Questions 1-11 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

Compost: Don't Waste This Waste

Over the past generation, people in many parts of the United States have become accustomed to dividing their household waste products into different categories for recycling. 1 Regardless, paper may go in one container, glass and aluminum in another, regular garbage in a third. Recently, some US cities have added a new category: compost, organic matter such as food scraps and yard debris. Like paper or glass recycling, composting demands a certain amount of effort from the public in order to be successful. But the inconveniences of composting are far outweighed by its benefits.

Most people think of banana peels, eggshells, and dead leaves as "waste," but compost is actually a valuable resource with multiple practical uses. When utilized as a garden fertilizer, compost provides nutrients to soil and improves plant growth while deterring or killing pests and preventing some plant diseases. It also enhances soil texture, encouraging healthy roots and minimizing or 2 annihilating the need for chemical fertilizers. Better than soil at holding moisture, compost minimizes water waste and storm runoff, 3 it increases savings on watering costs, and helps reduce erosion on embankments near bodies of water. In large 4 quantities, which one would expect to see when it is collected for an entire municipality), compost can be converted into a natural gas that can be used as fuel for transportation or heating and cooling systems.

In spite of all compost's potential uses, however, most of this so-called waste is wasted. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), over 5 13 million tons of metal ended up in US landfills in 2009, along with over 13 million tons of yard debris. Remarkably, 6 less glass was discarded in landfills in that year than any other substance, including plastics or paper. Even 7 worse, then the squandering of this useful resource is the fact that compost in landfills cannot break down due to the lack of necessary air and moisture.

1 TRANSITION WORDS

A) NO CHANGE (NO CONTRAST)
B) However, (NO CONTRAST)
C) Furthermore, (NO IN ADDITION)
D) For example,

ALWAYS READ PREVIOUS SENTENCE AND NEW SENTENCE WITHOUT TRANSITION WORD. THEN ASK WHAT THE RELATIONSHIP IS.

EXAMPLES

2 CONTINUITY: IN CONTEXT

Which choice best maintains the style and tone of the passage?

A) NO CHANGE ("DESTROYING"? NO)
B) eliminating
C) ousting ("PUSH OUT")
D) closing the door on (TOO INFORMAL)

FOLLOW FLOW OF THE STORY
VOCAB IN CONTEXT

3 PARALLELISM: VERB TENSE

A) NO CHANGE (COMMA SPLICE)
B) savings increase (NOT PARALLEL)
C) increases savings
D) also it increases savings (COMMA SPLICE)

AND COMMA SPLICE

SLICK!

4 WHICH VS PARENTHESES

BAIT
A) NO CHANGE (COMMA DOES WORK WITH WHICH BUT NOTICE THE HYPHEN AFTER "MUNICIPALITY")
B) quantities (which
C) quantities which (NO COMMA)
D) quantities; (which (BROKEN SEMI-COLON RULE)

SLICK!

5 CONTINUITY: IN CONTEXT

The writer wants to include information from the graph that is consistent with the description of compost in the passage. Which choice most effectively accomplishes this goal?

A) NO CHANGE
B) 6 million tons of rubber and leather
C) 10 million tons of textiles
D) 33 million tons of food waste

(NOTHING TO DO WITH COMPOST)

MATCH TEXT TO CHART INFO
NOTICE PREVIOUS SENTENCE IS ALL ABOUT COMPOST

6 CONTINUITY: IN CONTEXT

The writer wants to support the paragraph's main idea with accurate, relevant information from the graph. Which choice most effectively accomplishes this goal?

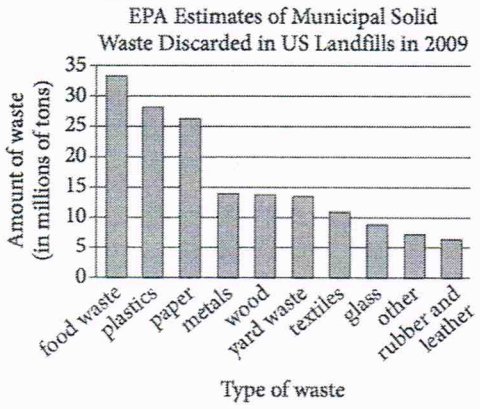
A) NO CHANGE (NOT TRUE)
B) more metal (NOT TRUE)
C) more food waste
D) more yard waste (NOT TRUE)

MATCH TEXT TO CHART INFO

7 THAN VS. THEN

A) NO CHANGE
B) worse than
C) worse then
D) worse, than (NO COMMA NECESSARY)

As a result, organic material that is sent to landfills **8** contribute to the release of methane, a very **9** potent greenhouse gas.



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10 While composting can sometimes lead to accidental pollution through the release of methane gas, cities such as San Francisco and Seattle have instituted mandatory composting laws requiring individuals and businesses to use separate bins for compostable waste. This strict approach may not work everywhere. However, given the clear benefits of composting and the environmental costs of not composting, all municipalities should encourage their residents either to create their own compost piles for use in backyard gardens **11** or to dispose of compostable materials in bins for collection.

8 SUBJECT / VERB AGREEMENT

- ~~A)~~ NO CHANGE
- ~~B)~~ are contributing
- C) contributes
- ~~D)~~ have contributed

- NOTICE PLURAL AND SINGULAR VERSIONS OF "CONTRIBUTE".
- WHEN YOU SEE THIS HAPPEN, ELIMINATE THE OTHER TWO ANSWERS

9 VOCAB IN CONTEXT

- A) NO CHANGE
- ~~B)~~ sturdy
- ~~C)~~ influential
- ~~D)~~ commanding

10 CONTINUITY: IN CONTEXT

Which choice provides the most effective transition from the previous paragraph?

- ~~A)~~ NO CHANGE CITIES DON'T COMPOST
- ~~B)~~ Though government regulations vary, NOT ABOUT UNIFIED REGS
- C) Armed with these facts, "CITIES" CAN BE ARMED WITH THESE FACTS
- ~~D)~~ Mindful of this setback, ARE "CITIES" MINDFUL

FOLLOW FLOW OF STORY

11 WORD PAIRS

- A) NO CHANGE EITHER...OR...
- ~~B)~~ nor
- ~~C)~~ but
- ~~D)~~ and