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Introduction

Congratulations on taking the SAT®! This booklet contains the SAT you took in April 2017. There are also two Essay prompts here; if you took the SAT with Essay, you responded to one of these. This booklet contains every question that was scored.

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The test begins on the next page.
Questions 1-10 are based on the following passage.

This passage is adapted from Amit Chaudhuri, A Strange and Sublime Address. ©1991 by Amit Chaudhuri. A ten-year-old boy named Sandeep travels with his mother, his aunt (Mamima), and his uncle (Chhotomama) to visit family in Calcutta, India.

Two boys were playing carrom on the steps of a small, painted shed which had the following words on its wall in large, black letters: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPORTSMEN. A single table-tennis table inside the shed could be glimpsed through the window. The boys interrupted their game to give Chhotomama directions to the house in a series of sporadic, enthusiastic gestures. Oh yes, they knew the old couple. And yes, their son and daughter-in-law had arrived last night with their first child.

"Is it a girl or a boy?" asked Mamima, rolling down the window.

"A girl," said the boy.

"A girl," said the boy.

Mamima rolled up her window before the mosquitoes came in. The two boys vanished behind them. When they reached the house, they found that the old man was waiting on the verandah with a lantern in his hand. Moths were shuddering round and round the lantern, though the old man was oblivious to them. He had come out because he had heard the throbbing of the engine in the distance. The night had been silent except for the questioning cry of an owl and the continual orchestral sound of crickets in the bushes. The throbbing of the engine had, therefore, travelled through the silence to the old man’s listening ear, and to his wife’s ear, even when the car was relatively far away and beyond their range of vision. They had pondered over the sound, and finally, he had lit the lantern and shuffled out. “I told her,” he said, referring to his wife. “I told her that I heard the car, I knew it was the car, I told her you were coming.”

Once they were inside, Mamima gave the pot of yoghurt and the pot of sweetmeats to the old lady. “There was no need,” she said. “Oh really,” she said. “This is too much,” she insisted, with the air of one who has just received the Kohinoor diamond as a birthday present. “Come, come, come,” said Chhotomama, with the air of someone who has just given the Kohinoor diamond as a birthday present, and refuses to be overawed by his own generosity. “It’s nothing.” It was nothing, of course, only Ganguram’s sweets and yoghurt, but they fussed and fusssed and created the illusion that it was something, something unique and untasted and unencountered.

The son and the daughter-in-law emerged shyly from the anteroom. They both stooped gently to touch Chhotomama’s feet, and Sandeep’s aunt’s and his mother’s feet, a traditional greeting and a mark of obeisance towards one’s elders.

“Oh no no no,” said Chhotomama, struggling to keep the son’s hand away from his feet. “There’s no need for all this.” This was half a token gesture towards modesty, and half towards the new, "modern" India—Nehru’s secular India, free of ritual and religion.
“I have not met you for two years, Dada,” said the son, struggling to get his hands near Chhotomama’s toes. “You must not stop me.” This was half a token gesture towards modesty, and half towards the old, “traditional” India—Gandhi’s India of ceremony and custom.

Sandeep, meanwhile, had come to the conclusion that the grown-ups were mad, each after his or her own fashion. Simple situations were turned into complex, dramatic ones; not until then did everyone feel important and happy. Will they never grow up? thought Sandeep irately. He glanced around him. A single blue, fluorescent tube was burning on the wall. It was not a big room. Despite its bareness, the impression it gave was of austerity rather than poverty. It made one remember that poverty meant displacement as well as lack, while austerity meant being poor in a rooted way, within a tradition and culture of sparseness, which transformed even the lack, the paucity, into a kind of being.

According to the passage, the old man was standing on the verandah because

A) he was watching cars travel down the road.
B) the two boys had reported the visitors would soon arrive.
C) he had heard what he believed to be the visitors’ car.
D) he enjoyed listening to the quiet sounds of the evening.

In the passage, the yoghurt and sweetmeats are compared to a

A) jewel.
B) cuisine.
C) wedding gift.
D) generous donation.

As used in lines 37 and 40, “air” most nearly means
A) atmosphere.
B) absence.
C) demeanor.
D) melody.

The characters’ behavior during the gift giving mainly serves to
A) emphasize the lavish value of the gift.
B) inflate the significance of the gesture.
C) convey indifference toward the gift.
D) stress the need for polite behavior.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A) Lines 43-44 (“It was...yoghurt”)
B) Lines 44-46 (“they...unencountered”)
C) Lines 52-54 (“Oh no...all this”)
D) Lines 58-60 (“I have...stop me”)

The description of Chhotomama and the son’s interaction mainly serves to
A) show how the characters diverge in their approaches to cultural practices.
B) emphasize the characters’ complex relationship.
C) stress the characters’ misinterpretations of Indian history.
D) depict how the characters created gestures that became routine.
Questions 11-21 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

This passage is adapted from Nicholas Epley, Mindwise: How We Understand What Others Think, Believe, Feel, and Want. ©2014 by Nicholas Epley.

Knowing your own reputation can be surprisingly difficult. Consider, for instance, a study that analyzed a set of published experiments all sharing the same basic design. In these experiments, people working in a group would be asked to predict how the other group members would rate them on a series of different traits. Researchers then compared these predicted ratings to the other group members’ actual ratings on the very same traits. The traits varied from one experiment to another and included qualities like intelligence, sense of humor, consideration, defensiveness, friendliness, and leadership ability. The groups varied in familiarity, with the members of some groups being fairly unfamiliar with one another (such as having met only once, in a job interview) and the members of other groups being very familiar with one another (such as having lived together for an extended time as roommates). If people knew exactly what others were thinking, then there would be a perfect correspondence between predicted and actual ratings. If people were clueless, then there would be no correspondence between the two. Statistically speaking, you measure relationships like these with a correlation, where perfect correspondence yields a correlation of 1 and no correspondence yields a correlation of 0. The closer the correlation is to 1, the stronger the relationship.

First, the good news. These experiments suggested that people are pretty good, overall, at guessing how a group of others would evaluate them, on average. The overall correlation in these experiments between predicted impressions and the average actual impression of the group was quite high (.55, if you are quantitatively inclined). To put that in perspective, this is roughly the same magnitude as the correlation between the heights of fathers and the heights of sons (around .5). It is not perfect insight, but it is also very far from being clueless. In other words, you probably have a decent sense of what others generally think of you, on average.

Now the bad news. These experiments also assessed how well people could predict the impression of any single individual within a given group. You may know, for instance, that your

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Some coworkers in general think you are rather smart, but those coworkers also vary in their impression of you. Some think you are as sharp as a knife. Others think you are as sharp as a spoon. Do you know the difference?

Evidently, no. The accuracy rate across these experiments was barely better than random guessing (an overall correlation of .13 between predicted and actual evaluations, only slightly higher than no relationship whatsoever). Although you might have some sense of how smart your coworkers think you are, you appear to have no clue about which coworkers in particular find you smart and which do not. As one author of the study writes, “People seem to have just a tiny glimmer of insight into how they are uniquely viewed by particular other people.”

But perhaps this is holding your mind-reading abilities to too high a standard? It’s hard, after all, to define traits like intelligence and trustworthiness precisely, so it might not be so surprising that we have difficulty guessing how others will evaluate us on these ambiguous traits. What about predicting something simpler, such as how much other people like you? Surely you are better at this. You learn over time to hang around people who smile at you and avoid those who spit at you. You must have a much better sense of who likes you and who hates you within a group. Yes?

I’m afraid not. These studies found that people are only slightly better than guessing who in a group likes them and who does not (the average correlation here was a meager .18). Some of your coworkers like you and others do not, but I wouldn’t count on you knowing the difference. The same barely-better-than-guessing accuracy is also found in experiments investigating how well speed daters can assess who wants to date them and who does not, how well job candidates can judge which interviewers were impressed by them and which were not, and even how well teachers can predict their course evaluations. Granted, it’s rare that you are completely clueless about how you are evaluated. Accuracy tends to be better than chance in these experiments, but not necessarily by very much.

Mean Correlations of Perceptions of Individuals among New Acquaintances and Old Acquaintances in Twenty-One Studies

A = correlation between individuals’ self-perception and those individuals’ predictions of how others perceive them

B = correlation between individuals’ self-perception and actual perception of those individuals by others

C = correlation between individuals’ predictions of how others perceive them and actual perception of those individuals by others

Which choice best supports the claim in the first sentence of the passage?

A) Lines 2-4 (“Consider . . . design”)
B) Lines 21-23 (“If people . . . two”)
C) Lines 26-27 (“The closer . . . relationship”)
D) Lines 54-58 (“Although . . . not”)
The information about statistical measurement in lines 23-27 (“Statistically...relationship”) is presented in order to

A) correct a common misunderstanding of how researchers quantify certain data from experiments.
B) forestall potential objections to how data from the experiments were analyzed in the study.
C) draw attention to a pattern evident in the conclusions of the experiments.
D) provide context for a way in which the results of the experiments will be discussed.

Based on the passage, in which situation would an individual stand the greatest chance of accurately predicting how he or she is perceived?

A) An intern predicts the impression that her direct supervisor holds of her.
B) A manager predicts the collective opinion of employees about her ability.
C) An instructor predicts the enthusiasm of his class after talking with two students.
D) A biographer predicts the esteem in which he is held by the living subject of his book.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

A) Lines 9-13 (“The traits...familiarity”)
B) Lines 28-33 (“These experiments...high”)
C) Lines 41-44 (“Now the...group”)
D) Lines 68-70 (“Surely...at you”)

As used in line 35, “magnitude” most nearly means

A) strength.
B) influence.
C) severity.
D) reality.

What main effect do the words “clueless” (line 38) and “mind-reading” (line 61) have on the tone of the passage?

A) They contribute to a casual and gently humorous tone that renders a potentially specialized discussion more approachable.
B) They contribute to a slyly mocking and disapproving tone that reinforces the author’s criticisms of the researchers’ conclusions.
C) They contribute to a deeply pessimistic tone that stresses the impossibility of ever knowing how people truly perceive each other.
D) They contribute to a thoughtful yet uncertain tone that casts doubt on the real-world usefulness of experimental data.

The author quoted in lines 58-60 expresses which view of the study’s results?

A) They indicate that there is a small but promising chance of correctly predicting how one is perceived.
B) They show that individuals generally know very little about how they are regarded by groups of people.
C) They reveal that one individual hardly knows what another individual thinks of him or her.
D) They confirm that one’s predictions about other people’s impressions are no better than random guesses.
The main reason that the author includes the information about speed daters, job candidates, and teachers in lines 78-85 is to
A) caution against making assumptions about certain individuals’ motives.
B) distinguish among certain behaviors observed in three different scenarios.
C) indicate certain settings where further study by researchers is needed.
D) offer examples of situations in which a certain finding holds true.

According to the figure, the mean correlation that most nearly approaches complete agreement exists between individuals’ self-perception and
A) how those individuals are actually perceived by new acquaintances.
B) actual perceptions of those individuals by people with whom they are well acquainted.
C) the individuals’ predictions of how they are perceived by people with whom they are well acquainted.
D) the predictions those individuals make about how they are perceived by new as well as old acquaintances.

Which statement best exemplifies the distinction made by correlation C in the figure?
A) Sally believes she is outgoing but thinks that others will describe her as reserved.
B) Sally expects that others will say she is outgoing, but many describe her as reserved.
C) Sally has been told that she is outgoing but only by people with whom she is well acquainted.
D) Sally is outgoing with those with whom she is well acquainted but reserved around new acquaintances.

Information in the figure is most useful for addressing which question provoked by the passage?
A) What determined the traits that researchers tended to focus on in the experiments being analyzed?
B) Why are individuals more likely to accurately predict the impressions of groups than of specific individuals within groups?
C) To what degree are people able to predict how individual acquaintances perceive them?
D) Is one person’s understanding of trustworthiness really so different from another person’s understanding of that trait?
Questions 22-32 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

This passage is adapted from David Shiga, “Has Pluto Sent Us a Message in Ceres?” ©2008 by Reed Business Information, Ltd.

Does Pluto have a wayward cousin lurking in the inner solar system? The dwarf planet Ceres—and other icy chunks—may have been born in the same realm as Pluto, but travelled all the way to the asteroid belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter. If so, it would be further evidence that a massive upheaval rearranged the early solar system.

At 950 kilometres in diameter, Ceres is by far the largest object in the asteroid belt. And that’s not the only reason it doesn’t quite fit in with many of its companions, according to William McKinnon of Washington University.

McKinnon points out that Ceres has a low density, which suggests it is 25 to 30 per cent water ice. That’s a high proportion for an asteroid, but closely matches Pluto and other icy objects native to the outer solar system, known as trans-Neptunian objects (TNOs). What’s more, a dip in Ceres’s light spectrum may be a sign of ammonium-rich clay at the surface. This material has never been found in the fragments of asteroids that have fallen to Earth, but fits the expected ammonia-rich composition of a TNO.

So if Ceres formed in Pluto’s neighbourhood, how did it end up 2 to 4 billion kilometres away? Some researchers think that the orbits of the planets were once unstable. According to this idea—known as the Nice model—Uranus and Neptune went rampaging through the outer solar system around 3.9 billion years ago. As a result, many of the icy objects that formed in the outer solar system were pulled inward by the gravity of the two planets, and some ended up joining the rocky asteroids that were born in the asteroid belt. Ceres would simply be the largest of these immigrants. “The odds for this seem low, but it is not inconceivable,” says Bill Bottke of the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in Boulder, Colorado.

Bottke and Hal Levison of SwRI led a pair of studies which support the idea of refugees from the outer solar system orbiting in the asteroid belt. They focused on the so-called D- and P-type asteroids that comprise 20 per cent of the population in the outer part of the belt. These objects are a dark reddish colour that suggests they are covered in carbon-rich gunk—just the sort of residue that might have been left behind on an icy object that had its outermost layers vaporised in the bright sunlight of the inner solar system. Bottke and Levison’s computer simulations show that the observed number of objects is about right if they are immigrants, though they have assumed many of the objects broke up after transport.

Thomas McCord of the Bear Fight Center in Winthrop, Washington, who was not involved in any of the three studies, agrees that the asteroid belt probably hosts some small refugees from the outer solar system, but says there is no reason to believe Ceres is a stranger there. Its ice-to-rock ratio matches the expected composition of the raw materials that would have been available at its current position early on, he says. What’s more, objects of its size are expected to have formed in the inner solar system.

New measurements of Ceres’s composition by NASA’s Dawn mission, for which McCord is a team member, could help pin down its birthplace.

Properties of Selected Solar System Objects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Average distance from Sun (Earth distance = 1)</th>
<th>Radius (Earth = 1)</th>
<th>Mass (Earth = 1)</th>
<th>Average density (g/cm³)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earth</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mars</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juno (asteroid)</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>0.019</td>
<td>0.000003</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceres (dwarf planet)</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>0.073</td>
<td>0.00015</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jupiter</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>318.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturn¹</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranus</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neptune</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pluto (dwarf planet)</td>
<td>39.5</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Properties given do not include Saturn’s ring system.

Source: Data from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).
22. In McKinnon’s view, Ceres differs from other objects in the asteroid belt in which significant way?
A) The surface temperature of Ceres is lower than the temperatures of the other objects.
B) The dimensions of Ceres have varied more over time than the dimensions of the other objects.
C) The surface composition of Ceres is dissimilar to the composition of the other objects.
D) The light reflected by Ceres is more intense than the light reflected by the other objects.

23. Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A) Lines 2-5 (“The dwarf . . . Jupiter”)
B) Lines 8-9 (“At 950 . . . belt”)
C) Lines 18-20 (“What’s . . . surface”)
D) Lines 20-23 (“This . . . TNO”)

24. According to the passage, the Nice model is based on the idea that
A) Uranus and Neptune were not always locked into their current orbital paths.
B) Ceres traveled a greater distance than any other object in the solar system did.
C) objects formed in the inner solar system were able to resist the gravitational pull of Uranus and Neptune.
D) icy objects like Ceres were formed in the inner solar system.

25. As used in line 34, “simply” most nearly means
A) wholly.
B) sincerely.
C) plainly.
D) merely.

26. Based on the passage, Bottke and Levison’s conclusions would be most weakened by a study that
A) confirmed that heat from the Sun burned away the outer layers of all immigrant objects.
B) established that the orbits of certain objects of the inner solar system were once less stable.
C) demonstrated that very few objects broke up after migrating to the asteroid belt.
D) proved that not all immigrants from the outer solar system survive in the asteroid belt today.

27. Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A) Lines 39-41 (“Bottke . . . belt”)
B) Lines 42-44 (“They . . . belt”)
C) Lines 44-49 (“These . . . system”)
D) Lines 49-53 (“Bottke . . . transport”)

28. As used in line 60, “raw” most nearly means
A) original.
B) young.
C) exposed.
D) inexperienced.
The last sentence of the passage serves mainly to
A) hint at a possible weakness in a claim.
B) emphasize the critical nature of a decision.
C) allude to a potential resolution to a puzzle.
D) reconcile two opposing positions on an issue.

According to the table, which object has the lowest average density?
A) Earth
B) Ceres
C) Saturn
D) Pluto

Which statement is supported by data represented in the table?
A) Earth shows greater variation in density than Ceres does.
B) Juno’s average distance from the Sun is less than that of Ceres.
C) Some objects in the asteroid belt are greater in mass than Ceres is.
D) No other dwarf planet has a radius as large as that of Ceres.

Which data presented in the table would McKinnon find most useful to his argument?
A) The average density of Pluto is similar to that of Ceres.
B) Neptune is located much farther from the Sun than is Ceres.
C) The mass of Ceres is only slightly greater than that of Juno.
D) Ceres is denser, on average, than either Neptune or Uranus.

Questions 33–42 are based on the following passages.

Passage 1, by Patrick Henry, and Passage 2, by Edmund Pendleton, are adapted from speeches delivered to the Virginia ratifying convention in 1788. Both are in response to the proposal by the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia to replace the Articles of Confederation with a new constitution establishing a national government.

Passage 1

If a wrong step be now made, the republic may be lost forever. If this new government will not come up to the expectation of the people, and they shall be disappointed, their liberty will be lost, and tyranny must and will arise.

... And here I would make this inquiry of those worthy characters who composed a part of the late federal Convention. I am sure they were fully impressed with the necessity of forming a great consolidated government, instead of a confederation. That this is a consolidated government is demonstrably clear; and the danger of such a government is, to my mind, very striking.

I have the highest veneration for those gentlemen; but, sir, give me leave to demand, What right had they to say, We, the people? My political curiosity, exclusive of my anxious solicitude for the public welfare, leads me to ask, Who authorized them to speak the language of, We, the people, instead of, We, the states? States are the characteristics and the soul of a confederation. If the states be not the agents of this compact, it must be one great, consolidated, national government, of the people of all the states. . . .

The people gave them no power to use their name. That they exceeded their power is perfectly clear. It is not mere curiosity that actuates me: I wish to hear the real, actual, existing danger, which should lead us to take those steps, so dangerous in my conception. Disorders have arisen in other parts of America; but here, sir, no dangers, no insurrection or tumult have happened; every thing has been calm and tranquil. But, notwithstanding this, we are wandering on the great ocean of human affairs. I see no landmark to guide us. We are running we know not whither. Difference of opinion has gone to a degree of inflammatory resentment in different parts of the country, which has been occasioned by this perilous innovation. The federal Convention ought to have amended the old system; for this purpose they were solely delegated; the object of their mission

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extended to no other consideration. You must, therefore, forgive the solicitation of one unworthy member to know what danger could have arisen under the present Confederation, and what are the causes of this proposal to change our government.

**Passage 2**

Mr. Chairman, my worthy friend (Mr. Henry) has expressed great uneasiness in his mind, and informed us that a great many of our citizens are also extremely uneasy, at the proposal of changing our government. . . .

...[A]n objection is made to the form: the expression, We, the people, is thought improper. Permit me to ask the gentleman who made this objection, who but the people can delegate powers? Who but the people have a right to form government? The expression is a common one, and a favorite one with me. The representatives of the people, by their authority, is a mode wholly inessential. If the objection be, that the Union ought to be not of the people, but of the state governments, then I think the choice of the former very happy and proper. What have the state governments to do with it? . . .

But the power of the Convention is doubted. What is the power? To propose, not to determine. This power of proposing was very broad; it extended to remove all defects in government: the members of that Convention, who were to consider all the defects in our general government, were not confined to any particular plan. Were they deceived? This is the proper question here. Suppose the paper on your table dropped from one of the planets; the people found it, and sent us here to consider whether it was proper for their adoption; must we not obey them? Then the question must be between this government and the Confederation. The latter is no government at all. It has been said that it has carried us, through a dangerous war, to a happy issue. Not that Confederation, but common danger, and the spirit of America, were bonds of our union: union and unanimity, and not that insignificant paper, carried us through that dangerous war. “United, we stand—divided, we fall!” echoed and reëchoed through America—from Congress to the drunken carpenter—was effectual, and procured the end of our wishes, though now forgotten by gentlemen, if such there be, who incline to let go this stronghold, to catch at feathers; for such all substituted projects may prove.

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33

In Passage 1, Henry states that Virginia differs from other areas of the country in that

A) there is no evidence of civil unrest.
B) the federal convention is widely praised.
C) opposition to a consolidated government is strong.
D) tyranny and loss of liberty are greatly feared.

34

The figurative language in lines 33-35 (“But, notwithstanding . . . guide us”) serves mainly to suggest

A) impatience.
B) uncertainty.
C) optimism.
D) indignation.

35

In Passage 2, Pendleton indicates that the phrase “We, the people” is

A) objectionable to most citizens.
B) appropriate for the proposed type of government.
C) popular among proponents of states’ rights.
D) overused by supporters of a federal system.

36

As used in line 79, “issue” most nearly means

A) misgiving.
B) publication.
C) proceeding.
D) outcome.
Based on Passage 2, which statement best reflects Pendleton’s view of the Articles of Confederation?

A) They were a source of great concern to a large number of American citizens.

B) They gave too much power to the elected representatives.

C) They served to unite the country in ways that were unprecedented.

D) They had little to do with America’s having prevailed in its most recent conflict.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

A) Lines 47-51 (“Mr. Chairman...government”)

B) Lines 58-60 (“The representatives...inessential”)

C) Lines 79-83 (“Not...war”)

D) Lines 83-89 (“United...feathers”)

Which statement best describes the relationship between the views expressed in the two passages?

A) Henry and Pendleton both disagreed with the conclusions of the federal Convention.

B) Henry and Pendleton held similar beliefs about the new Constitution.

C) Henry asked questions that Pendleton admitted he could not answer.

D) Pendleton disagreed with most of the points made by Henry.

Which statement best expresses Henry’s and Pendleton’s respective views of the Confederation?

A) Henry felt it was flawed but correctable, while Pendleton felt that it had served no useful purpose.

B) Henry viewed it as a perfect expression of democracy, while Pendleton viewed it as fundamentally authoritarian.

C) Henry regarded it as adequate in its current form, while Pendleton regarded it as a transitional system only.

D) Henry considered it an unavoidable compromise during a time of crisis, while Pendleton considered it to have harmed the nation’s future prospects.

Henry would most likely have responded to Pendleton’s claim about the members of the Convention by asserting that they

A) did not sufficiently address the defects of the Confederation.

B) should not have proposed an entirely new form of government.

C) were seeking only to enact the wishes of the American people.

D) failed to understand the danger of taking no significant action.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

A) Lines 6-10 (“And here...confederation”)

B) Lines 11-13 (“That...striking”)

C) Lines 39-42 (“The federal...consideration”)

D) Lines 42-46 (“You...government”)
Questions 43-52 are based on the following passage.

This passage is adapted from Catherine Clabby, “A Tangled Tale of Plant Evolution.” ©2009 by Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society.

As ancestors of land plants abandoned their aquatic nurseries for life on shore, they needed the means to seal in water and hold themselves up to thrive. Lignin, a strengthening and stiffening polymer common in woody plant cells, contributes to both extremely well.

Lignin production for those tasks was considered a key adaptive achievement of vascular plants, which descend from green algae. Now a University of British Columbia botanist and some highly specialized chemists have strong evidence for lignin in a red alga called Calliarthron cheilosporioides.

The finding suggests that a biological building block fundamental to the success of land plants has roots that stretch back far deeper—and maybe wider—through evolutionary time than was known. “This pathway is involved in the production of other secondary metabolites like pigments in plants. A lot of that is likely to be conserved pretty far back in the evolutionary history of algae,” says Patrick T. Martone, the botanist who led the study.

Martone didn’t set out to locate lignin in algae. The biomechanist simply wanted to better understand the toughness of C. cheilosporioides, which dwells in the harsh habitat of intertidal zones along rocky shores.

During high tides, waves pummel the alga with water velocities exceeding 20 meters per second and with forces that exceed those generated by hurricane winds. The calcified, or rigid-bodied, seaweed has multiple noncalcified joints that make it flexible yet strong enough to handle that setting.

When collaborator Jose Estevez at the Carnegie Institution for Science examined the joints for Martone with a transmission electron microscope, he saw secondary cell walls, features commonly found in land plants. That prompted Martone and Estevez to seek out experts in lignin, a molecule of great research interest right now because its toughness impedes the use of some plants as sources of biofuel and animal feed.

45 John Ralph and colleagues at the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center detected lignin in C. cheilosporioides. They found the same telltale components derived from radical coupling reactions of hydroxycinnamyl alcohols used to describe lignins in terrestrial plants.

At the Centre de Recherches sur les Macromolécules Végétales in France, Katia Ruel applied antibodies designed to locate lignin within land plants to samples of C. cheilosporioides. Her tests detected lignin in the seaweed too.

The amounts are much smaller than what is found in land plants. But lignin is most abundant in the parts of the seaweed that are most mechanically stressed, which suggests to Martone that there could be some environmental stimulation that increases production of the polymer in the organism. The puzzling thing is that it’s also present in calcified portions of the algae. “We don’t know what it’s doing there,” Martone says.

Martone’s working hypothesis is that the molecular pathways producing lignin emerged long before land plants evolved from green algae, back to some ancestor shared with red algae more than a billion years ago. Molecular evidence and comparisons of the biological gear the algae use to harvest light convince him that both red and green algae descend from one endosymbiotic event, when a eukaryote cell engulfed a photosynthesizing cyanobacterium and gained the ability to make its own food.

Karl J. Niklas, a Cornell University botanist, considers Martone’s evidence for lignin in C. cheilosporioides exceptionally strong. But he thinks that red and green algae evolved from separate endosymbiotic events. Still, the progenitors of the two algae may both have carried genes similar to those participating in the lignin production pathways seen today, he says.
The passage is primarily concerned with
A) narrating how a finding was arrived at and indicating possible implications.
B) explaining some differences among specialists in different fields of science.
C) identifying a particularly vexing phenomenon and endorsing a single explanation.
D) describing the properties of an organism and showing how they can be exploited.

As presented in the passage, the conclusion that lignin is present in C. cheilosporioides can best be described as
A) theorized previously within the larger scientific community.
B) founded on empirical evidence and thus persuasive.
C) certain to disprove most earlier theories of algal evolution.
D) supported by an abundance of conjectural reports.

It can reasonably be inferred from the passage that Martone’s research interest in lignin should be considered
A) unusually insightful, because it has fundamentally changed the way lignin is understood.
B) somewhat questionable, because Martone based his conclusions on an atypical sample.
C) properly cautious, because Martone checked his findings about C. cheilosporioides multiple times.
D) initially secondary, because it was undertaken to support particular questions about C. cheilosporioides.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A) Lines 7-9 (“Lignin . . . algae”)  
B) Lines 13-16 (“The finding . . . known”)  
C) Lines 23-26 (“The biomechanist . . . shores”)  
D) Lines 59-61 (“The puzzling . . . algae”)

The passage indicates that the structure of C. cheilosporioides consists of components that
A) change density in response to external conditions.
B) protect the cell interior from exposure to seawater.
C) regenerate as the seaweed colony matures.
D) operate together to allow for suppleness.

As used in line 32, “handle” most nearly means
A) train for.
B) survive in.
C) engage in.
D) act on.

Scientists who specialized in lignin were useful to Martone and Estevez because
A) the toughness of C. cheilosporioides made it difficult to analyze without the use of specialized chemistry.
B) C. cheilosporioides was found to contain features typically found in plants known to contain lignin.
C) prior research suggested that seaweed species contain molecules of a particularly durable chemical compound.
D) some unexpected measurement results from tests for lignin required specialist interpretation.
"I have not met you for two years, Dada," said the son, struggling to get his hands near Chhotomama's toes. "You must not stop me." This was half a token gesture towards modesty, and half towards the old, "traditional" India—Gandhi's India of ceremony and custom.

Sandeep, meanwhile, had come to the conclusion that the grown-ups were mad, each after his or her own fashion. Simple situations were turned into complex, dramatic ones; not until then did everyone feel important and happy. Will they never grow up? thought Sandeep irately. He glanced around him. A single blue, fluorescent tube was burning on the wall. It was not a big room. Despite its bareness, the impression it gave was of austerity rather than poverty. It made one remember that poverty meant displacement as well as lack, while austerity meant being poor in a rooted way, within a tradition and culture of sparseness, which transformed even the lack, the paucity, into a kind of being.

According to the passage, the old man was standing on the verandah because

A) he was watching cars travel down the road.
B) the two boys had reported the visitors would soon arrive.
C) he had heard what he believed to be the visitors' car.
D) he enjoyed listening to the quiet sounds of the evening.

In the passage, the yoghurt and sweetmeats are compared to a

A) jewel.
B) cuisine.
C) wedding gift.
D) generous donation.

As used in lines 37 and 40, "air" most nearly means

A) atmosphere.
B) absence.
C) demeanor.
D) melody.

The characters' behavior during the gift giving mainly serves to

A) emphasize the lavish value of the gift.
B) inflate the significance of the gesture.
C) convey indifference toward the gift.
D) stress the need for polite behavior.

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?
A) Lines 43-44 ("It was . . . yoghurt")
B) Lines 44-46 ("they...unencountered")
C) Lines 52-54 ("Oh no...a l l this")
D) Lines 58-60 ("I have...stop me")

The description of Chhotomama and the son's interaction mainly serves to

A) show how the characters diverge in their approaches to cultural practices.
B) emphasize the characters' complex relationship.
C) stress the characters' misinterpretations of Indian history.
D) depict how the characters created gestures that became routine.

Niklas counters Martone's proposal about the evolutionary history of red and green algae by suggesting that the

A) major molecular pathways present in red and green algae must have been in place long before their evolutionary lines separated.
B) evidence uncovered in Martone's research does not directly address the issue of when the last common ancestor of red and green algae existed.
C) evolutionary lines leading to the two kinds of algae might have diverged before they acquired the ability to photosynthesize.
D) process by which C. cheilosporioides produces lignin might be different from the process by which ancestral species of algae produced it.

STOP
If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this section only.
Do not turn to any other section.
The Case for Electronic Health Records

The US health-care system has made significant strides in the implementation of systems that manage electronic health records, which include information such as a patient’s medical history, medications currently prescribed, and a list of allergies. From 2001 to 2013, the use of electronic health record systems by
office-based physicians 

began to decline only in the last three years. While this progress is commendable, the US health-care system needs to make the full transition to electronic health records a high priority.

The writer wants to complete the sentence with accurate and relevant information from the graph to support the claim made about advances in the implementation of electronic health record systems. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?

A) NO CHANGE
B) increased most dramatically between 2011 and 2012.
C) increased from less than 20 percent of physicians to nearly 80 percent of physicians.
D) fluctuated from year to year until about 80 percent of physicians were using electronic health records.

Adapted from National Center for Health Statistics, Data Brief Number 143, US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Published in 2014.
Regrettably, electronic medical records require infrastructure that can be expensive to build: they don’t require physical storage space, they don’t need to be photocopied and collated, and they are less likely to be physically misplaced. More importantly, electronic records accelerate communication between different and various health-care providers, allowing for more efficient patient treatment. For example, when paramedics have access to electronic records in ambulances, they can learn what kinds of treatment they should immediately begin on a patient. Immediate treatment results in safer and earlier care. Even small improvements in efficiency add up. The Veterans Health Administration, the largest integrated health-care system in the United States, reports that after the implementation of electronic health records in 1995, its total productivity has increased by 6 percent per year.

Which phrase most effectively sets up the examples in the second part of the sentence?

A) NO CHANGE
B) Electronic health records provide many advantages over paper ones:
C) Researchers have weighed the benefits and drawbacks of electronic health records:
D) Typically, electronic health records need a full-time staff to maintain them:

A) NO CHANGE
B) because they are
C) being
D) DELETE the underlined portion.

A) NO CHANGE
B) different
C) diverse, different
D) singularly different

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

A) patient, resulting
B) patient and results
C) patient, and those treatments result
D) patient because it results
These concerns, however, are also problems for paper records. Despite these clear benefits, some patients and medical professionals still harbor concerns about the potential for error and the violation of patient privacy when electronic records are used. By no means free from errors, handwritten records are especially prone to errors resulting from illegible handwriting. Electronic health record systems can actually reduce errors by, for instance, cross-referencing drug information, this provides doctors with automatic warnings about possible adverse drug interactions. Likewise, at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, serious medical errors decreased by 55 percent after an electronic record system was implemented. Furthermore, patient privacy is no more threatened by electronic records than it is by paper records, which—according to the US Department of Health and Human Services, typically accessed by at least 150 different health-care professionals.

The best way to address these concerns about accuracy and privacy are not to avoid adopting electronic health record systems but rather to implement them effectively. The benefits of fully transitioning from paper to electronic health records far outweigh any perceived disadvantages.
Questions 12-22 are based on the following passage and supplementary material.

The Beaver as Ecosystem Engineer

1] An ecosystem is a complex web of interactions between organisms and their habitats. [2] Each component is [12] vital to the sustainability of the others and to the system as a whole. [3] Beavers, large rodents that use sticks, mud, and leaves to build dams in streams, are perhaps one of the best examples of the [13] interpersonal relationship among all aspects of an ecosystem. [4] New efforts to cultivate beaver populations reflect a growing recognition of the vital role beaver dams play in combating the effects of drought and preserving species diversity. [5] Beavers fell trees to build their dams, and the ponds that form behind a dam can flood the surrounding area. [6] Despite the seeming drawbacks to beaver dams, emerging research confirms that they actually provide significant environmental benefits. [14]

Scientists have called the beaver an “ecosystem engineer” because its dams can alter the ecological makeup of its habitat. By regulating water flow in [15] streams. Dams have ripple effects that radiate to
all surrounding organisms. The ponds that form as a result of dams retain nutrient-rich sediment, fostering a variety of plant life and multiplying food sources such as plankton. Attracted by these resources, many different kinds of wildlife inhabits beaver ponds.

At this point, the writer is considering adding the following sentence.

A beaver’s life span averages 10–12 years.

Should the writer make this addition here?
A) Yes, because it reinforces the scientists’ characterization of beavers as “ecosystem engineers.”
B) Yes, because it clarifies information in the previous sentence about the impact of beavers.
C) No, because the detail is not necessary for understanding beavers’ impact on their ecosystems.
D) No, because it does not provide enough explanation of the factors affecting the beaver’s life span.

A) NO CHANGE
B) adopting
C) raising
D) rearing

A) NO CHANGE
B) inhabit
C) are inhabited
D) have inhabited
Recent studies suggest that beaver dams not only create diversely populated ecosystems but also 19 preserve them during times of environmental stress. A landmark 2008 study by ecologists at the University of Alberta found that the presence of beaver populations can mitigate the effects of drought on wetlands. The researchers observed that ponds in Elk Island National Park in Canada that had developed active beaver colonies held significantly more water during years when beavers were present than they did during years when beavers were absent. Furthermore, a group of ponds that had not been recolonized by beavers showed a 20 smaller increase in area of open water over the same period.

19. Which choice best reflects the information provided in figures 1 and 2?
A) NO CHANGE
B) to preserve them
C) preserving them
D) they are preserved

20. Which choice best reflects the information provided in figures 1 and 2?
A) NO CHANGE
B) marked decline
C) greater increase
D) gradual reduction
"I have not met you for two years, Dada," said the son, struggling to get his hands near Chhotomama's toes. "You must not stop me." This was half a token gesture towards modesty, and half towards the old, "traditional" India—Gandhi's India of ceremony and custom.

Sandeep, meanwhile, had come to the conclusion that the grown-ups were mad, each after his or her own fashion. Simple situations were turned into complex, dramatic ones; not until then did everyone feel important and happy. Will they never grow up? thought Sandeep irately. He glanced around him. A single blue, fluorescent tube was burning on the wall. It was not a big room. Despite its bareness, the impression it gave was of austerity rather than poverty. It made one remember that poverty meant displacement as well as lack, while austerity meant being poor in a rooted way, within a tradition and culture of sparseness, which transformed even the lack, the paucity, into a kind of being.

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Figures adapted from Glynnis A. Hood and Suzanne E. Bayley, “Beaver (Castor canadensis) Mitigate the Effects of Climate on the Area of Open Water in Boreal Wetlands in Western Canada.” ©2008 by Biological Conservation.
In addition to studying wildlife, researchers are collaborating with local officials to promote beaver populations in habitats where they might be beneficial. Washington State’s Lands Council, a nonprofit organization, has begun working with the state’s Department of Ecology to reintroduce beavers to 10,000 miles of suitable habitat. Officials predict that beaver dams could help retain more than 650 trillion gallons of springtime melted snow, which could help stabilize water levels in streams during dry months. This project provides a low-cost alternative to the construction of artificial dams, which could cost billions of dollars. Through such initiatives, beaver populations are doing what they do best; “engineering” healthier, more stable ecosystems.

Which choice provides the best transition from the previous paragraph?
A) NO CHANGE
B) Despite the beaver’s reputation as a nuisance,
C) Spurred by these findings,
D) Motivated by this opportunity,

A) NO CHANGE
B) best—“engineering,”
C) best: “engineering”
D) best, “engineering,”
Questions 23-33 are based on the following passage.

The Giant: Michelangelo's Victory

Toward the end of the 1400s, as the Renaissance was reaching its height in Florence, Italy, members of the city's powerful Wool Guild were celebrating their recently completed city cathedral. It was a triumph that added to Florence's reputation from sophistication and beauty, yet the guild members were eager to fancy it up even more. They wanted a series of statues to adorn the cathedral's exterior, placing high on buttresses so that the art could be admired from afar. The first result of the members' plan brought great acclaim, though not quite in the way they had anticipated.

23. A) NO CHANGE
   B) it's
   C) its'
   D) their

24. A) NO CHANGE
   B) for
   C) to
   D) with

25. A) NO CHANGE
   B) make it look super rich.
   C) increase its splendor.
   D) give it a wow factor.

26. A) NO CHANGE
   B) they were placed
   C) which were placed
   D) placed
In 1501, guild members began the project by commissioning a statue of David, a biblical hero who had defeated a giant named Goliath. The sculptor chosen was Michelangelo, a twenty-six-year-old artist who already had a reputation for great talent. He was directed to use an enormous block of marble from the cathedral’s workshop to create the statue. Nicknamed “the Giant,” the block had many problems. It had been quarried more than forty years earlier and had started to weather from exposure to the elements. Even worse, they had previously used it, chipping away material to rough out a basic shape but giving up midtask. The marble came from the Fantiscritti quarries in Carrara, a small town almost 80 miles north of Florence. Michelangelo was faced with trying to sculpt a monumental statue out of a stone that was generally considered ruined.

27. The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted? 
A) NO CHANGE  
B) other sculptors had previously used it,  
C) it was used by them before,  
D) they used it previously to begin other sculptures, 

28. The writer is considering deleting the underlined sentence. Should the sentence be kept or deleted? 
A) Kept, because it provides evidence to support the claim that Michelangelo would succeed where others had failed.  
B) Kept, because it includes details that explain why the citizens of Florence might have been critical of commissioning a sculptor from a different city.  
C) Deleted, because it adds irrelevant information that distracts from the paragraph’s focus on the obstacles Michelangelo faced.  
D) Deleted, because it fails to explain why the block had not already been made into a sculpture.
His seventeen-foot-high, intricately detailed figure depicts David in the act of confronting Goliath. Michelangelo had solved the problem of the awkward size and shape of the marble block by positioning David turned slightly sideways with his weight shifted onto one leg, poised as if ready to burst into action. But Michelangelo took on the Giant with zeal and finished the statue in just two years. The statue’s form and posture echoed the proportions of classical Roman sculpture, but its expressiveness and level of detail has reflected Renaissance sensibilities. Michelangelo had overcome the limitations of the marble block and, moreover, had turned it into a technical and artistic masterpiece.

Upon viewing the stunning statue, guild members discarded the plan to hoist the statue to an exterior buttress. It was far too beautiful and was unlike other Renaissance depictions of David) to be placed high above its viewers. After meeting with city officials and


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31

Upon viewing the stunning statue, guild members discarded the plan to hoist the statue to an exterior buttress. It was far too beautiful and was unlike other Renaissance depictions of David) to be placed high above its viewers. After meeting with city officials and
prominent citizens, the members agreed that the statue should instead stand outside of Florence’s town hall as a symbol and representation of the city’s strength and independence. Thus, the guild members achieved their goal of enhancing Florence’s prestige.

The writer wants to revise the underlined portion so that the concluding sentence summarizes the main ideas of the passage. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?

A) prestige, and Michelangelo was hailed as a hero in his own right for conquering the Giant and giving Florence a fitting monument.
B) prestige, and Michelangelo would soon leave Florence for Rome, where he would paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.
C) prestige, especially after parts of the statue were decorated with gold.
D) prestige, but even though it boasts works of art like Michelangelo’s David, Italy today ranks only fifth in terms of revenue generated by tourism.
Questions 34-44 are based on the following passage.

Sharing for Success

The twenty-first century has presented both unique challenges and innovative solutions to work-related issues. Both Julie Levine and Julie Rocco desired a healthier work/life balance, but they were hesitant to give up their managerial roles overseeing the production of new vehicles. In order to retain these top engineers, the company proposed a creative solution: job sharing. As the demand for flexible working options in today's marketplace has grown, job sharing—an arrangement in which one full-time job is split between two employees—has become more common. For

**Questions**

34. Which choice provides the best introduction to the paragraph?

A) NO CHANGE
B) Companies are always searching for new and innovative ways to recruit the best employees.
C) In 2007, two highly successful full-time engineers at a US car company faced the same dilemma.
D) According to one national survey, the average full-time US employee works about 1,700 hours per year.

35. A) NO CHANGE
B) solution—job
C) solution; job
D) solution: job

36. A) NO CHANGE
B) sharing—
C) sharing;
D) sharing:
employees, it provides an appealing alternative to other forms of part-time work, which might not offer comparable health benefits, salary, or stability. For Levine and Rocco, who were compensated at 80 percent of their full-time salaries and benefits, job sharing was a way of continuing to climb the career ladder. They didn’t have to work the long hours usually demanded of an employee in a high-level position.

Effective communication is crucial to the success of a job-sharing arrangement. In determining how working time and responsibilities would be divided, steps were taken by Levine and Rocco to ensure that the arrangement provided fluidity and consistency for the employees whom they jointly managed. “It’s our job to be seamless,” they noted. Nevertheless, they each planned to work three days a week, with a day of overlap on Wednesdays; they also planned to talk on the phone.

37 Which choice best combines the sentences at the underlined portion?
A) ladder, and they weren’t having
B) ladder; however, they didn’t have
C) ladder without having
D) ladder while still not having

38 A) NO CHANGE
B) there were steps taken by Levine and Rocco to ensure
C) Levine and Rocco took steps to ensure
D) Levine and Rocco’s steps ensured

39 A) NO CHANGE
B) To this end,
C) However,
D) Similarly,
each evening to discuss the day’s work. 40 The job shared by Levine and Rocco was the highest-ranking shared job at the company; when “you have to analyze your day and share it with another brain, you show up the next day ready to run,” Levine said. Studies have confirmed that job sharing can improve work quality by encouraging teamwork. In a 2003 survey of employees at the UK National Health Service, for example, more than 70 percent of job sharers felt that communicating with their partners improved their ability to understand and execute their jobs.

41 Job sharing may present some challenges, though. If job sharers have discordant capabilities or are unable to communicate effectively, the arrangement may not be successful. Job-sharing initiatives may also involve some extra cost for companies, since the salaries

Which choice best sets up the information that follows in the next part of the sentence?

A) NO CHANGE
B) Levine and Rocco initially had doubts that the arrangement would be successful:
C) The job shared by Levine and Rocco requires about 80 hours of work total per week:
D) Both Levine and Rocco found that this collaboration enhanced their job performance:

Which choice best sets up the main discussion of the paragraph?

A) NO CHANGE
B) Moreover, some workers have responsibilities that are difficult to share.
C) Still, only some positions are suitable for job sharing.
D) Flexible work arrangements can reduce stress in employees.

Which choice best sets up the information that follows in the next part of the sentence?

A) NO CHANGE
B) contrary
C) irreconcilable
D) mismatched
and cost of benefits for two job-sharing employees are usually higher than being for a single employee. However, proponents contend that the investment is worthwhile because they enable companies to retain the most talented employees. As can be seen from Levine and Rocco’s success in developing a best-selling 2011 sport-utility vehicle, job sharing provides an effective flexible working solution when undertaken by motivated employees and companies.

**43**

A) NO CHANGE
B) that of
C) those for
D) DELETE the underlined portion.

**44**

A) NO CHANGE
B) those enable
C) any of them enables
D) it enables
Math Test – No Calculator

25 MINUTES, 20 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 3 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

**DIRECTIONS**

For questions 1-15, solve each problem, choose the best answer from the choices provided, and fill in the corresponding circle on your answer sheet. For questions 16-20, solve the problem and enter your answer in the grid on the answer sheet. Please refer to the directions before question 16 on how to enter your answers in the grid. You may use any available space in your test booklet for scratch work.

**NOTES**

1. The use of a calculator is not permitted.
2. All variables and expressions used represent real numbers unless otherwise indicated.
3. Figures provided in this test are drawn to scale unless otherwise indicated.
4. All figures lie in a plane unless otherwise indicated.
5. Unless otherwise indicated, the domain of a given function $f$ is the set of all real numbers $x$ for which $f(x)$ is a real number.

**REFERENCE**

The number of degrees of arc in a circle is 360.
The number of radians of arc in a circle is $2\pi$.
The sum of the measures in degrees of the angles of a triangle is 180.
1. A farmer sold 108 pounds of produce that consisted of \(z\) pounds of zucchini and \(c\) pounds of cucumbers. The farmer sold the zucchini for $1.69 per pound and the cucumbers for $0.99 per pound and collected a total of $150.32. Which of the following systems of equations can be used to find the number of pounds of zucchini that were sold?

A) \[ \begin{align*}
    z + c &= 150.32 \\
    1.69z + 0.99c &= 108
  \end{align*} \]

B) \[ \begin{align*}
    z + c &= 108 \\
    1.69z + 0.99c &= 150.32
  \end{align*} \]

C) \[ \begin{align*}
    z + c &= 108 \\
    0.99z + 1.69c &= 150.32
  \end{align*} \]

D) \[ \begin{align*}
    z + c &= 150.32 \\
    0.99z + 1.69c &= 108
  \end{align*} \]

2. \[ C = 10x + 4y \]

The formula above gives the monthly cost \(C\), in dollars, of operating a delivery truck when the driver works a total of \(x\) hours and when \(y\) gallons of gasoline are used. If, in a particular month, it cost no more than $2,000 to operate the truck and at least 150 gallons of gas were used, what is the maximum number of hours the driver could have worked?

A) 125 
B) 140 
C) 500 
D) 1,400 

3. \[ 5x^2 - 3(1 - x) - 2x(x + 5) \]

Which of the following polynomials is equivalent to the expression above?

A) \(3x^2 - 7x - 3\) 
B) \(3x^2 + 7x - 3\) 
C) \(5x^2 - 5x - 3\) 
D) \(5x^2 - 9x - 3\) 

4. \[ x(x + 2) = 8 \]

Which of the following lists all solutions to the quadratic equation above?

A) 8 and 6 
B) 4 and –2 
C) –4 and 2 
D) \(\sqrt{6}\)
5. In the figure above, $\overline{BC}$ and $\overline{AD}$ are parallel, $\overline{AB}$ and $\overline{EC}$ are parallel, $CD = CE$, and the measure of $\angle ABC$ is $115^\circ$. What is the measure of $\angle BCD$?

A) $85^\circ$
B) $115^\circ$
C) $125^\circ$
D) $140^\circ$

6. $0.8p = t$

At a store, a coat originally priced at $p$ dollars is on sale for $t$ dollars, and the relationship between $p$ and $t$ is given in the equation above. What is $p$ in terms of $t$?

A) $p = t - 0.8$
B) $p = 0.8t$
C) $p = \frac{0.8}{t}$
D) $p = \frac{t}{0.8}$

7. $x + 2y = 16$
$0.5x - y = 10$

The solution to the system of equations above is $(x, y)$. What is the value of $x$?

A) $-2$
B) $2$
C) $18$
D) $36$
Which of the following is the graph of the equation \( y = 2x + 3 \) in the \( xy \)-plane?

A)

![Graph A]

B)

![Graph B]

C)

![Graph C]

D)

![Graph D]

The system of equations above is graphed in the \( xy \)-plane. Which of the following is the \( y \)-coordinate of an intersection point \((x, y)\) of the graphs of the two equations?

A) \(-4\)

B) \(-2\)

C) \(2\)

D) \(4\)

Which of the following expressions is equivalent to the one above, where \(x \neq 1\)?

A)

\[ \frac{9}{x-1} \]

B)

\[ \frac{14}{x-1} \]

C)

\[ \frac{15}{2x-2} \]

D)

\[ \frac{21}{2x-2} \]
I have not met you for two years, Dada,” said the son, struggling to get his hands near Chhotomama’s toes. “You must not stop me.” This was half a token gesture towards modesty, and half towards the old, “traditional” India—Gandhi’s India of ceremony and custom.

Sandeep, meanwhile, had come to the conclusion that the grown-ups were mad, each after his or her own fashion. Simple situations were turned into complex, dramatic ones; not until then did everyone feel important and happy. Will they never grow up? thought Sandeep irately. He glanced around him. A single blue, fluorescent tube was burning on the wall. It was not a big room. Despite its bareness, the impression it gave was of austerity rather than poverty. It made one remember that poverty meant displacement as well as lack, while austerity meant being poor in a rooted way, within a tradition and culture of sparseness, which transformed even the lack, the paucity, into a kind of being.

11. For a positive real number $x$, where $x^8 = 2$, what is the value of $x^{24}$?
   A) $\sqrt[3]{24}$
   B) 4
   C) 6
   D) 8

12. Which of the following is an equivalent form of $\sqrt[3]{f^{6a} k^{\frac{2}{3}}}$, where $f > 0$ and $k > 0$?
   A) $\frac{1}{f^{3a} k^{\frac{1}{3}}}$
   B) $\frac{1}{f^{2a} k^{\frac{1}{2}}}$
   C) $f^{3a} k^{\frac{1}{3}}$
   D) $f^{2a} k^{\frac{2}{3}}$

13. The number of people who go to a public swimming pool can be modeled by the function $g$ above, where $c$ is a constant and $t$ is the air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit ($^\circ$F) for $70 < t < 100$. If 350 people are predicted to go to the pool when the temperature is 90°F, what is the value of $c$?
   A) 20
   B) 40
   C) 60
   D) 80
The boiling point of water at sea level is 212 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). For every increase of 1,000 feet above sea level, the boiling point of water drops approximately 1.84°F. Which of the following equations gives the approximate boiling point \( B \), in °F, at \( h \) feet above sea level?

A) \( B = 212 - 1.84h \)
B) \( B = 212 - (0.00184)h \)
C) \( B = 212h \)
D) \( B = 1.84(212) - 1000h \)

The graph of \( x^2 - 4x + y^2 + 6y - 24 = 0 \) in the \( xy\)-plane is a circle. What is the radius of the circle?

A) \( 2\sqrt{6} \)
B) \( \sqrt{11} \)
C) \( \sqrt{37} \)
D) \( \sqrt{76} \)
**DIRECTIONS**

For questions 16-20, solve the problem and enter your answer in the grid, as described below, on the answer sheet.

1. Although not required, it is suggested that you write your answer in the boxes at the top of the columns to help you fill in the circles accurately. You will receive credit only if the circles are filled in correctly.
2. Mark no more than one circle in any column.
3. No question has a negative answer.
4. Some problems may have more than one correct answer. In such cases, grid only one answer.
5. **Mixed numbers** such as \(3 \frac{1}{2}\) must be gridded as 3.5 or \(\frac{7}{2}\). (If \(3\frac{1}{2}\) is entered into the grid, it will be interpreted as \(\frac{7}{2}\), not \(3 \frac{1}{2}\).)
6. **Decimal answers:** If you obtain a decimal answer with more digits than the grid can accommodate, it may be either rounded or truncated, but it must fill the entire grid.

**Grid in this result.**

**Answer:** \(\frac{7}{12}\)

**Answer:** 2.5

Acceptable ways to grid \(\frac{2}{3}\) are:

- **Fraction line**
- **Decimal point**

**Answer:** 201 – either position is correct

**NOTE:** You may start your answers in any column, space permitting. Columns you don’t need to use should be left blank.
16

\[ |5 - x| = 4 \]

The value of one solution to the equation above is 1. What is the value of the other solution?

17

If \( f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 10 \) and \( c \) is a positive integer less than 5, what is one possible value of \( f(c) \)?

18

Students in a science lab are working in groups to build both a small and a large electrical circuit. A large circuit uses 4 resistors and 2 capacitors, and a small circuit uses 3 resistors and 1 capacitor. There are 100 resistors and 70 capacitors available, and each group must have enough resistors and capacitors to make one large and one small circuit. What is the maximum number of groups that could work on this lab project?

19

An angle with a measure of \( \frac{7\pi}{6} \) radians has a measure of \( d \) degrees, where \( 0 \leq d < 360 \). What is the value of \( d \)?

20

The function \( f \) is defined by \( f(r) = (r - 4)(r + 1)^2 \). If \( f(h - 3) = 0 \), what is one possible value of \( h \)?

STOP

If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this section only.
Do not turn to any other section.
Math Test – Calculator
55 MINUTES, 38 QUESTIONS

Turn to Section 4 of your answer sheet to answer the questions in this section.

DIRECTIONS

For questions 1-30, solve each problem, choose the best answer from the choices provided, and fill in the corresponding circle on your answer sheet. For questions 31-38, solve the problem and enter your answer in the grid on the answer sheet. Please refer to the directions before question 31 on how to enter your answers in the grid. You may use any available space in your test booklet for scratch work.

NOTES

1. The use of a calculator is permitted.
2. All variables and expressions used represent real numbers unless otherwise indicated.
3. Figures provided in this test are drawn to scale unless otherwise indicated.
4. All figures lie in a plane unless otherwise indicated.
5. Unless otherwise indicated, the domain of a given function \( f \) is the set of all real numbers \( x \) for which \( f(x) \) is a real number.

REFERENCE

The number of degrees of arc in a circle is 360.
The number of radians of arc in a circle is \( 2\pi \).
The sum of the measures in degrees of the angles of a triangle is 180.
1. If \( m = 3 \), how much greater is \( 10m \) than \( 6m \)?

A) 3  
B) 4  
C) 12  
D) 30

2. The temperature, in degrees Celsius (°C), of a hot object placed in a room is recorded every five minutes. The temperature of the object decreases rapidly at first, then decreases more slowly as the object’s temperature approaches the temperature of the room. Which of the following graphs could represent the temperature of this object over time?

A) ![Graph A]  
B) ![Graph B]  
C) ![Graph C]  
D) ![Graph D]
3

\[ x - 2 = \sqrt{x + 10} \]
Which of the following values of \( x \) is a solution to the equation above?

A) \(-1\)
B) \(1\)
C) \(4\)
D) \(6\)

4

Last year, 800 students attended the career fair at West High School. This year, the number of students who attended the career fair increased by 5%. How many students attended the career fair at West High School this year?

A) 804
B) 805
C) 840
D) 1,200

Questions 5 and 6 refer to the following information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seed or nut</th>
<th>Calories</th>
<th>Total fat (grams)</th>
<th>Protein (grams)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pecan</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pistachio</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumpkin</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunflower</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>14.6</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walnut</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows the calories, grams of fat, and grams of protein in 1-ounce servings of selected seeds and nuts.

5

How many more grams of protein are in one pound of pumpkin seeds than are in one pound of pistachios? (1 pound = 16 ounces)

A) 48
B) 72
C) 88
D) 136
Lionel purchases 1-pound bags of each of the five seeds and nuts shown in the table. Of the following, which best approximates the average (arithmetic mean) number of calories per bag? (1 pound = 16 ounces)

A) 150  
B) 250  
C) 1,500  
D) 2,500

At a snack bar, each medium drink costs $1.85 and each large drink costs $ more dollars than a medium drink. If 5 medium drinks and 5 large drinks cost a total of $20.50, what is the value of $c$?

A) 0.45  
B) 0.40  
C) 0.30  
D) 0.25

Kate bought a bus pass that had an initial value of $90. For every bus ride Kate takes, $1.80, the cost of one bus ride, is subtracted from the value of the pass. What percent of the initial value of Kate’s bus pass is the cost of one bus ride?

A) 1.8%  
B) 2%  
C) 5%  
D) 98%
10

To determine whether residents of a community would vote in favor of a ballot proposal to use $100,000 of local taxes for additional playground equipment at a community park, Jennifer surveyed 60 adults visiting the park with their children during one week in June. She found that 45 of those surveyed reported that they would vote in favor of the proposal. Which of the following statements must be true?

A) When the actual vote is taken, 75 percent of the votes will be in favor of the proposal.
B) No prediction should be made about the vote on the proposal because the sample size is too small.
C) The sampling method is flawed and may produce biased results.
D) The sampling method is not flawed and is likely to produce unbiased results.

11

If \( x^4 - y^4 = -15 \) and \( x^2 - y^2 = -3 \), what is the value of \( x^2 + y^2 \)?

A) 5
B) 4
C) 2
D) 1

12

Which of the following is closest to the equation of the line of best fit shown?

A) \( y = 54x + \frac{7}{5} \)
B) \( y = \frac{7}{5}x - 54 \)
C) \( y = \frac{7}{5}x + 54 \)
D) \( y = \frac{7}{5}x \)

Questions 12 and 13 refer to the following information.

A cable company recorded the percentage of households in the United States that had cable television from 1987 to 1997. In the scatterplot below, \( x \) represents the number of years since 1987 and \( y \) represents the percentage of households with cable television. The line of best fit for the data is shown.
13 Which of the following is the best interpretation of the slope of the line of best fit shown for these data?
A) The actual increase in the percentage of households with cable television each year
B) The predicted increase in the percentage of households with cable television each year
C) The actual increase in the number of households with cable television each year
D) The predicted increase in the number of households with cable television each year

14 A greenhouse owner purchases fertilizer in 60-gallon drums. The fertilizer is mixed with water to make several batches of solution. Each batch of solution is made by mixing 3 quarts of fertilizer with water. What is the maximum number of batches of solution that can be made from one 60-gallon drum of fertilizer? (1 gallon = 4 quarts)
A) 45
B) 60
C) 80
D) 180

15 Tara rode her bicycle along a straight road from her home to a restaurant and ate lunch. She then continued along the same road to a movie theater to see a movie. Finally, she returned home on the same road after the movie. Tara’s distance from home during the 4 hours she was out is shown in the graph above. How many total miles did she ride her bicycle?
A) 5
B) 10
C) 16
D) 20
Ryan has 1,500 yards of yarn. He wants to knit at least 2 scarves and at least 3 hats. Each scarf requires 300 yards of yarn, and each hat requires 120 yards of yarn. If \( s \) represents the number of scarves and \( h \) represents the number of hats, which of the following systems of inequalities represents this situation?

A) \[ s + h \leq 1,500 \]
   \[ s \geq 2 \]
   \[ h \geq 3 \]

B) \[ 2s + 3h \leq 1,500 \]
   \[ s \geq 2 \]
   \[ h \geq 3 \]

C) \[ 2s + 3h \leq 1,500 \]
   \[ s \geq 300 \]
   \[ h \geq 120 \]

D) \[ 300s + 120h \leq 1,500 \]
   \[ s \geq 2 \]
   \[ h \geq 3 \]

Michael performed an experiment where he tossed two coins, one dime and one nickel, at the same time and recorded whether each one landed on heads or tails. His results are shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Nickel</th>
<th>Dime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heads</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tails</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For what percent of the tosses did the dime Michael tossed land on heads?

A) 47%
B) 49%
C) 51%
D) 53%

During a storm, the atmospheric pressure in a certain location fell at a constant rate of 3.4 millibars (mb) per hour over a 24-hour time period. Which of the following is closest to the total drop in atmospheric pressure, in millimeters of mercury (mm Hg), over the course of 5 hours during the 24-hour time period?

(Note: 1,013 mb = 760 mm Hg)

A) 2.6
B) 12.8
C) 17.0
D) 22.7

On its opening day, a car dealership had an inventory of 29 cars. During the first 6 months, 18 additional cars were purchased by the dealership each week, and the sales team sold an average of 15 cars per week. During the first six months, which of the following equations best models the car inventory, \( c \), at the dealership \( t \) weeks after opening day?

A) \( c = -t + 29 \)
B) \( c = t + 29 \)
C) \( c = \frac{3}{2} t + 29 \)
D) \( c = 3t + 29 \)
20. If $2\sqrt{2x} = a$, what is $2x$ in terms of $a$?

A) $\frac{a}{2}$
B) $\frac{a^2}{4}$
C) $\frac{a^2}{2}$
D) $4a^2$

21. A project coordinator at a banquet hall is given the task of arranging seating for an awards ceremony. The figure above shows the first three possible arrangements of tables and the maximum number of seats in each arrangement. If the number of seats in each successive arrangement is increased by 6 over the preceding arrangement, which of the following represents the maximum number of seats around $n$ tables?

A) $6n$
B) $2(3n + 1)$
C) $6(n + 1)$
D) $6(n + 3)$
22. The graphs in the \(xy\)-plane of the following quadratic equations each have \(x\)-intercepts of \(-2\) and \(4\). The graph of which equation has its vertex farthest from the \(x\)-axis? 

A) \(y = -7(x + 2)(x - 4)\)  
B) \(y = \frac{1}{10}(x + 2)(x - 4)\)  
C) \(y = -\frac{1}{2}(x + 2)(x - 4)\)  
D) \(y = 5(x + 2)(x - 4)\)

23. \(2x + 3y = 5\)  
\(4x + cy = 8\)

In the system of equations above, \(c\) is a constant. For what value of \(c\) will there be no solution \((x, y)\) to the system of equations? 

A) 3  
B) 4  
C) 5  
D) 6

24. The polynomial \(p^4 + 4p^3 + 3p^2 - 4p - 4\) can be written as \((p^2 - 1)(p + 2)^2\). What are all of the roots of the polynomial? 

A) \(-2\) and \(1\)  
B) \(-2, 1, and 4\)  
C) \(-2, -1, and 1\)  
D) \(-1, 1, and 2\)

25. Which of the following describes an exponential relationship between the pair of variables listed? 

A) For every 3-millimeter increase \(m\) in the thickness of a piece of glass, the intensity of light \(I\) traveling through the glass decreases by 20\%.  
B) Each second \(s\), a car's speed \(C\) decreases at a constant rate of 10 meters per second.  
C) With every 33-foot increase in depth \(d\) below the surface of water, the pressure \(p\) on an object increases by 14.7 pounds per square inch.  
D) The depth \(d\) of water remaining in a reservoir decreases by 15 inches each minute \(m\) as the water is being pumped out at a constant rate.
Questions 26 and 27 refer to the following information.

A researcher is investigating the relationship between the price of a four-pack of AA batteries at a convenience store and the number of competitors the store has. She defines a store’s competitor as another similar store within a 1-mile radius of the store she selects. She selects 32 convenience stores across a state at random, and for each store, she records the number of its competitors and its price for a four-pack of AA batteries. The results are shown, along with the line of best fit, in the scatterplot below.

Another convenience store in the same state sells a four-pack of AA batteries for $4.89. If the store’s price is more than that predicted by the line of best fit, what is the least number of competitors the store could have?

A) 1
B) 2
C) 3
D) 4

The line of best fit passes through the point $(18, -0.12)$. Which of the following can be concluded from this?

A) The line of best fit will not model the price well for a store with a large number of competitors.
B) A convenience store with 17 competitors can no longer sell four-packs of AA batteries.
C) A convenience store with 17 competitors cannot decrease its price any further.
D) A convenience store cannot have more than 17 competitors.

The figure above shows that the shaded triangular region with a hypotenuse of 5 centimeters (cm) has been removed from a rectangular tile with dimensions $x$ cm by $y$ cm. Of the following, which best approximates the area, in square centimeters, of the tile before the piece was removed?

A) 15
B) 43
C) 50
D) 65
Thomas is making a sign in the shape of a regular hexagon with 4-inch sides, which he will cut out from a rectangular sheet of metal, as shown in the figure above. What is the sum of the areas of the four triangles that will be removed from the rectangle?

A) $8\sqrt{3}$
B) $8\sqrt{2}$
C) $4\sqrt{2}$
D) 16

Which of the following equations describes a circle with radius 10 that passes through the origin when graphed in the $xy$-plane?

A) $(x - 5)^2 + (y + 5)^2 = 10$
B) $(x - 5)^2 + (y + 5)^2 = 100$
C) $(x - 10)^2 + (y - 10)^2 = 100$
D) $(x - 5\sqrt{2})^2 + (y + 5\sqrt{2})^2 = 100$
For questions 31-38, solve the problem and enter your answer in the grid, as described below, on the answer sheet.

1. Although not required, it is suggested that you write your answer in the boxes at the top of the columns to help you fill in the circles accurately. You will receive credit only if the circles are filled in correctly.
2. Mark no more than one circle in any column.
3. No question has a negative answer.
4. Some problems may have more than one correct answer. In such cases, grid only one answer.
5. **Mixed numbers** such as $3 \frac{1}{2}$ must be gridded as 3.5 or 7/2. (If $\frac{31}{2}$ is entered into the grid, it will be interpreted as $\frac{31}{2}$, not $3 \frac{1}{2}$.)
6. **Decimal answers:** If you obtain a decimal answer with more digits than the grid can accommodate, it may be either rounded or truncated, but it must fill the entire grid.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Acceptable ways to grid $\frac{2}{3}$ are:</th>
<th>Answer: 201 – either position is correct</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>$3 \frac{1}{2}$</td>
<td>$\frac{2}{3}$</td>
<td>$201$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>$0.333$</td>
<td>$\frac{2}{3}$</td>
<td>$201$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$0.33$</td>
<td>$\frac{2}{3}$</td>
<td>$201$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$0.3$</td>
<td>$\frac{2}{3}$</td>
<td>$201$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
31. In the xy-plane, the graph of \( y = (x - 6)^2 + 3 \) is the image of the graph of \( y = (x + 5)^2 + 3 \) after a translation of how many units to the right?

32. When 9 is increased by 3x, the result is greater than 36. What is the least possible integer value for x?

33. Century and Region of United States Presidents’ Births as of 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Century</th>
<th>18th</th>
<th>19th</th>
<th>20th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above shows the distribution of United States presidents according to the century and the region of the country in which they were born. Based on the information in the table, what fraction of presidents who were not born in the nineteenth century were born in the South?

34. If \( x \neq -1 \), what is the value of \( \left( \frac{1}{x + 1} \right)(2 + 2x) \)?
Questions 37 and 38 refer to the following information.

An instrument shows the number of revolutions per minute made by each tire of a car. In each revolution, the car travels a distance equal to the circumference of one of its tires. The circumference of each tire is equal to $2\pi r$, where $r$ is the radius of the tire.

37

If the radius of each tire on Maria’s car is 0.30 meter, what is the approximate speed of Maria’s car, to the nearest kilometer per hour, when the instrument is showing 779 revolutions per minute? (1 kilometer = 1000 meters)

38

Maria gets new tires for her car. The radius of each of her old tires is 0.30 meter, and the radius of each of her new tires is 11% larger than the radius of one of her old tires. What is the circumference of each new tire, to the nearest tenth of a meter?
Essay

**DIRECTIONS**
The essay gives you an opportunity to show how effectively you can read and comprehend a passage and write an essay analyzing the passage. In your essay, you should demonstrate that you have read the passage carefully, present a clear and logical analysis, and use language precisely.

Your essay must be written on the lines provided in your answer booklet; except for the Planning Page of the answer booklet, you will receive no other paper on which to write. You will have enough space if you write on every line, avoid wide margins, and keep your handwriting to a reasonable size. Remember that people who are not familiar with your handwriting will read what you write. Try to write or print so that what you are writing is legible to those readers.

**REMINDERS**
1. **Do not write your essay in this booklet.** Only what you write on the lined pages of your answer booklet will be evaluated.

2. **An off-topic essay will not be evaluated.**

You have 50 minutes to read the passage and write an essay in response to the prompt provided inside this booklet.
As you read the passage below, consider how Todd Davidson uses

• evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
• reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
• stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.


1 The world has an enduring love affair with America’s national parks. Conceived nearly 100 years ago, national parks connect us with our shared heritage and tell our nation’s stories. Who among us has stared into the deep blue caldera of Crater Lake, looked up at Half Dome as the special time of winter approaches in the Yosemite Valley, or witnessed the spectacular October fall colors of red maples, oaks and hickories in the forests of the Great Smoky Mountains and not been overcome by the incredible, almost magical grandeur that has been preserved for us and future generations?

2 Collectively, our national parks, monuments, seashores, recreation areas, historic sites, military parks, battlefields and heritage areas represent the very best our nation has to offer. Along with their intrepid and iconic Park Rangers, they embody the true spirit of our country, bringing our nation’s history to life.

3 In addition to being stunning and educational, national parks are immensely affordable destinations for American families and are top U.S. tourist attractions. Each year, nearly 300 million people visit one or more of America’s 401 national parks, ranging from educational Civil War battlefields to awe-inspiring places like Yellowstone, Acadia National Park and the Grand Canyon. These park visitors are a significant component of the U.S. tourism economy. They stay in nearby hotels, rent cars, dine at local restaurants, buy at retail shops and visit other neighboring attractions, generating more than $30 billion in spending and supporting a quarter-million jobs. National parks are clearly a winning economic scenario for visitors, the economies of nearby towns and communities and ultimately our nation.

4 But now, these prolific economic engines are at risk. Over the last decade, national park budgets have seen a steady decline in funding, and currently suffer from an annual operations shortfall of more than $500 million. The National Park Service budget for construction and maintenance is only half of the amount necessary to maintain park sewer systems, roofs, foundations and road surfaces.
The sequester\(^1\) cut another $153 million to national park budgets. Before Congress left for recess, each chamber shared a funding proposal with completely opposite visions for our national parks: one that cuts even deeper, affecting rangers, visitor centers and campgrounds, and another that would get our parks on the road to recovery. Through the across-the-board sequester cuts, parks have fewer rangers to protect and maintain historic sites and greet visitors, minimized visitor center hours, closed campgrounds, restrooms and picnic areas and reduced road and trail maintenance that is essential for park accessibility and enjoyment.

There is an irony to all this, because national parks are one of the best investments this country has ever made. In addition to supporting the U.S. travel and tourism industry, which is a cornerstone of the U.S. economy that represents $1.8 trillion in economic output and supports 14 million American jobs, every dollar invested in the National Park Service generates $10 in economic activity. National parks are veritable economic engines critical to supporting the livelihood of businesses and communities across the country.

Last year, President Obama called for a national travel and tourism strategy to make the United States the world’s top travel and tourism destination, as part of a comprehensive effort to spur job creation. The White House released the strategy just over a year ago—an important step that officially elevates the travel and tourism industry to what it should be: a national priority. It also recognizes the industry for its fundamental contribution to our economy, national security and public diplomacy.

Our national parks can play an important role in making the U.S. a top travel destination. As the National Park System approaches its centennial in 2016, there should be a robust national park centennial initiative to help attract international visitors and provide needed support for our national parks to flourish into the next century.

---

Write an essay in which you explain how Todd Davidson builds an argument to persuade his audience that the US government must continue to fund national parks. In your essay, analyze how Davidson uses one or more of the features listed in the box above (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of his argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage.

Your essay should not explain whether you agree with Davidson’s claims, but rather explain how Davidson builds an argument to persuade his audience.

---

1 A cut in spending by the federal government
As you read the passage below, consider how Patrick T. Harker uses

- evidence, such as facts or examples, to support claims.
- reasoning to develop ideas and to connect claims and evidence.
- stylistic or persuasive elements, such as word choice or appeals to emotion, to add power to the ideas expressed.

Adapted from Patrick T. Harker, “Student Athletes Shouldn’t Unionize.”

1 Last week’s ruling by a regional director of the National Labor Relations Board that players on Northwestern University’s football team were school employees, and thus eligible to unionize, has been celebrated by those who believe that it will benefit student athletes everywhere.

2 It won’t. Player unions would be a disaster for universities, for college sports fans and, most important, for student athletes themselves. The prospect of college football players bargaining to exchange scholarships for salaries is still remote, but if it comes about, even the most valuable athletes would be worse off.

3 Turning student athletes into salaried employees would endanger the existence of varsity sports on many college campuses. Only about 10 percent of Division I college sports programs turn a profit, and most of them, like our $28 million athletic program at the University of Delaware, lose money. Changing scholarship dollars into salary would almost certainly increase the amount schools have to spend on sports, since earnings are taxed and scholarships are not. In order just to match the value of a scholarship, the university would have to spend more.

4 We are among the many schools that have already had to trim varsity sports in recent years. Should costs increase, we and many other schools would face pressure to cut back further.

5 Without question, some big schools have lost their way. On some campuses the pursuit of athletic dominance has eroded the ideal of the student athlete. Players at these schools have every right to complain, particularly when the demands of competition effectively prevent them from being students. But the answer is not to organize and essentially turn pro. This would only further lessen the priority on learning. If scholarship athletes already find it hard to balance schoolwork with team commitments, under arrangements that obligate educational opportunity, think how much harder it would be if they were being paid to play.
6 The answer for young athletes who want to be paid to play is not to target universities, which have a different mission, but professional sports leagues like the National Basketball Association and the National Football League, which still bar high school athletes from turning pro. If players are good enough to earn a living at that age, I say, let them. Very few, however, are that good. At the college level, even the highest-ranked teams field relatively few players who will ever play a day of professional sports.

7 Strong athletic departments do two things well. They afford young athletes the chance to reach their full potential, and they prepare them for life when the cheering stops. For the vast majority of student athletes, that life begins at graduation. For the exceptional ones who make it to the pros, post-sport life begins soon enough. The average length of a pro football career is only about three years.

8 Valuing education doesn’t have to compromise an athlete’s potential. Here at the University of Delaware, Elena Delle Donne played women’s basketball from 2009 to 2013, earning top collegiate honors and helping the team become one of the best in the nation. She was a top pick in the Women’s National Basketball Association draft and was later named rookie of the year. In college, she maintained a 3.6 G.P.A., earning a degree in human services.

9 My own experience as a student athlete was more typical. I was a good student in high school, and a good football player. My options at graduation were greatly multiplied by my success as an athlete. I accepted financial help to play at the University of Pennsylvania, where I majored in engineering. An injury in my junior year brought my football career to an end. Then I discovered my passion for research, went on to earn a Ph.D. in engineering and embarked on a path that has taken me places I never imagined when playing on a defensive line.

10 This is the reality for most college athletes, even in the five major conferences. If the football players at Northwestern think they will do better for themselves by collecting a salary in college, they’re wrong.

11 My advice, even to those talented enough to turn pro straight out of high school, is the same: Play ball but be smart. Earn a degree.

Write an essay in which you explain how Patrick T. Harker builds an argument to persuade his audience that college athletes should not be allowed to form unions. In your essay, analyze how Harker uses one or more of the features listed in the box above (or features of your own choice) to strengthen the logic and persuasiveness of his argument. Be sure that your analysis focuses on the most relevant features of the passage.

Your essay should not explain whether you agree with Harker’s claims, but rather explain how Harker builds an argument to persuade his audience.
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