is not supported or qualified in the passage. Note that this is a favorite type of MCAT question that can consume a lot of your time if you're not careful. Make sure to spend only a limited amount of time on these kinds of questions.

**Q 126 C P3, L1-2**

This question is a gift. The first sentence of paragraph three provides us with the information that the eye of a hurricane is "relatively calm, temperatures are warmer, and the sky clear." This leaves only answer choice **C.**, which states that the eye is 60-300 miles in diameter. You may be fooled because in the description of arctic hurricanes in the first paragraph, the same diameter is mentioned. However, this is the diameter of the swirling clouds that are wrapped around the eye, not the diameter of the eye itself.

**Q 127 A P2, L1-9**

In this passage, the author contrasts two types of art students (amateurs versus professionals) and the different teaching skills required for their instruction. He stresses that the art industry is producing teachers who lack real life experience in practicing art as a livelihood, and consequently, teachers are not qualified to instruct students who are willing to become professionals (answer choice **A.**). The lack of teachers for amateurs (art lovers) is not suggested in the passage. In fact, the author suggests that art educators today are themselves art lovers (P2, L9), eliminating answer choices **B.** and **C.** Answer choice **D.** is also eliminated by the fact that art educators are art lovers, since art lovers are said to be more interested in product than process (P3, L4-6).

**Q 128 B P1, L8-10**

The author claims that aspiring professionals require teachers who are themselves paid artists, when they require teachers at all, indicating that formal instruction is not necessary to all professional artists.

**Q 129 C P2, L13-15**

The passage explicitly states that most people are unwilling to commit to the profession of art because of a fear of being laughed at, making answer choice **C** the winner.

**Q 130 B P3, L4-12**

The author supports his claim that it is “the product, not the practice, that seduces” art lovers with examples of comedy (one doesn’t need to know Aristotelian theory of comedy to enjoy a good laugh) and the car (you don’t need to know how the car works to drive it). These examples support answer choice **B**’s statement that a person can love art without an understanding of how it was created.

**Q 131 D P3, L4-12**

This question is an extension of Q130. As explained above, the claim made by the author regarding the interest in the product and not the practice is validated by analogies of comedy and the automobile, as indicated by answer choice **D**.

**Q 132 A P1, L1-3**

The author introduces the topic by stating that there is a need for teaching in the arts, however, with a curriculum “decidedly different from that provided by the arts education industry today.” The word “decidedly” (= definitely) leads us to chose answer choice **A** over the other ones.

**Q 133 B P2, L3-8**

Today’s art educators are criticized for never experiencing the “jeopardy” of having their livelihood depend on the approval of strangers. Since this was stated in the discussion of teachers being inexperienced in the open art market, the author is implying that the life of a professional artist is financially risky.

**Q 134 D P1, L4-7; P3, L3-5**

The 19th-century geologists are said to have discovered that huge sheets of ice covered Europe and North America (P1, L1-3), eliminating answer choice **A**. The passage states that Ruddiman and his colleagues claimed that the Tibetan plateau and the high country of North America rose in the last 10 million years. However, it does not say that this claim was drawn from the results of the computer experiment, eliminating answer choice **B**. Answer choice **C** is an observation from the computerized experiments discussed in the passage, however, it is not the main finding. The results of the experiment are commented on in paragraph three by Ruddiman himself, who states that “uplift with

remarkable accuracy explains the direction of climate change in most areas.” Also, the first paragraph states that computer experiments suggest that the rise of the plateaus primed the planet for entering the current glacial cycle, which is exactly what is stated in answer choice **D**.

**Q 135 A P2, L4-7**

The author’s conclusions are based on Ruddiman and Kutzbach’s experiments involving the atmospheric general-circulation model run on a supercomputer. If the model used is called into question then the conclusions drawn from experiments using it can only be weakened by this uncertainty, as indicated by answer choice **A**.

**Q 136 A P7, L4-6**

The experiments showed that the plateaus cause monsoonal circulation patterns, which in turn cause colder winters and summers in northern regions. Therefore, in the absence of the plateaus, we would expect these regions to become warmer, as indicated by answer choice **A**.

**Q 137 B P6, L5-7; P7, L1-4**

Ruddiman stated that the plateaus explained climate changes with remarkable accuracy, and so he would probably explain the fact that the western United States has dry summers in terms of the effects of the plateaus. In paragraph four, the author explains how the heat radiating from the plateaus creates a low-pressure system in the summer, which results in monsoonal circulation patterns. Ruddiman’s model predicts that the combination of this type of circulation with diversion leads to drier summers in western North America and the Mediterranean (P7), as indicated by answer choice **B**.

**Q 138 A P2, L4-7; P4, L4-7**

Since Ruddiman is using the model to how uplift affected the world’s climate, we can safely assume that he believes the model to be an appropriate representation of the circulation of air in real life (I). In paragraph four, the author notes that one of the shortcomings of the model is its inability to account for individual mountains or ranges. To use this model to see how the plateaus affected climate, Ruddiman would have to have assumed that the individual mountains and ranges could be ignored in favor of the general pattern of high topography without significantly affecting the outcome (II). Ruddiman carried out the experiments to learn how the plateaus changed the world’s climate. This does not require the assumption that the plateaus caused *all* recent changes; the point of the experiment was to specify *which* changes could be accounted for by the presence of the plateaus. The correct answer is answer choice **A**.

**Q 139 C P6, L7-9**

The passage indicates that the air curves to the right because of the Earth's Coriolis force (= explanation), making answer choice **C**. correct. The claims in answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **C.** can be found in the passage in P4, P5 and P8, respectively, however, they are not supported by evidence or explanation.

**Q 140 C P6, L4-12**

The passage indicates that thermal effects cause monsoonal circulation patterns that vary from counterclockwise in the summer, to clockwise in the winter, making answer choice **C**. correct.

**Q 141 D P6, L5-12**

Heat radiating from the high thermal plateaus causing a low-pressure system which draws air into the uplifted region is the thermal effect for which we want to find the opposite. This eliminates answer choices **A.** and **C.** right away, since they are not opposites of this effect. Although the clockwise pattern mentioned in answer choice **B.** is the opposite of the counterclockwise pattern which results following the low pressure system described, the clockwise pattern does not occur as a result of the thermal effect; it occurs because of the Coriolis force. Answer choice **D.** describes the opposite effect in which a high-pressure system is driving air from the uplifted region.

**Q 142 C P3, L8-13 ; P5, L9-13**

The author introduces accounting profit at the beginning of the passage and states that it fails to take into account the liabilities implicit in the risks taken by the entrepreneur. The author uses the anecdote of the weaver to validate his definition of profit. To calculate his profit, the weaver must factor in the costs of the shop, but this is not all. The weaver must also take into account the potential revenue he could have had from other endeavors as well as the potential interest he would have earned if he had invested his money rather than opened the shop. These potential revenues are something that is not taken into account in the calculation of the accounting profit, and so answer choice **C.** is correct.

**Q 143 A P3, L7-9 ; P6, L11-12**

The author makes it clear throughout the passage that he believes risk is a given in any entrepreneurial activity. In the third paragraph, he states that "the entrepreneur must take

a risk” (P3, L7-9). In the final sentence of the passage, the author states that the role of the entrepreneur includes both risk-taker and innovator (P6, L11-12). The risk referred to is that which one takes when deciding to pursue one enterprise over another, since other enterprises may have proved more profitable. Since there are always alternative activities that one could have chosen to pursue instead, risk-taking is an inherent part of being an entrepreneur. With the definitions of risk and profit described in the passage, the author would likely argue that it would be impossible for an entrepreneurial activity not to involve risk.

**Q 144 D deduce**

In the fifth paragraph, the author describes a situation in free-market exchange where people apply their services only when its earnings exceeds the rate offered in another endeavor (P5, L6-8). Similarly, the truck driver should take the short route only if he has more to gain by doing so than by taking the alternative, longer route. In order to maximize his gains, he should only take the short route if the toll charges are of less value than the time saved.

**Q 145 D P3, L9-11; P5, L6-8**

To make the decision based on the profitability of the options, you must calculate the profit of both endeavors and go with the one that is most profitable. The passage is devoted to expanding the definition of profit to include risks taken in the form of opportunities foregone. The definition of profit described includes the costs of starting an endeavor (e.g. tuition, books) as well the potential earnings of alternative endeavors available at the time (e.g. lost wages), making all three costs relevant to the decision making process.

**Q 146 C P2, L1-4**

The author suggests that an imaginary poll taken by American business leaders would find that many of them consider profit to be a business’s net income. The passage goes on to state that net income is revenues minus variable costs, fixed overhead and interest expenses, as stated by answer choice C.

**Q 147 B P6, L11-12**

Once again, we turn to the final sentence of the passage where the author states that the role of the entrepreneur as a risk-taker and innovator is the “spark for economic progress.”

**Q 148 C P5, L6-8**

Further information about the opinions of business managers or accountants on the definition of profit would hardly shed light on the author's definition of profit, since he specifically points out that these people do not define profit as he and most economists do. However, since the concept of alternative endeavors is an integral part of the author's definition of true profit, illustrations of such a concept could help in clarifying the author's views. Answer choice **D.**'s suggestion of a discussion of how to bring about economic progress would not clarify the author's definition of profit.

**Q 149 D P1, L4**

The sentence about "even more devastating assaults in the future" should tip you off that the author believes that humanity's triumph over nature has created serious problems.

**Q 150 C P2, L17**

The final line of paragraph two states that "we have not tamed ourselves," making answer choice **C.** correct because the taming of the wilderness was not accompanied by the taming of human nature. The statements in answer choice **A.** (P2, L7-8), answer choice **B.** (P2, L9-12) and answer choice **D.** (P3, L1-2) are discussed in the passage as factors accompanying the taming of the wilderness.

**Q 151 B P5**

Paul Ehrlich states that if acid rain, caused mainly by nitrogen and sulfur oxides, continues to pollute the atmosphere, the devastation to nature could be so great that the humans that survived would be reduced to living as small hunter and gatherer groups, as stated by answer choice **B.** It is quite clear that nitrogen and sulfur oxides contribute to damaging the "life supporting machinery of the planet," and thus do not have the benefits ascribed to them in answer choices **A.** and **D.** Migration of hunter and gatherer groups is not an issue in the statement made by Ehrlich.

**Q 152 A P2, L9-15**

The author indicates that taming has reached its apex (= highest point) with the invention and detonation of the nuclear weapons that have brought taming to a vanishing point with the "splitting and taming of the atom," making answer choice **A.** correct. Answer choice **B.** is also tempting since the passage suggests that nuclear weapons brought the taming of

the wilderness to a vanishing point. However, the statement in answer choice **B.** suggests that nuclear weapons caused all wilderness to vanish, which they have not. They are certainly capable of doing so, but it has not reached that level.

**Q 153 C P3, L4-14**

The reactions of the planet, listed in paragraph three, include desert advances, floods and other natural disasters. Many people have become destitute because the land that once fed them is no longer able to do so (it is “starved”), making answer choice **C.** correct.

**Q 154 A P2, L3-4**

Paragraph two indicates that the term has been “switched to describe the human condition,” making answer choice **A.** correct.

**Q 155 D P3, L4-6; P4, L1-4**

The passage states that climates become erratic after deforestation, soil becomes barren (= infertile), and the exchange of moisture with the atmosphere is compromised. You should also know from biology that trees are important because their leaves carry out photosynthesis which produces oxygen, but the passage makes it quite clear that cutting down trees does not have positive effects on the environment, such as the examples listed in answer choices **A., B.** and **C.**

**Q 156 B deduce**

The passage describes the negative effects on the environment that have resulted from “taming” it. Therefore, it is unlikely that the author is encouraging us to continue our destruction, eliminating answer choice **A.** Although nuclear weapons are mentioned in the passage, it is brief, and the use of nuclear power for energy is not discussed, eliminating answer choices **C.** and **D.** The passage outlines the worsening conditions of the environment and concludes with a warning from Paul Ehrlich that humanity could be doomed if pollution does not cease. In this context, it is most reasonable to assume that the author is describing the problem in the hope that we will take more care with the environment (answer choice **B.**).

**Q 157 A P3, L6-11**

Paragraph three discusses some of the effects of the worsening condition of the environment. This paragraph states that many people, mostly poor, are living in areas where natural disasters occur and cannot easily escape. Therefore, we can conclude that they would be the most affected by an increase in natural disasters.

**Q 158 C P4**

The author states that soils turn barren (= infertile) following deforestation, particularly in the tropics. Therefore, we can easily conclude that the soil in the tropics is poorer as a result of deforestation. Even if you did not know the definition of barren, this question can be solved by elimination. Cutting down forests would not produce richer soil because it turns soils barren. It also would not reduce acid rain, since trees have no role in producing it. The exchange of moisture is affected by the loss of trees, and so we cannot say that the air would be moister after the loss of trees.

**Q 159 B deduce**

The passage compares the intrinsic value of the lives of two men who are forced to make a pivotal decision at the age of thirty. In order to compare the decisions made, the author discusses the intrinsic value of each man's life. The author must assume that the value of lives can be compared. The paradigm used by the author states that the men's lives are of equal value up to the age of thirty, however, the values change according to the men's actions, eliminating answer choice **A**. In the example discussed, the author suggests that the shorter life of the man who sacrificed his life had more intrinsic value than the longer life of the man who did not, making answer choice **C**. incorrect. The author suggests that there is no clear answer to the question of whether or not it is a duty to sacrifice your own good for the general good (P3, L5-9), and so answer choice **D**. is also incorrect.

**Q 160 D deduce**

The answer to this question can be arrived at using knowledge of English, or using the passage. You should know that intrinsic and inherent are words that can often be used interchangeably, both meaning existing within someone or something as an inseparable quality or part of its nature. Value and worth also have roughly the same meanings. However, if you did not know this, you can find the answer using elimination. The passage never associates economic productiveness or social approval with the value of a person's life, eliminating answer choices **A**. and **C**. Self-sacrifice adds to the intrinsic value of one man in the example given, however, intrinsic value does not *mean* self-sacrifice.

**Q 161 A P3, L17-22**

It is the author's contention that it is our duty to always contribute to the good of the world, despite the consequences on our individual lives. Therefore, he would most likely agree that a wealthy individual should donate money to improve the lives of others, since this action will result in the "best effects upon the whole" (P3, L17-22). Note that answer choices **B**. and **D**. are essentially suggesting the opposite, that people should do whatever is better for themselves.



**Q 162 C P3, L17-22**

Although the author recognizes that the question of whether it is a duty to sacrifice oneself for the greater good is one which is difficult to answer, his view is that it is a “duty to do what will produce the best effects upon the whole, no matter how bad the effects upon ourselves may be” (P3, L18-21). However, the author does not state that the good of oneself and the general good are always in conflict. It is easy to assume that it is sometimes possible to promote individual good while at the same time promoting the good of the whole. Based on this information, the author probably believes that actions for the good of the person are sometimes good and sometimes bad, depending on what effects these actions have on the greater good.

**Q 163 B P2, L1-4**

The paradigm in the passage describes two men who must decide whether or not to perform their duty of sacrificing their lives for the general good. The answer choice most analogous (= similar) to this is answer choice **B.**, in which the two men are required to endure suffering and loss for the good of other people. Answer choices **A.** and **C.** are incorrect because the men’s lives are not negatively affected as they are in the example in the passage. Answer choice **D.** is tempting because the situation is similar to that in the passage. The two men are required to choose between two courses of action (dying or not dying), and the author makes it clear that he believes this decision should be made with the greater good in mind. However, the situation given in answer choice **D.** does not say anything about the effects of the two actions on the individuals themselves. It could be that the two actions would also benefit them, and so this situation is not analogous to the one in which the individuals face sacrificing their lives.

**Q 164 A deduce**

In this passage, the author discusses moral decision-making when faced with choices of action based on the consequences of the act (e.g. is the action benefiting the good of the person or the greater good?). If it were determined that the consequences of an action are irrelevant to the intrinsic value of a person’s life, then the author’s arguments would be substantially weakened because the basis for making the decision on how to act is gone. The frequency of the situation outlined in paragraph two or people’s likely course of action has no bearing on the author’s argument regarding how the choices should be made. Regardless of how the author acted in the past, he is stating how he now feels one should act, having thought the issue over carefully.

**Q 165 C P3, L17-20**

The author states that it is self-evident to him that it is our duty to produce the greatest good. This statement suggests that he believes that it requires no further explanation or support, and none is offered.

**Q 166 D P3, L16-22; P4**

The author's most fundamental view of morality, given by answer choice **D.**, is stated quite clearly in paragraph three. The author indicates that he believes it is our duty to act in a manner to produce the best effects for the whole, regardless of consequences to the individual.

**Q 167 C P3, L9-13**

The only two answer choices that should seem possible based on what is said in the discussion of artists and officials are answer choices **C.** and **D.** The exact nature of the comparison is stated in the passage. The comparison made between artists and officials is made because "although the artist is the exact opposite of an official, there is nevertheless a secret analogy between them in so far as a specifically artistic psychology is more collective than personal in character" (P3, L9-13).

**Q 168 B P1, L7-11; P2, L1-2**

The passage discusses how Freud considered art to be an expression of personal experience. Art is said to be like a neurosis in that it can be traced back to complexes (P1, L7-11). Later in the passage, it is stated that Freud believed that a neurosis is a substitute for a direct means of gratification. Given that Freud's interpretation of art has already likened art to neurosis, you can say that Freud believed that art is a substitute for direct gratification.

**Q 169 B P2, L18-20**

The passage indicates that the greater the number of the artist's idiosyncrasies present in the art, the "less it is a work of art," making answer choice **B.** correct.

**Q 170 A P2, L18-23**

The author stresses that we cannot take Freud's theory that art simply reflects an artist's personal experiences to explain a work of art (P2, L16-17), eliminating answer choices **B.** and **C.** Instead, he suggests that art rises above the personal to the level of speaking from the mind and heart of the artist to the mind and heart of humankind, as indicated by answer choice **A.**

**Q 171 D P1, L12, L17-21; P2, L16-23; P3, L13-14**

Answer choice **A.**'s statement is credited to Freud (P1, L12). Similarly, the view expressed in answer choice **B.** was developed by the Freudian school (P1, L17-21). In paragraph two, the author cites Freud's theory to contradict it with the suggestion that personal factors of the artist do not constitute the essence of art (answer choice **C.**). Only answer choice **D.**'s contention that art is a kind of innate drive that seizes a human being (P3, L13-14) is not supported specifically in the text.

**Q 172 B P3, L1-3**

The answer to this question can be located in the first two sentences of paragraph three. The author states that there is a duality in every creative person: the human being with a personal life (i.e. everyday life) versus the impersonal creative process (i.e. the creative life).

**Q 173 D P2, L16-19; P3, L9-14; deduce**

The statement presented in the question, that personal life is not essential to the artist's creative tasks, supports the author's claims that the personal life of the artist may *contribute* to, but is not enough to *explain* art (P2, L16-19). Rather than art being merely a reflection of the personal experiences of the artist, the author suggests that art is created because there is an "innate drive that seizes a human being" and compels the person to produce art (P3, L9-14). The fact that personal life is not essential to creating art supports this point.

**Q 174 A deduce**

It is clear that the author considers art to be very important in society. The author describes how art speaks from the "mind and heart of the artist to the mind and heart of humankind," and how artists are vehicles and molders of the unconscious psychic life. Art is described as an "innate drive." Given the way the author describes art, it is not hard to see that art is held in high regard. Answer choices **B.**, **C.** and **D.** all describe forms of art in a positive light, which is consistent with the author's description of art. Answer choice **A.** trivializes art by calling it "merely a form of play," which challenges the respect that the author seems to have for it.

**Q 175 A P1, L8-10; P2, L1-2**

The author, who considers himself a hierarchical reductionist, states in paragraph one that he would like to hear an answer to his question regarding a steam engine that includes an explanation of how the parts of the engine work together to produce the overall behavior of the whole engine. This is consistent with answer choice **A**. Answer choice **D** may be confusing because an explanation of the interactions of gross components of the machine is essentially what the author considers to be an adequate initial explanation of how a machine works. However, the explanation does not need to stop there. The author states that after having found out the first information, he might then be curious about how those parts work in and of themselves, indicating that the explanation can proceed past explaining the interactions of gross components.

**Q 176 C P1**

The author described what he would not consider satisfactory answers to his question. He says that Julian Huxley would agree that the “force locomotif” is not an adequate explanation and that he is not interested in hearing about how the whole is greater than the sum of the parts (P1, L3-8). This eliminates answer choices **A** and **B**. Physics is never mentioned, and so answer choice **D** is also incorrect. When he is describing what he would consider to be adequate, he states that once he is given information about the units involved, he can then understand how they interact to make the whole engine move, and thus would be satisfied with the answer. This is a commonsense notion of what would satisfy him, since he would be satisfied when he receives the information he needs to know in order to answer his question.

**Q 177 D P3, L15-18**

The passage indicates that the hierarchical reductionist explains an entity in terms of its parts one level lower. In this example, the next-simplest components involved in flying are likely the gross anatomy of the bird which are involved in its movements (answer choice **D**). The genetic composition of the bird (answer choice **B**) is more in line with the non-existent reductionist’s view of explaining complicated entities in terms of the smallest parts. Similarly, answer choice **C** would explain the bird’s movements in terms of more smaller parts than necessary. Finally, the mysterious power of flight does not explain how a bird flies in the way that the author describes.

**Q 178 B P3, L3-6**

The passage indicates that criticism of reductionism can be found in trendy magazines where it is only mentioned by those opposed to it.

**Q 179 B P3, L15-18**

In line with the definition of hierarchical reductionism given in the passage (see Q177), such a person would agree to explain cars in terms of carburetors (note: the word carburetor was misspelled in the passage) only if these were part of the next level of subcomponents of the car.

**Q 180 D deduce**

Hierarchical reductionism is introduced and described in terms of machines and how they work. It is difficult to know whether hierarchical reductionism can apply to how people think because other applications of this model are not discussed. If you were to try to apply this model to why a person believes the world is flat, you would try to find the next simplest components of the mind that would contribute to this belief. However, with a person's mind, the workings are not established so that this is possible. For one person, events in early childhood may have contributed to the belief, but for another it may have something to do with the actual brain cells. Given the information in the passage, we have no way of knowing how to apply the hierarchical reductionist model to the way a person thinks.

**Q 181 B P3, L15-20**

From the definition of hierarchical reductionism given in the passage, this way of explaining things involves the breakdown of larger entities into successive levels of smaller components.

**Q 182 B P3, L6-9; P5, L1-4**

This question is relatively simple because three of the four choices are incorrect. Answer choice **A.**'s claims are contradicted in paragraph five, where the passage states that the first part of the predatory cycle, the search strategy, is dictated by evolution and not open to modification under changing environmental circumstances (this also supports answer choice **B.**). The idea that researchers have divided animals into two well-defined categories (cruise vs. ambush searchers) suggests that foraging is well understood, eliminating answer choice **C.** The role of an animal's hunger is not mentioned in the passage, and so answer choice **D.** is incorrect. The passage repeatedly identifies consistent patterns in foraging, which it attributes to evolution, making answer choice **B.** correct.

**Q 183 A P1, L3-5**

The answer is word for word in the text (P1, L3-5).

**Q 184 A P1, L7-11**

The first paragraph indicates that the study of foraging (“the when, how, how often and how many of prey capture”) is important in the understanding of individual survival, population dynamics, community structure, nutrient cycling and energy flow. Only answer choice **A.** gives two examples that are both from this list.

**Q 185 A P3, L1-3**

Paragraph three indicates that historically, information about animal foraging was obtained by studying stomach contents of animals.

**Q 186 B P3, L6-7**

Another timesaving question; the answer is word for word in the text (P3, L6-7).

**Q 187 A P5, L1-3**

Yet another question whose answer is word for word in the passage (P5, L1-3).

**Q 188 D P5, L8-11**

Answer choice **D.** gives the definition for cruise or widely ranging search given in paragraph six, and thus is the correct answer. The fact that a cruise searcher is also called a “widely ranging” searcher indicates that the area searched is not small, eliminating answer choice **B.** Answer choice **A.** is contradicted in the concluding paragraph, where the author indicates the impossibility of changing search strategies (P6, L3-4). Answer choice **C.** is a description of the ambush search (P5, L13-16).

**Q 189 D P6, L8-10**

The concluding line of the passage indicates that despite the implication of intermediate strategies by some investigators, such strategies have never been explicitly described.

**Q 190 C P4, L9-11**

We are looking for an advantage that the predator gains by consuming prey smaller than itself. The passage states that in a situation where the prey is smaller than the predator, the predator has the advantage of reduced handling time during the last phase of the predatory cycle, making answer choice **C.** correct. The small size can be an advantage for the prey because it is more difficult to locate and catch, but this does not benefit the

predator, eliminating answer choices **A.** and **B.** The fact that the predator must consume the small prey often and in large numbers is not a benefit to the predator, eliminating answer choice **D.**

**Q 191 B P4, L11-13**

As discussed in Q190, the passage indicates that when a predator is larger than its prey, the prey “must be consumed often and in large numbers.” The situation described in the question weakens this claim by presenting an example of a predator that is larger than its prey but only needs to consume it once a week.

**Q 192 C P1, L1-5**

In the opening line, the author suggests that architects have too little constraint with respect to implementing their designs and that not enough attention is paid to the overall effect of the addition of a building on the location. The implication here, as given by answer choice **D.**, is that architects should take the environment into consideration when adding a design, a point the author argues extensively in the remainder of the passage.

**Q 193 A P3, L1-5**

The author believes that the prefabrication of individual, adjustable parts which can be assembled into different homes will maintain continuity and eliminate monotony in neighborhoods, and will “really make a success” of prefabrication (P3, L1-5).

**Q 194 C P1, L8-14; P3, L9-16**

The author introduces his ideas in the first paragraph by discussing architects who ignore what the situation calls for when designing a building in favor of being a brilliant soloist. The use of the word soloist suggests that instead of designing the “kind of carefully composed but undemonstrative civic architecture” that would be appropriate, the architect tends to be original and unique. This results in the effect that the building stands on its own without complementing its surroundings or reflecting its function (P1, L8-14). The author furthers this point by discussing housing. He stresses the importance of prefabrication of component building parts in order to obtain “the unification of a whole street,” where individual houses contribute to the overall appearance while still maintaining individuality. The author suggests that without the uniformity that prefabrication can provide, neighborhoods look like a “wild riot of uncontrolled forms and colors competing with each other” (P3, L9-16). The author’s views lead to the conclusion that if his warnings are not heeded, individual civic buildings will lack the “harmonious integration” with the surroundings that he believes to be the goal of architecture (P3, L17-18). This is consistent with answer choice **C.**

**Q 195 A P2, L5-9, L17-26**

The author believes that prefabrication, if applied to house components, could be a good thing. However, the application of prefabrication to whole houses, has “deepened the public’s fear of a prefabricated future.” The author suggests that as a result of allowing commercial developers to dictate the production of “monotonous stretches of repetitious housing,” architects have furthered the public’s aversions to prefabrication.

**Q 196 A P2, L1-5**

The passage indicates that past societies have striven to produce dwellings that represent “a ubiquitous and proud image...of their society.” This indicates that past housing displayed a positive image of society and therefore, answer choice **A.** is correct.

**Q 197 B P3, L9-16**

In the concluding paragraph, the author describes how emphasis should be on the production of unified streets comprised of houses that retain their individuality because of common component parts put together in different combinations. Based on this information, the author would most likely be in agreement with answer choice **B.**’s statement about the development of unified, aesthetically appealing communities. Answer choice **A.** is contradicted in paragraph two when the author questions why architects “submit to being outdelivered and outfigured by commercial developers” who produce monotonous neighborhoods (P2, L5-9). The mention of “virtues of restraint” in the introductory paragraph opposes the idea of free expression of individualism put forth by answer choice **C.** Finally, individual disagreements between architects are not addressed in this passage, eliminating answer choice **D.**

**Q 198 D P3, L1-5, L12-16**

The passage indicates that prefabricated parts can be coordinated to produce a variety of houses that express individuality while at the same time maintain continuity with the surrounding houses. This is suggested as a solution to the “monotonous stretches of repetitious housing” which exist today. If monotony of design could not be avoided with these prefabricated parts, then the author’s argument is challenged.

**Q 199 B P1, L5-14**

The opening paragraph suggests that too little attention is paid to the “virtues of restraint.” The author questions whether architects are capable of resisting the temptation of displaying themselves “as brilliant soloists” in situations that demand a unified design in the community. The author furthers this point throughout the passage with the idea



that individuality in architecture is good, but continuity with the surroundings must also be considered. In order to meet both of these objectives, the architect will likely sacrifice some personal expression (answer choice **B.**).

**Q 200 C P5, L8-10**

The final line of the constituent's proposal summarizes his goal of taking a step towards balancing the budget, which is consistent with answer choice **C.** Although answer choices **B.** and **D.** are specific suggestions made in the Constituent's proposal, they contribute to, but do not constitute, the central point of the passage.

**Q 201 B P6, L7-8**

The Senator's statement that federal representatives are not "average citizens" is preceded by the suggestion that they must be well informed on a variety of subjects (answer choice **B.**).

**Q 202 A P7, L4-6**

The last paragraph presents the Constituent's view that if the government expects to make cuts from programs, they should also take cuts themselves. The idea of leading the way by demonstration is in agreement with answer choice **A.**'s example of making sacrifices when one requires sacrifices from others.

**Q 203 D P4, L2-5**

The Constituent suggests that federal representatives should reduce their salary to match the national median, pay the same taxes other citizens pay, and have a pension typical of other employees. He wants public officials to be equal to the average citizen because that is what he considers them to be. It is clear that the Constituent believes that public officials should not differ significantly from others who have the same qualifications, but do not work for the government. If the cost of living in the area where public officials work exceeds the national average, the Constituent would likely agree that the salary of the representative should match the average salary of others (who do not work for the government) in that area.

**Q 204 C P4, L2-5**

This question is very similar to Q203. In his proposal, the Constituent puts forth the idea that federal representatives should have similar salaries, pensions and taxes to the general population. Therefore, it is most likely that the Constituent would argue that the federal representatives should have health-care plans that are similar to the average citizen.

**Q 205 A deduce**

To weaken the claim that federal representatives have no say in the allocation of their benefits, we look for the answer choice that suggests that they have influence in these decisions. Answer choice **A.**'s statement that the Congress has the right to reject raises in pay and benefits fits this criterion. Answer choice **B.** claims that representatives have a say in the federal budget, not over their own benefits. The power of ethics committees and the effects of congressional benefits on other programs are irrelevant to the Senator's claim.

**Q 206 B P3, L4-9; P4, L10-14**

Claims I and II are supported in the passage by statements that the federal representatives have incomes in excess of four times the average median (P3, L4-7) and that they obtain higher pensions than teachers, despite fewer years of service and less stringent qualifications (P4, L10-14). Claim III is contradicted in the passage when the Constituent refers to the nearly unlimited travelling allowances of the federal representatives (P3, L8-9).

**Q 207 C P5, L1-5**

The Constituent's claim that the federal representatives' fact-finding travels are unnecessary is supported in the passage by the statement that the representative's staff is qualified to do the research. Assuming that federal representatives do in fact have research staff, this claim is likely true, making answer choice **C.** correct. Answer choice **A.** may be tempting because the Constituent does mention this point with respect to fact-finding missions. However, the Constituent never says that actually finding the facts is not necessary, and to say that the missions are unnecessary only because the governments control what is seen suggests that the fact-finding missions should be given up entirely. This is not the Constituent's point. He is saying that federal representatives need not go because others, who are more likely to discover the real facts anyway, can do this job.

**Q 208 A deduce**

The Constituent's proposal would be more persuasive if it were known that he or she did not have something to gain from it. If the Constituent were a retired senator, not only does this person not stand to gain from the proposal, he or she could potentially lose a

large amount of money from a reduction in pension if the proposal was accepted. Given this position, the motives for suggesting such a plan are clearly not self-serving, which makes it more persuasive. Conversely, the motives of a political columnist, a member of the opposition party or a lobbyist would be suspect since they may have reasons for making the proposal other than a desire to balance the federal budget.

**Q 209 C P7, L3-6**

In the concluding paragraph, the Constituent suggests that cuts should be made to congressional benefits to demonstrate a desire to balance the budget. By doing this, demands for cuts to other programs will seem more credible, given the example set by the congress. Therefore, the Constituent assumes that Congress would set an example by implementing these measures, as suggested by answer choice C.

**Q 210 D P2, L4-7; P3, L22-24**

Paragraph two indicates that the feather fossil was found on a stone that dated from a time when people thought birds had not existed. The concluding sentence of paragraph three indicates that the discovery of the feather fossil of Archaeopteryx was the first sign that birds existed that early in history, at the time of the dinosaurs. The fossil of Archaeopteryx is used to introduce the discovery of the existence of birds at an earlier time than was previously thought.

**Q 211 A P4, L14-19**

The passage indicates that Archaeopteryx was “almost as much a reptile as a bird” and that its discovery provided confirmation for Darwin’s theory that groups of animals develop into others by way of intermediate forms. Therefore, this discovery represents the intermediate form between reptiles and birds, consistent with answer choice A.

**Q 212 B P1, L6-7**

The first paragraph indicates that the “exceptional qualities of a feather come from its intricate construction.” Therefore, we are looking for an answer that describes the arrangement of a feather. Only answer choice B’s example of the distribution of filaments on the sides of the shaft fits this criterion. Answer choices C. and D. provide examples of the ways feathers are used, but not qualities of the feathers themselves. Answer choice A. also provides information about feathers that is not about the intricate construction, and can hardly be considered an exceptional quality.

**Q 213 B deduce**

The main ideas presented in the passage are the discovery that birds were around well before they were thought to exist and that these birds appear to be an intermediate form between reptiles and birds. The identification of Archaeopteryx as a bird is crucial to these ideas, because if the fossil were not a bird, the basis for the claims that birds existed at the time of the dinosaurs is lost. The discovery that the ancient birds were intermediate in form between reptiles and birds provides support for Darwin's theory of evolution and is one of the most important effects of the discovery (P4, L14-19). The fact that the limestone that the fossil was in dated back to the days of the dinosaur is also critical in developing the main ideas of the passage, because it provides evidence that the birds did exist earlier than previously thought. The length of the bird's feathers, however, is irrelevant to the claims that the bird existed and was somewhat reptile-like, and thus answer choice **B.** is correct.

**Q 214 D deduce**

The author provides a description of the physical characteristics of the reptile-like form of the Archaeopteryx (P4, L9-15). The fact that the hoatzin has claws on its wings is relevant to the passage because it links this modern bird to the ancient bird described, making answer choice **D.** correct. The other statements about this bird describe characteristics that do not link it to anything discussed in the passage.

**Q 215 D deduce**

In the passage, the conclusion that Archaeopteryx existed at the time of the dinosaurs is made because the fossil was found in rock that dated back to the time of the dinosaurs. It is later stated that quarrymen occasionally find the fossils of dinosaurs in these rocks, indicating that animals whose fossils are found in the same layer of rock existed at the same point in time, making answer choice **D.** correct. It could not be concluded from looking at a fossil whether one animal preyed upon the other, or whether they both had the same evolutionary ancestor because the fossil tells you nothing about their behavior or lineage. A fossil also could not tell you whether one animal evolved from the other, but the fact that the two are together without an intermediate should indicate that this is not the case.

**Q 216 A P4, L17-19**

First off, let's eliminate answer choice **C.**, which provides a statement attributed to the author that the author did not make. Similarly, answer choice **D.** provides a statement which is not given in the passage (that there can only be one intermediate), and besides, Archaeopteryx is not an intermediate between mammals and reptiles, it is intermediate between birds and reptiles. Answer choice **B.**'s claim that the platypus is unrelated to birds has no relevance to the platypus exhibiting characteristics of mammals and reptiles.

Consistent with Darwin's theory, it is quite possible that the platypus is a contemporary example of an intermediate form between mammals and reptiles.

**Q 217 B deduce**

Darwin theorized that evolution proceeded from one group of animals to the next through intermediate forms. Biologists believe this process is wasteful likely because of the intermediate forms, which usually become extinct in this process and whose presence extends the evolutionary process over a long period of time. To counter this stance, we look for evidence that will provide us with a valid reason for the relatively brief presence of the intermediate forms. If the development of an optimally adapted new species can only occur through the extinction of its less well adapted form, as indicated by answer choice **B.**, this constitutes a reason for evolution through intermediate forms which become extinct. Note that answer choice **A., C.** and **D.** do not justify the "wasteful" presence of the intermediate form and therefore are not appropriate statements to counter the criticism of the biologists.

**Q 218 B P2, L13-16**

The second paragraph informs us that the discovery of the modest impact of stress on health and well-being has directed attention towards factors that influence the impact of stress on health either positively or negatively, consistent with answer choice **B.**

**Q 219 A P1, L9-10; deduce**

Even if you don't know the precise meaning of the word discrete (= separate), we can deduce it from the context. In the sentence, the author makes a contrast between the words discretely and interrelated by beginning the sentence with the word although. The word that is closest to being the opposite of interrelated is answer choice **A.**'s separately.

**Q 220 C P3, L9-14**

The author describes a study that found that bereaved individuals often find those trying to be supportive ineffective. The experimenters suggested that this may be because of feelings of "threat, vulnerability, and helplessness" on the part of the supporter when confronted by the victim's loss.

**Q 221 D deduce**

This question is easiest to solve by elimination. The author mentions daily, “low-key” frustrations in everyday life (P1, L13-16), but never suggests that everyone experiences severe strains that are unalterable, eliminating answer choice **A**. Although it is made clear that stress affects health, the nature of the mediators of this effect is not well understood. For instance, the passage states that “virtually nothing is known of how coping and supports protect health by preventing stressful problems.” This indicates that the relationship between stress and illness is not fully understood, eliminating answer choice **B**. The passage is referring to the persistent and ongoing stresses in daily life as naturalistic stressors, not the abrupt, undesirable stresses that cause discontinuity, and thus answer choice **C** is also eliminated. We are left with answer choice **D**, which identifies the main function of the passage as describing the current areas of study in the relationship between stress and health in order to identify what is understood and what is not, with the ultimate goal of solving the problems stress causes.

**Q 222 A P3**

The author begins paragraph three by suggesting that words such as coping and support imply positive consequences, but that this is not necessarily the case. This idea is followed directly by the work of Wortman and Lehman, which suggests that attempts made by would-be supporters to help bereaved individuals are often judged as ineffective by the bereaved person. This study supports the author’s idea that certain behaviors that are expected to be positive can actually be ineffective, making answer choice **A** correct.

**Q 223 D P2, L11-13**

The passage indicates that the harmful health consequences of stress are “modest in size,” consistent with answer choice **D**’s characterization of the “mildly negative” influence of stress on health.

**Q 224 B P2, L2-4**

The passage lists emotional distress, morbidity (having health problems), and mortality (dying) as possible consequences of naturalistic stressors. Hallucinations are not explicitly stated, making answer choice **B** the winner.

**Q 225 D P4, L7**

The author lists four types of coping and social support mechanisms in paragraph four. Coping mechanism #2 is alteration of the stressful situation. Since overweight people are past the prevention stage, the author would likely advise them to diet or find a substitute for overeating, in order to reduce their weight, and thereby alter the stressful situation.

\*\*Passage 27 begins with a poem, which for the purposes of these explanations will be considered the first paragraph.

**Q 226 C deduce**

The author contrasts two types of interpretations of a poem, the total meaning and the prose meaning, in order to express his view that “the value and worth of the poem are determined by the value of the total experience” (P4, L1-3), consistent with answer choice **C**. The statements made in the other answer choices are points mentioned briefly in the passage that help develop the main idea.

**Q 227 D P5, L9-11**

The text states that a good reader will not “confuse the prose meaning of any poem with its total meaning.” Based on this information, we can infer that the author would agree that a poor reader would confuse “the ingredient that can be separated out in the form of a prose paraphrase” (prose meaning; P2, L8-10) with total meaning. Consequently, a poor reader would attempt to understand a poem by forming a paraphrase of it.

**Q 228 B P4, L7-8; P5, L7-9**

The author notes that a good reader must be open to various experiences and he “will always be a person of considerable intellectual flexibility and tolerance.” These statements are supported by examples of people who find pleasure in poems containing ideas contrary to their own beliefs (e.g. the optimist enjoys pessimistic poetry). This supports answer choice **B**, that to enjoy a wide variety of poems, a reader must be tolerant to the ideas presented in them.

**Q 229 A P4, L18-25**

The author suggests that the primary value of a poem lies in the power with which it is communicated to the reader; the main idea is not as important to the worth of the poem. In describing the value of a poem, the author states that the reader must feel that the poet “is doing something more than merely moralizing.” This suggests that if a poet were simply to moralize, the value of the poem would be reduced, making answer choice **A** correct.

**Q 230 C P3, L10-16; P4, L1-3**

The message-hunter is said to be in danger because he likely believes that “the whole object of reading the poem is to find the message.” Based on the central idea of the passage that the worth of a poem is determined by the value of the total experience it provides (P4, L1-3), we can reasonably assume that the danger expressed here refers to the potential of the message-hunter to miss the total experience or true meaning of the poem by focusing on the message. This makes answer choice **C** correct.

**Q 231 B P4, L7-10**

Coleridge’s term is introduced in a sentence that begins with “The good reader of poetry will be...”

**Q 232 A P2, L12-13; P3, L14-16; P4, L25-28; P5, L9-12**

This analogy is mentioned throughout the passage, so let’s draw its meaning from one of the clearest examples. The second paragraph indicates that “prose meaning is no more the poem than a plum is the pie” (P2, L12-13). This sentence makes the analogy quite clear that prose meaning is to poems as a plum is to the pie: part of a whole. The concluding paragraph uses the same analogy when it says that a good reader will not confuse the prose meaning with the total meaning, as he would not mistake plums for pies. It can easily be concluded that in this analogy, prose meaning is to the total meaning as plums are to pies, making answer choice **A** correct.

**Q 233 B P3, L1-2**

The claim that the poem doesn’t involve ideas supports the notion that prose meaning is not usually an idea (P3, L1-2). Answer choices **A**, **C**, and **D** refer to claims that are never made by the author.

**Q 234 D P4, L7-14**

Paragraph three describes the author’s view of a good reader as one who is “receptive to all kinds of experience” and “willing to enter imaginatively” into ideas he consider to be untrue. Doing so, the author says, will allow the reader to understand these ideas better and will broaden the reader’s experience (P4, L7-14), as stated in answer choice **D**.

**Q 235 C deduce**

The whole passage is devoted to discussing why we should not stifle opinions. The author claims that we are justified in assuming our opinion is truthful if we allow “complete liberty” in the contradiction of it by others (P4, L5-9); that is, others must have



the freedom to state opinions which are different from those which we believe to be true. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the author would support freedom of speech.

**Q 236 A P1**

The first paragraph implies that the author is against censorship (= to remove information which is considered incorrect, improper, inappropriate, etc.) through the statement that stifling an opinion would be evil, even if it were possible to prove that it is a false opinion. The author establishes himself in the passage to be a proponent of the free expression of ideas because only through the test of refutation by opposing views can we assign some degree of truth to our opinions. This points to answer choice **A**, as the correct answer. You should also note that in Q235, we concluded that the passage supports freedom of speech. This in itself implies that in doing so, the passage argues against censorship.

**Q 237 D P3, L35-41**

Although we assume that opinions held by the world in general are infallible (= incapable of error, dependable), the passage points out the opinions that were held in the past because “the world” deemed them correct are now regarded as “not only false but absurd” (P3, L35-41). The passage also suggests that people will reject many of the opinions now generally accepted in the future. This weakens (= undermines) the infallibility of the world, since it is in fact possible for those views held by the world to be untrue, making answer choice **D** correct. The infallibility of the world is not supported by the beliefs of Churchmen in London, or by differing opinions of different sects and classes. In fact, the differing opinions suggest that there is no one “world” which is infallible. The author points out that the “world” which a person considers to be infallible is different for different people. The reliance on the opinions of the people with whom one comes into contact with is the basis for their particular “infallible world.”

**Q 238 C P3, L1-9; L12-20**

The author indicates that although people know themselves to be fallible (= liable to be inaccurate), they do not think it necessary to take precautions against their own fallibility. This opinion is expanded upon by saying that a person who is certain that something is true is unlikely to consider the possibility that this could be a particular instance in which their opinions are false. Even though they acknowledge that in general they are not always right, when it comes down to a particular instance about which they feel certain, they do not consider that this might be something about which they are mistaken. This supports the claim given in I. The passage never states that people do not really think that they are infallible, and so claim II. is eliminated. Really, this is as far as we need to go, because we are left only with answer choice **C**. However, we can say that claim III. is true because people are said to rely on their own judgement (which they acknowledge

to be fallible) to the extent that it agrees with the opinions of the world in general (they trust the infallibility of the world).

**Q 239 B P4, L5-9**

The author believes that the only way to assume the truth of an argument is to allow it to be challenged under conditions of “complete liberty” of contradiction. If the argument is allowed to be challenged and still remains unrefuted, we can be confident in its truth. Therefore, we can rationally be confident in the rightness of an opinion subjected to the test of refutation.

**Q 240 B P3, L9-15**

Absolute rulers are characterized as having complete confidence in most of their opinions because their views are never challenged by others (they are accustomed to “unlimited deference”). In contrast, people whose opinions are sometimes disputed only place the same confidence in their views when it is shared by those around them. Therefore, people are more likely to believe their opinions to be fallible if others they come into contact with sometimes disagree with them.

**Q 241 D P1; P4, L5-9**

The author believes that the stifling of an opinion is evil partly because the opinion in question may be true. However, even if it is not true, the author does not advocate stifling it, because the only way that the truth of any argument can be established is through the test of refutation. To allow an opinion to be challenged in order to establish its truthfulness necessitates that all opinions, true or false, be heard. The argument that opinions that might otherwise be stifled should be heard in order to establish the credibility of other arguments would be strengthened by evidence that opinions that are tested by refutation do in fact gain credit and become more firmly held, making answer choice **D**. correct.

**Q 242 A P3, L20-30**

The author claims that a person’s belief system is greatly influenced by their environment and that people tend to believe opinions supported by their “collective authority.” However, this “collective authority” differs for different groups of people. The author suggests that people of one group assume that all other groups are “dissentient” (= differing from the opinions of the majority), and that their particular group holds the correct opinions. Based on this, we can conclude that the “dissentient worlds of other people” exist because the people of those “worlds” rely on different authorities to dictate which opinions are right or wrong.

**Q 243 C**      **P2, L9-10**

The absolute princes experience unlimited deference (= submission to opinion) which makes them confident that their opinions are always correct. Other people, whose opinions are sometimes disputed, do not have this confidence (they believe that they are fallible). Based on this, we can infer that few people argue with these princes. The passage does not indicate one way or another whether the prince's opinions actually are correct and thus that he is knowledgeable in stating them or justified in believing them. In fact, based on the author's views, this could not be determined since the prince's opinions are never challenged, eliminating answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **D.**

**Q 244 C**      **deduce**

The introductory paragraph announces the discovery of hot spring ecosystems on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean, which are described extensively in the body of the passage. The author states that the discovery of these communities in the Atlantic extended the range in which they were thought to exist. The author concludes by noting that the theory regarding the constant chemical composition of the oceans has been modified to account for this recent discovery. Based on this information, the central thrust of the passage, stated nicely in answer choice **C.**, is that the discovery of hot springs has forced scientists to question some of their theories about the geology of oceans. The information given in answer choices **A.**, **B.** and **D.** are all points mentioned in the passage, however, they do not form the main idea of the passage.

**Q 245 B**      **P6, L2-9; P7, L1-7**

The passage states that the notion of the constancy the chemical composition of the oceans has been modified because of the hot springs discovery. The description of the way the ocean floor vents work provides a likely mechanism by which the chemical composition of oceans could have changed over history. However, although possible, it is only an idea put forth as a result of the new discovery and will likely require some testing to be seen as "necessarily true."

**Q 246 A**      **P4, L3-8; P6, L5-14**

The passage describes how "cold, heavy" seawater seeps down and is heated, and then rises back up. It is during this process that metals in the volcanic rock dissolve in the hot seawater as it flows back to the sea floor; "some of these metals crystallize...to form metal deposits beneath and on the sea floor" (P6, L11-14). The temperature of the seawater is the most important factor in this process because the cold temperature begins

the process of seeping down into the volcanic rock, and the hot temperature dissolves the metals and causes the water to rise back into the ocean where the deposits are formed.

**Q 247 C P7, L8-11**

The concluding sentence indicates that the presence of microorganisms adapted to the hot springs has provoked speculation regarding the origin of life. Incidentally, the reason that this discovery provokes new thought about the origin of life is because these organisms live independent of the light of the sun and the process of photosynthesis, which has long been thought to be essential to life.

**Q 248 A P6, L10-11**

As discussed in Q246, hot seawater dissolves the metals as it flows through the volcanic rocks. Metal deposits form when these dissolved metals crystallize on the ocean floor. Implied in the discussion of metal deposits is the fact that the temperature of seawater is sufficient to dissolve the metals. Whether or not seawater boils is not relevant to the formation of metal deposits. Although elements in seawater may come from rivers, the passage makes it clear that the elements in the metal deposits come from the volcanic rock. The distribution of heat from volcanic activity may affect the distribution of the deposits, but not the fact that they are formed.

**Q 249 D P1, L3-4; P2, L1-2; P5, L4-6**

Paragraph one announces the discovery of the hot springs in the Atlantic (Claim I). Paragraph two states that before the discovery in the Atlantic, it was believed that they were only found in the Pacific (Claim II). Paragraph five indicates that hot springs can be located at volcanically active islands (Claim III). Therefore, answer choice **D** is correct.

**Q 250 B deduce**

The passage outlines the difficulties encountered with improving the productivity, reliability and simplicity of computer software design and states that it is not likely that a “silver bullet” will be discovered to address this problem. Answer choices **A**, **C**, and **D** contain statements from the text which help to explain the central thesis of the passage, which is stated in answer choice **B**.

**Q 251 D P2, L2-5; P4, L1-2**

The author states that there is no single development that could promise “even one order-of-magnitude improvement” in software design (P2, L2-5). He then goes on to say that hardware progress has been much faster than software progress. Knowing that hardware design is progressing fast, and that software design is not showing relative improvement, we can reasonably assume that the performance-price gains of hardware engineering will increase, while the performance-price gains of software engineering will remain the same, consistent with answer choice **D**. Although software design is clearly not progressing, there is no indication that it is getting worse, eliminating answer choice **C**.

**Q 252 A P7, L1-2**

The author states his opinion of what the hard part of creating software is directly in the text (P7, L1-2).

**Q 253 A P4, L1-5**

Paragraph four states that the anomaly (= abnormality, departure from normalcy) is that hardware progress has been so fast. The paragraph goes on to describe how no other technology has developed as quickly as hardware. It is clear that its fast progress is the reason that computer hardware development is unique. Although the passage states that the gains came from a shift in focus of computer manufacture from an assembly to a process industry, which would support answer choice **D**., the passage does not indicate that this is unique to hardware.

**Q 254 C P9**

There is no information about the models of mathematics and physical sciences that proves one way or another that progress was made by using them. With no contradictory information, we cannot say that the statement is false; however, there is also no supporting information. We can only say that the claim is perhaps true, simply because the author bothered to make it.

**Q 255 D P2**

The passage introduces the fact that no “silver bullet” that will improve software design is likely to be found (P2). The rest of the passage is devoted to explaining the problems in software design that make it unlikely that a solution will be found. This main argument would be substantially weakened by the development of a program that can fix the problems inherent in other programs.

**Q 256 C P6**

The author states that the conceptual constructs underlying different representations will be the same. This leads to the conclusion that two different programs may differ in features and performance, but share the same conception, making answer choice **C** correct.

**Q 257 B P9, L1-4; deduce**

It is clear throughout the passage that the author believes that software design cannot be substantially improved. The author states that complexity is essential to software, and to try to get rid of it (i.e. simplify it) would be to strip away its essence. According to the passage, then, an engineer who set out to simplify software design would likely fail because complexity is necessary.

**Q 258 D P2, L1-5**

The second paragraph introduces the concept of the child's distinct "world." The reason given for this different view of reality is stated to be a distinctive mental structure, making answer choice **D** correct.

**Q 259 C P3, L9-20**

The author says that even after a child has learned the linguistic label for something, the underlying concept may differ from that of an adult because the child assimilates the label into different mental structures. He states that only after a period of cognitive development does the label take on the same meaning as it has for an adult (P3, L18-20). This suggests that previously, the child lacked sufficient cognitive development to share the same concept underlying the linguistic label, making answer choice **C** correct.

**Q 260 C P1, L9-13**

The passage suggests that Piaget's work allowed "a metamorphosis" in the way we understand children. It is then suggested that part of this great transformation was the change from the view of the child as a "miniature although less wise adult" to a being with a distinctive mental structure which is different from that of an adult. This suggests that psychologists before Piaget considered children's thought processes to be similar to adults', but perhaps less sophisticated (i.e. less wise).

**Q 261 B deduce**

To say that we assume a child understands and uses linguistic labels in the same way that adults do suggests that most adults use linguistic labels similarly, such that “the way that adults do” needs no explanation.

**Q 262 B      P3, L13-15**

The passage states that the words children learn from adults are assimilated into their existing mental structures, making answer choice **B**. correct.

**Q 263 D      P3, L12-15**

Since the passage makes it clear that children may understand the same concept differently from an adult, the method of teaching a child should not be a reliable indication of whether the child is learning what it is hoped that they will learn. To be sure that a child understands the concepts you are trying to teach them in the same way that you understand them, it is necessary to ask them to describe their understanding.

