

GRE 2024 Verbal Reasoning Sample Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed : 1 Hour 58 Minutes

Maximum Marks : 340

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. The GRE General Test is 1 hour and 58 minutes long (with one optional 10-minute break) and consists of 54 questions in total.
2. The GRE exam is comprised of three sections:
 - Quantitative Reasoning: 27 questions, 47 minutes
 - Verbal Reasoning: 27 questions, 41 minutes
3. You can answer the two sections in any order.
4. As you move through a section, you can skip questions, flag them for review, and return to them later within the same section.
5. When you have answered all questions in a section, you can review your responses before time expires.
6. If there is no time remaining in the section, you will automatically be moved to your optional break screen or the next section (if you have already taken your optional break).
7. Each review screen includes a numbered list of the questions in that section and indicates the questions you flagged.
8. Clicking a question number will take you to that specific question.
9. You may change any answer within the time allowed for that section.

Section 1 Verbal Reasoning

25 questions

1. Centuries ago, the Maya of Central America produced elaborate, deeply cut carvings in stone. The carvings would have required a cutting tool of hard stone or metal. Iron-ore deposits exist throughout Central America, but apparently the Maya never developed the technology to use them and the metals the Maya are known to have used, copper and gold, would not have been hard enough. Therefore, the Maya must have used stone tools to make these carvings.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument?

(A) In various parts of the world, civilizations that could not make iron from ore fashioned tools out of fragments of iron from meteorites.

- (B) All the metallic Mayan artifacts that have been found by archaeologists are made of metals that are too soft for carving stone.
- (C) The stone out of which these carvings were made is harder than the stone used by other Central American peoples.
- (D) The technique that the Maya used to smelt gold and some other metals could not have been easily applied to the task of extracting iron from iron ore.
- (E) Archaeologists disagree about how certain stone tools that have been found among Mayan ruins were used.
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Questions 2 and 3 are based on the following reading passage.

In early-twentieth-century England, it was fashionable to claim that only a completely new style of writing could address a world undergoing unprecedented transformation — just as one literary critic recently claimed that only the new "aesthetic of exploratory excess" can address a world undergoing . . . well, you know. Yet in early-twentieth-century England, T. S. Eliot, a man fascinated by the "presence" of the past, wrote the most innovative poetry of his time. The lesson for today's literary community seems obvious: a reorientation toward tradition would benefit writers no less than readers. But if our writers and critics indeed respect the novel's rich tradition (as they claim to), then why do they disdain the urge to tell an exciting story?

2. The author of the passage suggests that present-day readers would particularly benefit from which of the following changes on the part of present-day writers and critics?

- (A) An increased focus on the importance of engaging the audience in a narrative
- (B) Modernization of the traditional novelistic elements already familiar to readers
- (C) Embracing aspects of fiction that are generally peripheral to the interest of readers
- (D) A greater recognition of how the tradition of the novel has changed over time
- (E) A better understanding of how certain poets such as Eliot have influenced fiction of the present time
-

3. The word "address" appears in the first sentence of the passage. Part of that sentence reads, "...a completely new style of writing could address a world undergoing unprecedented transformation...". In the context of the passage as a whole, "address" is closest in meaning to

- (A) reveal
- (B) belie
- (C) speak to
- (D) direct attention toward
- (E) attempt to remediate
-

4. Electric washing machines, first introduced in the United States in 1925, significantly reduced the amount of time spent washing a given amount of clothes, yet

the average amount of time households spent washing clothes increased after 1925. This increase is partially accounted for by the fact that many urban households had previously sent their clothes to professional laundries. But the average amount of time spent washing clothes also increased for rural households with no access to professional laundries.

Which of the following, if true, most helps to explain why the time spent washing clothes increased in rural areas?

- (A) People with access to an electric washing machine typically wore their clothes many fewer times before washing them than did people without access to electric washing machines.
 - (B) Households that had sent their clothes to professional laundries before 1925 were more likely than other households to purchase an electric washing machine when they became available.
 - (C) People living in urban households that had previously sent their clothes to professional laundries typically owned more clothes than did people living in rural households.
 - (D) The earliest electric washing machines required the user to spend much more time beside the machine than do modern electric washing machines.
 - (E) In the 1920's and 1930's the proportion of rural households with electricity was smaller than the proportion of urban households with electricity.
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5. In the 1950's, the country's inhabitants were BLANK: most of them knew very little about foreign countries.

- (A) partisan
 - (B) erudite
 - (C) insular
 - (D) cosmopolitan
 - (E) imperturbable
-

6. Since she believed him to be both candid and trustworthy, she refused to consider the possibility that his statement had been BLANK.

- (A) irrelevant
 - (B) facetious
 - (C) mistaken
 - (D) critical
 - (E) insincere
-

7. It is his dubious distinction to have proved what nobody would think of denying, that Romero at the age of sixty-four writes with all the characteristics of BLANK.

- (A) maturity
- (B) fiction
- (C) inventiveness

- (D) art
 - (E) brilliance
-

Questions 8 through 11 are based on the following reading passage, which consists of four paragraphs.

In the 1970's, two debates engaged many scholars of early United States history. One focused on the status of women, primarily White women. Turning on the so-called golden age theory, which posited that during the eighteenth-century colonial era, American women enjoyed a brief period of high status relative to their English contemporaries and to nineteenth-century American women, this debate pitted scholars who believed women's lives deteriorated after 1800 against those who thought women's lives had been no better before 1800. At issue were the causes of women's subordination: were these causes already in place when the English first settled North America or did they emerge with the rise of nineteenth-century industrial capitalism? The second debate, the so-called origins debate, concerned the emergence of racial slavery in the southern colonies: was slavery the inevitable result of the deep-rooted racial prejudice of early British colonists or did racial prejudice arise only after these planters instituted slave labor?

Although these debates are parallel in some respects, key differences distinguished them. Whereas the debate over women's status revolved around implicit comparisons of colonial women to their counterparts in the antebellum period (1800-1860), thus inviting comment from scholars of both historical periods, the origins debate was primarily confined to a discussion about slavery in colonial America. Second, in contrast to the newness of the debate over women's status and its continued currency throughout the early 1980's, the debate over race and slavery, begun in the 1950's, had lost some of its urgency with the publication of Morgan's *American Slavery, American Freedom* (1975), widely regarded as the last word on the subject. Each debate also assumed a different relationship to the groups whose histories it concerned. In its heyday, the origins debate focused mainly on White attitudes toward Africans rather than on Africans themselves. With few exceptions, such as Wood's *Black Majority* (1974) and Mullin's *Flight and Rebellion* (1972), which were centrally concerned with enslaved African men, most works pertaining to the origins debate focused on the White architects, mostly male, of racial slavery. In contrast, although women's historians were interested in the institutions and ideologies contributing to women's subordination, they were equally concerned with documenting women's experiences. As in the origins debate, however, early scholarship on colonial women defined its historical constituency narrowly, women's historians focusing mainly on affluent White women.

Over time, however, some initial differences between the approaches taken by scholars in the two fields faded. In the 1980's, historians of race and slavery in colonial America shifted their attention to enslaved people; interest in African American culture grew, thereby bringing enslaved women more prominently into view. Historians of early American women moved in similar directions during the decade and began to consider the effect of racial difference on women's experience.

8. The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) showing how historians who were engaged in a particular debate influenced historians engaged in another debate

- (B) explaining why two initially parallel scholarly debates diverged in the 1980's
 - (C) comparing two scholarly debates and discussing their histories
 - (D) contrasting the narrow focus of one scholarly debate with the somewhat broader focus of another
 - (E) evaluating the relative merits of the approaches used by historians engaged in two overlapping scholarly debates
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9. It can be inferred that the author of the passage mentions *American Slavery, American Freedom* primarily in order to

- (A) substantiate a point about the methodology that came to be prevalent among scholars engaged in the origins debate
 - (B) cite a major influence on those scholars who claimed that racial prejudice preceded the institution of slavery in colonial America
 - (C) show that some scholars who were engaged in the origins debate prior to the 1980's were interested in the experiences of enslaved people
 - (D) identify a reason for a certain difference in the late 1970's between the origins debate and the debate over American women's status
 - (E) contrast the kind of work produced by scholars engaged in the origins debate with the kind produced by scholars engaged in the debate over American women's status
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10. The passage suggests which of the following about the women's historians mentioned in the third paragraph?

- (A) They disputed certain claims regarding the status of eighteenth-century American women relative to women in England during the same period.
 - (B) Their approach to the study of women's subordination had been partly influenced by earlier studies published by some scholars engaged in the origins debate.
 - (C) Their work focused on the experiences of both White and African American women.
 - (D) Their approach resembled the approach taken in studies by Wood and by Mullin in that they were interested in the experiences of people subjected to a system of subordination.
 - (E) To some extent, they concurred with Wood and with Mullin about the origins of racism in colonial America.
-

11. According to the passage, historical studies of race and slavery in early America that were produced during the 1980's differed from studies of that subject produced prior to the 1980's in that the studies produced during the 1980's

- (A) gave more attention to the experiences of enslaved women
- (B) gave less attention to the cultures of enslaved people
- (C) were read by more scholars in other fields
- (D) were more concerned with the institutions and ideologies that perpetuated racial prejudice in postcolonial America

(E) made direct comparisons between the subordination of White women and the subordination of African American people

13. I've long anticipated this retrospective of the artist's work, hoping that it would make BLANK judgments about him possible, but greater familiarity with his paintings highlights their inherent BLANK and actually makes one's assessment BLANK.

Blank 1 Options: (A) modish, (B) settled, (C) detached

Blank 2 Options: (D) gloom, (E) ambiguity, (F) delicacy

Blank 3 Options: (G) similarly equivocal, (H) less sanguine, (I) more cynical

14. Stories are a haunted genre; hardly BLANK kind of story, the ghost story is almost the paradigm of the form, and BLANK was undoubtedly one effect that Poe had in mind when he wrote about how stories work.

Blank 1 Options: (A) a debased, (B) a normative, (C) a meticulous

Blank 2 Options: (D) pessimism, (E) goose bumps, (F) curiosity

15. Given how BLANK the shortcomings of the standard economic model are in its portrayal of human behavior, the failure of many economists to respond to them is astonishing. They continue to fill the journals with yet more proofs of yet more BLANK theorems.

Blank 1 Options: (A) overlooked, (B) occasional, (C) patent

Blank 2 Options: (D) comprehensive, (E) improbable, (F) pervasive

16. The playwright's approach is BLANK in that her works BLANK the theatrical devices normally used to create drama on the stage.

Blank 1 Options: (A) pedestrian, (B) startling, (C) celebrated

Blank 2 Options: (D) jettison, (E) experiment with, (F) distill

17. Scientists are not the only persons who examine the world about them by the use of rational processes, although they sometimes BLANK this impression by extending the definition of "scientist" to include anyone who is BLANK in his or her investigational practices.

Blank 1 Options: (A) conceal, (B) create, (C) undermine

Blank 2 Options: (D) intuitive, (E) haphazard, (F) logical

Questions 18 and 19 are based on the following reading passage.

The most plausible justification for higher taxes on automobile fuel is that fuel consumption harms the environment and thus adds to the costs of traffic congestion. But the fact that burning fuel creates these "negative externalities" does not imply that no tax on fuel could ever be too high. Economics is precise about the tax that should, in principle, be levied to deal with negative externalities: the tax on a liter of fuel should be equal to the harm caused by using a liter of fuel. If the tax is more than that, its costs (including the inconvenience to those who would rather have used their cars) will exceed its benefits (including any reduction in congestion and pollution).

18. Which of the following best characterizes the function of the phrase, "the tax on a liter of fuel should be equal to the harm caused by a liter of fuel"? (This phrase occurs in the third sentence.)

- (A) It restates a point made earlier in the passage.
 - (B) It provides the evidence on which a theory is based.
 - (C) It presents a specific application of a general principle.
 - (D) It summarizes a justification with which the author disagrees.
 - (E) It suggests that the benefits of a particular strategy have been overestimated.
-

19. The word "exceed" appears in the last sentence of the passage. That sentence reads, "If the tax is more than that, its costs (including the inconvenience to those who would rather have used their cars) will exceed its benefits (including any reduction in congestion and pollution)." In the context in which it appears, "exceed" most nearly means

- (A) outstrip
 - (B) magnify
 - (C) delimit
 - (D) offset
 - (E) supplant
-

Questions 20 and 21 are based on the following reading passage.

Objectively, of course, the various ecosystems that sustain life on the planet proceed independently of human agency, just as they operated before the hectic ascendancy of Homo sapiens. But it is also true that it is difficult to think of a single such system that has not, for better or worse, been substantially modified by human culture. Nor is this simply the work of the industrial centuries. It has been happening since the days of ancient Mesopotamia. It is coeval with the origins of writing, and has occurred throughout our social existence. And it is this irreversibly modified world, from the polar caps to the equatorial forests, that is all the nature we have.

20. It can be inferred from the passage that the author would agree with which of the following statements? (Select all that apply.)

- (A) Over time, the impact of human culture on the natural world has been largely benign.
 - (B) It is a mistake to think that the natural world contains many areas of pristine wilderness.
 - (C) The only substantial effects that human agency has had on ecosystems have been inadvertent.
-

21. The phrase "coeval with" appears in the fifth sentence of the passage. That sentence reads, "It is coeval with the origins of writing, and has occurred throughout our social existence." In the context in which it appears, "coeval with" most nearly means

- (A) influenced by
 - (B) older than
 - (C) coincident with
 - (D) unimpeded by
 - (E) similar to
-

22. Dreams are BLANK in and of themselves, but, when combined with other data, they can tell us much about the dreamer. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) astonishing
 - (B) disordered
 - (C) harmless
 - (D) inscrutable
 - (E) revealing
 - (F) uninformative
-

23. Linguistic science confirms what experienced users of ASL—American Sign Language—have always implicitly known: ASL is a grammatically BLANK language, as capable of expressing a full range of syntactic relations as any natural spoken language. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) complete
- (B) economical
- (C) redundant
- (D) spare
- (E) unique
- (F) unlimited

24. The macromolecule RNA is common to all living beings, and DNA, which is found in all organisms except some bacteria, is almost as BLANK. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) comprehensive
- (B) fundamental
- (C) inclusive
- (D) universal
- (E) significant
- (F) ubiquitous

25. Early critics of Emily Dickinson's poetry mistook for simple-mindedness the surface of artlessness that in fact she constructed with such BLANK. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) astonishment
- (B) craft
- (C) cunning
- (D) innocence
- (E) naïveté
- (F) vexation

Section 2 Verbal Reasoning

25 questions

1. In the long run, high-technology communications cannot BLANK more traditional face-to-face family togetherness, in Aspinall's view. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) ameliorate
 - (B) compromise
 - (C) supersede
 - (D) approximate
 - (E) enervate
 - (F) supplant
-

2. Even in this business, where BLANK is part of everyday life, a talent for lying is not something usually found on one's resume. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) aspiration
 - (B) mendacity
 - (C) prevarication
 - (D) insensitivity
 - (E) baseness
 - (F) avarice
-

3. A restaurant's menu is generally reflected in its decor; however despite this restaurant's BLANK appearance it is pedestrian in the menu it offers. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) elegant
 - (B) tawdry
 - (C) modern
 - (D) traditional
 - (E) conventional
 - (F) chic
-

4. International financial issues are typically BLANK by the United States media because they are too technical to make snappy headlines and too inaccessible to people who lack a background in economics. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) neglected
 - (B) slighted
 - (C) overrated
 - (D) hidden
 - (E) criticized
 - (F) repudiated
-

5. While in many ways their personalities could not have been more different—she was ebullient where he was glum, relaxed where he was awkward, garrulous where he was BLANK — they were surprisingly well suited. Select the two answer choices that, when substituted for the blank, fit the context and produce the two sentences most nearly alike in meaning.

- (A) solicitous
 - (B) munificent
 - (C) irresolute
 - (D) laconic
 - (E) fastidious
 - (F) taciturn
-

Questions 6 through 8 are based on the following reading passage.

Music critics have consistently defined James P. Johnson as a great early jazz pianist, originator of the 1920's Harlem "stride" style, and an important blues and jazz composer. In addition, however, Johnson was an innovator in classical music, composing symphonic music that incorporated American, and especially African American, traditions.

Such a blend of musical elements was not entirely new: by 1924 both Milhaud and Gershwin had composed classical works that incorporated elements of jazz. Johnson, a serious musician more experienced than most classical composers with jazz, blues, spirituals, and popular music, was particularly suited to expand Milhaud's and Gershwin's experiments. In 1927 he completed his first large-scale work, the blues- and jazz-inspired *Yamekraw*, which included borrowings from spirituals and Johnson's own popular songs. *Yamekraw*, premiered successfully in Carnegie Hall, was a major achievement for Johnson, becoming his most frequently performed extended work. It demonstrated vividly the possibility of assimilating contemporary popular music into the symphonic tradition.

6. The passage states that Johnson composed all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) jazz works
 - (B) popular songs
 - (C) symphonic music
 - (D) spirituals
 - (E) blues pieces
-

7. The author suggests which of the following about most classical composers of the early 1920's? (Select all that apply.)

- (A) They were strongly influenced by the musical experiments of Milhaud and Gershwin.
 - (B) They had little working familiarity with such forms of American music as jazz, blues, and popular songs.
 - (C) They made few attempts to introduce innovations into the classical symphonic tradition.
-

8. The author suggests that most critics have

- (A) underrated the popularity of *Yamekraw*
- (B) undervalued Johnson's musical abilities

- (C) had little interest in Johnson's influence on jazz
 - (D) had little regard for classical works that incorporate popular music
 - (E) neglected Johnson's contribution to classical symphonic music
-

Questions 9 and 10 are based on the following reading passage.

Scholarship on political newspapers and their editors is dominated by the view that as the United States grew, the increasing influence of the press led, ultimately, to the neutral reporting from which we benefit today. Pasley considers this view oversimplified, because neutrality was not a goal of early national newspaper editing, even when editors disingenuously stated that they aimed to tell all sides of a story. Rather, the intensely partisan ideologies represented in newspapers of the early republic led to a clear demarcation between traditional and republican values. The editors responsible for the papers' content—especially those with republican agendas—began to see themselves as central figures in the development of political consciousness in the United States.

9. The passage suggests that Pasley would agree with which of the following statements about the political role of newspapers? (Select all that apply.)

- (A) Newspapers today are in many cases much less neutral in their political reporting than is commonly held by scholars.
 - (B) Newspapers in the early United States normally declared quite openly their refusal to tell all sides of most political stories.
 - (C) The editorial policies of some early United States newspapers became a counterweight to proponents of traditional values.
-

10. The word "disingenuously" appears in the second sentence of the passage. That sentence reads, "Pasley considers this view oversimplified, because neutrality was not a goal of early national newspaper editing, even when editors disingenuously stated that they aimed to tell all sides of a story." In the context in which it appears, "disingenuously" most nearly means:

- (A) insincerely
 - (B) guilelessly
 - (C) obliquely
 - (D) resolutely
 - (E) pertinaciously
-

11. The BLANK nature of classical tragedy in Athens belies the modern image of tragedy: in the modern view tragedy is austere and stripped down, its representations of ideological and emotional conflicts so superbly compressed that there's nothing BLANK for time to erode.

Blank 1 Options: (A) unadorned, (B) harmonious, (C) multifaceted

Blank 2 Options: (D) inalienable, (E) exigent, (F) extraneous

12. Murray, whose show of recent paintings and drawings is her best in many years, has been eminent hereabouts for a quarter century, although often regarded with BLANK, but the most BLANK of these paintings BLANK all doubts.

Blank 1 Options: (A) partiality, (B) credulity, (C) ambivalence

Blank 2 Options: (D) problematic, (E) successful, (F) disparaged

Blank 3 Options: (G) exculpate, (H) assuage, (I) whet

13. Far from viewing Jefferson as a skeptical but enlightened intellectual, historians of the 1960's portrayed him as BLANK thinker, eager to fill the young with his political orthodoxy while censoring ideas he did not like.

(A) an adventurous

(B) a doctrinaire

(C) an eclectic

(D) a judicious

(E) a cynical

14. Dramatic literature often BLANK the history of a culture in that it takes as its subject matter the important events that have shaped and guided the culture.

(A) confounds

(B) repudiates

(C) recapitulates

(D) anticipates

(E) polarizes

Questions 15 through 17 are based on the following reading passage.

In *Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry does not reject integration or the economic and moral promise of the American dream; rather, she remains loyal to this dream while looking, realistically, at its incomplete realization. Once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play's ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the "unintentional" irony that Bigsby attributes to the work. Indeed, a curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play's thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism. Isaacs, for example, cannot easily reconcile Hansberry's intense concern for her race with her ideal of human reconciliation. But the play's complex view of Black self-esteem and human solidarity as compatible is no more "contradictory" than Du Bois's famous, well-considered ideal of ethnic self-awareness coexisting

with human unity, or Fanon's emphasis on an ideal internationalism that also accommodates national identities and roles.

15. The author's primary purpose in the passage is to

- (A) explain some critics' refusal to consider *Raisin in the Sun* a deliberately ironic play
 - (B) suggest that ironic nuances ally *Raisin in the Sun* with Du Bois's and Fanon's writings
 - (C) analyze the fundamental dramatic conflicts in *Raisin in the Sun*
 - (D) emphasize the inclusion of contradictory elements in *Raisin in the Sun*
 - (E) affirm the thematic coherence underlying *Raisin in the Sun*
-

16. This question refers to the third sentence of the passage... "Indeed, a curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play's thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism."

The author of the passage would probably consider which of the following judgments to be most similar to the reasoning of the critics described in the third sentence?

- (A) The world is certainly flat; therefore, the person proposing to sail around it is unquestionably foolhardy.
 - (B) Radioactivity cannot be directly perceived; therefore, a scientist could not possibly control it in a laboratory.
 - (C) The painter of this picture could not intend it to be funny; therefore, its humor must result from a lack of skill.
 - (D) Traditional social mores are beneficial to culture; therefore, anyone who deviates from them acts destructively.
 - (E) Filmmakers who produce documentaries deal exclusively with facts; therefore, a filmmaker who reinterprets particular events is misleading us.
-

17. The five sentences in the passage will be repeated... Select and indicate a sentence in the passage in which the author provides examples that reinforce an argument against a critical response cited earlier in the passage.

- (A) In *Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry does not reject integration or the economic and moral promise of the American dream; rather, she remains loyal to this dream while looking, realistically, at its incomplete realization.
- (B) Once we recognize this dual vision, we can accept the play's ironic nuances as deliberate social commentaries by Hansberry rather than as the "unintentional" irony that Bigsby attributes to the work.
- (C) Indeed, a curiously persistent refusal to credit Hansberry with a capacity for intentional irony has led some critics to interpret the play's thematic conflicts as mere confusion, contradiction, or eclecticism.
- (D) Isaacs, for example, cannot easily reconcile Hansberry's intense concern for her race with

her ideal of human reconciliation.

(E) But the play's complex view of Black self-esteem and human solidarity as compatible is no more "contradictory" than Du Bois's famous, well-considered ideal of ethnic self-awareness coexisting with human unity, or Fanon's emphasis on an ideal internationalism that also accommodates national identities and roles.

18. As an example of the devastation wrought on music publishers by the photocopier, one executive noted that for a recent choral festival with 1,200 singers, the festival's organizing committee purchased only 12 copies of the music published by her company that was performed as part of the festival.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the support the example lends to the executive's contention that music publishers have been devastated by the photocopier?

(A) Only a third of the 1,200 singers were involved in performing the music published by the executive's company.

(B) Half of the singers at the festival had already heard the music they were to perform before they began to practice for the festival.

(C) Because of shortages in funding, the organizing committee of the choral festival required singers to purchase their own copies of the music performed at the festival.

(D) Each copy of music that was performed at the festival was shared by two singers.

(E) As a result of publicity generated by its performance at the festival, the type of music performed at the festival became more widely known.

19. New technologies often begin by BLANK what has gone before, and they change the world later. Think how long it took power-using companies to recognize that with electricity they did not need to cluster their machinery around the power source, as in the days of steam. Instead, power could be BLANK their processes. In that sense, many of today's computer networks are still in the steam age. Their full potential remains unrealized.

Blank 1 Options: (A) uprooting, (B) dismissing, (C) mimicking

Blank 2 Options: (D) transmitted to, (E) consolidated around, (F) incorporated into

20. There has been much hand-wringing about how unprepared American students are for college. Graff reverses this perspective, suggesting that colleges are unprepared for students. In his analysis, the university culture is largely BLANK entering students because academic culture fails to make connections to the kinds of arguments and cultural references the students grasp. Understandably, many students view academic life as BLANK ritual.

Blank 1 Options: (A) primed for, (B) opaque to, (C) essential for

Blank 2 Options: (D) an arcane, (E) a laudable, (F) a painstaking

22. For the past two years at FasCorp, there has been a policy to advertise any job opening to current employees and to give no job to an applicant from outside the company if a FasCorp employee applies who is qualified for the job. This policy has been strictly followed, yet even though numerous employees of FasCorp have been qualified for any given entry-level position, some entry-level jobs have been filled with people from outside the company.

If the information provided is true, which of the following must on the basis of it also be true about FasCorp during the past two years?

- (A) There have been some open jobs for which no qualified FasCorp employee applied.
 - (B) Some entry-level job openings have not been advertised to FasCorp employees.
 - (C) The total number of employees has increased.
 - (D) FasCorp has hired some people for jobs for which they were not qualified.
 - (E) All the job openings have been for entry-level jobs.
-

Questions 23 through 25 are based on the following reading passage.

A tall tree can transport a hundred gallons of water a day from its roots deep underground to the treetop. Is this movement propelled by pulling the water from above or pushing it from below? The pull mechanism has long been favored by most scientists. First proposed in the late 1800's, the theory relies on a property of water not commonly associated with fluids: its tensile strength. Instead of making a clean break, water evaporating from treetops tugs on the remaining water molecules, with that tug extending from molecule to molecule all the way down to the roots. The tree itself does not actually push or pull; all the energy for lifting water comes from the sun's evaporative power.

23. This question has five answer choices, labeled A through E. Select and indicate the best answer from among these choices.

The passage is primarily concerned with

- (A) refuting a hypothesis advanced by scientists
 - (B) discussing the importance of a phenomenon
 - (C) presenting a possible explanation of a phenomenon
 - (D) contrasting two schools of thought
 - (E) discussing the origins of a theory
-

24. This question has three answer choices, labeled A through C. Consider each of the three choices separately and select all that apply.

Which of the following statements is supported by the passage?

- (A) The pull theory is not universally accepted by scientists.
 - (B) The pull theory depends on one of water's physical properties.
 - (C) The pull theory originated earlier than did the push theory.
-

25. This question has five answer choices, labeled A through E. Select and indicate the best answer from among these choices.

The passage provides information on each of the following EXCEPT

- (A) when the pull theory originated
 - (B) the amount of water a tall tree can transport
 - (C) the significance of water's tensile strength in the pull theory
 - (D) the role of the sun in the pull theory
 - (E) the mechanism underlying water's tensile strength
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