

Section 1, Module 2B: Reading and Writing

32 MINUTES, 27 QUESTIONS

DIRECTIONS ▾

You will be tested on a variety of important reading and writing skills. Each question has one or more passages, possibly including a graph or table. Carefully read each passage and question and choose the best answer to the question based on the passage(s).

Every question in this section is multiple-choice, with four possible answers. Each question has only one best answer.

Even though it is illegal to do so, some farms and companies do not reimburse guest workers for visa fees and other travel expenses related to obtaining the jobs. Some of the recruiters have even threatened the lives of the families of the guest workers if they did not _____ with the fees.

1

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

- (A) observe
- (B) comply
- (C) disobey
- (D) ignore

A 1999 article, "The Importance of Music in Early Childhood," advocated for music education in learning of language, mathematics, and social studies. Music—readily available and easily engaged—is a powerful memory _____ that can be approached via "play," beginning in delight but ending in knowledge.

2

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

- (A) trigger
- (B) souvenir
- (C) dialect
- (D) indoctrination

When he was in high school at a predominantly white institution, Countee Cullen excelled, despite being one of the few African American students who attended. Additionally, he developed his talents and served as the editor of the high school newspaper and literary magazine and even won a local award for his poetry. Later, he was accepted into New York University, where he received several awards; most notably, he won second place for the Witter Bynner Undergraduate Poetry Contest for his 1923 poem "The Ballad of the Brown Girl." Following his graduation from New York University, Cullen became _____ poet with works like "Copper Sun" and "The Black Christ" and other poems.

3

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

- (A) a notorious
- (B) an imminent
- (C) an illustrated
- (D) a renowned

4

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

- (A) periodic
- (B) staple
- (C) subsistent
- (D) coarse

Environmentally and cost-conscious planters use more modern solutions only when absolutely necessary. Modern technology allows farmers to test soil in various parts of a field and apply topical treatments as minimally as possible only in areas where it is needed. This process allows crop rotation and soil treatment to work together. However, the drones, testing machines, and high-end equipment for GPS fertilizer applications are very expensive for the average family farm. Consequently, crop rotation remains the _____ choice for everyday soil management.

The first introduction many students have to the world of investment and the stock market is through their American history class when they learn about the devastating stock market crash that led into the Great Depression, or the market crash that much led us into the more recent Great Recession. However, what is rarely _____ students is the success that the majority of people experience in the stock market when they invest intelligently over a long period of time. Indeed, most of those high school students will (hopefully) go on to have a retirement account that invests in the stock market, allowing them to comfortably cease work between the ages of 65 and 70.

The following text is from the Brothers Grimm 1812 fairy tale "The Mouse, the Bird, and the Sausage."

They therefore drew lots, and it fell to the sausage to bring in the wood, to the mouse to cook, and to the bird to fetch the water.

And now what happened? The sausage started in search of wood, the bird made the fire, and the mouse put on the pot, and then these two waited till the sausage returned with the fuel for the following day. But the sausage remained so long away, that they became uneasy, and the bird flew out to meet him. He had not flown far, however, when he came across a dog who, having met the sausage, had regarded him as his legitimate booty, and so seized and swallowed him. The bird complained to the dog of this bare-faced robbery, but nothing he said was of any avail, for the dog answered that he found false credentials on the sausage, and that was the reason his life had been forfeited.

5

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

- (A) awarded to
- (B) produced for
- (C) panned out for
- (D) impressed upon

6

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

- (A) To give a dishonest explanation
- (B) To provide a true excuse for the action
- (C) To demonstrate the dog's curiosity for the truth
- (D) To display an attempt to find common ground

Though fermentation does not require oxygen consumption, it is not solely limited to anaerobic organisms. Even humans sometimes undergo fermentation when oxygen supplies are low. This often occurs when the organism rapidly needs more energy than can be produced from cellular respiration alone. Some human cells undergo fermentation more often than others, depending on the cell's specific needs. One such example is during strenuous exercise, when oxygen demand for cellular respiration is unable to be met. This results in muscle cells undergoing lactic acid fermentation, which provides additional energy to prevent muscle fatigue.

7

Which choice best states the main purpose of the text?

- (A) To illustrate that fermentation is the primary process whereby humans obtain energy
- (B) To show that humans can use fermentation when extra energy is needed
- (C) To explain how vigorous exercise is a way to minimize the amount of fermentation that takes place
- (D) To describe how human muscles use fermentation instead of respiration to acquire energy

The following text is adapted from William T. Hamilton, Jr.'s 2020 novel *The Three Stages of Clarinda Thorbald*. In it, young Clarinda is waiting for the day of her wedding to arrive while conversing with her father.

"Listen, Clarinda, you mustn't weep. Rather you must be filled with joy, for this is a festival. You have come into something new. A great responsibility grasps you in its hand. You are re-born. Nature calls you and you go—it is inexorable—you cannot help. You must not weep; rather you must sing and dance. You must array yourself in gold and in silk and go forth to meet the bridegroom."

"Is there no way?" she asked with pleading in her voice. With terrible finality, he answered "No!"

8

Based on the text, Clarinda's father's ultimate attitude toward Clarinda's concerns can best be described as

- (A) indulgent and patient.
- (B) exasperated and dismissive.
- (C) confused and questioning.
- (D) friendly and understanding.

The following text is from the 1641 work *Meditations on First Philosophy* by René Descartes in which he muses about the nature of knowledge.

But, to this end, it will not be necessary for me to show that the whole of these are false—a point, perhaps, which I shall never reach; but as even now my reason convinces me that I ought not the less carefully to withhold belief from what is not entirely certain and indubitable, than from what is manifestly false, it will be sufficient to justify the rejection of the whole if I shall find in each some ground for doubt. Nor for this purpose will it be necessary even to deal with each belief individually, which would be truly an endless labor; but, as the removal from below of the foundation necessarily involves the downfall of the whole edifice, I will at once approach the criticism of the principles on which all my former beliefs rested.

9

According to the text, Descartes' minimal threshold for dismissing a knowledge claim is if it is

- (A) completely in error.
- (B) moderately wrong.
- (C) even slightly flawed.
- (D) any claim to knowledge.

MODULE 2

Profits Broken Down in a Classic No-Product 8-Ball (1-2-4-8) Pyramid Scheme

Order of participants' entry into the scheme	Revenues to each participant at that level	Number of participants at that level
Initiator	\$140,000	1
2nd participants entering the system	\$120,000	2
3rd participants entering the system	\$112,000	4
4th participants entering the system	\$98,000	8
5th participants entering the system	\$84,000	16
6th participants entering the system	\$70,000	32
7th participants entering the system	\$56,000	64
8th participants entering the system	\$42,000	128
9th participants entering the system	\$28,000	256
10th participants entering the system	\$14,000	512
Total number of participants who would profit		1,023
Number of participants at the lower levels who would lose money		7,168
Total of all participants in the scheme		8,191
Percent who profit (assuming all those who profit reinvest in new cycles of the pyramid)		12.49%
Percent who lose money at the 10th level		87.51%

* This includes all who participated, regardless of how many times.

** This is the number of participants who have cashed in at least once and some multiple times.

*** This assumes every profiting participant keeps investing in new pyramid cycles. The percentage profiting would be slightly higher or lower depending on how many participants dropped out and when.

Source: Corporate Survey from the Federal Trade Commission at ftc.gov

An economist analyzes the likelihood that someone might make money from participating in a "pyramid scheme," defined as a fraudulent way to make money by recruiting investors into some sort of money-making scheme. Instead of making money from providing a valuable good or service, the people who are the early investors in the pyramid scheme might make money, while the later investors often lose all their investment. The economist claims that over half of those who participate in a typical pyramid scheme are likely to profit, while less than half of participants will lose money.

10

Which choice best describes data from the table that weaken the economist's claim?

- (A) Over 1,000 participants in a typical pyramid scheme end up profiting.
- (B) The initiator of a pyramid scheme can earn more than six figures in revenue.
- (C) The latecomers to participate in a classic pyramid scheme might only see about \$14,000 in revenue.
- (D) In a classic pyramid scheme, only 12.49% of participants profit.

A student is analyzing Robert Louis Stevenson's 1885 poem "My Shadow." The poem shows the playful mindset that a child experiences when learning about how their shadow works. In one instance, the narrator learns about how shadows do not function in the absence of light:

11

Which quotation from the poem most effectively completes the example?

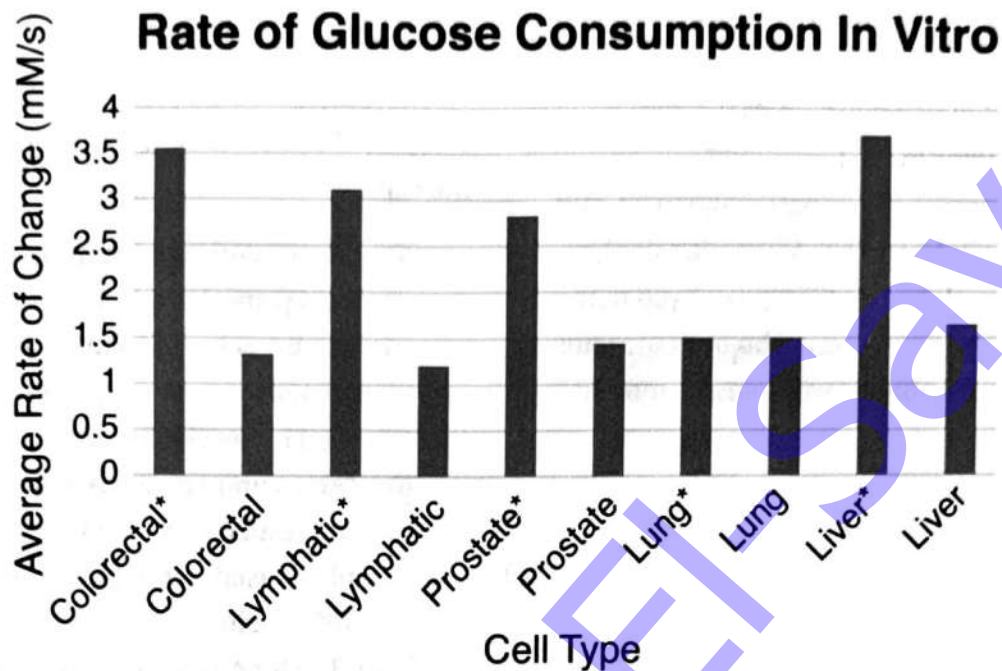
- Ⓐ "I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me, / And what can be the use of him is more than I can see. / He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head; / And I see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed."
- Ⓑ "The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow— / Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow; / For he sometimes shoots up taller like an India-rubber ball, / And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all."
- Ⓒ "He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play, / And can only make a fool of me in every sort of way. / He stays so close beside me, he's a coward you can see; / I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me!"
- Ⓓ "One morning, very early, before the sun was up, / I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup; / But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head, / Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed."

The buildings at Chaco Canyon pose a mystery for archeologists who seek to learn their purpose. A vast compound of buildings created by an ancient people, Chaco Canyon does not seem to be a permanent habitation, as there are no significant garbage piles. In addition, it is located in a remote and very harsh environment. It is questionable whether any peoples would have chosen such a place for a settlement. Modern archeologists believe that it could possibly be a spiritual site that is designed to align with astronomical cycles. They have turned to astronomy for answers and have shown how the roads and buildings at Chaco Canyon align not just with the regular cycles of the sun, but, they hypothesize, with the complicated multi-year dance of the moon. Since the moon's rhythm has such a long cycle, however, it will take many more years to confirm this hypothesis.

12

Which of the following, if true, would provide the most direct support for the archeologists' hypothesis?

- Ⓐ Historical artifacts found in Chaco Canyon that have bright coloration resembling both the daytime sun and full moon at night.
- Ⓑ Evidence uncovered of an early road system connecting Chaco Canyon to far-flung territories, confirming the Canyon's important role as a trade hub.
- Ⓒ Archeological evidence finding that there were in fact large garbage piles in the Chaco Canyon region and that earlier studies had not sufficiently considered the role of natural decay.
- Ⓓ A multi-decade study showing that the south and north walls of Chaco Canyon precisely align with the minimum and maximum moons over a regular 18.6-year interval.



In a 2014 study on the Warburg Effect, researchers tested the change in glucose concentration over a period of one hour in various cancer cell lines. The average rate of change of glucose concentration in each cell-type is shown in the figure above. (An asterisk (*) denotes the cell tested is cancerous.)

The researchers will use the results from a study on the Warburg Effect to determine what most distinguishes cancerous cells from noncancerous ones. When compared to the noncancerous cells, the cancerous cells _____

13

Which choice most effectively uses data from the figure to complete the text?

- (A) have a generally greater average rate of change.
- (B) typically have a lower average rate of change.
- (C) have approximately the same rate of change.
- (D) are more likely to have a rate of change of zero.

"The New York Tenement-House Evil and Its Cure" was written by Ernest Flagg for *Scribner's Magazine* in 1894. In the piece, Flagg discusses the deplorable living conditions in the tenement housing developments, how the tenements came to be, and how the issue might be solved. A historian analyzing Flagg's writing claims that Flagg believed that the primary motivation of those who built the tenement housing developments was to make money.

14

Which quotation from "The New York Tenement-House Evil and Its Cure" most effectively illustrates the claim?

- (A) "If this desire to cover too much of the land proved objectionable in houses occupied by one family, its results have been simply disastrous in houses occupied by several families."
- (B) "Acres upon acres have been covered by them, all constructed on the same general plan based upon the shape of the 25 by 100 foot lot."
- (C) "The tenement-house evil is staring us in the face, and the community is daily becoming more and more alive to the imperative necessity for reform."
- (D) "It should be made unprofitable to erect the kind of tenements we now have."

15

Which choice most logically completes the text?

- (A) fewer copies of the α globin gene in humans.
- (B) the same number of copies of the α globin gene in humans.
- (C) more copies of the α globin gene in humans.
- (D) less research conducted on the human genome.

Owing to a redundancy in the human genome, there are four copies of the α globin gene, with two α -coding regions on each copy of chromosome 16. For this reason, the spectrum of severity in α thalassemia is particularly broad. For instance, deletion of a single gene will result in a carrier state and is unlikely to cause clinically acute symptoms. Deletion of all four, meanwhile, leads to a precipitation during the fetal period of nonfunctional γ tetramers, also called Hb Barts, and is universally lethal in utero. Thus, the intensity of thalassemia would be more uniform if there were _____

MODULE 2

Undergraduate degrees in petroleum and nuclear engineering exist. However, both fields could be considered subdisciplines of chemical engineering, and jobs or graduate degree programs can be entered in both fields with a bachelor's in chemical engineering. _____ can be entered with a bachelor's in mechanical engineering. Thus, it may be advisable to earn a bachelor's in mechanical engineering, then specialize in aerospace later.

After graduating from the program in New Mexico, _____ before enrolling in the United States Army to fight in Vietnam.

Birders pay careful attention to the preferred foods of their favorite birds and make sure to provide the right kinds of snacks for each. This can be done by researching individual birds, reading the packaging on different mixes of birdseed, or consulting an online chart of birds and their _____ foods.

16

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

- (A) Similarly aerospace jobs, and graduate degree programs
- (B) Similarly aerospace jobs—and graduate degree programs
- (C) Similarly, aerospace jobs and graduate degree programs;
- (D) Similarly, aerospace jobs and graduate degree programs

17

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

- (A) at the San Francisco Arts Institute Cannon briefly studied
- (B) at the San Francisco Arts Institute did Cannon study briefly
- (C) Cannon briefly studied at the San Francisco Arts Institute
- (D) Cannon at the San Francisco Arts Institute studied briefly

18

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

- (A) preferring
- (B) preferred
- (C) prefer
- (D) prefers

MODULE 2

Pinckney Benton Stewart (P.B.S.) Pinchback was a successful politician. In 1868, he was elected as a Louisiana state senator. Pinchback was elected president pro tempore, and after the 1871 death of Lieutenant Governor _____ became the lieutenant governor. Then, after an election riddled with accusations of fraud, the governor of Louisiana was impeached. Pinchback became the governor of Louisiana and served the remaining weeks of the term.

19

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

- (A) Oscar Dunn, (the first elected African American lieutenant governor), he
- (B) Oscar Dunn (the first, elected, African American lieutenant governor), he
- (C) Oscar Dunn (the first, elected African American lieutenant, governor), he
- (D) Oscar Dunn (the first elected African American lieutenant governor), he

Historians believe that after rye became widely cultivated, the parasitic ergot fungus began to _____ unsuspecting communities. This unfortunate development likely caused strange visions among those affected.

20

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

- (A) wreck the havoc of
- (B) wreck havoc with
- (C) wreak havoc on
- (D) wreak havoc toward

In the dry, desert landscape of South America, the CAM (crassulacean acid metabolism) adaptation in pineapples is advantageous. This is _____ pineapple can conserve water despite living in arid conditions.

21

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

- (A) because through the CAM adaptation: the
- (B) because, through the CAM adaptation—the
- (C) because; through the CAM adaptation the
- (D) because—through the CAM adaptation—the

MODULE 2

Just like in most art forms, traditional Native American art _____ many artists incorporate elements of traditional art into their modern creations.

22

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

- (A) has, despite many people's efforts to shelter it from outside influences, evolved, and now
- (B) has, despite many peoples efforts to shelter it from outside influences evolved and now
- (C) has despite many—people's efforts to shelter it from outside influences—evolved and now
- (D) has despite many peoples efforts to shelter it from outside influences: evolved and now

While fertilizers and herbicides are very effective at providing nutrients to crops and reducing weeds, they are quite expensive not just to purchase, but also to apply. Farmers who wish to apply herbicides and fertilizers must make extra passes through their fields; this costs the farmer's time as well as wear and tear on equipment that can cost upwards of a million dollars. _____ both fertilizer and herbicides can have negative environmental consequences in the form of runoff. Whereas a good crop rotation will keep weeds down organically and deposit nutrients into the soil, applications of fertilizer and herbicides are merely topical.

23

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- (A) In contrast,
- (B) In addition,
- (C) Due to this,
- (D) Accordingly,

When it comes to the biological and biochemical building blocks of organisms, there's no mistaking that humans are special. From our amazing defense mechanisms to our innate ability to adapt to different environments, the human body is quite phenomenal. However, perfection simply does not exist in nature, and thus the human body comes with a variety of flaws. _____ most humans can only dream of being able to filter harmful cholesterol from their blood without having to resort to strenuous exercise or, in more extreme cases, prescription medications. Understanding the mechanisms behind removing cholesterol from our bloodstream remains a relatively unknown mystery.

24

Which choice completes the text with the most logical transition?

- (A) For example,
- (B) In contrast,
- (C) Peripherally,
- (D) Nevertheless,

While conducting research, a student took these notes:

- Male trees produce pollen and female trees produce a variety of seeds, including pods, nuts, and helicopters.
- To prevent the need to clean up seeds, many cities and homeowners only plant male trees.
- Some homeowners and cities don't plant trees at all so they can avoid dealing with leaves.
- An excess of pollen can greatly exacerbate allergies and other lung complications. People with allergies should avoid pollen heavy environments.
- Female trees absorb pollen out of the air and can help reduce allergy symptoms. Female trees can also produce food such as nuts and fruit.

25

The student wants to suggest a type of person who would greatly benefit from planting mainly female trees in their neighborhood. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- (A) Someone who suffers from a nut allergy would benefit from being surrounded by female trees.
- (B) A person who suffers from pollen allergies would benefit from female tree plantings.
- (C) Female tree plantings would be especially good for someone who does not enjoy raking leaves.
- (D) If somebody prefers vegetables to fruit, female tree plantings would be particularly helpful.

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Public domain works are no longer subject to copyright restrictions.
- If something is in the public domain, it can be used without having to seek permission.
- Works that are produced by the U.S. federal government are typically in the public domain.
- If it is 70 years after the death of a work's author, the work typically becomes part of the public domain.
- Works that are privately owned usually require permission from the original creator to use—this permission can sometimes be obtained by paying royalties to the creator.

While researching a topic, a student has taken the following notes:

- Harry Frankfurt is an American philosopher who wrote "Freedom of the Will and the Concept of a Person."
- Frankfurt articulates a theory of what it means for someone to have "free will."
- He breaks human desire into two categories: first-order desires and second-order desires.
- A first-order desire is a want to perform an action; for example, someone could want to eat a meal.
- A second-order desire is a want to have a certain desire; for example, someone could "want" to "want to eat more healthfully."
- Frankfurt argues that someone is acting according to their free will when their actions align with their second-order desires.

26

The student wants to suggest a work that would most likely not be part of the public domain. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- (A) A federal government collection of U.S. presidential speeches is not in the public domain.
- (B) A newly created book by a private-sector author who is still alive is not in the public domain.
- (C) A novel that was written over 200 years ago is most likely in the public domain.
- (D) When a filmmaker pays royalties to the author of a movie screenplay, the final film would be in the public domain.

27

The student wants to present a plausible reason as to why Frankfurt would not consider an animal to possess free will. Which choice most effectively uses relevant information from the notes to accomplish this goal?

- (A) Some animals can consider not just what they "want," but what they "want to want."
- (B) An animal can only possess second-order desires since it lacks the ability to have first-order desires.
- (C) Since an animal most likely only has first-order desires, it cannot be considered as having the capacity for free will.
- (D) Only humans can be considered capable of letting their first-order desires govern their actions.