

**For questions 1–6, select one entry for each blank from the corresponding column of choices. Fill in the blank in the way that best completes the text.**

1. A dry-farmed tomato raised in low-nitrogen soil will often have the nutrient value of a much larger conventionally grown tomato, and its flavor may be similarly \_\_\_\_\_.

delicious	healthful	scanty	concentrated	shrunken
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2. Most viewers of today’s reality television underestimate the degree of \_\_\_\_\_ with which the seemingly artless narrative of each episode is assembled: oftentimes, actors interviewed on camera are asked to repeat their story half a dozen times before producers are satisfied.

dramaturgy	opportunism	fallacy	contrivance	histrionics
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3. Many (i) \_\_\_\_\_ have commentated that football reflects an industrial perspective because the game time is inflexibly determined by the clock, whereas baseball stems from an agrarian one, in which, the passage of time is more (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ and determined by events.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
pundits	amorphous
amateurs	pacific
parvenus	asymmetrical

4. Ernest Hemingway, the novelist and proponent of traditional masculine virtues that were already considered (i) \_\_\_\_\_ by his more progressive peers, eventually lost currency with the general public; although his earlier literary works remained popular, his continuing adherence to that code drove him to disdain society, which, in turn, (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ him.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)
effeminate	shunned
anachronistic	eulogized
sardonic	murdered

5. While a (i) \_\_\_\_\_, the smallest amount that can exist independently, of water could be said to be a single molecule, a (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ of dust could be made up of pollen, hair, human skin cells, minerals from soil, or even burnt meteor particles. Thus, one definition of dust is “solid particles with a diameter of less than 500 micrometers” — a (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ definition that is based only on size and state of matter rather than on structure.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
plethora	trove	precise
parameter	covey	loose
quantum	mote	deleterious

6. From the battle's opening (i) \_\_\_\_\_ to its (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ conclusion, the forces of destruction razed a path through the city, ultimately leaving behind a (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ stillness where there once had been streets and squares bustling with life.

Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
denouement	sanguinary	brusque
salvo	celebrated	capitulatory
philippic	blithe	disquieting

**For each of questions 7–10, select one answer choice unless otherwise instructed.**

It is no revelation that people prefer immediate rewards. What is less well known is that people are willing to renounce a significant portion of a given reward in order to expedite delivery. This phenomenon is known as “discounting,” because the value of a delayed reward is discounted, or reduced, in the mind of the receiver. Discounting helps explain the straightforward “time value of money” (a dollar now is worth more than a dollar later), but its manifestations can be far more dramatic.

Behavioral economists have identified extreme discounting in experiments in which subjects were offered either a dollar immediately or three dollars the next day. Individuals who consistently choose significantly smaller rewards for their immediacy are described as “present-biased.” Present-bias may seem innocuous, but it has serious ramifications. In another experiment, young children were given a marshmallow, then told that if they could wait a few minutes to eat it, they would receive a second one. Those unable to endure the delay suffered from more behavioral problems in adolescence and scored markedly lower on standardized tests than the children who were able to wait and thereby earn another treat. Traits such as indolence and apathy may indeed be manifestations of present-bias; material success is predicated on one’s ability to recognize hedonistic impulses, understand their consequences, and delay or suppress gratification.

What was once known as “exponential discounting” (because the length of the delay before a reward was given seemed to correlate directly with the size of the perceived discount) has been renamed “hyperbolic discounting,” because the effects of time delay do not seem strictly linear. A study showed that people offered \$50 now or \$100 in a year were likely to choose the former. But when people were offered either \$50 in 5 years or \$100 in 6 years (the same choice 5 years in the future), the vast majority chose the latter. This experiment reveals the difficulty of making effective financial decisions about one’s future priorities, just as the choice to procrastinate requires the unlikely supposition that one’s future self will have a greater set of resources to accomplish the postponed task than one’s present self.

7. The function of the second paragraph within the passage may be most appropriately characterized as

- (A) analyzing the psychological sources of the phenomenon introduced in the first paragraph
- (B) elaborating upon and qualifying the main proposition put forth in the first paragraph
- (C) providing an alternative point of view on the positions already established by the author
- (D) illustrating one aspect of the phenomenon named in the first paragraph and offering possible social implications
- (E) drawing general conclusions about specific examples presented earlier

8. The passage suggests which of the following about the traits of indolence and apathy?

- (A) They are predicated on one's material success.
- (B) They may be regarded as the effects of a tendency toward extreme discounting.
- (C) They may be manifested in present-bias.
- (D) They may seem innocuous, but they have serious ramifications.
- (E) They are the cause of one's ability to identify and suppress hedonistic impulses.

9. It can be inferred that the word hyperbolic in the phrase "hyperbolic discounting" signifies, in this context,

- (A) the nonlinearity in the consequences of various delays
- (B) the exaggeration of the effects of time delay
- (C) the direct correlation between a delay's duration and a perceived discount's magnitude
- (D) the exponential growth of the size of the discounting
- (E) the lack of certainty in one's perception of longer and shorter delays

10. According to the passage, which of the following is true of the children described in the passage who were able to wait to eat their first marshmallow?

- (A) They scored lower on standardized tests than children unable to wait.
- (B) They suffered more frequently from behavior problems as adolescents.
- (C) They each received a second marshmallow as part of the experiment.
- (D) They could be characterized as indolent or apathetic.
- (E) They can accurately be described as present-biased.

**Question 11 is based on the following reading passage.**

The female arkbird will lay eggs only when a suitable quantity of nesting material is available, and the climate is suitably moderate. This winter is the coldest on record, but somewhat counterintuitively, the temperature change has actually increased the amount of nesting material as trees and plants die, shedding twigs and leaves. However, although nesting material is abundant,

\_\_\_\_\_.

11. Which of the following options for the blank above is best supported by the passage?

- (A) The female arkbird will likely migrate to avoid the cold.
- (B) Arkbird mortality rates increase as the weather becomes less moderate.
- (C) Female arkbirds prefer the type of nesting material produced in warmer weather.
- (D) An abundance of nesting material provides increased protection for arkbird eggs.
- (E) The female arkbird will not lay eggs this winter.

**For questions 12–15, select the two answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.**

12. Floodwaters had already breached the library’s walls, but hopeful volunteers in hip boots worked tirelessly to \_\_\_\_\_ the damage.

- |                                  |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> exacerbate | <input type="radio"/> ameliorate | <input type="radio"/> recant    |
| <input type="radio"/> forfeit    | <input type="radio"/> recount    | <input type="radio"/> extenuate |

13. Eleanor of Aquitaine, who married Henry II of England, was dead and forgotten for hundreds of years, until Katherine Hepburn \_\_\_\_\_ her in “The Lion in Winter,” injecting her own vitality into the depiction of that queen.

- |                                  |                                    |                                   |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> mummified  | <input type="radio"/> mocked       | <input type="radio"/> resurrected |
| <input type="radio"/> glamorized | <input type="radio"/> immortalized | <input type="radio"/> parodied    |

14. However beneficent the intentions, if the civilian death toll continues to climb, ongoing contact with the local populace may well prove \_\_\_\_\_ to the aim of normalizing relations.

- |                                |                                  |                                    |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> asinine  | <input type="radio"/> bedazzling | <input type="radio"/> unpropitious |
| <input type="radio"/> inimical | <input type="radio"/> calibrated | <input type="radio"/> incongruous  |

15. The theme song from the film *Team America: World Police* is meant as a parody, sending up the \_\_\_\_\_ slogans and anthems that have recently become a disconcertingly ubiquitous aspect of American life.

- |                                  |                                   |                                    |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> aggressive | <input type="radio"/> punctilious | <input type="radio"/> boosterish   |
| <input type="radio"/> jingoistic | <input type="radio"/> pedantic    | <input type="radio"/> bloodthirsty |

**Question 16 is based on the following reading passage.**

The chemicals division at Company M spent 4% of its 2008 budget on marketing. The consumer products division spent 35% of its 2008 budget on marketing, while the machinery division spent only 2% of its 2008 budget on marketing.

16. Which of the following conclusions is best justified by the data above?

- (A) The consumer products division spent more on marketing in 2008 than the chemicals and machinery divisions combined.
- (B) Consumers are more swayed by marketing than are the mostly corporate buyers of chemicals and machinery.
- (C) On average, all three divisions combined spent less than 35% of their 2008 budgets on marketing.
- (D) The company’s overall spending on marketing is between 4% and 35%.
- (E) The chemicals division spent 100% more on marketing in 2008 than did the machinery division.

**Questions 17–19 are based on the following reading passage.**

Maps are essential décor for any social studies class, and though they are helpful tools in beginning to understand geography, maps are merely 2-D representations of a 3-D world and will always carry certain inherent inaccuracies. Because of their flatness and size restrictions, maps require manipulation, rendering them incapable of showing the actual shape of the earth and the continents, nations, and other features upon it. Though these might seem like necessary concessions, the implications of such manipulations move beyond the blackboard and can have damaging effects; forcing students to see the world in 2-D each day has the attendant effect of teaching them to understand the world in two-dimensional terms.

Furthermore, maps present borders as fixed, unchanging entities, which is a misleading implication to present in a history course. Borders have been changing throughout the history of civilization, and the United States is a perfect example of a country with borders that have blurred and bled into one another for decades as states continued to form and join as recently as the 20th century.

17. The author's main idea is that

- (A) maps are a necessary evil
- (B) maps present borders as static
- (C) 3-D representation of the world is impossible
- (D) outdated information makes education less effective
- (E) graphic representation can encourage cognitive misconceptions.

18. Which of the following, if true, would most undermine part of the author's evidence?

- (A) Some students exposed to maps grasp 3-D and dynamic concepts about the world.
- (B) Most teachers rely very little on the maps displayed in their classrooms.
- (C) Computer generated map displays increasingly in use in classrooms show changes in boundaries almost instantaneously.
- (D) Maps from hundreds of years ago contain errors.
- (E) 2-D maps do not indicate topographical features effectively.

19. The author does which of the following in the passage

- (A) employs circular logic
- (B) cites a historical case
- (C) uses physical description to support an accusation
- (D) discusses a hierarchy of problems with maps
- (E) rebuts a commonly held view

**Question 20 is based on the following reading passage.**

In 1928, Sir Alexander Fleming, working at St. Mary's Hospital in London, observed that a bluish-green mold had contaminated a culture of Staphylococcus, and that the areas of the Staphylococcus bacteria nearest to the mold were being destroyed. Upon testing a pure culture of this mold, Fleming discovered that the mold killed many types of bacteria. He named the substance penicillin and published his results in 1929.

It was not, however, until over a decade later that a team of researchers from Oxford, aided by an American laboratory, were able to increase the growth rate of penicillin — by then recognized to be the strongest antibacterial agent known at that time — such that enough of it could be produced to treat Allied soldiers wounded on D-Day, in 1944.

**Consider each of the answer choices separately and indicate all that apply.**

20. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- Fleming did not fully appreciate the therapeutic value of penicillin.
- At some point prior to 1944, penicillin could not be grown fast enough.
- Since ancient times, antibacterial agents have been used to treat wounded soldiers.